

LOCAL KSCSA PLAYING RULES
Adopted 1/2/2019
Amendments Through July 3, 2024
(Date of original adoption of rule in parentheses)

1. General Rules
2. Playing Rules, in order of priority: Kauai "Local" Rules; the latest Hawaii State Senior Softball Rules, latest Official Senior Softball-USA Rules (ISA)
3. Season format shall be approved annually by the KSCSA Board.
 - a. League standing and State seeding shall be determined by win/loss record, then head to head play, then run differential, at end of season.
4. Short Handed Rule
5. Ten (10) players shall constitute a team. However, a team may start the game with no less than nine (9) players. A tenth (10th) player may be added at any time during the game, batting in the last (10th) position. Until the 10th position is filled, an out will be declared only the first time that position comes to bat.
6. A team unable to field nine (9) players shall automatically forfeit the game.
7. League Awards
 - a. League awards for the league will be given to: Champions, 2nd Place, 3rd Place, and 4th Place. This will be a monetary award. Distribution shall be as follows:

League Champions:	\$130.00
2nd Place:	80.00
3rd Place:	50.00
4th Place	40.00
5. [Amendment 11/6/2019 deleted prior Section 5 relating to players' ages, to allow the Hawaii State Rule to govern. The relevant Hawaii State Rules are: "State Rule 4.1 All players must be 55 years and older to participate and shall only be added to a team's roster upon reaching the age of 55. State Rule 4.2 For purposes of these rules, the term "under 60" shall refer to players 55-59 years of age. Teams may exercise their option to use male and female players under 60 years of age provided that only one male under 60 shall be used in a single game. A female player under 60 shall be considered and treated as a 60 year old player."]
6. An umpire not from the team assigned to umpire in the schedule shall umpire only with the approval of both coaches. (2/3/16)
7. If a pitch is not swung at, then a baserunner's leaving the base after the ball hits the ground is not an out. (5/4/16)
8. There will be host teams for the 2018 season and thereafter. (5-3-17).
9. Games shall be 7 innings, unless there is a TKO or the home team is ahead after 6-1/2 innings. If a game is tied at the end of 7 complete innings, International Tie Breaker Rule (Official ISA Senior Rulebook Rule 5.2(2)) will apply. If there is a TKO, the teams may play 7 innings by mutual consent, notwithstanding any later scheduled games. (5/3/17)

10. Infield and outfield practice is permissible at the start of any inning so long as it concludes and the ball is returned to the dugout and fielders are in position before the pitcher's allowable practice pitches have ended.
11. There is no time limit on games. (5/3/17)
12. All teams scheduled to play must be ready 30 minutes prior to scheduled start time. First game shall not start earlier than 9:00 a.m.
13. Team Players: A player is committed to a team for that season upon signing the roster for the team and playing in a game. If a player on the roster hasn't played in any game, the player may change teams upon proper signing of the other team's roster. A player on a team's roster can only otherwise switch teams if the player's original team is dissolved. (11/2/21)
14. Pitchers' mask is OPTIONAL.
15. If an over-the-fence home run is hit, the batter and any baserunners may simply return to the dugout, without any baserunning. (1/3/24)
16. A designated runner from home, at least 60 years old, is allowed for players (batters) with a prosthetic leg. (5/2/24)
17. If the batter-runner touches First Base holding the bat, the player is out. (4/3/24)
18. Each team designate at least 3 players to be trained on the AED. (3/6/24)

Postponement

1. Request for postponement shall be limited to the following considerations: Death of the member, member's spouse, member's child/grandchild, and member's parent.
2. The League Coordinator/Manager shall be responsible for rescheduling postponed games. Games may be played during the weekday, preferably before the next scheduled games. (5/3/17)
3. No team will be allowed a request to reschedule or relocate any game. Any team not present for their schedule game will be a forfeiture. [Comment: Existing rules remain unchanged for extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of a team, i.e., traffic.] (12/6/17)
4. Postponed makeup games when scheduled should be the last game of the day.

Rainouts

1. Coach of the host team shall be responsible to notify the League Coordinator/Manager if the host team's home field is not suitable for play due to inclement weather.
2. Notification should be made not later than 1-1/2 hour before the scheduled start of the 1st game.
3. The League Coordinator/Manager shall make every effort to contact the Head Coaches via Telephone, Email, Text and/or Radio Announcements, with positive two way confirmation. Head Coaches shall be responsible to notify their team members.
4. Games may be moved by the League Coordinator to the next available field. If no field is available, the League Coordinator shall reschedule all games for the next open date.

Game Umpires

1. If the league elects to use players to umpire league games, an Umpire in Charge(UIC) may be appointed by the KSCSA Board. This appointment shall be done annually as needed. [Prior paragraph 1, deleted 12/6/17, concerned certified/organized Umpires, and remaining paragraphs renumbered.]
2. Duties of the Umpire in Charge (UIC) shall be:
 - a. Assist the league in recruiting and training of umpires;
 - b. Assist in the interpretation of rules; and,
 - c. When not participating in a disputed game as a player or umpire, may serve as the arbitration committee Chairman in the absence of the League Coordinator or a Titled League Board Officer.
3. The UIC shall be a non-voting member of the KSCSA League Board.

Arbitration Committee

1. Each team shall submit a minimum of two (2) names to represent their team on the Arbitration Committee.
2. Names shall be submitted to the League Coordinator prior to the start of the season.

Arbitration Procedure

1. Only an infraction of rules may be arbitrated. Umpire judgment calls shall not be arbitrated.
2. Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or Team Captain shall be the only persons authorized to request an arbitration.
3. Requestor shall inform the Chief Umpire citing the rule that is being violated.
4. Chief Umpire shall suspend the game until a ruling is reached.
5. Time used to reach a decision, shall be added to the game time. [Probably superceded by General Rule 12]
6. The Chief Umpire shall notify the Official Scorekeeper of the request.
7. The Official Scorekeeper, through the PA Announcer, if available, shall call for one (1) member from three (3) teams not involved in the dispute to rule on the arbitration. The League Coordinator or any Titled League Board Officer shall select the committee of three (3) randomly.
8. The League Coordinator or titled League Board Officer shall chair the Arbitration Committee with no vote. If the League Coordinator or any titled League Board officer is not present, the UIC shall serve as the chair.
9. Majority vote of the Committee shall prevail.
10. The ruling of the Arbitration Committee shall be final and binding.

Code of Conduct

1. Any league member involved in an incident described in this section will be subject to league disciplinary action. No player, coach, manager, or other bench personnel will:
 - a. Physically or verbally abuse an umpire, player, coach, manager, or fan.

- b. Physically or verbally threaten an umpire, player, coach, manager, or fan.
 - c. Heckle, taunt, or bait members of the opposing team.
 - d. Leave their positions or the dugout for purpose or intent of fighting or physical confrontation.
 - e. Initiate malicious contact.
 - f. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner resulting in unsafely thrown equipment.
 - g. Intentionally damage or deface the field or playing facilities.
2. In the event of an incident of misconduct, resulting in the ejection of a player or coach, the following will be enforced:
 - a. An ejected player must leave the playing area for the duration of the game. He will not be allowed in the dugout area but may remain in the park as a spectator.
 - b. An ejected coach must leave the bench and playing area for the duration of the game, but may remain as a spectator as long as there is no interaction with anyone on the field or on the bench.
 3. Any ejected player or coach in violation of this rule, or who disrupts the continuation of the game will risk a forfeit being called in favor of the opposing team.
 4. A player ejected from a game as an illegal substitute would not be subject to disciplinary action.
 5. Penalties for misconduct of players or coaches will be determined by the KSCSA Board of Directors in accordance with the Hawaii State Senior Citizens Softball Rules & Regulations of the current season.
 6. Players/coaches found to be in violation of the league's code of conduct, Section 1, will be subject to the following disciplinary action:
 - a. First Offense - Immediate Ejection from game and ineligible for team's next scheduled game;
 - b. Second Offense - Immediate ejection from game and suspended pending decision of the KSCSA Board of Directors;
 - c. Third Offense - Immediate ejection from game and termination of eligibility for the remainder of the current regular season to include state tournament.
 7. Any player/coach involved in a physical fight or violent contact with another player, Coach, or Umpire will automatically be barred from further participation in the league and state tournament.
 8. The KSCSA Board of Directors reserve the right to increase/decrease the penalty awarded based upon investigation, hearing, and appeal of violator. A 2/3 vote of the Board is required.