



## ADULT SOFTBALL OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

*Rules not specifically address will be governed using current A.S.A. rules.*

### PHILOSOPHY

The Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department sponsors this league as a recreational activity primarily for Lee's Summit residents. We expect that all teams will follow our philosophy of friendly competition in a recreational setting. You can be competitive and courteous at the same time. Respect your opponents and the officials. With this philosophy in mind, the following rules will apply.

### SECTION ONE – LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

#### RULE 1.1 – FORMAT

- A. All Adult Softball Leagues will consist of:
- SPRING** -- Doubleheader leagues two games per week on the assigned night for five weeks
  - SUMMER** -- Single game leagues one game per week on the assigned night for ten weeks.  
Doubleheader leagues two games per week on the assigned night for ten weeks.
  - FALL** -- Single game leagues one game per week on the assigned night for six weeks.  
Doubleheader leagues two games per week on the assigned night for five weeks.

#### RULE 1.2 – SCHEDULES

- A. Managers are required to attend a manager's meeting prior to the first game to receive a copy of their league schedule. In some instances no manager's meeting will be held so schedules will be available for pick-up at the Recreation Supervisor's Office prior to the first game. Teams failing to have a representative at the manager's meeting will not be allowed to file any formal protests during that season.
- B. Each individual schedule will state if the home team is listed or will be determined by a coin flip. Please pay close attention to starting times and field assignments.
- C. Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation will update all rainout schedules on the website or can be picked up at the Recreation Supervisor's Office by team's Manager.

**\*See also Rule 1.4 – Make-up Games**

#### RULE 1.3 – MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITY

The manager is the primary link between their team and league management. It is the manager's duty to obtain all information regarding league play at the park. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- A. Attending manager's meetings when required. Manager's will be notified if a meeting is required and as to the date, time and location.
- B. Reading rules and park policies prior to starting league play and informing the players of the rules.
- C. Obtaining league information pertaining to registration deadlines, make-up schedules, league tournaments, league awards and tournament berths.

- D. Submitting league paperwork on time (registration forms, roster, etc.).
- E. Informing Recreation Supervisor of changes in his/her address and/or telephone number.
- F. Having all players read and sign the team roster **BEFORE** playing and ascertain the eligibility of each player signing the roster.
- G. Scorebook: Each team must provide a scorekeeper with the home team having the official book. Please prepare two lineups per game, (as per batting order, please include numbers, last names and positions and include a list of substitutes), one for yourself and one for the other team. Exchange with the other team prior to game time. Please confer after each inning with each other as to the score of the game. If there are any problems, report it to the home plate umpire before the next inning begins. If the home team doesn't want to keep score and the opposing team agrees to keep it, the home team gives up the right to regain the book back during the game.
- H. Maintaining control over his/her players in all circumstances including disputes on the field. Umpires/Referees will discuss disputes on the field with manager only. Players are not to question an umpire call or ruling.

#### **RULE 1.4 – MAKE-UP GAMES**

- A. All games cancelled during the regular season will be rescheduled regardless of team records. The first and second full night rainout per season will be made up on the night your team plays at the end of the season (example Week 7 & 8 for a 6 Week schedule). Additional make-up games will be if possible rescheduled for the same night (example Tuesday night Leagues on Tuesday night), however, if schedules do not permit. Games will be played on weekends, or as management deems necessary to complete the league. If teams aren't able to play on Saturdays, games will be considered forfeits for scheduled games.
- A. Should a softball game be called because of rain after four (4) innings have been completed (3 ½ innings if home team is ahead), the game will be considered official and WILL NOT be made up.
- B. The team manager is responsible for obtaining make-up schedules when they become available.

#### **RULE 1.5 – FORFEITS**

- A. You may be asked to pay a forfeit fee to cover umpire costs.
- B. In order to avoid being penalized, you must:
  - a. Give the office notice by 1:00 PM on the day of your game in order to contact the other team within a reasonable amount of time.
  - OR**
  - b. Have at least six (6) players show up for the game and the rest of the team not show up. Those players will play a non-officiated practice game with the opposing team.
- C. Hartman Park Sports Complex understands if your team needs to forfeit a game. But forfeiting two game nights will NOT BE ALLOWED FOR ANY REASON. If your team must forfeit a second game night, then your team MAY BE removed from the league with no refund at the Recreation Supervisor's discretion.
- D. Any team forfeiting two game nights during a season without notifying Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation before the fact could be dropped from the league, forfeiting all awards and berths won. No refunds of entry fees will be given. All remaining games will be recorded as losses.

## **RULE 1.6 – ROSTERS**

- A. All rosters must be completed and must include the player's name and signature. Incomplete rosters will not be accepted. Teams will not be permitted to play without submitting a valid roster. The roster is not to exceed twenty (20) players for softball.

*Up to 13 individual awards will be given to the championship team SIGNED ROSTER PLAYERS for all leagues. Teams with a roster with the maximum number allowed can make arrangements through the complex office to purchase additional awards.*

- B. Submission date – The original copy of the roster must be submitted to the field supervisor on the first night of games. The manager will then receive a waiver, which must be turned into the umpire before taking the field for first league game. **FAILURE TO SUBMIT A ROSTER WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC FORFEIT OF ALL GAMES PLAYED WITHOUT A ROSTER ON FILE – NO EXCEPTIONS.** Each team manager is responsible for the accuracy of all information on the roster.
- C. Roster Changes – Teams may make unlimited changes to roster prior to the fourth game of the season. The league director must approve all changes before the player is eligible to compete with the team. Players will not be allowed to participate on two teams within the same league. Women are not allowed to play in men's league and men are not allowed to play in women's leagues.
- D. Roster eligibility of all players may be checked during the course of the season, and any team carrying ineligible players will forfeit all games played with ineligible players were on the roster. Players may only play on one team per league.
- E. A player's eligibility may be questioned at any time and will follow Rule 4.2 – Player Eligibility Protest. A manager questions the eligibility of a player by asking the umpire to check the team's roster for the player's name. The player should have a driver's license or another form of identification in order to verify their identity. If the player is not on the roster, he is out of the game and their team will forfeit the game. A player may be given reasonable time to come up with identification at the umpire's discretion. The player will not play until he/she provides identification.
- F. Teams will not be allowed to participate in the post-season tournament if a roster is not completed and turned into the Recreation Supervisor or Field Supervisor by the 4<sup>th</sup> league week or league game.
- G. No player shall be less than 18 years of age by the scheduled start date of the league they are participating in.

## **RULE 1.7 – GRACE PERIOD**

- A. Teams are required to be ready to play at least 15 minutes before game time. If, at game time, one team is short the required minimum number of players, the opposing team will choose one of the following options:
1. Accept forfeit at game time
- OR**
2. Allow opposing team a grace period of ten (10) minutes to reach the minimum number of required players. Grace period time will be deducted from the game time.

In the event both teams cannot field the minimum required number of players, there would be an automatic ten (10) minute grace period for both teams. Once both teams have reached the minimum number of required players, the game shall begin immediately. ***GAMES WILL NOT BE DELAYED IF TEAMS HAVE THE MINIMUM EIGHT PLAYERS FOR SOFTBALL.***

- B. Games WILL NOT be delayed due to team members playing on another team in another league on a different field. If your team has players playing in different leagues, the manager must notify the league office prior to the leagues being scheduled. If the league office is aware of possible conflicts, every effort will be made to keep conflicts to a minimum. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!

#### **RULE 1.8 – LEAGUE STANDINGS**

- A. League standings will be available daily on Hartman Park Sports Complex Website.  
PLEASE REPORT ANY MISTAKES FOUND ON THE STANDINGS TO LEAGUE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY.
- B. League standings will also be posted on the City of Lee's Summit's website.  
[www.hartmanparksportscomplex.net](http://www.hartmanparksportscomplex.net)
- C. The team with the best record or the winner of post season tournament at the end of the league will be declared the champion.
- D. If two (2) or more teams end in a tie for first place at the end of the season the following criteria will determine a champion.

##### **Softball Leagues**

- 1. Head-to-Head records of all tied teams
- 2. Run differential between tying teams only (runs scored vs. runs given up).
- 3. Total runs scored by teams tied
- 4. Flip of the coin
- E. The top team in each league will be moved, whenever possible, to the next stronger league the same night for the upcoming season. Likewise, the bottom teams will be dropped to a weaker league during the upcoming season.

## **SECTION TWO – AWARDS AND BERTHS**

#### **RULE 2.1 – AWARDS**

- A. Awards for leagues:
  - 1. Individual Awards – First place team
- B. The maximum number of individual awards given for softball is 13, FOR SIGNED ROSTER PLAYERS ONLY. If additional awards are needed, they may be purchased through our league office.

## **SECTION THREE – ADULT SOFTBALL PLAYING RULES**

#### **RULE 3.1 – GOVERNING RULES**

All league games will be played under A.S.A (Amateur Softball Associations) rules except those amended in the League Rules and Park Policies book or by an official league memo.

#### **RULE 3.2 – REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

- A. Men's Leagues
  - a. The required number of players per team is ten (10). If the team plays with only 8 or 9 players, there will be no outs assessed when those positions come to bat.
  - b. The maximum number of batters allowed is eleven (11)

- B. Coed Leagues:
- a. Teams must align defensively as such: two males and two females in both the infield and outfield, one male and one female as pitcher or catcher.
  - b. A team must have at least 8 players to start and continue an official game (4 women and 4 men). The maximum number of players on defense is 10.
  - c. A team can play with five (5) women and four (4) men but it cannot play with four (4) women and five (5) men. In other words, teams cannot play with more men than women.
  - d. Teams may bat a total of twelve (12) batters, six (6) women and six (6) men but may not field more than ten (10) players, five (5) women and five (5) men.
  - e. Teams must alternate women and men in the batting order. Example: Woman, Man, Woman, Man, etc.
  - f. Men and women are permitted to play any defensive position they wish.
  - g. When a man is walked he automatically goes to second base after touching first base. The next batter (female) will bat. Exception: With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.

### **RULE 3.3 – REGULATION / OFFICIAL GAMES**

- A. A regulation game is seven (7) innings or sixty (60) minutes, whichever occurs first.
- B. The umpire's watch will be the official clock. After the time limit has expired, the current inning shall be completed and game ended unless tied, in which case play will continue until game is decided. If home team is batting and is ahead the game will end immediately. If after two complete extra innings and the game is still tied, it will be considered a tie game. Tie games will not be replayed and each team will be awarded ½ game in the standings.
- C. Should a game be called because of rain after four (4) innings have been completed (3 ½ innings if home team is ahead), the game is official and WILL NOT be made up.
- D. Games that are not considered regulation shall be resumed at the exact same point where they were stopped.
- E. Each player will have a one and one count for each turn at bat.
- F. The game will be played under a foul ball on strike three rule.
- G. Outfielders cannot come on the dirt infield until the batter has hit the ball. If the outfielder comes to the infield before the ball is hit, the batter will be awarded first base.
- H. All decisions regarding rain delays will be made within forty-five (45) minutes from the time the teams have been pulled from the field. The field supervisor will make an announcement at that time.

### **RULE 3.4 – RUN RULE**

- A. If at the end of five (5) full innings of play, one team is ten (10) or more runs ahead, the game will be considered complete.

- B. If at the end of three (3) full innings of play, one team is fifteen (15) runs ahead, the game will be considered complete.

### RULE 3.5 – STEALING

- A. Stealing is not allowed in league play. A.S.A Rules regarding stealing will not be used for league play.

### RULE 3.6 – HOMERUNS

- A. A home run is defined as a fair ball hit over the fence. These rules do not apply to inside the park home runs.
- B. All divisions in both Men's and Coed leagues will be 1 homerun divisions. Furthermore, once both teams have reached 1 homerun, the game will continue using the “**One-Up Rule**”. Under this rule either team may hit additional home runs to go one-up on their opponent. However, if time has expired or the game has reached the bottom of the 7th or extra innings, the HOME team may not go one-up. The home team is always allowed at least one home run per game.
- C. All home runs exceeding these restrictions will result in the batter being called out

### RULE 3.7 – ILLEGAL BATS

- A. Bats must bear either the ASA approved 2000 certification mark, the ASA 2004 certification mark, or ASA 2013 certification mark as shown below, and must not be listed on an ASA non approved list with 2000 or 2004 certification marks.



And must be included on a list of approved bat models published by the ASA National Office; or must, in the sole opinion and discretion of the umpire, have been manufactured prior to 2000 and if tested, would comply with the ASA bat performance standards then in effect.

*For more information reference A.S.A: Rule 7, Section 6( B-C)*

*The 50+ Division is excluded from this rule.*

- B. **Rulings:** When a batter enters the batter's box with or is discovered to have an altered, non-approved, or illegal bat.  
**Effect:** The batter will be called out . A second offence by the team will result in forfeiting the game.
- C. **Definitions:**  
**Illegal Bat** – a bat that does not meet the requirements of an official bat or warm up bat.  
**Non-Approved Bat** – A bat that does not meet ASA specifications and is on the current non-approved bat list.  
**Altered bat** – When the physical structure of a legal softball bat has been changed.

### **RULE 3.8 – PLAYER / MANAGER EJECTION RULE**

Unsportsmanlike Conduct : This league is sponsored by the Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department for the recreation value of the participant involved.

- A. The Recreation Supervisor, Complex Staff and/or umpire reserve the right to eject a player from the complex, without warning. The amount of time will be determined by the severity of the act.
- B. A player or manager ejected from a game for misconduct will be subject to the following:
  - a. First ejection – Suspension from the remainder of the game and player must leave the park for the night.
  - b. Second ejection – Fourteen (14) day suspension from all league and tournament play with any team at the complex and must leave the park for the night. Additionally players or teams will be subject to a probation or banned from the park for a period of 6 months.
  - c. Third ejection – Thirty (30) day suspension from all league and tournament play with any team at the park and must leave the park for the night. Additionally players or teams will be subject to a probation and or banned from the park for a period of 12 months.

**NOTE:** *A player or manager may appeal the fourteen (14) and thirty (30) day suspension to a board consisting of the Recreation Supervisor, A.S.A. representative, Umpire representative, and an LSPR representative. The board will meet within 72 hours of the appeal. The player's suspension will begin at the time of the ejection, regardless of appeal. If a suspended player participates in a game during suspension, the player will be suspended for one year and the team will forfeit that game. In addition, the team may be subject to a one-year suspension from the league and tournament play at the park without a refund.*

- C. Any person making verbal assaults and/or physical contact with the intent to bring harm to an umpire, complex employee, league director, spectator or other player, will be asked to leave the park and will be suspended for a period of one year from the time of the incident. In addition, if conditions warrant, criminal charges will be brought against said person, and he/she could be barred from participating at any other Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation facility.
- D. **FIGHTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** Any fighting in a game will result in a one-year suspension.
- E. During each game the umpires are judging your team on their sportsmanship. The scale is between one and ten, one being poor, five being marginal and ten being excellent. If a team received a five or less rating, that team may be put on probation and if a second rating should occur under the five, that team may be dismissed by league officials with no refund. Please keep in mind that the rule will be enforced. If you have someone on your team who could jeopardize your rating, please make him/her aware of this action

### **RULE 3.9 – EXTRA PLAYER (EP)**

As rules state, an extra player is permitted at the manager's option at the start of the game. The batting order must remain constant. However, a men's line up of eleven (11) players or a coed team of twelve (12) players can take the ten (10) defensive positions throughout the game. A team using the EP must finish the game with the same number of players they started with. If a player leaves the game and no substitutes are available, an out will be recorded each time that player's position in the batting order comes up. Remember this is an appeal play by the defensive team. The defense must inform the umpire each time the batting position comes up.

- A. An extra player may be used by a team provided it is made known to the umpire prior to the start of the game and his name and uniform number is indicated on the lineup sheet.
- B. The EP must remain in the same position in the batting order for the entire game.
- C. The EP may play defense at any time without his status being affected. He may go in and out of the defensive lineup as often as needed as long as his position in the official batting order is not altered.
- D. The EP may be substituted for at any time with the substitute becoming the new EP. The substitute must be a player who has not been in the game.

### **RULE 3.10 – SUBSTITUTIONS**

All substitutions must be reported to the umpire. Failure to report substitution to the umpire will result in the ejection of the illegal player, when brought to the attention of the umpire by the opposing manager.

If a defensive player is injured and continues to play in the field that player must bat and run. This player will be allowed a pinch runner once per game. If the injured player is the extra hitter in the lineup and does not play in the field a pinch runner is allowed each time the batter reaches first base. That pinch runner will be the last batted out.

### **RULE 3.11 – RE-ENTRY RULE**

Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, providing he/she occupies the same place in the batting order. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. All substitutions must be reported to the umpire.

### **RULE 3.12 – PITCH HEIGHT**

The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground while not exceeding a height of 10 feet from the ground.

### **RULE 3.13 – DOUBLE FIRST BASE**

Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation utilizes the double safety base at first. The white portion of the base is in fair territory, while the orange portion of the base is in foul territory. All A.S.A rules apply in regards to this safety equipment. To read more about the double base refer to A.S.A, Rule 2, Section 3, Article H(1) (A-F)

### **RULE 3.14 – FOUL BALL ON STRIKE THREE**

The batter is out if after the second strike he/she has already fouled one pitch off and fouls a second pitch off. Ball is dead and no advancement of base runners is permitted.

### **RULE 3.15 – UNIFORMS**

League teams are encouraged to wear like uniforms. However, there is no mandatory uniform rule for leagues. Shirts with numbers are required for any A.S.A. tournament event, such as State, Regional and Nationals. Shirts and athletic shoes/cleats must be worn at all times.

### **RULE 3.14 – SHOES**

No metal spikes are to be worn in LEAGUE or TOURNAMENT play.



## **SECTION FOUR – PROTEST POLICY**

### **RULE 4.1 – VALID PROTEST**

No “judgment” call can be protested. Protests are considered valid with regard to player eligibility and rule interpretations only.

### **RULE 4.2 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PROTEST**

Protests concerning player eligibility must be made to the umpire or official before the 4<sup>th</sup> inning has been completed. You must submit the name of the player(s) in question with a \$50.00 protest fee per player protested. The Complex Manager will rule upon the protest. For protest involving ineligible players(s), the team in question must have a valid roster on file in the park office. Managers should also make sure team members have proof of positive identification with them at all times as the umpire will check the picture identification of the player in question. IF A PLAYER IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION, ANY PROTEST AGAINST HIM/HER WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY UPHELD.

### **RULE 4.3 – RULE INTERPRETATION PROTEST**

For a valid rule interpretation protest, the following steps must be taken:

- A. Any protest must be announced verbally to the umpire when the contested action occurs and BEFORE the next pitch.
- B. If a protest occurs, the umpire must inform the field supervisor and he will attempt to contact the program director for immediate ruling on the protest. If he is unable to contact the program director, the game will continue and the protest will be ruled upon the next day by the program director.
- C. A written protest accompanied by a \$50.00 protest fee will be filed with the Recreation Supervisor within 24 hours of the protested game.
- D. If the protest is allowed, the money will be returned. If the protest is not upheld the \$50.00 will not be returned. The protest committee shall consist of the Recreation Supervisor, the Field Supervisor, and the Head Umpire.

## **SECTION FIVE – PARK POLICY**

### **RULE 5.1 – GAME TIMES**

Schedules are available for ONLY TEAM MANAGERS to pick-up at the complex office and concession stand during league nights. Please do not call the office for game times. The park will not be responsible for incorrect game times given over the phone. Please call your manager or teammates for game times. Schedules are also available online at : [www.hartmanparksportscomplex.net](http://www.hartmanparksportscomplex.net)

### **RULE 5.2 – FIELD CONDITIONS**

When weather conditions warrant, the status of games will be available after 4:00 PM (Monday-Friday) and at 2:00 PM (Sundays) by calling 969-1516. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE REGARDING GAME STATUS. NO DECISION WILL BE MADE UNTIL 4:00 PM (Monday-Friday) and 2:00 PM (Sundays).

***RAINOUT LINE 816-969-1516***

### **RULE 5.3 – GAME BALLS**

Game balls must be A.S.A stamped, red-stitched, yellow optic ball. The Men's Softball is a 12 inch, .52 core, 300lbs compression ball and the Women's is an 11 inch .44 core, 375lbs compression ball. Teams may purchase softballs from the complex concession stand for \$5.

The team batting is responsible for retrieving game balls when hit out of play. Failure to retrieve game ball that results in a delay of the game can result in the umpire forfeiting the game. During a Coed game if someone hits the wrong ball, the offended (offensive manager) gets the choice of the result of the play or having the last batter re-bat and assume the ball and strike count prior to the wrong ball being discovered.

### **RULE 5.4 – WARM UP AREA**

All players are requested to warm up in designated warm up areas only.

### **RULE 5.5 – VULGAR AND OBSCENE LANGUAGE**

Obscene language will no be tolerated. Umpires have been instructed to eject violators. Complex management may eject any individual using obscene and vulgar language from the complex.

### **RULE 5.6 – PETS**

Pets will be allowed in the Complex but must be on leash, a maximum length of 6 ft. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

### **RULE 5.7 – DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY**

Any person guilty of willfully destroying property will be required to pay for the damages and suspended indefinitely from the Complex. In addition, if conditions warrant, the violator will be prosecuted.

### **RULE 5.8 – ALCOHOL**

Per City Ordinance: Chapter 19 Art III; **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR BEER, WILL BE ALLOWED ON PARK PREMISES BY ANYONE.** This includes fans, players or teams. Such infractions might result in suspension of player or team from game(s) or league play with no refund.

### **RULE 5.9 – TOBACCO**

**TOBACCO IS PROHIBITED ON PARK PROPERTY.**

### **RULE 5.10 – COMPLEX RULES**

Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation reserves the right to interpret any and all rules and situations. Further, Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation reserves the right to insert, delete, or change rules at any time and make decisions retroactive should it be deemed necessary for the benefits of the leagues.

### **RULE 5.11 – NOTICE**

The Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department and its staff will not be responsible for any injuries or accidents incurred by players or spectators due to participation in this league