

ROCKY MOUNT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ADULT SOFTBALL RULES

POLICY

We ask the cooperation of all managers and players in the playing of our games. Competition is the basis of athletics but this is a recreational league not a professional league. We expect you to conduct yourselves as mature adults. We hope that you will act in good sportsmanship and follow the intent of these rules rather than trying to find and take advantage of any small loopholes.

GENERAL

- 1.1 No person under sixteen years of age as of January 1 should be permitted to play adult softball.
- 1.2 A minimum of 9 players can play a game. Teams may bat up to 12 players.
- 1.3 Games will start at the time given on the official league schedule. Forfeit time is game time!
NO EXCEPTIONS!
- 1.4 All players are to come to the field prepared to play at the scheduled time. Never leave a scheduled game unless postponed by the supervisor. In case of wet grounds, teams should show up ready to play. Decision to resume or postpone play will be made by the supervising umpire and / or Recreation Department staff.
- 1.5 Rained out games will be made up at and rescheduled at the discretion of Recreation Department staff.
- 1.6 Umpires, managers and supervisors are instructed not to permit players who have been drinking alcoholic beverages to play in a game. Detection of alcohol on the breath or by player's action could determine this. No smoking inside the Sports Complex.
- 1.7 Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. There will be positively no cursing. Players may be given one (1) warning. On the second offense, he / she will be ejected from the game. If a player is ejected from a second game, he / she **WILL BE** suspended from the league. The Recreation Department reserves the right to suspend from the league any player or coach without warning for unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 1.8 All players must wear shoes at all time during a game. Rubber spikes or tennis shoes are required. No metal spikes will be allowed.
- 1.9 Uniforms, balls, bats, gloves are to be furnished by a sponsoring player, company or church. The City will furnish the scheduling of games, upkeep of playing fields and supervision of the league. Each team is required to wear matching shirts. Shorts will be permissible for both men and women.
- 1.10 The home team is the team listed last on the schedule and shall occupy the dugout on the third base side of the field.
- 1.11 Rules may be added or changed by the Athletics Division to ensure fairness and clarity.

ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Open league teams - no restrictions.
- 2.2 Industrial league teams - all players must be a bonafide employee of that company either full or part time and must be on the company payroll at the time of the particular sport. The Personnel Manager must verify him. In the event he should quit or be terminated, he will no longer meet the requirements of playing in the Industrial League. If the person is laid off, he will still be eligible to play if authorized by the company's Personnel Manager.
- 2.3 Church league teams - all players must be a member of the sponsoring church or a member of the Sunday School and must be verified by the Minister.
- 2.4 Co-Rec league teams - no restrictions.
- 2.5 It is suggested that each team be allowed up to thirty (30) players on their season roster. Players may be added to a team roster by them signing the roster & player release prior to 5:00pm on the day of the game. Rosters and releases must be filed with the Athletic Division of the Recreation Department prior to the first scheduled practice game.
- 2.6 All business pertaining to a team shall be handled through the member of the squad whose name is registered at the Athletic Office as manager or assistant manager.
- 2.7 A player must be on the roster by the mid-point of the season (date to be determined) to be eligible for league play-offs and / or City tournament play. In Industrial & Church Leagues, rosters will be submitted to the Personnel Manager(s) and Minister(s) for mid-season approval.

PROTEST

- 3.1 Only coaches, captains and managers are to take part in any disputes arising with the umpire. It must be remembered that the decision of the umpire is final. Only in cases where the correct interpretation is concerned will there be any discussion. Discussions on umpire's decision or interpretations will be limited to one minute.
- 3.2 A protest must be made known to the umpire and scorekeeper immediately after the play in question (that is, before the next pitch has been made) or the protest cannot be accepted. Protest must be turned in to the Athletic Office in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of the game in question. The Protest Committee (consisting of the Athletic Staff) will meet at 3:00pm every Friday.

FEES AND SCHEDULES

- 4.1 Each team will pay an entry fee based on format set up by the Recreation Department.
- 4.2 The league and City Champion will be determined by a format established by the Recreation Department prior to the opening of the season.

THE GAME

- 5.1 20 run rule after 3 innings. 10 run rule after 5 innings.
- 5.2 Homerun Rule - One + one.
- 5.3 Three Ball and Two Strike Rule - Base on balls will be awarded after three (3) balls. Strike out awarded after two (2) strikes. Batter will be declared “out” if he hits a foul ball after the first strike.
- 5.4 Pitching rubber is located at 50’. Pitcher may pitch from up to 6’ directly behind the rubber.
- 5.5 Pitching rule 3-10’
- 5.6 Courtesy Runner: Teams are allowed 1 courtesy runner an inning. The courtesy runner must be a player from the lineup. If the courtesy runner is on base when it is his/her turn to bat, it will constitute an out.

EQUIPMENT

- 6.1 All teams must use balls the USSSA CLASSIC M ball. It is rated at .40 COR and 325 compression.
- 6.2 All bats must carry a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) rating of 1.20 or less. Any bat that is not “clearly” appropriately labeled, will not be allowed by umpire.
- 6.3 A team found to be using an illegal bat will forfeit two (2) games. The player using the illegal bat will be suspended for four (4) games.
- 6.4 The coaches and team manger will be responsible for their team’s equipment **and** allow the inspection of that equipment by the field site supervisor before each game begins.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 7.1 Non-city resident fee - If a player lives outside the corporate city limits there will be an additional fee of \$20 to participate. Non-City Resident fees must be paid before participation in any regular or post-season game. Failure to pay the Non-City Resident Fee before participation will result in forfeiture of any games in which the Non-City Resident participates. **NEW: Teams will not have to pay for more than \$200 in NCR Fees. Example: Team A has 14 players that live outside city limits, NCR Fees for team would only be \$200, not \$280.**
- 7.2 Defrauding the City of Rocky Mount by giving a false address, both the player and his / her coach may be suspended from any further participation in the league. All games that the ineligible player participated in will be forfeited and no refund on entry fee will be administered.