



Newark Recreation

ADULT SOFTBALL



LEAGUE MANUAL

 **NEWARK**
Recreation
and Community Services

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Location & CONTACTS

RECREATION COORDINATOR

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510-578-4407

OFFICE LOCATION

SILLIMAN ACTIVITY &
FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER
6800 MOWRY AVE, NEWARK, CA
510-578-4620

FIELD LOCATIONS

SPORTSFIELD PARK - SOFTBALL FIELD #1
6800 MOWRY AVE, NEWARK, CA 94560

BIRCH GROVE PARK - SOFTBALL FIELD #1
38080 BIRCH ST, NEWARK, CA 94560

The mission of the Recreation and Community Services Department is to enrich and strengthen the wellbeing of all community members through recreational programs, services, and facilities while promoting personal development, healthy lifestyles, community involvement, and inclusiveness.

ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION & DIVISION REQUIREMENTS



ELIGIBILITY

Players must be eighteen (18) years of age prior to participating in this adult league. Players must be able to show a valid ID as requested. For playoff eligibility, a player must be listed on the team's roster by the Monday of the 4th week of the current season and must play in at least three (3) regular season games.

REGISTRATION

To officially register a team in the Newark Adult Softball League, teams must complete an Adult Softball Registration Form in full and submit payment for the league fee in person or online. For check payments, please make checks payable to the City of Newark.

Teams whose rosters contain incorrect addresses and/or falsified information will be automatically removed from the league without a refund and will not be allowed to return for future leagues the City of Newark offers. Proof of residency and/or Name Verification may be requested by the League Director or scorekeepers at any time. All players should have a Valid Photo ID ready to present as requested.

To submit a registration form and payment, choose one of the following options:

- Register online at: newarkca.activityreg.com
- Register in person at the George M. Silliman Community Activity Center

DIVISION REQUIREMENTS

Each division will consist of a minimum of four (4) teams and a maximum of six (6) teams. The City of Newark Community and Recreation Department Adult Softball Leagues divisions are designed for low- to high-intermediate recreational teams. Divisions may be combined at the discretion of the Recreation Coordinator. For safety and competitive balance, teams must register in the division that reflects the majority experience level of their roster.

SCHEDULING AND FOREFEITS

PLAYING SCHEDULE

Each season will include a minimum of 6 regular season games and up to 10 regular season games, with the possibility of playoffs. (*Game schedules depends on the number of team, season, weather, field conditions, field availability, etc.*)

- Playoff and championship games will be played on the same day as regular season games are played on
- Regular season and playoff games: 7 innings or a 65-minute time limit, whichever comes first. Any innings beginning before time expires shall be completed unless the home team is ahead.
- Championship games: 90-minute time limit.
- Bye weeks and doubleheaders may be scheduled depending on division size.
- *Game times: 6:30 p.m., 7:45 p.m., or 9:00 p.m. (Depending on the number of teams)
- Tentative league nights:
 - Adult Coed Softball – Tuesdays (Open Recreation)

Note: Schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the Recreation Coordinator.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

On game days, team managers will be informed by 4:00pm if games are to be cancelled due to inclement weather and/or unsafe field conditions.

Games that are cancelled will be rescheduled whenever possible, if possible.

FOREFEITS

- Game time is forfeit time, except the first game of the night, which includes a five (5) minute grace period if needed.
- The 65-minute clock begins at the scheduled game time, regardless of grace period.
- A forfeiting team's opponent will receive a win with a final score of 7-0.
- Double forfeits will result in a loss for both teams.
- Forfeited games are not rescheduled.
- One (1) advanced forfeit is allowed per season without fee if communicated to the Recreation Coordinator at least 24 hours in advance.
- Additional forfeits, even with notice, will incur a \$50 fee. Less than 24 hours' notice also results in a \$50 fee.
- Two (2) or more forfeits in one season will disqualify the team from participating in the current season playoffs games as well as the upcoming season.
- If a team uses an ineligible player in a playoff game, the game will be forfeited regardless of when the violation is discovered.

TEAM MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES & PROTEST

TEAM MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES

TEAM MANAGER / CO ASSISTANT MANAGER, AND/OR THE TEAMS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FOLLOWING WHEN REPRESENTING THEIR TEAM:

****** For each scheduled game, the team representative shall be the player who meets with the umpires before the start of play, regardless of the designated Team Manager.

- Keep the team roster updated and ensure all players register before participating in a game.
- Educate team members and spectators on eligibility rules, league policies, and the Code of Conduct.
- Ensure all team equipment is compliant.
- Submit lineup cards to the scorekeeper **at least 10 minutes** before scheduled game time.
- Enforce the no smoking/alcohol/Drugs policy at City facilities.
- Report problems or complaints in writing to the Recreation Coordinator.

PROTEST

- Protests are only valid for rule interpretations or player eligibility issues. Judgment calls by officials/umpires cannot be protested.
- Protests must be declared immediately after the disputed play and before the next pitch.
- Notify the officials, scorekeeper, and opposing manager at the time of protest.
- A written protest must be emailed to the Recreation Coordinator by 5:00 p.m. the next day, along with a \$50 filing fee. If upheld, the fee will be refunded.
- The City of Newark has final authority to make decisions pertaining to all league rules and regulations. If deemed necessary, a protest board may be assembled to settle a protest.



ROSTERS & EQUIPMENT

ROSTER & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A Maximum of 25 players are allowed to be on a team roster. *(Please note a max of 16 items, such as a league champion shirt will be awarded to the winning team no matter the number of players on the winning teams official roster)*
- All players must be 18 years of age or older. High school students are not permitted.
- All players must carry valid photo identification and proof of address at all times. The Recreation Coordinator and/or scorekeepers may request identification at any time. Failure to provide identification may result in immediate ejection from the game as well as the players team forfeiting the game.
- **Players who participate in B-Ranked leagues and/or tournaments are not permitted.** Any ineligible player will be removed, and the team may be declared ineligible for any playoff and championship games.
- Players may participate in multiple divisions but may not play on more than one team within the same division on the same night.
- To be eligible for playoffs and championship games, players must:
 - Be listed on the official team roster by the Monday of the 4th week of the current season, and
 - Have played in at least three (3) regular-season games with their team.
- Forfeited games, by either team, do not count as games played.
- Players who become unavailable due to injury may be replaced with another player upon Recreation Coordinator approval.
- If the injured player returns, their replacement will be removed from the roster and will no longer be eligible to play.
- Players who are absent due to personal reasons or vacations are not eligible for replacement.

EQUIPMENT

- Softballs and standard bases are provided by the League. All other equipment must be supplied by the teams.
- All bats must meet ASA/USA regulations and display the appropriate ASA/USA certification mark.
- Bats may be checked by officials at any time.
- Team managers may request bat checks of the opposing team.
- Players uncertain about their bat's legality should request an inspection from the umpire or scorekeeper prior to using it. No penalty will be assessed if a bat is deemed illegal before it is used.
- If an illegal bat is discovered immediately after a play, the bat will be removed, and the batter will be called out. If an illegal bat is discovered between innings or after the game, it will be removed and could lead to that team forfeiting the game no matter the outcome.
- Metal spikes are not allowed.
- Safety equipment, such as batting helmet and catcher's masks, are encouraged but not required to be used by any player.

RULES - FOR ALL DIVISIONS

Unless otherwise stated, ASA/USA Official Softball Rules govern league play.

TEAM RULES

ALL

- A minimum of 8 players is required to start and finish a game.
- A maximum of 10 players may play defense.
- All players participating in a game must both bat and play in the field.
- A maximum of 16 awards will be issued to the first-place team in each division.

COED

- Teams must have at least 4 females and 4 males on the field at all times.
- When playing with 10 players, teams must have 5 females and 5 males.

SPORTSFIELD PARK SOFTBALL FIELD RULES

ALL

- Batting and infield practice are not allowed prior to games.
- It is at the umpire's discretion to determine when a ball is out of play.
- If a fair ball goes out of play (by deflection off a defensive player or on its own), the award is two bases from the time of the pitch.
- Sunflower seeds are prohibited at all facilities.

BATTING

ALL

- Each batter starts with a 1-1 count.
- With two strikes, a batter is allowed one additional foul ball. The next foul ball results in strike three and an out.
- Pinch hitters are not allowed.
- If a batter is walked during their at-bat the batters will advance to 1st base

COED

- Batting order may start with any gender but must alternate male/female.
- If playing with an odd number of players:
 - Two players of the same gender may share an alternating batting spot, OR
 - Players of the same gender may bat back-to-back.
- If two males bat back-to-back, an automatic out is taken for the second male, even in a new inning.
- No penalty applies for two females batting back-to-back.

HOME RUN RULE

ALL

- Each team is allowed 3 "over-the-fence" home runs per game with an equalizer.
- After 3 home runs, any additional home run before the equalizer is in play results in an out, and the home run does not count.

What is an Equalizer: An Equalizer is a rule that ensures home run limits are matched between teams.

For Example:

- If Team A hits 3 home runs, they are not allowed to hit anymore home runs until Team B also hits 3 home runs.
- Once Team B reaches the same number (3), both teams are allowed to hit additional home runs one-for-one—but still within limits defined by the league or tournament rules.
- Until the home run counts are equal, any "extra" home runs hit by the team that is ahead are ruled as out

RULES- FOR ALL DIVISIONS

BASE RUNNING RULES

ALL

- Stealing bases is not allowed.
- A courtesy runner may be used once per inning for an any player after they reach base safely.
- The courtesy runner must be the player who made the last out unless otherwise approved by the umpire.
- Pinch runners are not allowed.

COED

- Courtesy runners must be the same gender as the the runner on base.
- The commit line will be drawn perpendicular to the third-base line, 25 feet from home plate and a run-score line will we drawn from the tip of Homeplate out towards the fence.
- Once a runner crosses the commit line, they must continue toward home plate.
- Runners must not touch home plate when scoring; they must run across the run-score line only. Touching Homeplate results in an automatic out and no run scored.

MENS

- Runners must touch home plate when scoring.

DOUBLE FIRST BASE RULE

ALL

- A batted ball that hits the white base is fair; if it hits the orange base, it is foul.
- Defense must use the white base.
- Runners must use the orange base unless rounding first.
- If a runner returns to first base, they must use the white base.
- If a runner uses the white base on an initial base hit, they are out.
- Once a runner is safely on base, the orange base is not to be used while the player is on base. The orange base is only used for when running to first base.

RUN RULE (MERCY RULE)

ALL

- A team will be declared the winner if ahead by:
- 15 runs or more after 4 innings
- 12 runs or more after 5 innings

FIELDING RULES

ALL

- There may be no more than 10 defensive players on the field.

COED

- Infield: 2 females and 2 males (Can have 3 females and 1 male, but not 3 males and 1 female)
- Outfield: 2 females and 2 males (Can have 3 females and 1 male, but not 3 males and 1 female)
- Pitcher/Catcher: 1 female and 1 male (Can have both players be female)
- If playing shorthanded (3 players in infield or outfield), there must be at least 1 female and 1 male in each area.
- Outfielders must remain behind the coed line unless they are playing a live ball.

RULES- FOR ALL DIVISIONS

PITCHING RULES

ALL

- Games are played with a strike-zone mat.
- Pitches must have a 6–12 foot arc.
- The pitcher must keep one foot inside the pitcher's box during delivery.
- Any legal pitch that hits home plate is a ball.

TIE BREAKER RULES

ALL

- Regular-season games tied after 7 innings or 65 minutes played, will result in a tie game.
- Playoff and championship games will continue until a winner is determined.
- If the game must be suspended for time or daylight, it may be rescheduled if possible.

STANDINGS

ALL

- Teams that have forfeited a game for any reason will automatically lose tiebreakers if tied with teams(s) having no forfeits.
- Head-to-head record
- Fewest runs allowed vs tied teams
- Fewest runs allowed overall
- Most runs scored
- Coin toss

INJURED OR EJECTED PLAYERS

ALL

- If a player is ejected or injured and a team drops below 8 players, the game is forfeited.
- A substitute may replace an injured player with no penalty. The substitute name must be on the back of the lineup card to enter the game.
- If no substitute is available:
- The injured/ejected player's spot becomes an out the first time it comes up.
- After the first out, the spot is removed from the lineup.

COED

- Teams must maintain at least 4 males and 4 females to continue play or forfeit.
- If using a shared batting spot, one of the players may replace the injured/ejected player if they are the same gender.
- An out will be recorded the next time the injured player's spot comes up, but no further outs will apply.

SUBSTITUTES

ALL

- All player substitute must be listed on the current games line-up card as a substitute
- A substitute is any player not in the original lineup.
- Substitutions are player-for-player, not position-based.
- If Player A substitutes for Player B and Player A returns, Player B must be substituted out.
- A substitute must be used if a player leaves due to injury. Courtesy runners cannot replace injured players.

CODE OF CONDUCT

CITY OF NEWARK - PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

This league is a recreational program emphasizing fun, sportsmanship, and safety. Any behavior that endangers players, officials, scorekeepers, or spectators will not be tolerated. All violations will be reported to the Recreation Coordinator, and penalties will be enforced.

CONDUCT	MINIMUM PENALTY	MAXIMUM PENALTY
Physical attack – No participant or spectator shall push, shove, strike, kick, or physically attack an official, participant, coach, manager, City representative, or spectator.	Suspension from one (1) league game and placed on probation for the remainder of the season.	Lifetime suspension and/or felonious assault charges filed (CA Penal Code Sec. 243.8).
Leaving position to incite confrontation – No participant shall leave their position or dugout to further incite verbal or physical confrontation.	Immediate ejection with possible further sanctions by the Recreation Coordinator. If the player(s) cannot be identified, players may be removed from the lineup in order.	Forfeiture and/or double forfeiture of game and player lifetime suspensions and/or felonious assault charges filed.
Damage to facilities – No participant or spectator shall damage or deface City of Newark or school district property.	Suspension from further play until financial responsibility is met AND probation for the remainder of the season.	Lifetime suspension.
Abusive verbal attack – No participant shall verbally abuse, "trash talk," or taunt any player, official, City representative, or spectator. This includes communication after the incident.	One (1) game suspension.	The players team forfeits game and/or a Lifetime suspension.
Rough tactics – No participant shall use deliberately rough tactics against an opposing player.	Removal from the game.	Lifetime suspension.

CODE OF CONDUCT

CONDUCT	MINIMUM PENALTY	MAXIMUM PENALTY
Throwing equipment – No participant shall intentionally throw a bat or equipment.	One (1) game suspension.	Lifetime suspension.
Dissent – No participant shall refuse to abide by an official's decision or demonstrate dissent through words or actions.	Removal from the game.	Lifetime suspension.
Controlled substances/alcohol – No participant shall be under the influence of, or in possession of, controlled substances or alcohol in or around the facility.	Suspension from two (2) league games and probation for the remainder of the season. Could result in the players team forfeiting the current game and potential future games	Lifetime suspension.
Illegal equipment – No manager, team representative, or participant shall use altered or banned equipment (e.g., illegal bats, metal cleats, dangerous jewelry).	Immediate ejection and one (1) game suspension.	Lifetime suspension.
Team aggression – No team shall engage in physical aggression against another team, officials, or spectators.	Forfeiture of the game and one (1) additional game suspension plus one (1) year probation.	Removal of one or both teams from all City of Newark Adult Sports League and a Lifetime suspension.
Ineligible players – No manager or participant shall use ineligible or non-roster players, or falsify identification or age.	One (1) year probation from the date of the incident.	Lifetime suspension.
Intentional property damage – No participant shall intentionally damage equipment or facilities.	One (1) game suspension.	Lifetime suspension.

CODE OF CONDUCT

CONDUCT	MINIMUM PENALTY	MAXIMUM PENALTY
Fraudulent acts – No participant, manager, or team representative shall commit fraudulent acts (e.g., gambling on games).	Probation for the remainder of the season.	Lifetime suspension.
Financial responsibility – Teams are responsible for all payments to the City of Newark (e.g., entry fees, tournament fees, facility costs).	Suspension of play until financial responsibility is met.	Lifetime suspension.



CODE OF CONDUCT

SPECIAL NOTES – CITY OF NEWARK CODE OF CONDUCT

1. League Director Authority

- The Recreation Coordinator shall have the power and full discretion to impose penalties on any and all violations of the City of Newark Player Code of Conduct. For violations not specifically listed in this Code, penalties will be determined at the discretion of the Recreation Coordinator.

2. Ejection from Facilities

- Any participant or spectator removed from a game must leave the facility and/or premises immediately and may not return until their suspension is served. Failure to do so may result in a maximum penalty of one (1) year suspension. Suspended players may not attend games as spectators.

3. Repeat Offenses

- Any participant previously penalized under the City of Newark Player Code of Conduct who is reported for a subsequent violation will be subject to additional penalties as determined by the Recreation Coordinator.

4. Manager Responsibility

- Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches, and spectators at all times during any City of Newark activity or event and may be disciplined accordingly.

5. Definition of Participant

- The term “participant” includes players, coaches, and, where appropriate, spectators. Managers are responsible for the actions of their spectators.

6. League-Wide Enforcement

- Any individual or team placed on probation or suspension for violating this Code of Conduct will be considered on probation or suspension for all City of Newark-sponsored activities during the effective period.