



## **Palos Verdes Peninsula Girls Softball League**

### **2023 LEAGUE OPERATING RULES**

These rules may be superseded with approval of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Girls Softball League (“PVPGSL”) Board of Directors (“Board”) for the betterment of the league.

Revision Date: January 9, 2023



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## 1 Registration

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- 1.1 Registration will begin by September 1st.
- 1.2 A league calendar listing dates for Assessments, Clinics, Opening Day Ceremonies and Closing Day Ceremonies will be posted on the PVPGSL website by registration.
- 1.3 Registration is done on a first come, first serve basis. If more players register than can be carried by the number of available teams, or if there are late registrations, they shall be assigned to a wait list and be assigned to a team if a vacancy occurs. No registrations for 10U or higher are taken after Pitcher Assessment Day.
- 1.4 Ages for each division are as follows. Per USA Softball rules:
  - 1.4.1 6U Division - Ages 4, 5 and 6 years old as of December 31 of the previous year
  - 1.4.2 8U Division - Ages 8 years old and under as of December 31 of the previous year.
  - 1.4.3 10U Division - Ages 10 years old and under as of December 31 of the previous year.
  - 1.4.4 12U Division - Ages 12 years old and under as of December 31 of the previous year.
  - 1.4.5 14U Division - Ages 14 years old and under as of December 31 of the previous year.
- 1.5 There will be a refund of registration fees paid if the player withdraws before the first practice. If the player withdraws after the first practice, there will be no refunds. Any exception, such as an injury, will require Board approval.



## 2 Player Eligibility

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- 2.1 Players of all skill levels are welcome to play in the PVPGSL.
- 2.2 USA Softball has specific rules regarding player eligibility for All Star Tournament play. These include:
  - 2.2.1 Players must play a minimum of 75% of the current seasons' league games.
  - 2.2.2 High school players who are age eligible to participate in 14U division, must be registered within the league by May 15 of the current season in order to be eligible. NOTE: These "Returning Players" must be approved by the Board of Directors.
  - 2.2.3 Players who have played in a higher league age classification during the current season are eligible to play in their correct age classification. Players who have played on a school team after March 31st of the current season are eligible to play if all other eligibility guidelines are followed.
  - 2.2.4 Players who have participated on a team other than their own recreation league teams after March 31st of the current season are not eligible; (i.e. a player shall not participate with any other All-Star or travel type team, including ASA and non-ASA after March 31st) except as provided in paragraph 3 above. NOTE: "Participate" in the above shall be defined as A PLAYER TAKING PART IN A TRYOUT PRACTICE, PRACTICE GAME, SCHEDULED GAME OR TOURNAMENT. SINGLE TRYOUT IS NOT PARTICIPATION, HOWEVER, MULTIPLE TRYOUTS ARE PARTICIPATION.  
  
Note: These dates may change and are reviewed annually by USA Softball. Please refer to the "Yellow Book" for the current year for the latest information.
  - 2.2.5 Players SHALL NOT play on more than one team in USA Softball Championship competition during the same season except as a pick-up player.
- 2.3 Any player who is registered for another league or team besides PVPGSL after Opening Day will be limited to one (1) inning per game at the pitcher position – same rule as for someone who does not assess. This rule is intended to specifically apply to the 8U, 10U, and 12U divisions.



## PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules

### 3 Player Assessments

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- 3.1 It is recommended that general Player Skill Assessments be held 3 weeks before the start of the season and held over one weekend. Player Skill Assessments are mandatory for all players.
- 3.2 Pitchers will be assessed separately by the Board on PVPGSL Assessment Day in the 10U, 12U and 14U Divisions, to determine the number of pitchers available. Pitchers who do not participate in the assessment will be limited in the number of innings they can throw during a season (see Section 4.2 for details). The pitching skill areas assessed include:
  - 3.2.1 Pitching Form (scale 1-5)
  - 3.2.2 Pitching Speed (scale 1-5)
  - 3.2.3 Pitching Accuracy (scale 1-5)
  - 3.2.4 Additional Pitches (scale 1-5)
- 3.3 8U Pitchers are assessed at the Player Skill Assessments. Each Division Director, with the exception of 6U, will coordinate and facilitate Assessments and manage the list of players for their respective division.
- 3.4 All approved Managers must participate in Assessments. It is recommended that 8U Managers participate in 8U Assessments; 10U Managers volunteer to help in the 12U Assessments; 12U Managers volunteer to help in the 10U Assessments; and 14U Managers participate in 14U Assessments. 10U and 12U Managers must attend Assessments for their respective divisions as well.
- 3.5 Players will be assessed and then rated (scale 1-5). Skill areas include:
  - 3.5.1 Batting Form
  - 3.5.2 Batting Contact
  - 3.5.3 Batting Power
  - 3.5.4 Bunting
  - 3.5.5 Base Running
  - 3.5.6 Sliding
  - 3.5.7 Fielding Form (Scale 1-5)
  - 3.5.8 Fielding Execution
  - 3.5.9 Throwing Form
  - 3.5.10 Throwing Execution
- 3.6 Catchers will be assessed separately in 14U, 12U and the 10U Divisions (scale 1-5).
  - 3.6.1 The Catching skill areas assessed include:
  - 3.6.2 Catching Form
  - 3.6.3 Catching; Blocking
  - 3.6.4 Catching; Quickness
  - 3.6.5 Throw Downs
- 3.7 Players requesting to play up or down a division must be assessed in both relevant divisions. Assessors should be notified of play up/down requests to evaluate and recommend action to the Board.
- 3.8 Two Independent Assessors will evaluate each player using the League Assessment Form to be turned into the Division Director at the end of Assessment Day.



## **PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules**

- 3.9 All assessment data will be calculated from the Independent Assessor's League Assessment Forms. It will be tabulated by the Division Director and used to compile the respective Division Draft Sheets supplied to the Managers.



## **4 Pitching in 10U and 12U Divisions**

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- 4.1 Based upon draft rule 5.1.4, all teams will have at least 2 assessed pitchers.
- 4.2 A coach may allow a player who was not assessed as a pitcher to pitch one inning per game.
- 4.3 If a team is missing either of its assessed pitchers, he/she may use the remaining assessed pitcher and a combination of other players as pitchers. All other inning limitations described in the specific division's rules are still in effect.
  - 4.3.1 This means that in 10U, the assessed pitcher can only pitch 2 of the first 4 innings. Remaining innings must be pitched by other players on the roster. If the other players chosen to pitch were not assessed, they are limited to pitching one inning (see Section 4.2).



## **5 Managers / Volunteers**

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- 5.1 Before player Assessments, the Division Director will solicit candidates who are interested in managing.
- 5.2 Manager candidates must complete a USA Background Check Form, SafeSport, and the PVPGSL Manager/Coach Code of Conduct to be reviewed by the respective Division Director for consideration.
- 5.3 Prior to Assessment Day, the number of teams for the season will be recommended by the Division Directors, with regard to registration numbers and to the number of pitchers available, for Board Approval. The Division Directors will present the list of potential managers by Division to the Board for approval.
- 5.4 All Managers, coaches, team parents, and practice volunteers working with the players must complete the USA Background Check Form. Failure to comply or failure to pass the USA Softball background check will result in immediate removal from their volunteer position.
- 5.5 In the event a manager resigns or a replacement is needed, the Board of Directors must approve that replacement.
- 5.6 A female chaperone (minimum age of 18 years) should accompany the team any time it is assembled.
- 5.7 Mandatory Manager meetings and training clinics are provided for all new and returning Managers before the start of and during the regular season. This will be at the expense of the League. Additionally, PVPGSL will pay for any Manager to attend Board- approved USA-certified coach's clinic and/or ACE certification course.
- 5.8 Managers must commit to a minimum of one practice a week. Managers in the 10U, 12U and 14U divisions are encouraged to hold two practices a week. Practices can be defined as field practice, batting cages, scrimmages, and clinics.



## 6 Team Player Selection

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- 6.1 Player selection for 10U, 12U, and 14U Divisions
  - 6.1.1 In 10U, 12U, and 14U, distribution of players will be determined by a Manager draft using the serpentine system. Daughters of Managers will be identified and placed in their draft position per the respective Division Director, and Vice President. A Manager's draft order is determined by the Division Director and Vice President. Ratings are used to determine the Manager's daughter's placement and the Manager draft order.
  - 6.1.2 All Managers receive the Division Draft sheet in advance of the draft. Pitchers and catchers will be listed separately based on their skill rating. Managers will review the sheet to identify any inaccuracies in rankings, such as a top All-Star pitcher being ranked too low because of a poor assessment performance.
  - 6.1.3 Draft order will be given to Managers prior to draft night.
  - 6.1.4 Within the first three (3) rounds, Managers must draft two (2) pitchers and one (1) catcher.
  - 6.1.5 PVPGSL will only honor requests to be on a particular team or with a particular person during the draft, with approval of all managers and the division director.
  - 6.1.6 PVPGSL will specifically allow for up to one (1) named assistant coach and respective one (1) named assistant coach daughter per team. The named assistant coach and daughter must be shared with Division Director, Player Agent, and Executive Board in advance of Assessments. The named assistant coach daughter will be slotted in the draft order based on Assessment rankings by the Division Director.
  
- 6.2 Player Selection for 6U and 8U
  - 6.2.1 6U Division players will be assigned to teams by the 6U Division Director. To further clarify, teams will be formed based on requests with the understanding that teams must be reasonable in size.
  - 6.2.2 8U Division players will be assigned to teams by the 8U Division Director based on the assessment form rating. They will distribute the players to create evenly balanced teams, with even distribution of pitchers and catchers.



## **7 Team Uniforms/ Practice Times**

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- 7.1 The Uniform Director will provide the uniform style and colors to the Board for approval.
- 7.2 Each team's colors and practice day(s) are determined at the Mandatory League Manager Meeting. Practice days and times are picked by division (highest to lowest) and within division by random selection out of a hat. The selection of uniform colors is then done in reverse order within each division.
- 7.3 For 10U, 12U, and 14U, second practice sessions are picked after all teams (including 8U and 6U) have selected their first practice.



## 8 Games: Schedule / Forfeits

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- 8.1 The Scheduler will create the game schedule and present to the Board for approval.
- 8.2 The schedule should have the following:
  - 8.2.1 Times, places and teams playing with an indication of which team is the home team.
  - 8.2.2 Each team is to play each other team an equal amount of games (if scheduling permits).
  - 8.2.3 Holidays and holiday weekends should be open if possible. PVPUSD holidays will be taken into consideration.
  - 8.2.4 The schedule for 6U, 8U, 10U and 12U, including regular season and playoffs should be complete at least on week before Opening Day.
  - 8.2.5 The Division Director and League Scheduler must approve any game that needs to be rescheduled due to weather.
- 8.3 There is no rescheduling of games due to a lack of players for 8U and higher. If a team has at least 6 team members, it can borrow players from a lower division to play in the outfield only and to bat at the end of their line-up (See Section 12 for player borrowing rules) If a team has fewer than 7 players available to play, it must forfeit the game and will receive a loss score of 5-0.



## **9 Play Up / Play Down**

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See Call Up Rules for 2026 on league website.



## 10 Fall Ball

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- 10.1 Fall Ball registration will begin in May if possible; June at the latest. Registration is done on a first come, first serve basis. If more players register than can be carried by the number of available teams, they shall be assigned to a wait list and be assigned to a team if a vacancy occurs. Only the name and phone number is taken for the wait list; no fees are collected. Registrants who sign up late may be placed on a wait list.
- 10.2 The Fall Ball Director will collect the names of potential managers and present them to the Board for approval.
- 10.3 The Fall Ball Director will distribute the players to create evenly balanced teams, with even distribution of pitchers and catchers. The previous year's Assessment ratings and All Star play information will be used to balance the teams.
- 10.4 There will be a refund of registration fees paid if the player withdraws before the first practice. If the player withdraws after the season has begun, there will be no refunds. Any exception, such as an injury, will require Board approval.
- 10.5 Fall Ball teams who register for tournament play with PVPGSL Insurance must be approved by the Board and must cover all tournament expenses.



## 11 Code of Conduct

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- 11.1 All Managers must complete the Manager Code of Conduct form and turn it into their Division Director.
- 11.2 All Managers are required to have all their players and parents complete and sign the Player & Parent Code of Conduct form and the Medical form (which is done during regular registration).
- 11.3 Escalation regarding non-compliance with Player/Parent Code of Conduct is initiated by the Manager to the Division Director. If the Parent/Player Code of Conduct cannot be resolved, the issue will be escalated by the Division Director to the Board for review.
- 11.4 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U managers are required to help out on Assessment Days (See 2.4). All Managers are required to attend all League Manager meetings and training clinics.
- 11.5 All players are required to attend all practices and games. If a player consistently does not attend the required practices and games the Manager is required to follow the league protocol listed below:
  - 11.5.1 Contact the family of the player and remind them of their commitment to the league, to their team and of the Code of Conduct Contract they signed.
  - 11.5.2 Contact the Division Director.
- 11.6 If the player continues to miss practices and games, the manager should work with the Division Director in taking action. Non-attendance will lead to the following possible outcomes:
  - 11.6.1 a lifting of the rotation rules for that player;
  - 11.6.2 the player being asked to sit out an inning or entire game;
  - 11.6.3 disqualification from the team;
  - 11.6.4 ineligibility for All Stars
- 11.7 The Manager is required to work with the Division Director to come to a solution that ensures a full team experience for all the girls on the team.
- 11.8 8U, 10U, and 12U managers shall exchange a game line-up showing player positions for a minimum of the first 3 innings at the pre-game plate meeting.



## **9 Play Up / Play Down**

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See Call Up Rules for 2026 on league website.



## **9 Play Up / Play Down**

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See Call Up Rules for 2026 on league website.



## **12 Borrowing Players**

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See Call Up Rules for 2026 on league website



## **13 Standings / Playoffs / Trophies**

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See 2026 Playoff Rules on league website.



## **14 League Playoff Rules**

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See League 2026 Playoff Rules on league website



## 15 Equipment

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- 15.1 Players are required to wear USA Softball approved helmets with permanent face guards while batting.
- 15.2 Players are required to have USA Softball approved softball gloves, cleats and bats.
- 15.3 It is recommended that players wear sliding pads.
- 15.4 It is strongly suggested that players consider wearing protective facemasks while fielding.
- 15.5 Catchers are required to wear full protective gear whenever catching and the league will provide each team with a set of catcher's gear.



## PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules

### **16 6U Division Supplemental Rules**

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See 2026 Supplemental Rules on League Website



## PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules

# 17 8U Division Supplemental Rules

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See 2026 Supplemental Rules on League Website



## PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules

### **18 10U Division Supplemental Rules**

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See 2026 Supplemental Rules on League Website



## PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules

### **19 12U Division Supplemental Rules**

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See 2026 Supplemental Rules on League Website



## PVPGSL 2022 League Operating Rules

### **20 14U Interleague Division**

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See 2026 Supplemental Rules on League Website and coaches should follow all interleague rules, provided by USA Softball.