

SUFFOLK CHRISTIAN LEAGUE
GENERAL RULES AND BYLAWS
AS OF JANUARY 1, 2025

Article I. GENERAL RULES

These guidelines are for information only. They are subject to change by the SCL board of Directors without a vote by the SCL membership.

All SCL games shall be conducted in accordance with the Official Rules of Softball and Governing Umpiring Association Code except as modified in this rulebook. When there is a discrepancy between the Official Rules of Softball and the governing umpiring association code and SCL rules, SCL rules shall prevail.

Section I.01 ELIGIBILITY

- (a) Each member team shall adhere to the Articles and Bylaws of the Suffolk Christian League (SCL) as filed with the State of New York and the Internal Revenue Service.
- (b) All teams must have a manager and an assistant manager before the start of the season. Effect: All games will be forfeited until a team has a manager and an assistant manager.
- (c) Managers and assistants must be at least 21 years of age; players must be at least 16 years of age before they can play.
- (d) Each member must be a regular attendee of the participating church, Sunday school or Youth Program. Other activities may be acceptable if approved at a manager's meeting or by the SCL Board. Each team member must be a resident of Long Island. If the individual attends school or college outside Long Island, they must reside on Long Island and attend the participating church regularly when school is not in session.
- (e) All members must conduct themselves in a Christian manner according to Biblical principles. Failure to do so shall result in the offender's immediate ejection. (i.e., Smoking, profanity, alcoholic beverages and chewing tobacco are strictly prohibited.)
- (f) Members that fail to conduct themselves in a Christian manner at any SCL function shall be suspended from league play for the next two (2) consecutive games (regular season and/or playoffs) or for a duration to be determined by the SCL Board. A second incident of misconduct shall result in an immediate

suspension for a duration to be determined by the SCL board. Any misconduct should be reported to the Conference Supervisor by both managers.

- (g) Insurance coverage is the responsibility of each SCL member team. Each team must submit a copy of their insurance certificate to the league office.
- (h) After June 1, transfers to another SCL team shall not be allowed. Once a player leaves their original team, they shall not be eligible to rejoin that team for the balance of the season.

Section I.02 ROSTERS

- (a) Team rosters must be submitted to the SCL before the first regular season game.
- (b) The rosters must be signed by both the team manager and the church's minister certifying each player's eligibility.
- (c) The roster, as a minimum, shall contain: The Manager's and the Assistant Manager's name; the Minister's signature; each Player's first and last name; and the statement, "The team members listed are regular attendees of our church." Rosters not containing the minimum information will not be accepted.
- (d) Rosters shall be frozen as of June 1st the frozen roster shall be the roster on file with the SCL office as of 10 PM May 31st. Rosters may be added to or subtracted from at any time up to June 1st. Effect: All games will be forfeited until a team has submitted a roster.
- (e) Rosters are not limited to a maximum number of players.
- (f) Players added to the team after the start of the season must be added to the roster by submitting a roster revision form which includes the player(s) name(s) and the signatures of both the Manager and Minister. Players are ineligible to play until the roster revision form is received at the league office via email. Effect: The manager of any team that utilizes a player not listed on the official roster on file with the league office will be suspended from league play for the next two (2) consecutive games (regular season and/or playoffs) or for a duration to be determined by the SCL board. The player will be

considered ineligible for league play for the remainder of the season or for a duration to be determined by the SCL board.

- (g) A player's eligibility is challenged by submitting, at a minimum, the player's first and last name to the league office. The league President shall compare this information to the roster on file and make a determination.
- (h) In no instance shall a SCL member (Coach, Manager, Player, etc.) participate in another SCL game for another SCL team during the regular or post season. Members can only be on one roster during any SCL season. Exception: Women can play on a men's conference team and a women's conference team during the same season. Men can manage a women's conference team and manage/play for a men's conference team during the same season.

Section 1.03 PLAYING SITES

- (a) Teams must secure their own playing site. Effect: If a team cannot secure a playing site, all games shall be played at the away team's site. If on the day-of-game the away team's site is unavailable, the result shall be a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team.
- (b) Playing sites that do not meet the prescribed field limits of the governing umpiring association's Official Rules of Softball and SCL Rules and Guidelines, shall require special ground rules. The ground rules shall establish the limits of the playing field whenever backstops, fences, stands, vehicles, spectators or other obstructions are within the prescribed area. Any obstruction on fairground less than the prescribed fence distances from home plate should be clearly marked for the umpire's information.
- (c) Outfield barriers (fences, woods, stands, etc.) shall be a minimum of 275 ft. from home plate to qualify for a home run barrier. Fly balls hit over a barrier shorter than 275 ft. shall be considered a ground rule double. Ground rules are to be submitted in writing to the SCL office along with the playing site information.
- (d) All games at a playing site must utilize the same ground rules except if physical conditions change necessitating a change to the existing ground rules. Modified ground rules that are estimated to affect more than one game, need to be filed with the SCL office. All modifications to published ground rules must be agreed upon by both managers. Effect: If a game is played with modified ground rules, both managers shall notify the President or Vice President of the league. The SCL board shall render a decision and shall declare a forfeit against any team that promotes unsafe or unfair playing

conditions. Note: Teams sharing a field must use the same ground rules for all games.

- (e) The home team must provide a copy of the approved ground rules to the umpire at each home game. Effect: If it is found that the game was played with an unsafe or unfair rule, the game shall be recorded as a 15-0 loss for the home team.
- (f) The home team must have a copy of the current SCL Rules available at the field of each home game. If a disagreement over an SCL rule occurs and the home team does not have a copy of the rules available, the balance of the game will be played with the away team's interpretation of the rule. Note: The away team is not under any obligation to provide a copy of the SCL rules, even if they have them on the field. Effect: If a protest is filed and it is found that the game was played with an improper rule, with the SCL Board's approval, either the home team shall pay the umpire's fee, and the game will be rescheduled or the game shall be recorded as a 15-0 loss for the home team. If a protest is not filed, the game will stand.
- (g) No more than two (2) teams shall share a playing site unless prior approval is given by the SCL Board. If two (2) teams share a playing site, the playing site needs to be available enough dates to accommodate all home games, at a minimum. The league must be notified which team is prioritized. (e.g.: Sixteen game schedule, eight home games per team times two teams equals sixteen playing dates.)
- (h) The ground rules, location and directions to the playing site must be provided to the SCL a minimum of two (2) weeks before the start of the season. If directions are not submitted in time to be included with the SCL schedule the home team is responsible for notifying the away team and the Conference Supervisor of the game location a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled game time. Effect: Failure to notify the away team and President or Vice President of the league shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team. This penalty shall remain in effect until the directions are publicized in an SCL mailing or posted on the SCL website.
- (i) The home team shall be responsible for having a playing site available for all home games. Effect: If on the day-of-game the scheduled playing site is unavailable, the result shall be a forfeit being declared against the home team.

Note: This rule does not apply if the scheduled playing site is not in playable condition.

- (j) Any change of playing site must be made a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled game time. The home team must get approval from President or Vice President of the league before making any site change. If the site change is approved, the home team shall notify the away team of the

change. Effect: Failure to get approval from the President or Vice President of the league shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team. Failure to notify the away team shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team. If a permanent site change is made, this rule shall remain in effect until the site change is publicized in an SCL mailing or posted on the SCL website.

- (k) The use of fields obtained by the Suffolk Christian League will be determined by the Suffolk Christian League board and its rules.

Section 1.04 EQUIPMENT

- (a) The Home Team must provide two (2) new balls (Official balls designated by the SCL) before each game.
- (b) All players must wear footwear. Footwear with metal spikes is prohibited.
- (c) By May 1st, similar shirts are mandatory and must be worn properly by all players. Hats are optional, if worn each hat must be of the same color and of a similar style in appearance. Numbers are required on each shirt. Team's shirts must have artwork on the front (team name, church name or both) that uniquely identifies that team. Artwork on the hats is optional. If artwork is applied to the shirt or hat, it shall be of the same color and style on each shirt or hat. Exception: 1. Uniforms with and without artwork may be used simultaneously and still meet the requirements of this rule if the circumstances for it have been reviewed and approved by the SCL Board prior to play. 2. Women may substitute visors for hats meeting the same requirements as the hats. Note: The purpose of this rule is to have all SCL teams present a positive appearance on the field. This is to encourage spectators and casual passersby to take notice of the game and present the opportunity for each team to be a positive witness.
- (d) Each player or base coach on the field must be identified by a unique number prominently displayed on their shirt. Players without numbers shall not be permitted to play. If duplicate numbers exist, only one player may play at a time. There is no penalty for a player wearing a wrong number. Correct the number in the score book and continue playing.
- (e) Players on the bench do not have to be in uniform. NOTE: If a team has more players than uniforms, it is permissible to switch shirts on the sideline. However, the opposing team must be notified that a new player is now wearing another player's number. Effect: Failure to notify the opposing team

that a new player is now wearing another player's number shall result in the substitute being declared illegal.

- (f) All uniforms must be worn properly. Only the catcher may turn their hat around.
- (g) Players not properly attired shall be ineligible.
- (h) The home team is required to use a double first base. Governing umpire rules will apply to the use of a double first base.
- (i) Bats: All bats must be official softball bats. Any bats not approved for play by ASA or USSSA will not be permitted. Any bat that has any crack at all is not permitted, regardless of league approval. Umpires will remove any bat that has any crack from the game. Umpires may request to check bats at any time. A list of bats that have proper markings but are banned by the league is attached to the rules.
 - i) If the batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and he is ejected (See rule on Ejections Section 7.3) from the game.
 - ii) If the illegal bat is discovered after the batter has completed their time at bat, but before a pitch has been made to a succeeding batter, the batter is called out, and the player is ejected (See rule on Ejections Section 8.03) from the game. All base runners, if they have advanced, must return to the base occupied at the time player using the illegal bat took a position in the batter's box.
 - iii) In both cases the Manager of the team will also be ejected from the game (See rule on Ejections Section 8.03) and the bat will be removed from all further play.
- (j) Any players occupying the pitcher's position are required to wear a protective pitcher's mask. Any pitcher refusing to wear such protective gear will not be allowed to occupy the pitcher's position.
- (k) Pitching Rubber: Pitching Rubbers are at 50' but the pitcher may deliver his pitch from up to 6' further back for safety (must be within the width of the rubber)
- (l) Mat/home plate extension: a mat shall be provided by the home team for each game, if the home does not supply the mat the away Team must supply the

mat, and the Away Team becomes the Home Team. If there is no Mat available from either team the game is deemed a Double forfeit (15-0).

Section 1.05 THE GAME

- (a) A courtesy runner may be declared for three (3) players before or during the game. A maximum of three (3) players utilizing a courtesy runner per team per game is allowed. "If a batter needs a courtesy runner, the runner will be the first player that precedes him in the batting order that is not on base or does not need a courtesy runner himself". The courtesy runner for the batter-runner must be entered after time has been called on the batter-runner and before the first pitch to the next batter. The courtesy runner is officially in the game when "play ball" has been declared by the umpire. A courtesy runner may be used in subsequent at bats for the same player until the manager removes the courtesy runner. The courtesy runner may not be resubmitted once removed. In the event of injury an addition courtesy runner may be added. An ineligible courtesy runner is an appeal situation that must be made before a legal or illegal pitch to the next batter. Effect: The use of an illegal courtesy runner shall result in the removal of the runner from the base and an out being recorded on the player that was replaced. This applies to BOTH the Men's and Women's Divisions
- (b) Line ups must be submitted to the opposing team before the start of the game. The lineup shall contain, at a minimum, the batting order, the players' last name and first initial, uniform number and playing position. The same information must be provided for substitutions. Effect: If complete line-ups are not submitted the game shall not begin. Any substitute entered without complete information will be considered an illegal substitute.
- (c) The Lineup may consist of an unlimited number of batters, with a maximum of ten players in field. Governing umpire association extra player rules apply.
- (d) Teams **MUST** start a game with a minimum of eight (8) players at 6:30pm with no penalty but may enter the ninth and tenth player immediately when they become available. Additional batters over the 10th batter may be added to the end of the line-up, but only before the leadoff batter steps into the box for his second at bat and has received his first pitch (indicating the team has officially batted through the order). This is optional and not mandatory; the team need only play with ten (10). Teams starting with eight (8) or nine (9) players must field a pitcher and a catcher. Teams starting a game with 9, 10, 11 or 12 players may continue with less (minimum of eight) subject to the following penalty: The next time the player(s) no longer available is due to bat

an out shall be recorded except for the blood rule. A 15-minute grace period will be given for **an 8th** player to arrive.

- (e) A 15-run “mercy” rule will be applied after 4 1/2 innings. The game shall be terminated after 4 1/2 innings if the home team is leading by 15 or more runs. After 4 1/2 innings if the home team scores the run a head limit while at bat, the game shall be terminated. If the visiting team reaches the run a head limit in the fifth, sixth or seventh inning, the home team must bat in the bottom half of the inning. In a game where the mercy rule has been applied, if the winning team’s score exceeds the losing teams score by more than 15 runs, the winning teams score will be reduced until it is exactly 15 runs higher than the losing teams score, and then recorded as such in the league record (i.e. a 25-5 score becomes 20 -5). **The Flip-Flop rule shall be optional for all games, not required.**
- (f) In all games played during the month of April (Men) and May (Women), there will be no extra foul. The remainder of the season the men’s league will have an extra foul
- (g) The legal height of a pitched ball shall be as follows for all SCL games:
 - Men’s league shall be 6ft to 12ft high from the ground.
 - Women’s league shall be 5ft to 12ft high from the ground.
 - o If the pitch does not meet these requirements, an illegal pitch shall be called by the umpire. The batter has the option of taking the pitch for an automatic ball or swinging at the pitch. If the pitch is swung at, the illegal pitch is ignored.
- (h) The pitcher may pitch from the pitching plate or from the pitching area, an area the width of the plate and up to six (6) feet behind the pitcher’s plate.
- (i) Prior to pitching, the pitcher shall take a position with his pivot foot firmly on the ground and in contact with the pitching plate or pitching area. The pivot foot must be in contact with the pitcher’s plate or pitching area when the pitched ball is released.
 - The pitcher's pivot foot must remain in contact with the pitching plate or pitching area throughout the delivery.
 - The pitcher must deliver the ball in a continuous, underhand motion on the first forward swing of the pitching arm.
 - If a step is taken it may be forward, backward, or to the side provided the pivot foot stays in contact with the pitching plate or pitching area and the step is taken simultaneously with the pitch.

(j) Home Run Limit

- 4 Home Run limit with one up
 - Only home runs that are batted over a fence or into a designated “home run area” are affected by this rule (i.e. not inside the park home runs).
 - Either team can hit their first 4 home runs without penalty, regardless of whether or not the other team has hit their 4 home runs. However, once a team has hit their 4, they can't hit another home run until the other team has hit all 4 of theirs as well.
 - Once both teams have hit their home run limit, each team is allowed to go "one up" on the other. This means that they can hit a home run, so long as doing so does not bring the difference in total home runs to a number greater than 1.
 - **Example:** One team has hit 3 home runs, and the other team has hit 4. The team that's hit 3 home runs is currently batting. They hit a home run, which brings both teams to 4 home runs each. They then hit another home run. This is fine, because now, they've only got 5 home runs, while the other team has 4. This is the "one up."
 - Any batter that hits a home run for a team that is already “one up” in home runs will immediately be declared out. Runners cannot advance.
 - In the last inning, the home team is NOT allowed to go "one up" on the visitors, as both teams must have an equal chance at hitting a home run.

(k) Before a pitch, a baserunner on third or first base may request a “retouch” of their base. After the request is granted by the umpire, the baserunner is permitted to stand in foul territory and will not be called out for being off the requested base at the time of the pitch. After the ball is batted, the baserunner must “retouch” the requested base before advancing to the next base. The baserunner **will be declared out if:**

- The baserunner advances to the next base without “retouching” the requested base.
- The baserunner has not “retouched” the requested base by the time that a batted ball is caught on a fly and a fielder with the ball touches the requested base (doubling off the runner).
- The baserunner does not attempt to “retouch” the requested base to avoid being tagged out.
- The baserunner attempts to get a running start towards the requested base at the time of the pitch.

Section I.06 POSTPONEMENTS

- (a) Day-of-game postponements shall be made because of rain only. Day-of-game postponements must be made before 3:30 PM by the home team notifying the umpire-in-chief and the away team. The home team must also text the person/persons in charge of the scoreline and report the day-of-game postponement. Failure to notify the umpire-in-chief shall result in the home team being assessed the umpire's fee; forfeiture of their performance bond for a first offense and a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team for a second offense. Failure to notify the league scheduler shall result in the home team forfeiting their performance bond for a first offense and a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team for a second offense. Failure to notify the away team shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the home team.
- (b) Other than day-of-game rain postponements, games may be postponed for conflicts with church related activities (during the Regular Season only). Postponements must be made, a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled game time. The team requesting the postponement must get approval from President or Vice President of the league. If the postponement is approved, the team requesting the postponement shall notify the umpire in chief and notify the opposing team of the postponement. Effect: Failure to get approval from the conference supervisor shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the team requesting the postponement. Failure to notify the umpire in chief shall result in the team requesting the postponement: being assessed the umpire's fee; forfeiture of their performance bond for a first offense and a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the team requesting the postponement for a second offense. Failure to notify the opposing team shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the team requesting the postponement.
- (c) From the day of postponement, the home team has seven (7) days to provide a make-up date to the President or Vice President of the league and the away team. If a date is not called in within the seven (7) days, the President or Vice President of the league shall schedule the make-up game for the first Monday, Tuesday or Thursday that both teams are not playing. Only the President or Vice President of the league shall reschedule games with the umpire association.
- (d) If a game is postponed with less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice for any reason other than rain, either the team causing the postponement shall be assessed the entire umpire's fee and the game rescheduled by the league scheduler, or a 15-0 forfeit shall be declared against the team causing the postponement. Effect: The game is recorded as a forfeit unless the President

or Vice President of the league approves a reschedule and the umpire's fee is received by the SCL board.

- (e) If an umpire postpones a game at the field with both teams present because of rain, the league shall be assessed an umpire travel fee. The umpire shall have the final say on the field playability.
- (f) Failure to make up a postponed game shall result in a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the team that requested the postponement or in case of a rain out, the home team.
- (g) All regular season games must be completed at least two (2) days before the scheduled start of the playoffs unless later games are approved by the SCL board.
- (h) For safety purposes, either manager may postpone a game prior to the start of the game due to a heat index of 100 or more.

Section 1.07 REGULATION, INCOMPLETE AND TIED GAMES

A REGULATION GAME shall consist of seven innings, unless otherwise listed below.

- (a) A game called by the umpire that cannot be resumed within 30 minutes may be regulation, if four or more innings have been played or if the team second at bat has scored as many or more runs during the uncompleted fourth inning. (Losing team must bat 5 times)
- (b) A regulation tie game shall be declared if the score is equal when the game is called at the end of five or more complete innings, or if after 4 1/2 innings the team at bat has equaled the score of the first team at bat in the incomplete inning. It will be recorded as a tie in each team's record
- (c) In the months of April and May, game called by the umpire, which cannot be resumed, may be regulation if three or more innings have been played or if the

team second at bat has scored as many or more runs during the uncompleted third inning. (Losing team must bat 4 times).

Section 1.08 PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- (a) Protests and Appeals shall be allowed for the reasons listed in The Official Rules of Softball and violation of any SCL rule.
- (b) Protests must be declared in accordance with the governing umpire association's Rules and Guidelines.
- (c) A written protest must be postmarked to the SCL within a reasonable time, not to exceed forty-eight (48) hours. The protest must be accompanied by a \$10.00 service fee.
- (d) Protests concerning governing umpire Rule violations shall be forwarded to the governing umpire in chief by the SCL board for evaluation.
- (e) The SCL Board of Directors shall render the decision and determine the final disposition of all protests filed. Effect: The SCL Board of Directors can accept or reject any determination made by the governing umpire in chief.

Section 1.09 MANAGERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) The home team manager or their designated representative must have each game opened in prayer.
- (b) All day-of-game rule infractions, umpire no-shows or any other problems shall be reported to the President or Vice President of the league on the day-of-game by both managers and/or their designated representative. Effect: Failure to report an infraction carries no penalty.
- (c) Managers or their designated representatives are responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators. Note: Only managers or players on the field may request a suspension in play (time out). Spectators, score keepers, etc. are not to interfere with the progress of the game.
- (d) Managers or their designated representative shall keep accurate scores. Effect: A team that does not keep scores cannot contest the score recorded by the opposing team.
- (e) Managers must participate in all SCL award nominations and balloting.
- (f) All scores must be texted in by the winning team, to the league's designated person/persons in charge of the scoreline before 9:30 PM on the night of the game. This will allow the league's website to be updated. Effect: Failure to report a score on game night, or reporting a score later than 9:30 PM shall

result in the winning team forfeiting their performance bond for a first offense and a 15-0 forfeit being declared against the winning team for a second offense. NOTE: The League President shall determine compliance or violation of this rule and the determination is not subject to protest.

- (g) Umpires and managers must enforce the governing umpire and SCL rules on the field. Umpires and Managers are not empowered to waive or modify any rules. Effect: If in doubt about the interpretation or application of a rule, play the game under protest. If you win the game, withdraw the protest. If you lose, go home and read your rule book, if you are wrong do not file your protest. Otherwise, file your protest and the SCL board of directors shall make a determination. NOTE: SCL board members present at games may be asked about SCL rules but they are not responsible for enforcing the rules on the field and are not to be asked to do so. However, a board member is responsible for discussing rule violations at SCL Board meetings and an official reaction to violations may result.

Effect: If a manager or their designated representative fails to perform any of their duties a first infraction shall result in a team's forfeiture of their performance bond and a second infraction in a season shall result in the suspension of the manager for a duration to be determined by the SCL board.

Section 1.10 PERFORMANCE BONDS

- (a) Each SCL team must post a \$25.00 performance bond at the beginning of each season. New SCL entries must post a \$50.00 performance bond for their first year of participation. If there are no infractions or violations, the performance bond shall be reduced to \$25.00 for each successive, infraction free year.
- (b) Any team that forfeits its performance bond mid-season must post a \$50.00 performance bond for the balance of the season. The \$50.00 performance bond must be received within one (1) week of notification of the bond forfeiture or all games will be canceled and declared 15-0 forfeits until the \$50.00 performance bond is received.
- (c) Any team that forfeits a performance bond must post a \$50.00 performance bond for the following year. If there are no infractions or violations in the following year, the performance bond shall be reduced to \$25.00 for each successive, infraction free year. When the performance bond is reduced from \$50.00 to \$25.00, a refund of \$25.00 will be paid to the team.
- (d) If a \$50.00 bond is forfeited, league eligibility shall be reviewed by the SCL Board of Directors.
- (e) Performance bonds are refundable in the post season if there are no infractions or violations. Failure to abide by The Official Rules of Softball and governing umpire code, as amended by the above rules and the published

bylaws, shall result in a team's forfeiture of their performance bond and be cause for their SCL membership to be reviewed by the SCL board. The SCL Board has the right to deny SCL membership or membership renewal to any team. The SCL Board has discretionary power on the application, enforcement or interpretation of all rules. All variances and deviations from these rules shall be discussed with and approved by the SCL Board of Directors before their implementation.

Article II. MULTI CHURCH TEAMS

The purpose of the Multi Church Team Program is to allow smaller congregations, who are unable to field a team by themselves, to participate in the Suffolk Christian League.

Section II.01 SPECIAL MULTI CHURCH TEAM RULES

- (a) Divisional placement shall be determined by the home field location.
- (b) Playing time for team members shall be the responsibility of the manager and assistant manager.
- (c) All multi church teams shall be considered a single team for all SCL functions.

Section II.02 ELIGIBILITY

- (a) Churches unable to field a complete team are eligible to participate in the Multi Church Program.
- (b) Churches participating in the Multi Church Program must have no more than one (1) multi church team.
- (c) The roster must be signed by the team manager, assistant manager and church's ministers of all churches involved.
- (d) Players added to the team after the start of the season must be added to the roster, the name initialed by the player's minister and a copy of the revised roster sent to the SCL office. Players are ineligible to play until either the roster is hand delivered to a board member or one (1) day after the postmark on a roster that is mailed. Effect: The manager of any team that utilizes a player not listed on the roster will be suspended from league play for the next two (2) consecutive games (regular season and/or playoffs) or for a duration to be determined by the SCL board. The player will be considered ineligible for league play for the remainder of the season.

Article III. ALL STAR GAME

Section III.01 ELIGIBILITY

- (a) The name of the All-Star player(s) with their phone numbers and playing position shall be reported to the President or Vice President of the league by each team manager at least one (1) week before the All Star game.

Section III.02 TEAMS

- (a) Two (2) teams shall be formed from the selected All Star players. Each team will have at least (1) representative at the all star game.
- (b) The head coach for each team will be appointed by the President or Vice President of the league
- (c) The All-star team coaches (head and assistants) are eligible to play in the game, if they choose.
- (d) Women' All-star Game: The two team managers that managed in the previous season finals
- (e) Each manager is allowed to supplement their roster with the pitcher of their choice from their conference.

Section III.03 PLAYING SITES AND DATE

- a) The SCL shall determine the date and provide the playing site.

Section III.04 EQUIPMENT

- (a) The SCL shall provide new balls (Official ball designated by the SCL) before each game.
- (b) Each player shall wear their individual team shirts and caps. Players selected from the same team shall wear similar uniforms.
- (c) Each player on the field does not need to be identified by a unique number. Players with duplicate numbers may play at the same time.
- (d) Players on the bench shall be in uniform.

Section III.05 THE GAME

- (a) A run ahead rule is not in effect.
- (b) The game shall be nine (9) innings.
- (c) Unlimited substitutions and re-entries are allowed.
- (d) All players shall be utilized for defense, limited to ten (10) players on the field at any time.
- (e) All players shall bat. If a scheduled batter is unavailable, no penalty will be incurred.
- (f) The home team shall be decided by a coin flip before the start of the game.

Section III.06 POSTPONEMENTS

- (a) A. Day-of-game postponements shall be made because of rain only. Day-of-game postponements shall be made before 3:30 PM by the SCL Board notifying the umpire in chief and each team manager. Each All-Star player shall contact their manager to determine if the game has been postponed.

Section III.07 PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- (a) A. Protests and Appeals shall not be allowed.

Section III.08 MANAGERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) The game shall be opened in prayer.
- (b) Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators.
- (c) Managers or their designated representatives shall keep accurate scores.

Article IV. LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

Section IV.01 ELIGIBILITY

- (a) In each conference, will be seeded by their record.
- (b) In case of tied win/loss records eligibility shall be determined by tie breaking process (see SEEDING: a).
- (c) The SCL board shall determine the placement of all teams in an A, B, C playoff format. After this determination each team will be properly seeded (See SEEDING: a)
- (d) All players must have a minimum of 12 at bats during the season to be eligible.

Section IV.02 SEEDING

- (a) Seeding shall be based upon the following sequence: 1) Conference 2) Season win percentage; 3) Head-to-head records; 4) Head to head run differentials; 5) Lowest runs allowed for the season; 6) A single coin toss.

Section IV.03 HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

- (a) Home field advantage shall go to the higher seeded team.
- (b) The Championship Round first game home field advantage goes to the team that progressed through the winner's bracket, regardless of initial seeding. The second game (if required) home field advantage goes to the team that progressed through the loser's bracket.

Section IV.04 SCHEDULE

- (a) Men's Conferences: Playoff games shall be scheduled for Monday and Tuesday and start at 6:30 PM (Men).
- (b) Women's Conference: games shall be scheduled for Thursday's and will start at 6:00 PM.
- (c) The playoffs shall start on the first available Monday, Tuesday or Thursday following the end of the regular season, unless special single elimination rounds are required. The playoffs shall then start on the next regularly

scheduled playoff day after the completion of the special single elimination rounds.

- (d) 2 Umpires will be utilized for all games after the first two games of the winners and losers' bracket have been played (for each the men's and women's respective conferences).

Section IV.05 EQUIPMENT

- (a) SCL shall provide two (2) new balls (Official ball designated by the SCL) before each game.

Section IV.06 PLAYING SITES

- (a) All games shall be played at the home team's field.
- (b) If the home team's field is unavailable for the playoffs, playing site rule 3 is applicable to all playing sites except for Rule 3A and the Championship game. Rule 3A is revised to read, "The home teams must secure the playing site. If the away team agrees to host the game, they become the home team and assume responsibility for the playing site availability. If a Church sponsors two teams, and both are scheduled to be home teams, one may choose to play at visitor's field and retain home field advantage. "
- (c) Teams without a home field may arrange to use another SCL team's playing site as a home field for the playoffs. Effect: Playing site without current season published directions and ground rules cannot be utilized for post-season play.
- (d) If no field is available to either team, then a field obtained by the league may be used upon request at the discretion of the SCL Board.

Section IV.07 PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- (a) Protests and Appeals shall be allowed for the reasons listed in governing umpire association rule book and violation of any SCL rule.
- (b) Protests must be declared while the umpire is still at the field.
- (c) A written protest is not required. All protests must be called into the play-off coordinator as soon as possible but not later than 9:30pm of the game night.
- (d) The SCL Board of Directors shall render the decision and determine the final disposition of all protests filed. Effect: The SCL Board of Directors can accept or reject any determination made by the umpire in chief.

Article V. HALL OF FAME

- (a) Each nominee shall have completed a minimum of eight (8) years of service as either a player, assistant manager, board member or any combination thereof.
- (b) Any nomination should be sent in writing to the league President.
- (c) Each nominee shall be accompanied by a brief letter that explains why you feel the candidate should be in the Hall of Fame.
- (d) After the SCL Board reviews the letter of nomination, the nominee's name may or may not be added to the Hall of Fame ballot.
- (e) Once a nominee's name is added to the Ballot, it will remain there for five (5) years or until induction, whichever comes first.
- (f) The Ballot is a survey to be completed by the Managers, Assistant Managers and Pastors of current SCL teams. The survey asks that each nominee be rated in five (5) categories.
- (g) Any induction or addition to the Ballot will be announced at the Managers meeting.

Article VI. SEMI-ANNUAL MANAGER'S MEETINGS

Section VI.01 SPRING MANAGER'S MEETING

- (a) Completed team entry form, team roster, field directions, ground rules and Newsletter subscription forms are to be submitted.
- (b) League Fee's, softball orders and payments and at least one half the umpire's fee must be paid. Note: Softballs will be available prior to the start of the season.
- (c) Each team will be given a copy of The SCL Rules and Guidelines and a scorebook.
- (d) An umpire representative will be present to advise the league of any umpire rule changes and answer any rule questions.
- (e) Any new SCL rules will be reviewed.

Section VI.02 FALL MANAGER'S MEETING

- (a) The fall managers meeting is mandatory. Every team's Manager or a team representative is required to attend the meeting. Effect: if there is no representative that team will be fined \$100.
- (b) The year will be reviewed.
- (c) Any proposed rule changes will be discussed and voted on.
- (d) If required, Board elections will be held.

Article II. SCL BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH CONFLICT

Section II.01 PURPOSE:

The SCL Board of Director's primary function in resolving conflict is to apply the SCL rules and penalties.

Section II.02 PERSONAL CONFLICT

The Suffolk Christian League expects Christian conduct from all members. As Christians, it is each member's obligation to deal with problems encountered with another member in accordance with the principles of Matthew 18:15-17. (15) "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. (16) But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' (17) If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen to even the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector."

The SCL board does not have the authority of "the church" in resolving conflicts between individuals. The board will encourage members to resolve personnel problems using the principle outlined above. If the problem cannot be resolved between the parties involved, the SCL board will refer the matter to the Pastors of the individuals involved.

Section II.03 RULE VIOLATION

When an allegation involving a rule violation is either reported to the board by a SCL member or observed by a board member, the board will take action, as follows:

- (a) Allegations will be discussed either by the Executive Board (the President and Board members) or at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. If the allegation warrants further action, the alleged offender's manager will be notified of the problem.

- (b) The board will conduct fact finding by interviewing everyone involved until it can be established if further action is required. If necessary, the board may request a meeting between SCL board members, the team's manager the team's Pastor and the team members involved.
- (c) When the board has concluded their fact finding, a board member will inform the team's manager if the board has concluded that a rule violation occurred and was substantiated.
- (d) If a rule violation occurred and was substantiated, the board shall enforce the penalties as prescribed in the SCL rules.
- (e) Details of the rule enforcement will be sent in writing to the team's manager and if warranted, to the team's Pastor.

Article III. PRE-SEASON SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

Section III.01 START OF THE SEASON

- (a) Men's Conference - The season usually starts on the Monday of the first week of April.
- (b) Women's Conference - The season usually starts on the Thursday of the third week of May.

Section III.02 PLAYING DATES

- (a) Games shall only be scheduled mostly on Mondays and Tuesdays with Thursdays being reserved for make-ups or scheduling conflicts.

Section III.03 SCHEDULER

- (a) The league scheduler will establish one (1) schedule.

Section III.04 PLAY DATE EXCLUSIONS

- (a) Prior to the start of the season no exclusions will be granted because of conflicts with church related activities.
- (b) Excluded dates are to be requested only because of playing site availability limitations.
- (c) If in the process of creating a schedule a team is scheduled to play on a date that needs to be excluded, the manager shall follow the procedures in SCL Rule #6 for rescheduling the game.

Article IV. BY-LAWS

Section IV.01 ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization is: The Suffolk Christian League.

Section IV.02 ARTICLE II - PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal office of this organization is located at: Bay Shore.

Section IV.03 ARTICLE III - POWERS

The purpose of this organization is:

- (a) To provide for inter-church competition, entertainment, and social recreation in sports and athletics by which Christian standards of play are observed and Christian fellowship is enjoyed.
- (b) To promote the Christian evangelical* faith and principles based on fundamental biblical truths.

Section IV.04 ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

In furtherance of the objects described above, but not in limitation thereof, this organization shall have the power to establish rules of conduct and measures of sportsmanship based on Christian principles: to disseminate statistics and other information; to conduct investigations; to engage in various funding and fund-raising activities; to conduct promotional activities and to engage in such efforts as shall promote and encourage through sports and athletics, spiritual Godliness and Christ-like behavior.

Section IV.05 ARTICLE V - DUTIES

- (a) Active Membership: Churches eligible to become an active member of this organization shall be limited to those which are evangelical* and believe and teach the Bible as God's inspired, infallible Word to all mankind; whose team members are regular attendees of the participating church, Sunday School, or Youth programs. Applications for membership shall be approved by the organization's governing board.
- (b) Voting Privileges: Each member of the organization shall be entitled to one vote in all matters of business.
- (c) Associate Membership: Anyone interested in the activities of the organization may be awarded an associate membership under such terms and with such privileges as the governing board may determine.

Section IV.06 ARTICLE VI - DUES

Annual fees required for membership in the organization shall be determined by a vote of the active membership, upon recommendation of the governing board. Dues may be varied from year to year, but fees shall be the same for all active members. Dues for associate members shall be determined by recommendations and classification suggested by the governing board.

Section IV.07 ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

- (a) Annual Meetings: There shall be annual meetings of the organization in the spring and the fall, unless otherwise ordered by the governing board, for the purpose of: election of officers, receiving reports, and transacting other business. Meetings shall be open to active and associate members. Notice of these meetings shall be emailed to the last recorded address of each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the appointed date for the meeting.
- (b) Quorum: Fifty percent (50%) of the active members of this organization, when present at these meetings, shall constitute a quorum; in case there is less than this number, the presiding officer may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is present.

Section IV.08 ARTICLE VIII OFFICERS:

- (a) Officers: The officers of this organization shall be a President and at least two (2) other officers whose duties may include secretarial and financial responsibilities. These officers and at least two (2) additional representatives comprise the governing board of this organization. The duties and responsibilities of these members may be combined or shared as necessary for the administration and operation of this organization.
- (b) Terms of Office: Each officer or governing board member shall serve for a two-year period, unless an agreement is reached with the active membership to allow said officers or board members to serve for either a specific or indefinite period, which is longer than two years.

Section IV.09 ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES

These articles may be amended or repealed in whole or in part by a majority vote of the active members present at any duly organized meeting of the governing board, or during the two annual membership meetings.

Section IV.10 ARTICLE X - BYLAWS

Bylaws and playing rules shall be adopted annually at the March membership meeting and distributed to each member at that time. Such bylaws and/or playing rules shall be binding upon all members, including those who may have voted against them.

Section IV.11 ARTICLE XI - DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS AND DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of this organization, all assets shall be distributed evenly among each member organization, which member organization shall be an organization which is evangelical*, believes and teaches the Bible as God's inspired, infallible Word to all mankind, and which shall qualify as an organization exempt from federal income tax requirements, under Section 501(c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code and all acts amendatory thereto.

*The word "evangelical" comes from the Greek word for gospel -- and refers to those churches (Protestant) who stand on the essential tenets of the Reformation -- justification by grace through faith alone in Christ alone, and hold to the principle of sola scriptura -- that the Bible is the only source of authority in the life of the believer (as opposed to tradition or ecclesiastical authority). While there are various type of evangelicals (different denominations with various minor emphasis), they all share these points in common, and are, of course conservative in their theology as opposed to liberal Protestantism which seeks to "demythologize" the Bible in denying any belief in the supernatural (miracles, the virgin birth, the resurrection, etc.). Evangelical, then, refers to any conservative, Protestant church that holds to the above-mentioned tenets of the Protestant Reformation and emphasizes the centrality of the gospel to a dying world.

The Suffolk Christian League (SCL) herein defines the key beliefs that MUST be held in common amongst our members in order to promote fellowship in accordance with our declared purpose.

Section IV.12 Attributes of God

We believe that forgiveness comes only through the blood of Christ. Hebrews 9:12-14

We believe Jesus Christ is the only intermediary between God and man. I Timothy 2:5, John 10:6, John 14:6

We believe in the one, triune God who manifests Himself as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Matthew 3:16

We believe Jesus Christ is the head of the church. Colossians 2:9

Section IV.13 Attributes of Man

We believe all men are sinners. Romans 3:23

We believe the results of sin is death. Romans 6:23

We believe that if we confess our sins, God will forgive us. I John 1:9

Section IV.14 The Bible

We believe and teach the Bible as God's inspired, infallible Word. Revelations 22:18-19, II Timothy 2:15

USA Softball Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Marks

2/20/2025

Bass	Quake	Combat	VIRSP3 Lady Virus	Data Driven Athletics	314159 PI
Ecston	SCN8B	Gaston	UEZ46D	Easton	HR358
Ecston	SCX14B	Gaston	SCX2 Synergy	Easton	SCX22 Synergy 2
Louisville Slugger	FP1368	Louisville Slugger	FP1369	Louisville Slugger	FPC305 Catalyst (-8)
Louisville Slugger	SB304	Louisville Slugger	SB34 Genesis	Louisville Slugger	SB404
Louisville Slugger	SB73V TPS Voltage	Miken	MSF Freak	Miken	MSU Ultra
Miken	MSU2 Ultra II	Miken	MSUM Ultra Maxload	Nokona	Tomahawk
Onyx	Battle Ground - ESBCA242	Onyx	First Born - ES2P21	Pure	SkyBolt - MFE6
Onyx	Red/Silver Schut	Suncoast	SBFPB-10		New

SUSPENDED BAT MODELS

SUNCOAST



SR12MUCETE



SR12MUCE



SRMAASE



SRM12AASE



SRMAASB



SRMUSE



SR12MUSE



SRMUSB



SR12MUSB

JUNO

