

2016

Aylmer 3-Pitch Constitution and Bylaws



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AYLMER CO-ED THREE PITCH LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

League Website: www.aylmer3pitch.com
League email: A3P@aylmer3pitch.com

Article 1 – Name

This organization shall be called the Aylmer 3 pitch league hereinafter to be referred to as the A3P league. Its playing boundaries shall be those of the City of Gatineau Aylmer sector.

Article 2 – Purpose and Objectives

- A) To provide an opportunity for men and women to participate in an organized, amateur, softball league in a friendly and recreational atmosphere.
- B) To develop character and physical fitness through a community sports activity.
- C) The A3P shall sponsor and promote any activity of a special or athletic nature that will contribute towards the finances or goals of the association.
- D) The league is a non-profit organization which can allocate its own surplus back to the league to reduce entry fees or remit in prizes.

Article 3 – Operations

The A3P is an Aylmer organization and as such will play all of its games at the Park des Cèdres as long as it is available to the league. The league currently has 4 nights a week with 3 scheduled games per night and will host a maximum of 16 teams.

If additional fields are required for tournament, rainouts, playoffs, they will be selected within the Aylmer sector of Gatineau.

The meeting minutes of the general assembly must be available in French and English. All correspondence with the players must be in the language of the players choice or bilingual (French and English) however all correspondence to teams must be bilingual. To the extent possible, all meetings must also be bilingual however, each member is free to express themselves in the language of their choice.

The league is committed to posting an updated copy of its constitution as well as the AGM meeting minutes on the league website.

Notification via email will be sent to each team representative as documents are posted. The team representative is responsible to advise their players.

An elected Executive committee hereinafter referred to as the “Executive” manages the League. The “executive body” is the Executive, and the appointed members named under Article 6. The league website www.aylmer3pitch.com will be the official vehicle of communication for the league.

The league’s fiscal year will be from December 1st to November 30th.

Article 4 – Team Membership

Team Membership in the organization shall be comprised of teams whose individual players qualify under the rules and by-laws of the league, and the team having paid prescribed registration fees, agree to abide by and comply with the constitution, by-laws and rules of the league.

Existing teams will be given the opportunity to renew the membership before the acceptance of new teams.

- Teams must confirm their participation for the current season by March 1st of the current year via email to the league available on the league website.
- Teams must provide a \$200 deposit by the AGM to secure their spot
- Teams that do not pay their registration fees by the specified dates will automatically lose any scheduled games (0-7) until payments are received.
 - Must pay 50% of the registration fees (including deposit) by May 15th. (see bylaw 19 for late payment fines)
 - Team must the remaining balance of registration fees by June 15th. (see bylaw 19 for late payment)
- All team rosters must consist of at least 75% of players residing in the city of Gatineau. A grandfather clause shall apply to any teams from the 2015 season that does not meet the 75%. New players added to those teams will need to be from the Gatineau area to help these teams meet the minimum residency requirement. Proof of residency can be requested.
See Appendix A (copy of the 2015 team rosters from the SPN website).
- Any individual player residing within the city limits of Gatineau looking to play for a team can send their name to the league email. The administrator will post a list of players name and contact numbers looking to play on the league website.
- Team fees will be proposed by the treasurer and approved by the executive on a yearly basis and presented at the AGM.
- The Executive Body reserves the right to review any roster and request that a team adjust their roster if deemed to be of a too “competitive” caliber.
 - Teams in question will be given an opportunity to adjust their roster in a manner that is acceptable to the Executive Body.

Team Membership may be revoked if:

- Non-payment of annual fees by the established deadline; and/or
- If it is determined that the team has provided fraudulent information

Note: Fees will not be reimbursed to teams whose membership has been revoked.

Article 5 – Team Representatives

Each affiliated team shall appoint a representative and one alternate to represent the team at all league meetings. The name of both the team rep and the alternate must be filed with the Administrator. Any change in team rep or alternate must be filed with the Administrator as soon as such change or changes are made.

Team representatives will be invited to attend all league and executive meetings.

Team representative will be responsible to verify that their players played games have been updated on the league website.

Voting power shall be one vote per team.

Article 6 – Executive Body

In order to serve a term on the Executive body, you must be a registered player in the current season, have been an active player and have played the minimum required games for playoff qualifications in the season prior to elections.

Members of the executive must be prepared to:

Attend a minimum of 4 pre-scheduled league and executive meetings.

Be a member of a sub-committee for at least one of the tournaments or the banquet

Volunteer at one of the tournaments as well as the banquet.

These responsibilities are in addition to the position responsibilities that are taken on when accepting a position on the executive body.

The committee members will be decided by an election at the fall year end meeting or the spring meeting of the following season if required.

The elected members will be part of the committee for a duration of two consecutive seasons.

No more than two consecutive terms can be served by the same person in the same position.

At the beginning of each season a list of terms coming to an end November 30th of the current year will be posted on the league website and include responsibilities assigned to each position.. All individuals interested, will need to send an email to the league email address which will be available from the league website. Submissions must include full name and the position to which they are interested in no later than 10 days after the league banquet.

If no interest is received 10 days after the league banquet, the current member holding the position to be filed will be asked if they would remain for another year in that position.

Resignations:

An elected or appointed member must send an email to the current committee members and the league email advising of his/her resignation.

If a member is resigning due to a specific incident that may have occurred, resignations will only be accepted 48 hours after the alleged incident.

Removal:

A member of the executive could be removed from office when the member of the executive:

1. Does not abide by the established league constitution, OR;
2. Makes decisions or commitments on behalf of the executive body without having consulted with all members of the executive body OR;
3. Displays verbal or written abuse or aggressive behavior towards other members of the executive body or players of the league OR;
4. Does not attend 75% of the league and executive meetings without providing a minimum 24 hour notice to the league email and/or just cause which includes but not limited to working, illness or a death.

Any member of the executive body can call a vote to determine if the member shall be removed immediately from his/her duties or if a verbal or written warning will be provided. A majority vote will be required.

Filling Vacancies:

If a member resigns or is removed from their elected or appointed position, a message of interest will be posted on the league website for two weeks with all position responsibilities. If more than one person is interested, an election will be declared. Voting will be done on the league website or via email.

The new member will be part of the executive for the remainder of the term.

If no one puts forth their name in the initial two week posting, the position will be reposted for another two week interval and repeated until the position is filled.

Executive Body - Elected Members

An Executive Body comprised of the following Elected Members shall conduct the affairs of the Aylmer 3 pitch league.

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Treasurer
- D. Administrator
- E. Scheduler / Umpire Liaison
- F. Equipment Coordinator
- G. Website Coordinators

Appointed members

In addition to the above, the following annually appointed members could be invited to attend meetings of the executive body.

- Team Representative from each affiliated team (2 per team/ 1 vote)
- Tournament Coordinator (no voting right)
- Banquet Coordinator (no voting right)

A call out for volunteers to fill the appointed positions will be done at the AGM and all interested players will be requested to send an email to the league by April 1st.

The Executive body choose these appointed members from the list of volunteers

Voting Privileges

Executive business is resolved through discussion and consensus. While no formal voting is always necessary, all members of the Executive have the right to be heard and to call for discussion.

1. All voting members (Elected members & team representative) except for the President are entitled to one (1) vote. The Team Representative will take precedence.
2. A Member cannot have more than one (1) vote if they belong to more than one position on the Executive Body. In case of a tie vote, the President will then be asked to make the decision.
3. Members, both Elected and Appointed, cannot be paid to hold a position.
4. Electronic or written votes may be conducted during the regular season when the Executive body deems that the issue is urgent, and calling a meeting is not a viable option.

Article 7 - Duties

Elected Members

A) President

- a. Chair meetings
- b. Chairman of all protest and incident proceedings
- c. Enforce league rules and regulations
- d. Be league representative with City of Gatineau, SPN and others as required
- e. Liaise with umpire and SPN for all accident
- f. Responsible to advise the Treasurer of all financial issues
- g. Responsible to advise the City of Gatineau for any scheduled nights that will not or have not been used.
- h. Back up to Administrator, Treasurer & Scheduler/Umpire Liaison

B) Vice President

- a. Act in the President's absence
- b. Team Liaison
- c. Recipient of all complaints, protest and incidents from players and/or umpires and ensure all information is documented and shared with the Executive body
- d. Member of the Protest and incident Committees.
- e. Must provide a summary of all protest and incidents to the Executive body within 24 hrs.
- f. Collect and verify all games stats to ensure player eligibility against team roster within 5 days.
- g. Submit verified game sheets to Website Coordinator
- h. Back up to website Coordinator and Equipment Manager to ensure website is up to date

C) Treasurer

- a. Conduct all league financial matters – collection of league fees, payment of umpires etc...
- b. Keep an accurate record of all monies received and dispensed through a chartered bank
- c. Send a monthly financial status to the executive body
- d. Prepare a financial statement to be tabled at the fall annual meeting (The financial year will end on the last day of November of the current year in order to allow time for the Treasurer to complete yearly report)
- e. Prepare a budget each March for the upcoming year
- f. Prepare a financial report of tournaments and banquet to be shared with all executive body members.
- g. Receive and review all legal documentation for the league (city contract, liquor licenses, SPN, REQ etc...)
- h. Chair any financial sub-committee meetings
- i. Identify if regular season and tournaments have made a profit and bring it to all members of the Executive body who will vote on how the funds will be redistributed.

D) Administrator

- a. Arrange all League meetings
- b. Record minutes of all League Meetings
- c. Contact Members for League Meetings
- d. Responsible for all communications
- e. Send recorded minutes via email to members of the executive body
- f. Receive and document all suggestions regarding league rules, regulations and constitution amendments.
 - i. Present to the executive
 - ii. Draft constitution amendments for the spring general meeting
- g. Responsible to update the amendment approved rules and constitution and distribute to all team reps after the spring general meeting.
- h. Create a schedule for executive body members to be assigned a week for the calling of rainouts.

E) Scheduler/ Umpire Liaison

- a. Responsible to create regular season schedule by mid-April
- b. Responsible to create a playoff schedule once the regular season is complete.
- c. Responsible for coordinating all umpire scheduling and correspondence with the umpire chief.
- d. Responsible to reschedule all games that have not taken place
- e. Responsible to try and fill any game time slot that becomes available with a rain-out or previously rescheduled game by providing at least 72 hours to both teams.
- f. Responsible to advise the executive body of all time slots where no game was played.
- g. Assist tournament coordinator with umpire needs.

F) Equipment Manager

- a. Responsible to obtain and submit quotes for all league equipment
- b. Responsible for purchasing as per approved expenses and distributing all league equipment (balls, bags, chalk, pegs, straps etc...).
- c. Responsible to ensure the equipment is safe and secure
- d. Responsible to provide each team with a set of keys
- e. Responsible to ensure required equipment quantities are available as required.
- f. Responsible to make recommendations for the equipment to the executive committee.
- g. Assist tournament coordinator with equipment needs.

G) Website Coordinators

- a. Maintains website.
- b. Enter entire schedule, games sheets and player stats, within 5 days of receiving completed information.
- c. Responsible to validate that teams have submitted and have entered their game scores.
- d. Post league documents and general meeting minutes (Spring & Fall)
- e. Update league news.

All members of the executive body will be assigned a week to be responsible for calling rainouts which will be prepared by the administrator.

Appointed members

- A) Team Representatives
 - a. Attend all league meetings
 - b. Ensure team players are aware of the league constitution and bylaws/rules and where to find a copy
 - c. Ensure all league communication is shared with the players
 - d. Ensure team players respect and abide by the established league rules.
 - e. Ensure team fees are paid by the established dates.
 - f. Ensure team members are registered on the SPN website by the set deadline
 - g. Ensure game scores are submitted within 48 hours.
 - h. Ensure games played by each player are reflected on the website and bring any discrepancies to the attention of the Vice President.
 - i. Ensure the score of a game played is entered on the A3P site within 48 hours of the game day.

- B) Tournament Coordinator(s)
 - a. Will be responsible for organizing the tournaments
 - b. Create a sub-committee to assist with the tournament
 - c. Submit proposals and get approval for any expenses above the forecasted budget.
 - d. Determine tournament format one month in advance with alternate options based on number of registered teams.
 - e. Create Tournament Schedule
 - f. Create volunteer schedule
 - g. Work with Executive body as required
 - h. Provide postmortem to the executive within 10 days of the event.

- C) Banquet Coordinator
 - a. Will lead organizing the year end banquet.
 - b. Create a sub-committee to assist with the event
 - c. A hall or venue should be booked one year in advance.
 - d. Submit proposals and get approval for any expenses above the forecasted budget.
 - e. Solicit and collect door prizes from each team.
 - f. Purchase team prizes.
 - g. Create volunteer schedule
 - h. Work with Executive body as required
 - i. Provide postmortem to the executive within 10 days of the event.

Note: The executive body may select players to create sub-committees as necessary. The sub-committees shall be entitled to make recommendations on any subject matter but will not be empowered to bind or contract for the league.

Article 8 - Executive Meetings

- A) An executive meeting must be attended by the executive body members and when items on the agenda require voting that may impact all players of the league, appointed members will be invited to attend. Only team representatives have a right to vote and those not in attendance will relinquish their right to vote for the items on the agenda.
- B) Appointed members must be given 3 days' notice of the scheduled executive meeting
- C) A3P will have a minimum of 4 meetings during the year including the Annual General Meeting which is held in March.

- D) Each team has a vote on changes that the league wants to implement. It will be the team representatives who will cast one vote for their team. See List of contacts and duties which is updated each year at our General Meeting in March.

Article 9 - Incident Committees

Consist of the Vice President and four team representatives to be appointed yearly. (Representatives must be from different teams and not on the same team as the VP)

Will review all reported incidents pertaining to rules, protests, umpire complaints, and player conduct. Is responsible to take appropriate action or disciplinary measures.

If any of the representatives that are on the incident committee are involved in an incident then those persons will not be involved in the decision making. If the incident involves the vice-president another member of the executive body will be appointed to the committee.

The committee will reach out to eye witnesses from both teams and the game umpire to gather statements of the alleged incident.

The committee will meet to discuss and determine if any of the league bylaws have been violated within 7 days of the date the complaint has been made and render a decision.

Article 10 – Playing Rules

The rules of the SPN Association will govern the rules of play with the exception of the house rules of the Aylmer 3-Pitch League, known as the By-Laws.

Article 11 – Protests

A) In the event a game is played under protest conditions, the team that declares the protest shall submit the actual score sheets from both teams, together with a brief written explanation of the protest to the Incident Committee Chairperson via email within 24 hours. Payment to the Aylmer 3-Pitch League, in the amount of \$50.00 is to be received by the treasurer within 72 hours after the official protest has been made.

B) The affected teams will be advised by a member of the incident committee of any rulings and/or decisions made. Should the protest be upheld, the \$50.00 will be refunded.

C) All incident committee's decisions are final.

Article 12 – Umpires

The league will supply umpires. An Umpire Liaison is elected and this person will be responsible for all umpiring duties.

The umpire's decisions are final. All protests will be acted upon by the incident committee.

Article 13 – Statement of Disillusionment

This statement will serve in the case of dissolution of the league. After payment of all debts and liabilities, the leagues remaining assets shall be distributed or disposed of to a children's charity in the Aylmer sector. A written notice will also be sent to the City of Gatineau, Registrar of Quebec and SPN notifying dissolution.

Article 14 – Constitution Changes

Any major changes to the Constitution of the A3P League must be posted on the league website at least 2 weeks prior to the annual general meeting and will be voted on at the AGM.

Article 15 – Financial

All cheques, drafts, promissory notes and orders of payments of such will be drawn, accepted or endorsed by two of the three designated officers. The designated officers will be the Treasurer and two other league executives as agreed upon by the executive body.

The league prefers that payments be made by e-transfer or cheque. If teams or players chose to pay by cash, please ensure you request a receipt!

Teams/players will be responsible for any bank charges plus a \$25.00 fine for NSF cheques.

Article 16 – Banquet

The team must have played in at least one of the tournaments (minimum of 5 players from the team roster) and team players must have played a minimum of 50% (less 1 if odd number of games) of scheduled season games to be eligible for:

- Regular and playoff individual or team prizes
- paid year-end banquet dinner

For any player that does not meet the above requirements due to injury, illness or pregnancy, it will be at the discretion of the executive who will discuss and vote on the matter.

Article 17 – Tournaments

The league will host two tournaments per season. The tournament will have a minimum of 12 teams with priority going to league teams. Only if less than 12 teams are registered will they open the tournament to outside teams. If players from league teams that are not in the tournament want to play, every effort will be made to create a team with those players who will be given precedence over an outside team.

The same league bylaws will be applied in the tournaments.

BY-LAWS

Rules and Regulations of Slow-Pitch National (SPN) Canada are in effect, with the exception of the house league rules listed in the bylaws below. The official's decisions are final. SPN rule book can be found at <http://qc.slo-pitch.com/>

Only coaches or assistant coaches can discuss the umpires' calls. Any un-sportsmanlike conduct will result in ejection from the game (umpires discretion), pending further disciplinary action by the Incident Committee.

By-Law 1 – League Roster of Eligibility

1. Each team will consist of a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 25 players.
2. All players must be registered and sign the waiver with SPN before playing their first game.
3. Players not on a team's roster and who have not signed the SPN waiver are not eligible to play.
4. No roster changes will be accepted after the 3rd Monday of June (Final online rosters with SPN will be printed and used as each team's final roster for playoff eligibility). Written request may be accepted for exceptional circumstances.
5. Women must be 18 years of age and older. (If a women player turns 18 during the regular season, this player can only play once she has turned 18 (birthday). This player also has to be registered online on the team's roster prior to the deadline registration date.
6. Men must be 24 years of age or older and registered online on the team's roster prior to the specified date.
7. Each team may have two male underage players on their roster (Between the age of 18 and 24). If a male player turns 18 during the season, this player can only play once they turn 18 (birthday). This player also has to be registered online on the team's roster prior to the specified date.
8. To be eligible to play in the play-offs, a player must have played in a minimum of 30% of regular league scheduled games or 6 regularly scheduled games, whichever is the higher amount.
9. A game played is defined as a player who has completed an "at bat."
10. In the event a player cannot start the season due to injury, pregnancy or other substantial reason (vacation is not considered a substantial reason), in order for that player to play, they must:
 - a. be a registered player on the team's roster;
 - b. have played a minimum of six games to be eligible for playoffs.
11. A team fee will be charged for the current year, to be determined by the executive.

By-Law 2 – The Game

Format

The league will play a 3-pitch format as per its league name.

The following format is based on a 16 team league. Should the league have fewer teams, the format will be discussed, proposed and voted on by the executive members including team representatives.

All teams will play one game against the other teams.

These games will be completed by the end of June.

The top eight teams will be placed in one division and will play the remainder of the year against each other.

The remaining eight teams will be placed in another division and will play the remainder of the year against each other.

The playoffs will then divide both division into two more as to have Division A, B, C, D for the playoffs which will be a round robin format as per By-Law 18.

Game/Schedule Switches

The executive committee may consider a request for a full schedule or game switch as long the request is made as follows:

Full schedule switch:

The request must be made in writing to A3P@aylmer3pitch.com and must include written confirmation acceptance of the change by all affected coaches.

2. The request must be made no later than one week prior to the start of the league schedule
3. The request is for a complete switch of the full team's schedule.

Single game switches:

1. The request must be made in writing to A3P@aylmer3pitch.com
2. The request including Acceptance by all affected coaches must be made no less than 24 hours prior to the particular game scheduled date.
3. Each request can only be for one game switch

If the full schedule or game switch is accepted written confirmation of the approval will be sent in writing by the executive committee.

Game Start times:

- 6:45 p.m. - no inning to start 15 minutes prior to the start of the next game;
- 8:00 p.m. - no inning to start 15 minutes prior to the start of the next game;
- 9:15 p.m. - no inning to start after 10:45 p.m.

Game innings:

Games are 7 innings whenever time permits.

Any inning started must finish unless the home team is ahead at the time the game would normally be called due to time.

In the event of stoppage of play (time out, darkness, rain):

1. Minimum of five (5) innings to be played to be a complete game (4 1/2 if home team is ahead).
2. 1/2 innings to revert to the last full inning.
3. Umpire has the power to award to non-offending team, the game, if delaying tactics are employed by the other team.
4. An inning consists of 5 runs, 3 outs or 10 batters whichever comes first. The last inning will be open to a maximum of 10 batters (including automatic outs) however in the event that a game starts late or is running over time.
5. For the 5 runs to count in any inning all plays must be completed.
6. Incomplete games shall be replayed in their entirety. Players will get credit for a game played but the game statistics will not be counted.
7. Each team having less than 8 players or less than 2 women physically present will forfeit the game with a score of 0-7. Lineup sheets must still be submitted for the players present on both teams. In the event of a forfeit both teams will have their lineup sheets signed by the umpire and a member of the committee. The players present for the game and listed on the sheet will receive credit for a game played.
8. Teams will get a 15 minute grace period from the scheduled starting time should insufficient players (less than 8 or less than 2 women) be present at that time. When sufficient players are present before the end of the grace period the game shall be started.
9. Must have at least 2 women physically present to start a game.
10. Game may be delayed up to 15 minutes due to weather conditions. Umpires discretion.
11. Games can be scheduled to play Monday through Friday (except Tuesday).

12. Rain out games will be rescheduled as soon as possible. Teams will be given at least 72 hours' notice. A shorter notice can be given if both teams agree.
13. If a rainout game cannot be played due to lack of time or availability of the field a tie will be awarded to each team.
14. Tie games will be allowed during regular season. No extra innings even if time permits.
15. If the home team is leading by 11 or more runs after 5½ innings have been completed the game will be called. (Mercy rule)
16. Any disputes or disciplinary issues will be dealt with by members of the incident committee.
17. A complaint/situation/incident may be made 24 hours after the fact and must be made in writing or via email to the league vice-president.

By-Law 3 – Cancellations

1. The decision to cancel any game due to inclement weather conditions or darkness can be made by the umpire at game time.
2. Prior to a game being cancelled, both teams must have a minimum number of players to start the game.
3. If the umpire deems the field safe to play **but** both teams agree that the field is unsafe to play then a tie will be awarded.
4. All cancellations are to be reported to the scheduler so that it may be reported to the treasurer who will request reimbursement from the City of Gatineau.

By-Law 4 – Forfeit

1. When a game is forfeited in advance the team that forfeits will not be credited with a game played however the team that was ready to play will be allowed to submit within 24 hours following the forfeited game a batting order of no more than 15 names on the score sheet.
2. When a game is a forfeit at the field both teams will submit the batting order for the players that were in attendance at the field at the designated play time who will be credited for a game played.

By-Law 5 – Number of Players

The number of players playing at any time must conform to one of the following rules:

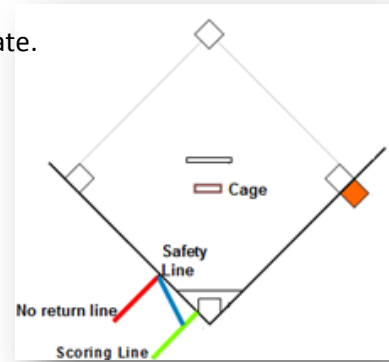
- 10 Players Minimum 4 females
- 9 players Minimum 3 females
- 8 players Minimum 2 females

NOTE: If a team has the required minimum number of players, the game must start at the scheduled time.

By-Law 6 – Home Team

1. All games will start at scheduled times. Fifteen minutes grace from the scheduled starting time will be allowed. Then the game is forfeited and declared a loss.

2. Home team for the 6:45 game must:
 - a. Set-up the bases (The location of 1st base and 3rd base are identified by the colored mark on the fence.
 - b. Set up the pitching cage 5 feet in front of the rubber plate.
 - c. Draw with chalk the following lines:
 - i. Home to first
 - ii. Home to third
 - iii. Scoring Line
 - iv. No return line
 - v. Safety line
 - vi. Line in front of plate
 - d. Throw away empty chalk bag.



All of the above must be completed by 6:45. Failure to do so **will** result in the home team losing home team advantage for the game in question and that team **will** start the first inning of the game with one out. Should the home team still refuse to complete the set-up, the game in question will be forfeited and a score of 0-7 will be awarded to the visiting team.

3. Home team for the 9:15 game must:
 - a. Put away the bases and any other equipment in the equipment locker
 - b. Put away pitching cage
 - c. Lock up equipment locker
 - d. Clean equipment room
 - e. Lock up the equipment room

Failure to do so **will** result in the team losing home team advantage for their next home game.

By-Law 7 – Score Sheets

1. All scores must be entered in the league website by the winning team within 48 hours of game night.
2. A picture of the game sheet must be taken after the game and sent to the league email address within 48 hours of game night.
3. The game sheet must provide the first and last name of all the players (Nicknames are not acceptable).
4. The game sheet must indicate the date and time of the game as well as both team names and can be submitted by:
 - a. Via e-mail to the league email address
 - b. In person to the vice-president or scheduler
 - c. Place in the locked box (only) in the storage
5. It is the responsibility of the winning team to ensure that the score sheet is signed by the umpire.
6. Score sheets not submitted cannot be recorded and could change the eligibility for the play-offs and banquet for the players.
7. Playoff standings and player eligibility will be determined from the website updates. Score sheets may be reviewed with the team representative if player eligibility is questionable before playoffs commence.
8. To be eligible to play in the play-offs a player must have played at least 30% of regularly scheduled games or 6 regularly scheduled games, whichever is the higher amount.
9. Any illegible score sheets could be disregarded and could change the eligibility for the play-offs and banquet for the players.
10. Any player who has not signed the waiver will not be awarded a “game played” as they are not eligible to play.

By-Law 8 – Batting Order

1. Players first and last name must be indicated on the score sheets.
2. Must begin with a woman.
3. Must not have more than two men in a row. If so, an auto-out is in effect before the 3rd consecutive male player, to replace the missing female player.
4. An auto out may be substituted at any time during the game.
5. SPN re-entry rule is in effect. The league will allow any re-entry player back in the game only as a result of an injury, at the umpire's approval.
6. Players arriving after the beginning of the game, but before their team have gone through the complete batting order once may be added to the END of the batting order.
7. Players who arrive after their team has gone through the batting order once may only play as a substitute.
8. In the case of an injury during a game, a team may shrink its line-up as long as the line-up respects all other established league rules.

By-Law 9 – Batting

1. The batter must take a full swing at the pitch. Bunting is not allowed. If a batter bunts the ball or if they don't take a full swing at the ball, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and the base runners return to their bases. The call is at the umpire's discretion
2. A batted ball that hits the pitching cage whether directly or passes the cage and rolls back and for which no player has intervened, will be called a dead ball and a strike to the batter unless it is the 3rd pitch for which the batter will be called out.
3. A line is to be marked in the dirt in front of home plate (the length of a standard bat), if the batter touches or crosses over this line when hitting a ball either foul or fair with one foot, the pitch will be declared dead ball. If this is the third pitch the batter will be called out. This is in no relation to a "power-bunt".
4. Each team is allowed a maximum of three homeruns per game hit by male players (Fair ball hit over the fence).
5. Female batters are not restricted in the number of homeruns (Fair ball hit over the fence).
6. A fair ball that bounces over, through or under the fence is awarded two bases.
7. A fly ball that is touched by the defensive team when going over the fence will result in a 4 base error and will not count as a homerun.
8. All bats must be SPN approved. Any player entering the Batter's Box with an illegal bat will be called out, SPN rule in effect. The list used to determine illegal bats will be the one available at the beginning of the season and posted on the SPN website.
9. Any player caught with altered bat will be thrown out of the game, pending further discipline.
10. You must be in the batting line up in order to play offensively or defensively during the game.

By-Law 10 – Pitching

1. The team on the offence must supply its own pitcher.
2. There is a maximum of three pitches.
3. The pitcher must be in the batting line up but does not have to play defensively.
4. The pitching cage is mandatory and will remain on the field of play for the entire duration of the game and cannot be moved.
5. A pitcher must not pass the pitching cage while pitching.
6. The pitcher must make every effort to move behind the pitching cage after the pitch is thrown.
7. If the pitcher interferes with the batted ball, whether intentionally or not, the batter will be called out.

8. If the pitcher interferes with a play whether intentionally or not, the batter will be called out and all runners return to their original base.
9. The pitcher may pitch until he or she is up to bat, however, the pitcher cannot leave the mound until time is called.
10. The ball can be thrown to the pitcher by any player provided they are in the infield (sand).
11. A pitcher cannot fake a catch when the ball is thrown to him/her to end a play.
12. Once the pitcher has possession of the ball all runners must remain or return on the base they last acquired. It will be up to the umpire to decide if the runner returns or can advance to the next base.

By-Law 11 – Running

1. There is no leading off or base stealing allowed. The base runner's foot must remain on the bag until after the ball is hit. If the runner's foot leaves the bag and the batter does not make contact with the ball, the base runner is automatically out and the pitch is declared a no pitch and all base runners to return to their original base. If it is the 3rd out, the batter will return to bat in the next inning.
2. A runner may tag from any base on a caught fly.
3. A runner that touches or crosses the "No return line" cannot return to third base. They must cross the "Scoring line" to score a run or be called out should the defensive player have control of the ball and be touching the home plate before the runner crosses the "Scoring line".
4. Should a runner cross the "No Return line" and make a motion to go back to 3rd base, the runner will be called out immediately by the umpire, the ball is NOT DEAD and play may continue if this is not the 3rd out of the inning.
5. The defending team cannot tag the runner out between the "No Return line" and the "Scoring Line". If the defending team tags or tries to tag the runner, the runner is considered safe. The catcher must touch the plate while in possession of the ball to register the out.
6. If the runner crosses the "No Return line", without tagging up, and the fly ball is caught, the runner cannot return to third base and will be called out.
7. Runners must have one foot on the ground across or on the "Scoring line" to score a run.
8. Runners are out if they touch home plate. If for safety reasons the player touches the plate while avoiding the catcher or the ball, the decision will be up to the Umpire to call the runner safe or out.
9. Once runners have crossed the commitment line, they are expected to run towards the scoring line to the right of the safety line for safety reasons and avoid collision with the catcher.
10. Sliding at home is forbidden (penalty – the runner is out no run counted).
11. Two bases will be awarded to the runner on a live ball thrown out of play from the time of the throw by any player on the field. This includes if the ball hits any obstacle in the field (batting cage, bat, glove etc...).
12. The safety first base bag will be positioned with the white bag in fair territory and the orange bag in foul territory
13. All runners must turn to the right, into the foul territory if they are not trying to run to second base. The base runner must have full intention of going to second base in order for him/her to be tagged out and this will be at the umpire's discretion.
14. On an infield ground ball, the base runner should touch the orange bag; the defending team should touch the white bag. Only when there is interference could the runner be called out for touching the white bag or the runner will be called safe because the defending team touched the orange bag.
15. No steel cleats allowed.

By-Law 12 – Courtesy Runners

1. A team may use a total of three (3) courtesy runners per game.
2. A courtesy runner can only courtesy run once in any given game unless they are a medical courtesy runner in, which case, the same runner may be used however rule 8 is in effect.
3. The courtesy runner must be a player currently in the batting line-up (including substitutes)

4. A male runner can be replaced by a male or female courtesy runner.
5. A female runner must be replaced by a female courtesy runner.
6. The courtesy runner must be announced to the home plate umpire before the courtesy runner is placed on base.
7. If the courtesy runner is required to bat while he/she is still on base they are to be replaced by another courtesy runner. Should there be none remaining then they are called out but remain on base and the next batter in the lineup is due up.
8. Medical Courtesy Runners
 - a. **MUST BE PREAPPROVED** by the Executive Committee.
 - b. A player awarded a medical courtesy runner is only allowed to play if the team is short of players
 - c. The player must be able to make it to first base before being replaced by the courtesy runner.
9. Medical Courtesy Runners do not count towards the three-courtesy runner limit.
10. Should an injury occur during a game and the injured player results in the team being short players, and the injured player is able to make it to first base on their own, this player could be awarded a medical courtesy for the remainder of that game. This is at the discretion of the umpire and the coaches of the two teams involved.

By-Law 13 – Fielding

1. The invisible line between first base and third base is in effect. Any defensive player that crosses that line while the pitch is being thrown will result in the ball being called dead ball and the batter will be awarded first base. Umpires discretion

By-Law 14 – Foul Tips

There is NO height restriction on foul balls; any foul tip caught is an out.

By-Law 15 – Suspensions

The Aylmer Three Pitch League has adopted a '0' tolerance policy on aggressive or violent behavior, both verbal and physical, during any league sanctioned game or event. (Playoffs, tournaments and banquet included)

Aggressive or violent behavior as determined by the SPN umpires, during a league game will result in immediate withdrawal of the player(s) or team (s) from that game and could result in suspension.

All Suspension over 2 games will be posted on the league website.

All game suspensions can only be served in Aylmer 3 Pitch league games.

The Incident Committee (including the SPN representative) will review each incident, and if deemed necessary, further penalties/suspensions will be imposed upon the player in question up to and including suspension for the current season or permanent suspension from the league.

REMOVAL OF PLAYER OR TEAM MUST BE REPORTED BY THE UMPIRE TO THE CHIEF UMPIRE, WHO, IN TURN, SHALL REPORT TO THE Vice President.

The minimum suspensions are listed below. The incident committee may review a suspension for further disciplinary action, if required.

INFRACTION	Description	Minimum Suspension	Maximum Suspension
Unsportsmanlike	Verbal or gestural intimidation, vulgar language, name calling etc...	Warning	Up to 5 games
Threats	Verbal or physical (includes social network, on or off the field of play) Intent to hurt	Withdrawal from the current game	Permanent suspension
Aggressive Behaviour	behavior that causes physical or emotional harm to others,	Withdrawal from the current game plus 1 game	Permanent suspension
Violent Behaviour	physical, verbal, or sexual abuse	Withdrawal from the current game plus 2 games	Permanent suspension

By-Law 16– Alcohol

1. It is not permitted to drink alcohol in the dugout. A zero alcohol policy in the dugout is in effect. The team will be given one warning to remove the alcohol in question. If the team is caught with alcohol in the dugout after this warning the team will be forced to forfeit a loss of 0-7.
2. Any player deemed intoxicated will not be permitted to play. The decision will be made by the umpire, after a discussion is had between the umpire and the coaches of both teams.

By-Law 17 – Play-Offs

Exact format and schedule will be determined each year and will be based on the amount of teams and playing times of the respective year.

Play-off format will be determined by the executive committee and forwarded to coaches no later than July 31st of each year.

*TIME LIMITS will apply in First Round of Playoffs.

There will be NO TIES in First Round of Playoffs and SPN International tie breaker rule will apply.

Semi playoffs:

The highest seeded teams would play the lowest seeded teams within their respective divisions. Highest seeded teams will have home field advantage if third game is required.

1st place team in first round playoff standings versus 4th place team in first round playoff standings.
2nd place team in first round playoff standings versus 3rd place team in first round playoff standings.

Finals:

The highest seeded team will have home field advantage if third game is required.

Two umpires will be required for the Final Playoff Games.

1st place team in semi-final playoff standings versus 2nd place team in semi-final playoff standings.

All games must be completed by the deadline date established by the City of Gatineau.

By-Law 18 – Fines

There will be a \$50.00 fine imposed on a team if:

1. No team representative is present at a scheduled executive meeting;
2. The team deposits are not paid by the specified dates.
3. Team does not abide by disciplinary action imposed by incident committee.
4. No show forfeit; teams that do not notify the league before 5h30 when playing the 6:45 game and 2 hours before the 8:00 and 9:15 games will be fined \$25 for the first offence and \$50 for any subsequent offence. The team will not be allowed to play their next game until the fine is paid.
5. The last game home team not fulfilling their responsibilities will be fined \$25 for the first offence and \$50 for any subsequent offence. The team will not be allowed to play their next game until the fine is paid.
6. Teams playing with more than two under-age players will lose the game by default (0-7) and be fined \$50. The additional under aged player will not be able to play any games the remainder of the season. If it is determined that the player played previous games, the team will automatically lose those games also (0-7).
7. Non-waivered players will be suspended until the waivers have been signed and verified by A3P. Should a coach knowingly have a player who has not signed the SPN waiver play in a game they will be fined \$50.
8. Teams playing with a player during the playoffs that did not meet the required minimum number of games will automatically lose the playoff game and any other playoff game that player has played and be fined \$50 per game.