

VASL Frequently Asked Questions (2026)

Schedule

- For 2026, season runs from Monday, April 20 to either Friday, August 14 or 21 depending on Division.
- All teams get to play on all diamonds; the only exception is for a few of the smaller diamonds which the top divisions can't play on due to size.
 - Only D and E teams play at Bobolink or Norquay, for example.
- Regular season is 17 or 18 weeks, and consists of 20 regular season, **nine** inning games. Teams are scheduled for two doubleheaders during the season, so each team's schedule is for 18 nights.
- Ideally, teams are scheduled for one game per week (Monday – Friday), with those teams whose season ends on August 14 having to play two nights in one week.
- Practically, teams will have 2-3 weeks in the season where they will play two nights in one week due to rainout or postponement reschedules.
- **Conflict Day**: Teams play on different nights over the course of the season. Each team is allowed to choose **ONE** night as their "conflict" day – i.e. no games will be scheduled on that night for the team. Prior to scheduling, teams can also let us know their favorite nights to play, and we'll do our best to load up the team on those nights. But teams would still be expected to be available on all nights except their conflict day.
- Doubleheaders are 7 inning games played in the evenings between late May and early July. There may be a limited number of Sunday morning doubleheaders available at Montgomery between the end of May and end of July. These would be two full 9 inning games. Whether they're booked depends on interest in the pre-season survey.
- Doubleheaders are only played at diamonds with washroom facilities (Bobolink, Carnarvon, Connaught, Douglas, Gordon, Jericho, Montgomery, and Strathcona).

Playoffs

- Season Ending Playoffs are all day, Saturday and Sunday – August 15-16 or 22-23, depending on Division.
- Playoffs were split into two divisions due to the large number of teams, and a desire to have playoff games on superior diamonds as much as possible, and to cut down on travel from one park to another.
- Playoff weekends for divisions will be determined once registration has closed and we have the number of teams in each division.

Teams, Divisions, and Rules

- The VASL is a co-ed league; the last three seasons we've played a 7+3 lineup. Prior to that we were a 6+4 league but that was changed due the difficulty many teams had getting enough women to play regularly.
- Games are nine innings if time allows, except for evening doubleheaders and the weekend playoffs.
- VASL has five divisions (A to E) covering a wide range of skill set and competitiveness. A Division is our most skilled and competitive, while E is best suited for beginner teams.
- Regardless of the division, the VASL is at heart a recreational league aiming at friendly, fun games – teams that are super competitive and chirp at the opposition should find another league to play in.
- Details on teams, lineups, play, etc. can be found on our website (www.vancouveradleague.com) and can be downloaded for reference.

Diamonds

- We play most games in the Oak to Cambie corridor, with a few diamonds further on the east or west sides. Over two thirds of our diamonds are large size, useable for all divisions. These include:
 - Douglas (NW, SW)
 - Carnarvon (SW)
 - Montgomery (NE, NW, SE, SW)
 - Strathcona (C)
 - Tisdall (NE, SW)

Equipment

- If needed, we can send you a list of field equipment needed for teams when they're the home team (which sets up the diamond for the games). The basic list is:
 - Home Plate (large size)
 - Home Plate Mat
 - Safety (Double) First Base
 - Bases for Second and Third
 - Spikes for bases (all bases must be double-spiked)
 - Small traffic cones for marking foul and out of bound lines
 - Measuring tape for field set-up

Fees

- Registration closes March 22, and a \$300 deposit must be paid to ensure your team's participation in the 2026 season. Work on the schedule begins on March 23, with the goal of having the schedule completed by April 1.
- 2025 Season fees were \$1500 per team plus a \$100 forfeit bond. Fees cover:
 - Field Rentals
 - SPN Umpires
 - Softballs for all games
 - SPN (Slo-Pitch National) Insurance
- I am currently trying to keep the costs the same as 2025, but that will depend on the number of teams in the league, and any price increases for fields, umpires, insurance, etc.
- The forfeit bond covers teams that cancel a game with less than 48 hours notice, leaving the league on the hook to pay for the umpire scheduled for that game. Each last-minute forfeit costs \$50. If a team has no "at fault" forfeits during the season, the \$100 can be carried over to the next season or refunded if the team is not returning for the following season.