

## ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES RULES AND REGULATIONS

### GENERAL

- A. The Manager, Coach and/or Captain of a team are responsible for the conduct of their players before, during and after the game until they leave the premises. Failure to comply with the rules will subject the offender, his manager, coach and/or captain to disciplinary action.
- B. All games will be played on the property of the City of Vandalia. All rules and regulations of the City will be observed and enforced.
- C. All managers, coaches, captains, players and other team personnel are presumed to know all of the rules and regulations of the league, school district and/or City. Failure to familiarize themselves with these rules and regulations will not be an excuse for failure to comply with them.
- D. **Absolutely NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES are permitted at the ball park and it is against school rules to use alcoholic beverages on school premises. No parking in the grass at any locations. Please pick up all trash before leaving!**

### ELIGIBILITY

- A. All players must be out of high school to be eligible for these leagues. Those graduating from high school in May or June of this year are eligible.
- B. An individual can play on only one team in the Vandalia Parks and Recreation Department Men's Monday and Wednesday softball leagues. Players may play on one team in both of the men's leagues.

### TEAM ROSTERS

- A. A team roster shall consist of a **maximum of eighteen (18) players**.
- B. A team roster form shall serve as the contract for individual players.
- C. An accurate team roster must be turned in to the Parks and Recreation Department on or before the start of the fall or summer leagues. Each player must sign the roster 24 hours before their first league game to be eligible to play.
- D. A player is the property of the team with which he first sign for this season or until the team disbands or the player is released.
- E. No player may be added to the roster after the **fourth week of play**. Additions before the fourth week must be made at the Parks and Recreation Department office and must be cleared by the Recreation Supervisor and the replacement player must sign the official roster 24 hours before his first game to be eligible.

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- F. In case of discrepancy in eligibility, positive proof must be presented before individual is eligible. A team using an ineligible player, upon proof, shall automatically forfeit the games played with this individual on the roster. This precludes any replay rules.

### **PLAYER CONDUCT**

- A. Players will conduct themselves at all times according to the rules of the game.
- B. A player who is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be penalized as follows:
1. The first ejection: Discretion of Recreation Supervisor
  2. The second ejection: Discretion of Recreation Supervisor
  3. The third ejection: Automatically disqualifies the player from further competition for one (1) full playing season. This includes playoffs and local tournaments, if any. A player receiving this suspension may not be replaced on the roster during the season he has been suspended.
  4. Should any player threaten violence to or strike a softball official, which includes umpires, scorer, supervisor, custodian or department member, he shall be immediately suspended and subject to a possible suspension for life from any and all activities of the City of Vandalia, Department of Parks and Recreation.
  5. The City of Vandalia, Department of Parks and Recreation, will recognize and enforce any suspensions of individuals as imposed by other organizations, such as the Dayton Amateur Softball Commission

### **STARTING TIMES AND FORFEITURES**

- A. It is the responsibility of each team to be on time and be ready to play at the scheduled game time.
- B. All lineups should be turned in to the official scorer ten (10) minutes prior to scheduled game time.
- C. Game time is **FORFEIT TIME**. The umpire or umpires will designate the official watch.
- D. A team must have at least **nine (9) players** to start the game.

### **PROTESTS**

#### **A. Legal Protest**

1. The only legal protest is one which involves an interpretation of playing rules.
2. A protest based on a play which involves an official's judgment is not legal and officials are instructed not to accept protests of this nature.
3. A protest, to be legal, must be written and turned in to the Recreation Supervisor no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the verbal protest and accompanied by the

protest fee which is **\$50.00 (fifty dollars)**. The protest fee is returned if the protest is upheld.

## **B. Process of Protesting**

1. The protesting manager shall immediately notify the official of the fact that he is protesting. This shall be done before any succeeding play begins. The official shall announce that the game is being played under protest, but failure of the official to make his announcement shall not affect the validity of the protest.
2. A protest shall be placed in writing and submitted to the Recreation Supervisor within twenty-four (24) hours. Fifty dollars (\$50.00) must accompany the protest.
3. Both scorebooks must be turned over to the softball supervisor immediately following the game.

## **GAME RULES**

All games shall be played under the rules governing Amateur Softball Association (A.S.A). With exception of or in addition to these rules.

- A. The Parks and Recreation Department shall make the decision on wet diamonds prior to the start of each game at all sites. The decision to continue each game shall be by judgment of the umpires.
- B. If after five (5) innings or subsequent innings a team is twelve (12) runs ahead, the game shall be called and be a complete game. So stated to mean four and a half innings or subsequent half innings with the home team ahead twelve (12) runs.
- C. If **official** umpires are not available for the start of a game, opposing team managers may mutually agree to use **unofficial** umpires. If managers cannot agree then the onsite supervisor shall acquire **unofficial** umpires. Results of said game shall be regarded as being official and decisions made by said **unofficial** umpires may not be protested.
- D. Each pitcher is permitted a maximum of three warm-up pitches to start the game. Any subsequent inning after, each pitcher is awarded one (1) warm-up pitch.
- E. After each out, the ball is to be returned directly to the pitcher from the player fielding the ball.
- F. The official game ball will be provided by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- G. The home team is determined by the first team listed on the league schedule and shall provide the official scorebook and official scorekeeper.
 

**\*NOTE:** Both teams are strongly encouraged to keep score, however the home team scorebook will be the official scorebook.
- I. Each team must submit a line-up card listing first and last names to the umpire before the start of the game.

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- J. After every complete inning the score is to be checked with the opposing team.
- K. The official scorekeeper shall fill out the final results sheet and have both team managers verify and sign and then turn the final results sheet in to the supervisor, or in his/her absence, the umpire.
- L. No metal spikes of any kind are allowed in the Men's or Co-Ed League(S).
- M. A safety base will be used for the first base.
- N. The extra player (EP) will be permitted. Please refer to the ASA Rules on the Extra Player (EP).
- O. Managers will have the option to determine the status of playing a game with nine (9) players. The following are the two options, which the manager must decide upon prior to the start of the game, and notify the umpire of this decision. Once the manager notifies the umpire, the decision will be **FINAL**.
- P. Teams can decide to play the **entire** game with nine (9) players. Once this decision has been made, the team **must** play the **entire** game with nine (9) players, no matter how many players show up after the game has started.
  - a. Teams can start the game with 10 players in the batting order reserving the 10<sup>th</sup> players spot for late arrivals. However, each time the 10<sup>th</sup> player's spot comes around in the batting order an out will be recorded until the 10<sup>th</sup> player arrives.
- Q. **EP Rule.** When playing with the EP, managers have the option of using 11 or 12 batters in the line up as pertaining to the EP rule in the ASA Rule Book. The manager must decide prior to the start of the game on EP status. Once a line up has been submitted to the umpire, this line up is official.
- R. **Player Ejection.** If a team begins with X number of players and a player is ejected from the game, the manager must insert a player into that position to finish the game. If the manager does not have a player to fill the ejected position, the game is an automatic forfeit.

If a team begins with X number of players and a player is ejected from the game and the manager has reserves on the bench the manager may at the time of the ejection fill the ejected player with that reserve.

If the player filling the ejected players spot is the EP, the manager must refill the EP spot with a reserve player. If he fails to do so the game is an automatic forfeit.

Each team must start and finish with the same amount of players, unless there is an injured player who must be removed from the game. If this occurs a team may finish with less than they started with, but at the injured players turn at bat an out must be taken.
- S. At the team manager's request, the field supervisor will check the opposing team's roster for player eligibility before the game begins or before the player in question has completed his first at bat. After the player has had his first turn at bat a request to check the roster for eligibility will be denied. If the field supervisor is not present at the beginning of the game, the team manager will notify the umpire and the field supervisor will check the roster as soon as he returns to the field.

- T. Each **coed** batting order must field a ratio of five (5) males and five (5) females at all times. If such said ratio is not met, said team is permitted to field a ratio of five (5) males to four (4) females. Teams that are playing with nine (9) must then take an out for the 10<sup>th</sup> batter. Teams may also have the option to play with six (6) females and four (4) males. If said team fields nine (9) players, said team must meet all criteria that is in affect for a regulation game of ten (10) players.
- U. **Coed Only:** Fielding positions **DO NOT** need to be boy-girl-boy-girl. Managers may implement field positions in the manner that they see fit for said team.
- V. There will be a **1 hour and 5 minute** time limit for all Friday Night Co-ed softball games. No inning will be started after the **1 hour and 5 minute** time limit has been reached. If visiting team is at bat when the said time limit expires, home team will receive last at bats. The umpires watch is the official time. Time limit is **STRICTLY** enforced.
- W. There will be a **1 hour and 5 minute time limit** for the men's Wednesday League and the Men's Monday League. No inning will be started after the 1 hour and 5 minute time limit(s) have been reached. If visiting team is at bat when the said time limit expires, home team will receive last at bats. The umpires watch is the official time. Time limit is **STRICTLY** enforced.
- X. In the case of a tiebreaker at the end of the season to determine league champions we will first go head to head, and then to runs allowed, if they are still tied at that time run differential and then lastly total runs scored.
- Y. Home Run Rule (fenced fields) - will play One-Up homerun rule for all leagues. The rule is as follows: If Team 1 hits a homerun (over the fence) they cannot hit another homerun until Team 2 hits a homerun. Each time Team 1 hits a homerun prior to Team 2 hitting homerun will be an out. Team 2 has the opportunity to hit 2 homeruns (1 to even homeruns and an additional to go 1 up) before an out is called. Bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning homeruns can only be equaled by the home team.
- Z. Any eligible player in the lineup including substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner once per inning. A courtesy runner must be reported to the umpire. A courtesy runner whose turn at bat comes while on base will be called out. That player will be removed from the base and take their turn at bat.

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