



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

Parks & Recreation

City Website: www.oceansiderec.com/sports

COED ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE

“HOUSE RULES” February 2023



OFFICIAL'S FEES:

- Teams are required to bring **\$20 IN CASH ONLY** to each game to pay for the umpire.
 - Forfeits cost are \$40 and need to be paid prior to the next scheduled game.

ROSTER REGULATIONS:

- Season rosters must be submitted before the first regular season game.
- Players may be added to the roster up to and including the half way point of the season but must have played in at least 2 games to be eligible for the playoffs.
- A maximum of 20 names may appear on the roster.
 - ****See scorekeeper for all roster transactions.**
- Photo I.D.'s are required for all players when signing the roster.
- Players can only play on one team in one league each season.

LEAGUE FORMAT: This league consists of two 8 team divisions: The Majors and Minors. Each week, three games will be played in each division. This means that two teams will have a bye week each week. All teams will advance to the playoff bracket play, meaning each team plays a minimum of 7 games per season. Rosters will be reviewed by city staff to check player eligibility.

- **Each team will receive one game ball per game. Each team is responsible for bringing at least one additional ball for each game.**

GAME TIMES:

- Game time slots are 6:15pm, 7:30pm, and 8:45pm.
- Games have a time limit of 70 minutes or 7 inning, however, no new inning will start after **65** minutes.
- Games should start at the scheduled time. Team managers are allowed a 5-minute grace period to delay the start of the game, but, the official game clock is running while the teams wait for more players.
- If a team cannot field a team after 5 minutes, a forfeit will be declared. You must have 8 players to start a game.
- Play-off games have a time limit of 75 minutes or 7 innings, whichever comes first; no new inning can start after 70 minutes.
- Championship games will be played on one site. The games will have a time limit of 75 minutes or 7 innings, whichever comes first.

POST SEASON LEAGUE REVIEW:

The league standings will be reviewed by the city at the end of the season. The win/loss records and runs for/runs against numbers will be reviewed to ensure that competition is fair and fun in all leagues. Teams may be moved up or down a league at the direction of Program Supervisor and Specialist.

TIEBREAKER RULES:

If there is a tie between two teams in the standings, the following tiebreaker rules go into effect:

- **Tiebreaker 1:** Winner of the head-to-head matches between the tied teams, wins the tiebreaker.
- **Tiebreaker 2:** If the tied teams tied with each other in head-to-head matches, then the team with the better run differential wins the 2nd tiebreaker.

CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: If a team is winning in the championships in back to back seasons they will be forced to move up to a higher division in order to match with better competition.

COURTESY RUNNERS: Use as many runners as needed. Courtesy runner must be the last out and of the same sex as the batter they are running for. Ask the umpire or scorekeeper if you need help!

PITCHING RULES/REGULATIONS:

- Coed League--unlimited to men, minimum 6 ft., max 12 ft. to women.
- Pitch count will begin at 1-1, one ball and one strike for every batter.
- There is a 4ft wide X 6ft deep pitchers box. The pitcher may deliver the pitch from any point inside the “pitchers box” without penalty. Upon the discretion of the umpire, any line drive hit by the batter that enters or passes through the pitcher’s box ankle high and no higher than the pitchers head will be declared a dead ball out. If the ball hits the ground in front of the pitcher in the box, it is a live ball. If the pitcher leaves the safety box, the rule is void and will not be enforced. At least one foot must remain inside the safety box to be considered “inside the box.”

BATTING RULES/REGULATIONS:

- The batter box/home plate is now a carpeted batting mat. Please do not slide onto the home plate. A slide will now be called an out on home base (For safety issues).
 - **Home Plate Plays:**
 - The mat is designated to the runner.
 - The catcher must have both feet off the mat to make a play. If the catcher sets foot on the mat, it is an automatic run.
 - Exception: Catcher can step foot on the mat and tap home plate for a force out.
 - Exception: Catcher can run across the pad. They do not have to run around it.
- **COED LINE-UP:** Teams may start a game with a minimum of four (4) females and four (4) male players. Other legal line-ups include: Five (5) females & five (5) males, Four (4) females & five (5) males, and five (5) females & four (4) males or 6 females & 4 males. Teams will alternate batting order between males & females.
- **Team managers are to bring two copies of their lineup with them to each game. City staff will facilitate a manager meeting at home plate with the umpire directly prior to the game. Staff will take a photo of both line-ups to keep track of player eligibility. Team managers will exchange lineups. This way each team can track the lineup of the other team. If there is an issue during the game, managers can request a meeting at home plate to look at those lineups.**
- Bats need ASA approved tag, umpire will inspect at the start of the game or when questioned by the manager. Check out bat listings at: asasoftball.com
- **WALKS:** A male batter thrown three consecutive balls after starting with a 1-1 count is awarded second base. The female batter following has the option of batting or taking first base.

- **FOUR STRIKE RULE:** A batter hitting a second foul ball, following two strikes, will be recorded as a strike out.
- **LEADING OFF-** A runner cannot leave the base bag until the pitcher has released the ball.

- **HOME RUN RULE:**

- The one-up home run rule shall be in effect. At no time may a team have more than one home run more than the opposing team. Subsequent home runs shall be ruled a double.
- USA Softball HR rule, batters/runners do not need to complete their running responsibilities when HR is over the fence or four base award. Page 95 Rule 8.section 3.I.Exception. (2018 rule book).

DEFENSIVE RULES/REGULATIONS:

- **160 OUTFIELD LINE:** Only one female rover may cross in front of the outfield line when a female is at bat. Cones may be placed along the first and third base line or light poles used as guides.
- **DEFENSIVE POSITIONING:** A player may not change positions once an inning begins. Exceptions: pitcher or injury.

MERCY RUN RULE: The game will end if at any point a team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs after a minimum of 5 innings.

PROTESTS: Must be declared before the next pitch with the umpire, scorekeeper and opposing manager being notified. A written explanation of the protest must be submitted to the League Director the next day (check office hours schedule).

Note: Judgment calls cannot be protested; only direct rule misinterpretations.

EJECTIONS: Any player ejected from the game must leave the park. After a second ejection, the player is ineligible to play for the rest of the season.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT RULES:

- **Players are prohibited from wearing metal cleats.**
- If a player uses abusive language or becomes involved in an argument, and doesn't get thrown out they will receive a phone call and a warning. Second time will be a 1 game suspension.
- If a player gets ejected from a game for using abusive/threatening language towards another player they will be suspended for 2 games.
- Anytime you come in contact with an umpire you will receive an automatic **lifetime ban** from all City of Oceanside adult sports.
- Anytime you make any physical contact with any player on the opposing team, including pushing, punching etc. you will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

MANAGER CODES OF CONDUCT:

- No smoking or drinking is allowed in the dugouts, on the field, or in the bleachers at any time. Glass containers are not allowed in the park.
- Make sure your dugout area is clean at the end of your game. If staff on Friday nights or youth softball coaches on Saturday morning report finding alcohol or controlled substance

left in the dugout area, it will result in automatic team suspension for the season with no refund.

- Please monitor the music being played from the dugout. Any music with “EXPLICIT” lyrics is not allowed. If recreation staff receive complaints from those in the community who are out enjoying the park, we will initiate a warning system and then a 1 game team suspension for any future violations.

PART TIME STAFF:

- The primary role of the part-time Parks & Recreation staff will be to prep the fields, accept and check the roster, make sure all players have signed the liability form, control the scoreboard, document innings played, and assist the umpire with the 70 minute time limit. Parks & Recreation staff will not be keeping a stat sheet so **it is up to each manager** to monitor your lineups and adhere to the rules and guidelines of the league provided.
- Part time staff out at the fields are to be treated with respect at all times. If you feel a mistake has been made on the scoreboard, please ask them politely to take a second look at it. Do not raise your voice or use abusive language at our recreation leaders.

PARK RULES:

- **Luiseno Park** – A ball rolling across the outfield sidewalk on both fields shall be ruled a double.
- **Field #1** – Fly balls hit into the bushes or over the fence are ruled a double – no homeruns are given on this field due to liability.
- **Field #2-** A ball that travels over the outfield sidewalk in the air is a home run, a ball that rolls across the sidewalk is a double. The concrete is deemed a “safety hazard”, so, the ball is declared dead.

IF A PLAYER ARRIVES LATE: If a player arrives late, they must first report to city staff before playing. As long as they are on the roster, they can join the game after checking in.

SLIDE TO AVOID A COLLISION! Please try to avoid interference and INJURIES!
Remember the Base Path is different from the Base Line. Second base person must have possession of the ball for obstruction to be called.