

# PEGASUS SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

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**PEGASUS**  
SOFTBALL

**2025 Fall Ball**

**Rules & Regulations**

## **Article I. General**

### **Section 1.01 PSSA Defined**

- (a) Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association (PSSA) is a slow pitch softball league that is a member of the International Pride Softball (iPride), formerly North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA).

### **Section 1.02 Member Defined**

- (a) PSSA is a member in good standing of the iPride, and as such, subscribes to their policies, mission and rules for softball unless specifically stated otherwise in PSSA bylaws or exceptions in PSSA's rules of play.

### **Section 1.03 Rules Defined**

- (a) Rules of play shall be those adopted by USA Softball and iPride unless stated otherwise in these Rules.

## **Article II. Eligibility**

### **Section 2.01 Eligibility**

- (a) Participants must be an amateur as defined in "Definitions" of the Appendix.
- (b) Participants must be 18 years of age on or before the first scheduled day of play of the current season

## **Article III. Membership**

### **Section 3.01 Annual Fees**

- (a) Membership fees of \$70 are payable by each member upon registration for the 2025 PSSA fall season.

### **Section 3.02 Member / Player / Non-Player Registration**

- (a) Each individual must register themselves, including agreeing to all documentation required by the league.
- (b) Upon registration, each individual must either identify the pair/individual they are registering with, or identify themselves as a

free agent. Free Agents will be assigned a division based on their ratings from the Spring 2025 season. If they do not have a 2025 rating, their 2024 rating will be used with any needed adjustments due to question changes. If they do not have a 2024 rating, their 2023 rating will be used with any needed adjustments due to question changes. If no 2023 rating is available, they will be able to declare which division they would play within. Players are subject to be reassigned into a different division by the board. Free agents will be assigned to teams during the draft process.

- (c) In order to register as a pair, registration must be completed online by August 9, 2025 by 10pm CDT. If two individuals register as a pair and fall within different division alignments, the lower rated individual will need to agree/consent to play in the higher division.
- (d) All players and non-players must be registered, insured by the league and pay fall membership fees before entering a dugout or field during PSSA league play. Anyone found to be not registered/paid/insured but in a dugout or on the field of play (as a player or non-player) will be immediately removed. That individual, as well as the manager/coach of the offending team will be subject to an investigation, including possible discipline by the Ethics committee.
- (e) **Membership Fees are non-refundable and are not transferable.** PSSA will make every effort to complete scheduled games, but no refunds will be issued for any games unable to be played due to weather.

### **Section 3.04      Player Limitations**

- (a) After the draft, the league will strive for each team to be composed of a minimum of thirteen (13) and not more than sixteen(16) playing members and up to two (2) non-playing members.
- (b) A member's name may not appear on more than one roster as a playing member.
- (a) PSSA is an LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and other non cis-heterosexual identities) founded, inclusive organization welcoming all people. PSSA maintains its focus on LGBTQIA+ majority membership/participation and therefore, each team roster may have a maximum of only 4 players who do not identify as LGBTQIA+. Each member is expected to answer the orientation truthfully upon registration for league membership.
- (c) Players requesting an accommodation to the rules due to a permanent disability in conjunction with the PSSA Member Accommodation Policy (MAP) must complete an application

form provided by PSSA. The form will include name, contact information, team, and requests for information surrounding the disability.

- Players with an accommodation from the Spring 2025 season will automatically receive the same accommodation for Fall 2025.
- Applications must be received by the board a minimum of 1 month prior to implementation in a game environment to allow time for the board to verify and approve requests.
- If approved, the player will be issued a PSSA MAP card to show to umpires and coaches indicating the accommodations in place for the player's disability.
- Modifications to game rules will be determined by the board in collaboration with the player as detailed in Rule 4, Section 2 of the USA Softball Official Rules.

### **Section 3.05      Draft**

- (a) At a time prior to the Fall Ball Draft Reveal determined by the board, an initial draft will be held to assign pairs and free agents to the available teams in each division.
- (b) Pitchers and Pairs will be split up and identified within separate pools and will be drafted as evenly as possible across the draft board.
- (c) Players will be assigned to teams within their respective division, unless they registered as a pair. The draft process will ensure teams are balanced with number of players and overall average team rating. If not enough teams are available to accommodate all free agents, a new team or teams will be formed to ensure a place to play for all who register.

## **Article IV.    Disqualification and Suspension**

### **Section 4.01      Acts Resulting in Disciplinary Action**

The PSSA Code of Conduct must be signed by all members prior to the start of the season. Violation of the Code of Conduct may result in the disqualification, suspension, or expulsion of the player from the game or league. Code of Conduct violations include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Unsportsmanlike conduct.

- (b) Physical violence, sexual harassment, verbal harassment, or the threat of physical violence of any kind against players, spectators or umpires while participating in practice, league or tournament competition while presenting themselves as a member of PSSA.
- (c) Players participating under an assumed name, falsifying affidavits, or roster or intentionally giving incorrect information to League officers will be considered as committing fraud and disciplined as such.
- (d) Participating while knowing they, or their team, does not meet the eligibility requirements of PSSA.
- (e) Knowingly competing with players that have been suspended and are ineligible from participating in league play.
- (f) Use of equipment during league play that is deemed illegal by USA Softball, iPride, or PSSA. (See 6.06 - Bats)
- (g) Damaging league or venue property through intent or negligence.
- (h) Knowingly using team or league activities to generate personal financial profit.
  - Payment to members for umpiring, scorekeeping, or approved merchandise sales does not fall within the scope of this section.
- (i) Unethical conduct by any member to encourage players to play to a given rating instead of their actual skill or a player intentionally "playing down".
- (a) Unethical behavior when it comes to player ratings or the ratings process, including knowingly playing a player in the league or in out of town tournaments under an old or incorrect rating.

## **Section 4.02          Jurisdiction**

- (a) If a team or player is in violation of the Code of Conduct or any violations referenced in 4.01, they may be subject to an Ethics committee investigation, as described in the Code of Conduct.

## **Article V.    League Schedule**

### **Section 5.01          Schedule**

- (a) Teams will be scheduled for 10 games (including full round robins where possible) plus a playoff tournament to end the season.
- (b) A schedule of League games will be uploaded to Sports Engine and can be accessed on the PSSA website or on the Sports Engine app.

- (c) The schedule will list the opponent, time, date, and location of each game.
- (d) The home team for each game will be determined by a coin flip conducted by the umpire before the game clock starts.
- (e) In the event of team additions or deletions, weather conditions and field availability, etc. adjustments to the schedule may be made periodically as deemed necessary. Notices will be displayed on the PSSA website, PSSA Facebook page, and communicated to the membership via email when time permits. It is the coach/manager's responsibility to check for any communications from the league.
- (f) For divisional standings purposes, all teams will play an equal number of games against teams within their division unless otherwise dictated by 5.01(e). Additional games scheduled are considered exhibition and will not count in league standings. Exhibition will be clearly identified on the schedule on the website or the Sports Engine app.
- (g) Teams may only request one bye per season for out-of-town tournaments during a scheduled week of league play. No other bye requests will be honored. Bye requests must be submitted by August 20th.

#### **Section 5.02      Forfeits**

- (a) Scheduled game time is forfeit time. Any team not able to field nine (9) players by the scheduled starting time of their game shall forfeit the game with a score of 7-0. (See section 6.13 regarding pick-up players.)
- (b) In the event the previous game runs over its allotted time, the starting time shall be assumed to be 5 minutes after the time the previous game ends.
- (c) If teams must move from one field to another in back-to-back games, the start time of the game on the second field will be delayed 5 minutes after the end of the game on the first field to allow the arriving team to occupy the dugout and create a lineup card.
- (d) Any team that forfeits more than 3 games will be eliminated from contention for medals in the regular season but will be allowed to finish the remainder of their scheduled games. Eliminated teams will play in the Playoff tournament as the lowest seed(s) and will be seeded within themselves by overall record.

#### **Section 5.03      Postponements / Cancellations**

- (a) In the event a game is postponed or canceled for any reason, every effort will be made to reschedule the game(s).
- (b) In the event there are no available time-slots due to multiple games being affected, it may be necessary to reschedule only games that will ultimately affect the order of teams in the final League

standings.

- (c) The decision to cancel or delay the start of games due to inclement weather before the first scheduled game time will be made by the Competition Coordinator (or Assistant Commissioner in the absence of the Competition Coordinator) as directed by city/field management, or perceived unsafe conditions.
- (d) Umpires will make the decision to postpone or cancel games in progress.
- (e) All PSSA coaches, managers, and players should check the Rainout app, or PSSA social media (Facebook) for any announcements of time changes for games.
- (f) In the event of unusual circumstances, the Competition Coordinator will be responsible for contacting all team coaches/managers.

#### **Section 5.04 Time Limit**

- (a) A time limit will be in effect for regular League play. No inning will start after 55 minutes from the actual starting time of the game.
- (b) A game will be considered as complete if four (4) full innings have been played (or three and a half (3 ½) innings if the home team is ahead) should it become necessary to conclude a game before 55 minutes has passed.
- (c) If a game needs to be postponed for any reason before 4 full innings of play have been completed (or three and a half (3 ½) innings if the home team is ahead), every effort will be made to record game details at the time of postponement. Games may be picked up where they left off, or may be required to start over at the discretion of the Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner.

### **Article VI. Competition**

#### **Section 6.01 Divisional Alignment**

- (a) Teams will play within Upper and Lower divisions for regular season and playoff tournament play.
  - (i) Upper division teams will be those teams with individual players whose ratings are 10 or higher. Players rated lower than 10 may opt to play in the Upper division.
  - (ii) Lower division teams will be those teams with individual players whose ratings are 9 or lower. No player with question 4 or 5 may play in the lower division.

#### **Section 6.02 Player Ratings**

- (a) All players will be rated based on the iPride 26-point rating system.

- (b) No ratings changes or protests will be permitted in the Fall season.

### **Section 6.03 Tiebreakers**

- (a) During regular season play, if time has run out, games may end in a tie with the completion of the inning.
- (b) League division standings tiebreakers will be based on:
  - (i) The head-to-head win/loss record of the teams involved in the tie
  - (ii) Then placed in order by the run differential within head- to-head league standing results of all of the tied teams
  - (iii) Then by runs allowed within the head-to-head results of the tied teams
  - (iv) Then by run differential in all games counted in the league standings
  - (v) Then by runs allowed in all games counted in the league standings
  - (vi) Then by coin flip
- (c) During the Playoff tournament, iPride World Series rules will be followed, and the USA Softball International Tiebreaker rule will be utilized. A new inning shall be played with the visiting team placing their final batter from the previous inning on second base and then completing the half inning as usual. (i) The home team shall follow the same format. (ii) If, after one (1) full inning the score remains tied, teams will follow this format until runs scored declare a winner.

### **Section 6.04 Lineups**

- (a) Any lineup card (not duplicate and/or carbon copies) may be used and **must be submitted** to the umpire with copies to the opposing team legibly listing the **FULL first and last names of all players**, prior to the scheduled start of every game. Each team **MUST** bat all of their rostered players. However, only 10 players will take the field on defense.
- (b) Changes to the lineup card after the official lineup has been submitted must be made to the home plate umpire at the time of the change. The opposing team must be notified of any changes.
- (c) Team members arriving late must be scratched from the lineup before the start of the game, but may be added to the official lineup card, by the home plate umpire, up until the first pitch at the top of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning.
- (d) Any player claiming an MAP accommodation must be listed as MAP

on the lineup card and show their PSSA MAP card to the umpires / opposing coaches prior to the beginning of the game or at the time of being added to the lineup card. If the card is not present, the MAP accommodation must be verified with a board member before it can be implemented in the game.

- (e) After the completion of play for the day, score sheets will be collected by the league Competition Coordinator for the purpose of recording scores and standings for the day.

### **Section 6.05      Game Balls**

- (a) PSSA will use 12" restricted flight core .52, 300 compression, optic yellow softballs as adopted by iPride. The league will provide all game balls.

### **Section 6.06      Bats**

- (a) PSSA plays a pick-a-stick format, therefore all bats for PSSA league play will be provided by PSSA. No bat other than those provided by PSSA may be used in league play at any time.
- (b) Bats will be provided with three weights (25, 26, and 27 ounces).
- (c) Bats will be secured and delivered to each field by the Competition Coordinator, other board member, UIC, umpire or park manager only.
- (d) Bats will be placed near home plate and must be returned after use.
- (e) Umpires will be responsible for bats between games to ensure no one uses, removes or switches any bats and will return the bats to the Competition Coordinator or other PSSA Board member at the end of their games each day.
- (f) Should a bat break or be deemed illegal during game play, that bat will be replaced by a bat of the same style and weight from the PSSA set of bats for the remainder of play, if a replacement bat is available.
- (g) While league bats are on the field:
  - 1) No league bat may be taken into a dugout at any time. Any member taking a league bat into a dugout will be immediately ejected from the game. If the umpire cannot determine which player that brought the bat into the dugout, the umpire will immediately eject from the game the fourth batter in the current batting order from the offending team. Any member who brings a bat into the dugout may be brought before the Ethics committee, at the discretion of the Board. If a member brings an unapproved/non-league bat onto the field of play or into their dugout, that member will be immediately ejected from the game and may be brought before the Ethics committee, at

the discretion of the Board.

- 2) A player/team discovered using any unapproved bat will be subject to the following penalties:
- Forfeit of game.
  - Player and coach will be ejected from the following scheduled game.
  - Player and coach will be brought before the Ethics Committee.

### **Section 6.07      Courtesy Runner**

- (a) During league play and the Playoff tournament one (1) courtesy runner is allowed per team each inning.
- (b) The courtesy runner may be any player listed on the lineup card for that game, including substitutes. A courtesy runner is considered in the game when the runner touches the base.
- (c) If the courtesy runner is on base when they are scheduled to come up to bat, the batter will be called out and the runner will stay on base.
- (d) All other game rules will remain the same for the courtesy runner.
- (e) Runners used for players as part of a MAP (Member Accommodation Policy) allowance, do not count as a courtesy runner.
- That courtesy runner will be the most recent out for their team. If no out had happened, it will be the person who is furthest away from hitting in the batting order and who is not currently on base. If the runner is still on base when their time in the order comes up, they will be replaced on base with the most recent out at the time that occurs. The spot on base will not become an out.
  - The player with a MAP also may not progress beyond first base during their at bat. If they do, they will be called out. This includes MAP accommodation runners from home plate.

### **Section 6.08      Defense**

- (a) All rostered players in attendance for a game must play in the field for at least one inning with a fair rotation being applied across the roster.
- (b) Injured players who attend the game may be left off the lineup prior to the start of the game at their discretion of the player.

## **Section 6.09 Pitching**

- (a) Play will begin with a 1-1 count with one courtesy foul.
- (b) Pitch height is defined as 6' to 12', differing from USA Softball.

## **Section 6.10 Batting**

- (a) The team batting lineup must include all rostered players in attendance for that game. No subs are permitted. Injured players who attend the game may be left off the lineup prior to the start of the game at the discretion of the player.
- (b) All players actively participating in play that will not be starting in fielding positions must be clearly identified on the line-up sheets as "extra hitters" or "EH".
- (c) In the event of an injury during a game, a player may be removed from the batting order with the agreement of both coaches. If the coaches do not agree, the Competition Coordinator or board designee has the final say.
- (d) If a player in the batting order does not complete the game, that player's hitting position is counted as an out each time that position comes up to bat unless otherwise decided in 6.10(c).

## **Section 6.11 Home Run Limits**

A home run will be defined as any fair ball that goes over the fence unassisted by a defensive player.

- (a) Upper Division - 1 per game (additional over the fence, unassisted home runs result as an out)
- (b) Lower division - 0 (an over the fence, unassisted home run is an inning ending out)

## **Section 6.12 Run Rules**

- (a) The following run rule will be in effect:
  - (i) 25 runs ahead after 2 innings
  - (ii) 20 runs ahead after 3 innings
  - (iii) 15 runs ahead after 4 innings
  - (iv) 10 runs ahead after 5 innings
- (b) The flip flop rule will be used as follows:
  - (i) If at the start of an inning, the run rule for that particular inning is exceeded and the home team is losing, the home team will stay up to bat and bat as the visiting team.
  - (ii) If, after three outs, the home team is not able to reduce the run difference, the game will be over.

- (iii) If the losing home team is able to reduce the run difference, the visiting team will come up to bat as the home team and continue the game as normal with home and away reversed for the remainder of the game (or until a flip back is required by this same rule).

### **Section 6.13 Pick-up Players**

- (a) During league play:
  - (i) In the event a team has fewer than ten (10) roster players for a regular season game, to avoid a forfeit that team may pick up a maximum of two (2) players to a total of ten (10) from another PSSA rostered team if that player is rated within or lower than that division of play. If a team can only field nine (players) with pickup, the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) batting position will be an automatic out whenever that position is to come up to bat. If the team has additional rostered players arrive before the first pitch of the third inning, the rostered player(s) must be added to the line-up and must only be substituted in for the pick-up player(s).
  - (ii) Players who are not registered for Fall but played in the Spring season and have a 2025 rating may pay to play as a pick up under the above rule. Each week they pick up, they will need to fill out a registration form online and pay a \$15 fee prior to taking the field.
- (b) During playoff tournament, no pick-up players are allowed

### **Section 6.13 Umpires**

- (a) One (1) umpire will be used for all fall ball games.
  - (i) Exceptions may be made to allow a second umpire for training purposes at the discretion of the league and the UIC.

### **Section 6.14 Game Scorecard**

- (a) All scorecards for completed games are final once coaches and/or team representatives have signed them. It is the duty of the coach or team representative to ensure the card is correct prior to signing it. PSSA will not alter any final scores after the signatures have been collected from the team representatives.

## **Article VII. Uniforms**

### **Section 7.01 Uniforms**

- (a) Shirts will be provided by the league. No numbers will be included.

### **Section 7.02 Cleats**

- (a) Metal cleats are not allowed during PSSA play.

## Article VIII. **Playoff Tournament**

### **Section 8.01 Procedure**

- (a) The format for the Playoff Tournament will be a one day double elimination bracket.

### **Section 8.02 Seeding**

- (a) Seeding will be based on overall win/loss record for games played against teams within your defined division with ties broken as described in 6.03.

### **Section 8.03 Rule Adjustments from Regular Season**

USA Softball and iPride GSWS rules will be in effect for the PSSA Fall Playoffs with the following exceptions:

- (a) All games will be played with a fifty-five (55) minute time limit, finishing the inning with no ties.
- USA Softball International Tiebreaker rule will be utilized. A new inning shall be played with the visiting team placing their final batter from the previous inning on second base and then completing the half inning as usual.
    - The home team shall follow the same format.
    - If, after one (1) full inning the score remains tied, teams will follow this format until runs scored declare a winner.
- (b) The higher seed will always be the home team, except for the championship game where the winner's bracket champion will be designated the home team. If needed, the "if game" will be a coin toss.
- (c) If a team is required to forfeit a game due to lack of sufficient number of players, the game will be counted as a loss for that team. If it is their first loss, they will move to the loser's bracket. If it is their second loss, they will be eliminated from the tournament.

## Article IX. **Awards and Recognition**

### **Section 9.01 Awards**

- (a) The Competition Coordinator will maintain standings

throughout the season, and medals will be awarded to the first through third place teams in each division at the End of Season Awards

- (b) Playoff Tournament champions in each division will receive medals at the End of Season Awards.