

HUNTINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
2019 CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES
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1. A.S.A. slowpitch and co-ed rules will govern league and tournament play.
2. All players must be 16 years of age by May 19th, 2019, to be eligible to play in the league.
3. Rosters are limited to 20 players and are due by June 9th, 2019. Managers are responsible for seeing that only roster players play in the league.
4. A player is considered a member of the first team he/she plays with. If he/she quits that team, he/she is ineligible to join another team in this league.
5. Players must play in at least 2 of the regular season games to be eligible for post-season tournament play.
6. All teams are responsible for providing their own scorekeeper to keep the league's official scorebook, which will list each player by first initial followed by last name. **No nicknames!** It is the coach's responsibility to make sure the correct name of each player is in the book. If a name is listed incorrectly, that player will not receive credit for that game. The coach will also be responsible for checking the scorebook after each inning to make sure runs are recorded correctly.
7. Each team needs 10 players (except the short hand rule, see below). There needs to be 2 males and 2 females in BOTH the infield and the outfield, one male and one female for the pitcher and catcher and one male and one female for the extra hitters, if using extra hitters. **Exception: You may have 5 guys and 4 girls on defense but can NEVER have 2 guys batting back to back. You must declare in the book which 4 guys would be batting in the lineup and somewhere in the book put the 5th guy's name so he can have credit for being there. If a 5th girl shows up you may put both the guy and girl in at the bottom of the order.**
8. The short hand rule allows each team to start and play with a minimum of 8 players (4 males and 4 females OR more females than males). For 8 or 9 players, the infield must have 2 males and 2 females at all times. You can have a female pitcher/catcher, if so desired or needed. The outfield must have 1 male and 1 female.
9. Less than eight players at anytime will be declared a forfeit.
10. If a player is caught using an ASA banned bat, he or she will be ruled out. If any player on the same team is caught again during the same game with an illegal bat, he or she will be ejected from the game.
- 11. If a player is ejected from a game for any reason, he is ineligible for the next game his team plays. Depending upon the severity of the incident, a player may be suspended for multiple games. Suspension length will be determined by the league coordinator and Parks Department officials. We also have a \$25 reinstatement fee for any ejected player. This must be paid to the parks department office before a player is eligible to play again. Any striking or pushing of an umpire will result in expulsion from further league and tournament play.**
12. Home teams will be listed first on the schedule. The league will furnish game balls. There will be no grace period. Each team must be ready to play at their scheduled time. **Exception: If a team does not have 8 players they may forfeit being home for the game and become visitors. If the team does not have 8 players at the end of the top half of the inning it will then be declared a forfeit. Unoccupied spots in the lineup will be declared outs when reached.**
13. Every batter will start with a 1 ball, 1 strike count. **Teams can bat 16 batters. If at any point back to back male players are batting, the unoccupied spot will be an out or skipped, dependent on the reason the female is unoccupied and the male player following the empty spot will be an out.**

14. A time limit of fifty-five (55) minutes per game will be observed in league play. If tied, the game will continue until a winner is decided.
15. A 15 run rule after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings and a 10 run rule after 5 innings will be enforced.
16. When the umpire has called 4 balls, the ball is dead. Any walk to a male batter will result in a 2 base award. The next batter, a female, will bat. EXCEPTION: with 2 outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat. A male batter-runner advancing to second base without touching first base will be called out if properly appealed.
17. A limit of 4 untouched, over the fence homeruns will be used per team per game. All balls hit over the fence by a team in excess of 4 will be declared an out. Bases do not have to be touched after a home run is hit.
18. No metal cleats will be used in this league.
19. A casual profanity rule will be enforced in this league if, in the umpire's judgement, it can be heard by spectators. If on the defense, the first batter up for that team will be declared out. If on the offense, it will be treated like interference and the offender will be declared out and all runners will return to the last base touched at the time of the infraction. If this occurs prior to the batter-runner being put out, regardless if fair or foul, a delayed dead ball call will be made. If caught in the air, the batter-runner will be declared out on the catch and the next scheduled batter will be declared out for the infraction (even if carried over to the next inning). No runners will be allowed to advance. **Player's may be ejected from the game if the umpire feels the situation deems it necessary.**
20. If a game is called due to inclement weather and is not past the 3rd inning, that game will be played over at a later date to be determined by the Parks Department. If the game is past the 3rd inning when it is called for weather, the game will be complete.
21. Rainouts will be rescheduled on the first available Sunday (or Saturday if we get behind in the schedule). It is the manager's responsibility to know when their game is rescheduled and inform players. Managers should call the Park Department office at 358-2323 for information on rainouts or check our Facebook page.
22. Sponsor trophies will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place teams in league and tournament play.
23. **No intoxicants of any kind, including, but not limited to wine, beer, ale or any other alcoholic beverages shall be brought onto, consumed, sold or given away on park property. (Parks and Recreation Chapter 99 Section 99.03 Ord. 15-C-94, passed 08-09-94).**
24. **Use of the pitching screen is mandatory! The leg of the screen must be within 2 feet in front of the pitching rubber. If a female hits the screen with 1 strike it will be a foul ball, if a batted ball hits the net with 2 strikes it will be an out.** If a fielder throws the ball and the ball hits the pitching screen, it will be considered a dead ball and runners will advance according to the umpire's judgment.
25. Each team is allowed one courtesy runner per inning. The courtesy runner may be anyone (female for female/male for male) BUT if the person comes up to bat while on the bases she/he will be declared out as the batter.

Any decisions or changes made by the league coordinator and/or the Parks Department will be final!