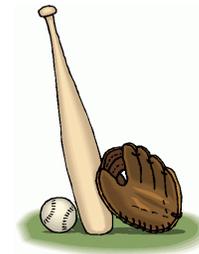


# Clearfield Recreation Softball Tournament Rules 2018



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**Rain Out Information**  
801-525-2890 after 4pm

**Clearfield Recreation**  
**Softball Tournament Rules**  
**2016**

1. Regular USSSA rules will govern all games except as amended by the Clearfield City Recreation Department rules listed below.
2. Time listed on the schedule is game time and forfeit time. Teams should be ready to play ten (10) minutes prior to the start of the game. All starting lineups need to be submitted to the official scorekeeper at least ten minutes before game time. Games must start on time. There will be no time allowed for infield warm-ups.
3. Games will consist of seven innings with no new inning beginning after 50 minutes. Time begins when the field supervisor tells the teams to take the field. The scorekeeper keeps official time and his or her time is the official time. If the score is tied at the end of the seven innings or regulation time, play will continue until a winner is decided. In case of a rain out, the team ahead at the end of the fifth inning will be declared the winner; otherwise, the game will be replayed from the start. The game will commence from the point where the problem occurred when other circumstances result in a game being canceled (field light problems, etc.). All championship games will go a full seven innings.
4. Ball and strike count will be two (2) strikes and three (3) balls, not three (3) strikes and four (4) balls.
5. Complete rosters must be turned in by the first game. Additions can be made until bracket play begins.
6. The choice of first or last bat in the innings shall be decided by a toss of a coin. In the championship game, the undefeated team gets the choice of home or visitor. If the tournament goes to an "if" game, it would revert back to a toss of a coin.
7. The intention to protest a rule must be made known by the Manager/Coach of the protesting team to the umpire immediately and before the next pitch is made to a batter. In tournament play, all protests must be settled before any play can be resumed. The

home plate. All outfielders must remain back of this line until the pitched ball has crossed home plate. If any outfielder violates the restraining line, the umpires will award the batter and all runners one base or the result of any hit ball - whichever is greater.

11. Courtesy runners will be allowed only if there are no substitute players available. The courtesy runner must be the player who was the last made legal out (male for male, female for female in coed).

pinch hitter or courtesy runner, that person now becomes the E.H. The starting E.H may re-enter the game once he/she is removed from the game. The E.H. may play defense. Coed teams must use two (2) extra hitters if they choose to use an E.H. The two E.H.'s must be a male and a female. A coed team may not use only one (1) E.H. If one of the two extra hitters is forced to leave the game early, and there is no substitute available, then the team must drop to 10 batters.

4. Players must alternate their batting positions, starting by placing either a man or woman first and then alternate thereafter. Example: male, female, male, female, etc. You may play with more women than men. Women can bat back to back.
5. Male and female players may play any position of the field. Outfield will have two males and two females. And infield may have 3 males 3 females with the pitcher and catcher alternating male and female.
6. Once an inning has started, the team in the field must finish the inning with the players occupying the positions they started the inning with. There cannot be any switching during the inning. Exception: A pitcher may be relieved in mid-inning, one time only per inning.
7. Sliding is permissible for all players, but players must be aware and cognizant of the fact that injuries may result if the slider uses excessive force against the fielder. If the act is considered flagrant, the offending player is to be removed from the game. If there is a close play the runner must make an effort to avoid contact. (Sliding, getting out of the way)
8. For safety and injury prevention, any item considered to be dangerous by game officials may not be worn, and any player wearing such objects must remove them when requested to do so by game officials.
9. No player may usurp another player's position, outfielder making the play in the outfield of another outfielder. Pitcher may cover home plate for the catcher. Runners will be declared safe if rule is violated.
10. A restraining line will be located at a distance of 200 feet from

Recreation Supervisor will make all decisions, and all decisions are final. Protests shall not be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of the umpire.

8. Game balls will be provided for each game by the Recreation Department. New balls will not always be used, but the balls will be in good condition. If any questions, the scorekeeper will make the decision.
9. A men's game may be played with only seven (7) players provided the coach establishes where the automatic out is in the lineup before the start of the game. A coed game may be played with only eight (8) players provided the coach establishes where the automatic out is in the lineup before the start of the game. If additional players arrive late, one must be used to fill the vacant slot immediately. A team that does not notify the scorekeeper that they will only have seven (7) players at the start of the game will forfeit the game. A team may not end the game with fewer players than when they started unless a player has been seriously injured and playing may hinder their condition.
10. No player shall, at any time, lay a hand upon, shove, strike or threaten an official, other player or spectator. That player will be ejected from the ball game and will not be allowed to play for the remainder of the tournament.
11. If a player sustains an injury, it is the coach's responsibility to bring it to the attention of the umpire and scorekeeper.
12. All players on a team shall wear shirts of the same color with numbers at least 12" tall. Any team in frequent violation of this rule may be suspended.
13. Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided such player occupies the same batting position. A starting pitcher who is withdrawn cannot return to the pitching position for the remainder of the game.
14. Any player, coach or spectator who fails to act in a sportsmanlike manner before, during or after a game may be ejected from the premises. Any player ejected from a game will be suspended for the following game.

15. A Clearfield City ordinance prohibits drinking of alcoholic beverages, which includes beer or liquor, in a public building, park, stadium or any grounds or parking lots used in conjunction with said facilities. There is to be no cigarette, e-cigarette or tobacco use in Clearfield City parks. These ordinances will be enforced. Please deposit all litter in receptacles provided. Teams are responsible for their fans.
16. An eligible player is a player who is playing in the correct classification according to rule, is at least 16 years of age by August 1, 2013, and who is legally listed on the tournament team roster.
17. Home Runs will be played "one up". If team "A" hits a home run, they cannot hit another one until team "B" hits a home run. If a home run is hit by a team that is one up on the other, that home run will be ruled as an out. If one team is ahead by 15 runs after 5 innings, by 20 runs after 4 innings or 25 runs after 3 innings, the game is over. A team may go one up in the last game to win it.
18. The ball must be pitched underhanded at a slow speed, arc at least 3 feet after leaving the pitcher's hand and before it passes any part of home plate and the pitched ball must not rise higher than 10 feet above the ground. The catcher must return each pitch not hit directly to the pitcher.
19. A fair batted ball is legally batted that is immediately in play. A fair or foul ball shall be judged according to the position of the ball, relative to foul lines including the foul pole, and not whether the fielder is on or over the fair or foul territory at the time the ball is first touched.
20. Unfairly delivered pitched balls include: Any pitched ball that does not conform to all requirements of a fairly delivered pitched ball, all pitches made by the pitcher when not conforming to pitching restrictions, delivering a pitch from other than the pitcher's plate or area, quick return pitch and the pitcher failing to face home plate on delivery of the pitch.
21. A scorekeeper for each game will be provided by the Recreation Department and his/her score and time are official. The scorekeeper positions are classified as "Program Supervisors."

This means they are representing Clearfield Recreation Department and are authorized to make any decisions that are necessary in running an effective program, in controlling ball players' behavior, making sure games run smoothly, assisting the officials if necessary, and making sure the building and equipment are treated with respect. For example, if a player is out of control, violent, flagrant, or verbal, they have the authorization of the Recreation Supervisor to suspend that player, eject him for the remainder of the tournament or whatever is necessary to keep that player in control.

22. Players are prohibited from wearing any metal-type shoe and cleats. Players must wear some type of athletic shoe, preferably the all purpose rubber or plastic cleated type. Players cannot play barefoot or with open-toed shoes. If a player(s) is detected during the playing of the game wearing illegal shoes of any kind, the penalty is as follows:
  - A. If at bat, the batter is declared out
  - B. If on base, the runner is declared out.
  - C. If in the field, the player(s) has two (2) minutes to replace illegal shoes with proper molded rubber or plastic-type shoes. If not done within time allotted, the player must be removed from the team.
  - D. The above infractions can be called by any opposing player, umpire or field director.

### **SPECIAL RULES SECTION FOR COED LEAGUES**

1. A game is played with two teams. Ten players constitute a team. Teams may play with a minimum of 8 players provided an automatic out is established in the batting rotation for each player missing from a full team. There must be an equal or greater number of females than males at all times.
2. If a team participates with only nine (9) players, that team will automatically be charged with an out when the tenth player is due to bat.
3. An exception to the mandatory nine (9) player rule can be made for coed leagues which allows the use of twelve (12) players, known as the "extra hitter" (E.H.) rule. The E.H. can be placed anywhere in the batting order. If the E.H. leaves the game for a