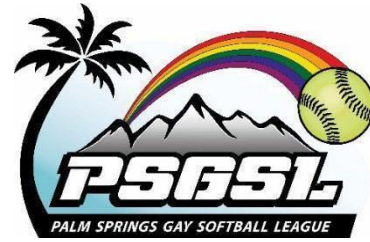


Palm Springs Gay Softball League

Policies & Procedures



These policies and procedures supplement the USA Softball National Guidelines, International Pride Softball (iPride) Governing Manual, PSGSL Rules & Regulations, and PSGSL By-Laws and serve to address situations unique to our area and further define policies/procedures where necessary.

Player Eligibility

1. Players must register via the league's online form (www.psgsl.org) and all player registration fees must be received no later than 12:00PM on the Saturday prior to the first game the player intends to play. If paying by check, payment must be received no later 5:00PM on the Friday prior to the first game a player intends to play. Failure to do so will result in player ineligibility unless special arrangements are made prior to the submission deadline. Coaches may not register for their players.
2. Any player playing under an assumed name is not eligible to play in the league. Doing so, the player shall suffer disbarment from the league and the team for which they played shall forfeit all games in which the ineligible player participates or is included on the game line-up.
3. Within a current season, players registered with a PSGSL team may join and register with a different PSGSL team under the conditions detailed below. Violation of this rule may result in the suspension or disqualification of the recruiting team's coach and/or manager. In cases of unique circumstance, a committee consisting of at least 3 PSGSL Board members, the player, and the player's coach will convene to consider any possible exceptions to this rule.
 - a. A player must first be released by the coach/manager of their current team. Requests are to be submitted via email or text to the coach/manager, who then has 5 days to respond via text or email. If a coach/manager does not respond within the 5 days or denies the request, a player may request the assistance of the Board.
 - b. A player may be picked up for a tournament without first acquiring a release strictly for the duration of the tournament, but first must confirm that the player's team is not participating in that tournament. Failure to acknowledge this may result in suspension of the manager from the tournament.
 - c. Players may change teams during the off season; however, we do recommend notifying your coach as soon as possible.

Ratings and Rosters Information:

1. Ratings:

- a. Ratings will be submitted for all players prior to the start of the season to allow for the player and team total to be verified.
- b. Ratings from the previous season shall be carried forward with the exception of new player additions to the team roster.
- c. Brand new players (anyone without a rating within the last two seasons) must be submitted with a preliminary rating prior the season, but can be updated after 2 weekends of games. Team totals will still need to be confirmed.
 - i. New to league players that have existing & current (within the last two seasons) iPride ratings from other leagues or from existing PSGSL teams shall be used.

- ii. Any adjustments to ratings will be done after specified league board meetings during the season, typically these are:
 - 1. Spring season meetings – February, March, April
 - 2. Fall season meetings – September, October, November
 - 3. Additional meetings can be added by board of directors, based on need.
- d. Prior to beginning of season, all managers will receive electronic copies of the current rosters for all league teams.

2. Ratings Meetings:

- a. Within 72 hours prior to meeting, Team managers will receive an email with a list of players who will be discussed for ratings review, identifying whether points are requested to be added or dropped. It is the responsibility of managers to review this prior to meeting.
- b. At the meeting, managers will be grouped together by division. Managers that are requesting changes will discuss and present information supporting the reasoning for who and why they wish to change a rating for. If there is not supporting evidence, the points cannot be adjusted.
- c. Any manager can then discuss and challenge, if desired, reasoning for why the points should not be added or removed. All discussion should provide objective data to warrant a change.
- d. After discussion, the manager can withdraw their request if desired. As well, the manager challenging the request can also withdraw their challenge.
- e. If there is no evidence to support the challenge, and the manager requesting the change has provided supporting information, the points will then be adjusted.
- f. If no decision can be achieved, the discussion, with provided proof/materials, shall be handed over to the ratings committee. The final outcome shall then come from the committee.
 - i. The ratings committee shall consist of one player from each division (A/B, C, D E, Legends C, Legends D) that is active within the PSGSL. The Open Division Director shall officiate the meetings, but not vote on the outcome. The Vice Commissioner shall be the tie-breaking vote in the event of a tie between the committee members. Results will subsequently be shared with the team managers.
- g. Ratings will be adjusted in the iPride database post-decisions or post-meetings.
- h. Team managers will subsequently need to provide an updated roster with the new rating to the Open Division Director.

Team Eligibility

- 1. Teams must register via the league's online form (www.psgsl.org) and be "in good standing" according to the PSGSL Bylaws. All team registration fees must also be received prior to the start of the scheduled season. Teams will be unable to participate in league games until the team fees are paid.
- 2. Teams representing PSGSL may only include a maximum of 3 self-identified non-LGBT players as per iPride guidelines for all iPride tournaments. This maximum number of self-identified non-LGBT players must be maintained throughout the season as well as any post season activity (playoffs, World Series) Teams must submit a roster to the PSGSL Board containing a rating for every player prior to the start of the Spring and Fall Season.
- 3. Teams must submit a revised roster to the PSGSL Board immediately upon any change to the roster. Changes include, but not limited to, player additions, transfers, removal, ratings revisions, etc.
- 4. Any team representing the PSGSL at a tournament must adhere to all PSGSL and tournament rules of play. PSGSL tournament rosters must also consist of at least 51% currently-registered PSGSL members and must be submitted to the Board for review at least 7 days prior to the tournament submission deadline. Failure to do so may result in the League withdrawing its affiliation with the team. Any subsequent changes must also be submitted to the Board for review, prior to submitting to the tournament.

PSGSL Membership

1. The membership of any League member not meeting the definition of “member in good standing” or found to have violated any or all of the PSGSL Rules & Regulations and/or PSGSL Bylaws will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension, termination, expulsion, forfeiture and/or fines, as determined by the Executive Board.
2. Any member suspended for a period of thirty (30) days or more is required to meet with the Executive Board, along with the coach/manager of the team he/she wishes to rejoin, before they can be reinstated into the League.

iPride GSWS

1. iPride considers the PSGSL a medium-sized league and has allotted the following number of GSWS berths:
 - a. C/D/E Div: 3 total teams, but no more than 2 in one division
 - b. An unlimited number of A or B teams.
 - c. Legends-C, or Legends-D Division teams will earn 2 berths in each division to the GSWS.
 - d. A member association entering only one (1) A Division team may do so as an open-roster team.
 - e. All Legends-C and Legends-D Division teams shall be an open roster team comprised of members who met eligibility standards in the qualifying member association
 - f. One (1) E Division team which shall be considered an all association roster composed of eligible rated players.
 - g. Teams participating in the iPride Gay Softball World Series must meet all eligibility requirements as detailed in the iPride Governing Manual.
2. Any team wishing to compete in the GSWS must declare to the Executive Board its intent to participate by the Monday after the 4th week of play. .
3. Teams participating in the iPride Gay Softball World Series must meet all eligibility requirements as detailed in the iPride Governing Manual.
4. **GSWS Berths:** Seeding will be based on the team’s divisional record (wins-losses-ties): In the event that two or more teams are tied with the same record, the tie-breaker(s) will be: 1) Winning Percentage, 2) Head-to- Head record, 3) Run Differential, 4) Total Runs For, 5) Total Runs Against, 6) Coin Toss.
5. All required entry fees and deposits to participate in the GSWS will be the responsibility of each team and the Executive Board, as follows:
 - a. Declaration of Intent: A \$250 deposit submitted to the Treasurer is required by any team that declares its intent to compete at the GSWS. Deposits will be returned in full to any team(s) that fails to qualify by the end of the current Spring Season. Deposits will not be returned to any team that qualifies but chooses not to participate in the GSWS.
 - b. Team Deposits: The League shall be responsible for paying the \$500 entry fee for each team participating in the GSWS. Any qualifying team that fails to compete at the GSWS after the League paid that team’s deposit shall be responsible for reimbursing the League.
 - c. Hotel Deposits: A \$500 hotel deposit submitted to the Treasurer by the 1st of the month prior to the iPride deadline is required by any team that has declared its intent and qualified to compete in the GSWS. iPride requires a minimum of 15 nights at one of the host hotels for each team. Each

team that submits receipts to the Treasurer showing they met these iPride hotel requirements will be refunded their hotel deposit after the GSWS.

6. Any and all penalties or fines resulting from late roster changes, inaccurate player/rating information, etc. pertaining to participation at the GSWS shall become the sole responsibility of each team.

General Provisions and Policies

1. All League Council meetings shall be attended by at least one representative of each League team and only one representative from each team will have the authority to speak and/or vote on behalf of that team.
2. As stated in the Bylaws, a \$25 fee will be charged to any team failing to provide a representative at a regularly-scheduled League Council meeting.
3. Manner of Passing Votes. All voting, including general elections, may be by voice, written ballot or electronic ballot, as determined by a majority of the Board. For in-person voting, the person must be present to vote.
4. Any league wide vote will conclude the final Sunday of regular Spring Season play. Members of the league are eligible to vote. Voting by proxy is strictly prohibited.
5. As soon as possible the Board shall develop a budget for the current fiscal year. Said budget shall be approved by a majority of team rep's voting at any properly convened meeting.