

NWPRD ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

RULE INFORMATION

Official playing rules are the Amateur Softball Association (A.S.A.) Rules of Softball, with the following noted or added exceptions:

AGE - Players must be 18 years of age or older. No exceptions.

BATTING - All batters will start with a 1/1 count. Foul balls are considered strikes. No courtesy fouls. This tournament allows teams to Bat the Wheel. No two players of the same sex can bat in a row or it will be considered an out.

On a walk to a male batter (intentional or not) the male batter will advance to second base and the following female will bat for herself. All base runners will advance to the next base forced to, on a walk to a male batter. If a male batter is walked and there are two outs, the female may be given the option of hitting or receiving an automatic walk.

ROSTERS – There is no limit to the amount of players on the roster. Roster must be submitted before or morning of the tournament.

SHORT-HANDED RULE - If a team needs more time to fulfill their game roster each team will be allowed up to 10 minutes after the official game start time to fulfill the roster. If they are unable to do so then they must forfeit.

OVERPLAY RULE - Overplay is not aloud. Any players who overplay will be given one warning. After that if they overplay again the batted ball will not be called out if caught by the over player and the batter will be able to take their base.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS - A team consists of 10 defensive players. In addition, a team may play legally with 8 players. A team may not play with more guys than girls. The minimum number of players needed to start and finish a game is 8. **Outfielders must consist of two boys and two girls. Pitcher and Catcher must be of opposite sex.**

A RUN AHEAD RULE will be in effect. This rule is used when a team is ahead by 20 after three innings, 15 after four innings, and 10 after five innings. The trailing team must have a chance to bat in the inning the run ahead rule is declared.

UMPIRES: Umpires will be provided for all games.

NO FIGHTING – Any player who starts or instigates a fight will be kicked out of the Tournament.

HOME RUNS – Each team must alternate over the fence home runs, but homeruns are progressive. Progressive means if Team A hits a homerun then Team B hits a home run, Team B can hit another home run again before it goes back to Team A and vice versa. If a team hits more than one home run in a row and it's not progressive it will be considered an out. There is no limit on homeruns hit in a game.

COURTESY RUNNERS - Each team will be allowed one courtesy runner per gender, per inning as well as any player injured during the game may have a courtesy runner. A player of the same gender who registered the last out that his/her team made will be the courtesy runner.

NO BASE STEALING

COMMITMENT LINE & SCORING LINE - Once a player crosses the Commitment Line between 3rd Base & Home Plate they must continue through to Home. The act of crossing the scoring Line (Home Plate to backstop) will now act as Home Plate. **DO NOT TOUCH HOME PLATE EVER IF YOU TOUCH HOME PLATE YOU WILL BE CALLED OUT** (this is also to prevent collisions and people from getting hurt) all outs at Home Plate will be force outs.

Only A.S.A. APPROVED BATS may be used. Check A.S.A. certified equipment at http://www.asasoftball.com/about/certified_equipment.asp.

NO METAL CLEATS are to be worn at the Kramer Fields.

OUTFIELD LINE WILL BE IN EFFECT. An arc will be placed at 180 feet from home plate. The arc will extend from the left field foul line to the right field foul line. ALL outfielders will be required to remain behind this line when a female is batting until the ball reaches the plate or is swung at by the batter. If the ball is hit while an outfielder is in an illegal position the batting team will be given the option of taking the result of the play or re-playing the pitch. If the pitch is not hit there is no penalty.

TIME LIMIT – A one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minute time limit will be imposed on all games. The time shall start once the first pitch is thrown. No new inning will start after one (1) hour and ten (10) minutes, unless the game is tied. At this point the International Tiebreaker will be used (Each team comes to bat with a player on 2nd base that was the last player to make a plate appearance in the previous inning.). The final round of the evening will have a one (1) hour and thirty (30) minute time limit.

HALO RULE - Under the Halo Rule, a dead ball out is when a batted ball is a line-drive hit directly at the halo zone or bounces on the ground 3ft in front of the pitcher's mound. The halo zone is an imaginary box measuring 1 foot on each side of the pitching rubber and from the ground up to the height of the pitcher. If the ball hits the ground within 3ft in front of the pitching rubber it will be considered a dead ball out. Any ball landing more than 3ft out is considered a live ball. If it is a line-drive through the halo zone, it is a dead ball out. If a ball is caught by the pitcher in the halo zone, then it is not a dead ball out and the play is live. There will be chalk lines 1ft out on each side of the pitcher's mound and 3ft in front of the pitcher's mound to help with accuracy when calling a dead ball out.

PROTEST – A protest must be made known to the home plate umpire at the time the protested incident occurs, and it will be resolved as soon as possible by the Umpire.

NO SMOKING – There is no smoking on Kramer Field grounds.

UMPIRES POWER/DUTIES/DISGRESSION - The umpires are representatives of the Tournament or organization by which they have been assigned to a particular game and, as such, are authorized and required to enforce each section of these rules. They have the power to order a player, coach, captain or manager to carry out or to omit any act which, in their judgment is necessary to give force and effect to one or all of these rules, and to impose penalties as herein prescribed. The plate umpire shall have the authority to make decisions on any situations not specifically covered in these rules. No decision rendered by any umpire shall be reversed except when the umpire is convinced it is in violation of the ASA rules.

Stacey Ihrig
Tournament Director
Northern Wasco County Parks & Recreation