



CO-ED 14" SOFTBALL 2014 RULES AND REGULATIONS

LEAGUE FORMAT

1. The Co-ed 14" Softball Teams shall play a 10 game schedule. Standings will be kept over the entire regular season schedule and the league champion will be determined by best overall record.
2. At the conclusion of the regular season, all teams will make the playoffs. The highest remaining seed is the Home team in all playoff games.

SCHEDULING

1. The "Home Team" will be that team whose number appears first on the schedule throughout the season.
2. Makeup games will be scheduled at the end of the season or as doubleheaders if needed. In the event that more rain dates are needed, games could be played on another night or weekends. If needed, the tournament will be postponed until all regular season games are played.
3. It is the **TEAM CAPTAIN'S** responsibility to get all information concerning rain dates and to notify their players.
4. In the event of rain, only the team captain may phone **630-595-4119 ext. 5** after 4:00 p.m. for information concerning the games. No decisions concerning rain-outs will be made before 4:00 p.m. The rain hotline will be updated every Thursday rain or shine. Please continue to periodically check for updates.
5. Team captains will be issued (1) schedule after schedules are made. An updated schedule will also will available online for everyone.
6. **GAMES WILL NOT BE RESCHEDULED SO THAT TEAMS CAN PLAY IN OTHER LEAGUES OR TOURNAMENTS!** There are no exceptions to this rule.

ROSTER/WAIVER FORM

1. All teams must have a completed roster on file at the Park District on the Friday prior to the start of the season's games. All Wood Dale residents must provide the Park District with a photo copy of a current driver's license for proof of residency (if asked for).
2. Rosters will be limited to (20) players maximum.
3. Roster changes may be made up through each teams (2nd) game of the season. No changes are allowed after the (2nd) game. All changes must be made through the Recreation Supervisor.

Exception – A replacement, **WITH WRITTEN PROOF**, is allowed for players: moving out of state or leaving for college; being called into military service; or who has received a permanent injury.

4. Once a player has been taken off the roster, they can not under any circumstances be put back on the roster during the same season.
5. Any team giving false information on their roster shall be dismissed from the league with no refund.
6. All non-playing coaches or managers must be on the team roster in order to be allowed on the field.
7. To alleviate issues regarding "illegal players," all players are required to carry a picture ID to all games and present it upon request.
8. A player can be on only one (1) team's roster within the same league.
9. **Teams are not allowed to play a player not on the roster.** If a team is caught using an "illegal player," the game will result in an immediate forfeit. If a team is caught a second time in the same season, their team will forfeit the season without any refund and be place on 1-year suspension.
10. Players must be at least 18 years of age in order to play.

STANDINGS

1. Standings will be posted on the Wood Dale Park District Website and will be updated weekly.
2. League standings will be determined in the following order:
 1. Won-Loss record.
 2. Head to Head Record
 3. Run differential
 4. Total Run Scored

5. Total Run Against
6. Coin Flip

AWARDS

1st Place REGULAR SEASON (\$200) - The captain of the 1st place team will be able to choose between taking a smaller pay-out and a trophy or the captain could choose for the \$200 payout and no trophy. This will be determined at the captain's discretion at the conclusion of the season.

2nd Place REGULAR SEASON (\$50) - The captain of the 2nd place team will be able to choose between taking a smaller pay-out and a trophy or the captain could choose for the \$50 payout and no trophy. This will be determined at the captain's discretion at the conclusion of the season.

1st Place POST SEASON TOURNAMENT (\$200) – The captain of the 1st place team will be able to choose between taking a smaller pay-out and a trophy or the captain could choose for the \$200 payout and no trophy. This will be determined at the captain's discretion at the conclusion of the season.

2nd Place POST SEASON TOURNAMENT (\$50) – The captain of the 1st place team will be able to choose between taking a smaller pay-out and a trophy or the captain could choose for \$50 payout and no trophy. This will be determined at the captain's discretion at the conclusion of the season.

PLAYING RULES

The official rules for 14" softball slow pitch, as adopted by the Amateur Softball Association (A.S.A.) will govern all league play except for the following exceptions.

1. The "Home Team" will keep the game ball after the game. If the home team forfeits, no game ball will be issued.
2. **THE UMPIRE WILL BE THE SCOREKEEPER AND WILL KEEP SCORE ON THE OFFICIAL SCORECARD PROVIDED BY THE PARK DISTRICT.** It is each captain's responsibility to announce the runs scored to the umpire after every half of an inning. Any discrepancies in the score shall be resolved by the team captains before resuming play. The winning team captain will be responsible for signing the completed scorecard and the winning team captain must also have the umpire sign the scorecard for it to be valid. The site supervisor will collect the completed and signed scorecard.
3. The bases will be set at (65) feet, and the pitching rubber will be at (37) feet.

4. Only those bats with "Official Softball" stamped on them and comply with ASA standards shall be allowed this league. Tape or another form of non-slip material must be secured to the bat to make the bat considered safe. Any unsafe or illegal bats may be disqualified from any game by the umpire. Titanium and Rebel bats are not allowed.
5. Teams must have at least 4 women and 4 men to start a game. If a team has more women than men, the women can bat back to back without penalty. If there are more men than women (for example, 5 men and 4 women), an automatic out will be recorded in between each consecutive male batter.
6. The batting order must alternate genders. If a team has more women than men, the women can bat back to back without penalty. If there are more men than women (for example, 5 men and 4 women), an automatic out will be recorded in between each consecutive male batter. Teams may choose to "roster bat" and must declare their intention to roster bat before the game begins. The team just alternates between the 2 lists.
7. A team with three (3) forfeits during the regular season shall automatically be expelled from the league. No money will be refunded.
8. On defense, males or females can play any position. Number of males must equal the number of females unless a team has nine players (either 5 men and 4 women or vice versa) in which case all 9 team members can play the field.
9. Players playing in the outfield must remain in the outfield grass until the ball is pitched.
10. Game time is forfeit time with the **exception of a 10 minute grace period for the first game of the night only**. For all other games, if a team does not have at least 4 men and 4 women present by game time, a forfeit will be called.
11. No new inning will start after one hour. Once an inning has started, it will be finished unless a winner has already been determined. All ties will be played until one team leads at the end of a completed inning. All games shall be official after one hour or the losing team has batted 5 times, whichever occurs first. In the playoffs, all games will go to at least five complete innings, regardless of time.
12. **MERCY RULE is in effect after 4 innings (Losing team must bat 4 times)**
 - 1) **20/15/10 Mercy rule is in effect**
 - **20 runs after 4 innings**
 - **15 runs after 5 innings**
 - **10 runs after 6 innings**
13. Only women are allowed to wear gloves on the field.

14. The captain of the opposing team and umpire must be notified prior to any substitution being made. If an illegally substituted player is challenged prior to a pitch to the following batter, the illegal batter shall be considered out.
15. Unlimited substitutions will be allowed. No batter may bat in more than one batting position in any one game.
16. The league does **NOT** have a slide rule. In the umpire's judgment, if a player coming into a base uses unnecessary roughness and therefore unsportsmanlike conduct, that player will be called out. The player also may be dismissed from the game, subject to the umpire's discretion.
17. Only rubber and plastic cleats may be worn; no metal cleats allowed.
18. If a player is injured or ejected and there are no available substitutes to fill the vacated spot in the batting order, an automatic out will be assessed every time the vacant spot in the order comes up.
19. If a male is walked (intentionally or unintentionally), the following female batter has the option of either batting or also taking a walk.
20. The **SQUISH RULE**: No player may pound, reform, or in any way reshape the ball so as to make it harder to hit when pitched.
21. Courtesy runners will be allowed by mutual agreement of both captains, should be announced before the first pitch, and shall be gender for gender. Players needing a courtesy runner from an injury during the game shall be allowed. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out. Once a player needs a courtesy runner, they **MUST** receive a courtesy runner for the remainder of the game as well. A courtesy runner must be in the line-up.
22. No lead-offs, pick-offs or stealing. The runner cannot leave the base until the pitch crosses home plate or is hit by the batter.
23. A base runner will be called out if he/she, in any way interferes by **VOICE, ACTION OR CONTACT**, with the fielders(s) attempt to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball.
24. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR SMOKING ARE NOT ALLOWED ON WOOD DALE PARK DISTRICT PROPERTY!** Each team captain is responsible for his/her own team members, spectators and sponsors with regards to this rule. Any one attempting to play under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be removed from the game by the umpire and/or supervisor, with further suspensions likely. There are off-duty police officers that drive through each of the parks.
25. The Wood Dale Park District is not responsible for any injuries occurring during its activities. Each player must participate at their own risk. Medical insurance is

NOT included in your league fee. Please inform all of your team members that they need to carry their own insurance.

26. All managers are expected to inform their players concerning all rules prior to the first game, as well as during the season, in order to make sure no violations occur.
27. Teams shall **NOT** be permitted to use the gravel path for warm-up. The path is there for pedestrians and spectators only.
28. Children are not allowed in the dugout or on the playing field.

GROUND RULES

1. No intentional chopping or bunting is allowed.
2. Each batter will begin with a (1) ball and (1) strike count.
3. A batter with (2) strikes is automatically out if they hit a foul ball. If the ball is caught in the air it is considered a live ball and the runner can tag up.
4. No batter's box will be used. The batter will be called out if any part of his/her foot touches home plate or the player clearly steps across the plate with his/her entire foot and the ball is hit (either fair and foul).
5. **No drag steps, faking, or hesitations.** The pitcher must deliver the ball with one foot on the pitching rubber. The maximum arc a pitch may have is (10) feet and the minimum is (6) feet. The height of the arc is measured from the ground (umpires judgment).
6. A fair batted ball that bounced off a fielder or rolls untouched and goes into dead ball territory (i.e.: road, parking lot, etc.) will be ruled a ground rule double..

PLAYER CONDUCT

1. Subject to the Recreation Supervisor and Umpire, any player, coach or manager may be dismissed from a game for any unsportsmanlike demonstrations such as fighting, profanity, verbal abuse to an umpire, scorekeeper, other players, park officials, fans or softball site supervisor that is displayed before, during or after any game.
 - A. This person(s) shall be disqualified for the next scheduled game. Further disciplinary action and longer suspensions will be at the discretion of the Recreation Supervisor
 - B. Repeated violations of this rule will result in the player(s) being dismissed from the league.

- C. No teams will be able to replace any disqualified players on the roster.
 - D. Any team or player(s) being dismissed from the league will not be permitted back in the league the following year.
2. Any team displaying a disregard of the rules such as: starting times, drinking, common courtesy to other teams, scorekeepers, umpires, supervisors, park officials and equipment will be subject to dismissal from the league without a refund

PROTESTS

1. Protests will be considered only if they deal with an interpretation(s) of the rules and not a matter of judgment. Protests will be considered on this basis only.
2. The following procedures are to be followed:
 - A. Before the next pitch, the softball supervisor and the umpire must be notified of any protest. The umpire must announce to the other team that there is a protest.
 - B. A **WRITTEN** account of the protest must be filed to the Recreation Supervisor within twenty four (24) hours of the event. **NOTE:** a protest must also list the specific ASA rule that you're are protesting. Protests will not be considered if based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire.
 - C. All protests must be accompanied by a \$25.00 fee. If the protest is upheld, the \$25.00 will be returned.
3. The Protest Committee:
 - A. All protests will be decided by a protest committee. The Protest Committee will be comprised of the Recreation Supervisor, Superintendent of Recreation, Softball Supervisor and the Head of Officials.
4. Illegal player protests will only be considered if the suspected player is in the game at the time of the protest.
 - A. This protest must be done before the game is over.

- B. The protesting team must inform the umpire and the softball site supervisor, and the game will be stopped.

- C. At that point, ALL players from both teams will be checked against their rosters. ALL players from both teams will be asked to show a photo I.D. as well as sign his/her name, which will be checked against the roster. If ANY player does not produce a photo I.D.; is not on the roster; or is playing in place of a rostered player, that team will forfeit the game, which will end the game immediately. Site Supervisor will make the decision.

GAME SITE

Games will be played at Community Park Fields (North of the Wood Dale Junior High School on Wood Dale Road).