

Norwalk Recreation and Parks Department

By-Laws 2023 Summer Softball

Objective

Provide a fun, competitive recreation program for Norwalk area residents while promoting good sportsmanship and clean competition.

Organization

1. The Norwalk Recreation and Parks Softball Program will be comprised of the following leagues:
 - a. Monday and Tuesday-Men's Leagues
 - b. Wednesday- Men's Wood Bat
 - c. Thursdays- Coed League & Men's Industrial League
2. Players must be 18 years of age by April 8th, 2022
3. Non-residents pay a \$50 parking fee for Calf Pasture after 5pm, weeknights (see "fee")
4. Walk-in Registration: Monday March 13th, Wednesday March 15th
 - a. Hand in team application
 - b. Make league payment
 - c. Hand in non-resident park form & payment
 - d. Get league rules

Fees

1. The league fee of \$600 (Monday), \$600 (Tuesday), \$600 (Coed), \$450 (wood bat), \$850 (Industrial) per team due in full at the time of captain's registration, and covers administration, league supervisor, bases, softballs, lights, awards, bats, and playoffs.
2. Umpire fee is \$35 cash per team, per game if there are 2 umpires, if there is 1 Umpire its \$25 per team per game. Umpires are to be paid before each game begins.
3. Non-residents must pay a \$50 parking fee to their captain and submit their license plate information upon team registration. Captains will submit one check and form for all non-residents, payable to "The City of Norwalk" to the field supervisor on the first scheduled game night.
4. If you forfeit less than 24 hours you will have to pay a \$50.00 cash forfeit fee at the beach prior to your next game.

League Play

1. League play will start April 24th, 2023 and include 16-18 games and double elimination playoffs.
2. All games will be played at Calf Pasture Beach.
3. The Recreation department will provide game balls and bats (except wood bat league).
4. Teams must start games with a minimum of 9 players. However, teams may continue games with less than 9 players under the following conditions:
 - a. A player becomes ill or is injured during a game and is removed and the team has no replacement for the injured player.
 - b. A player leaves the game because of an emergency
 - i. When a vacancy occurs, the team losing the player will continue the game with an automatic out each time the vacated player's turn at bat is reached.
 1. Example #1: A team starts a game with 9 players. The #2 player in the line-up is injured and leaves the game, the team may continue with 8 players and each time the #2 batting position comes to bat an automatic out is recorded
 2. Example #2: A team starts a game with 11 players including an E.H. The #1 batter is injured and leaves the game and no substitute is available. The team may continue with

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10 players in the field. Each time the #1 batting position comes to bat an automatic out is recorded.

5. Teams will forfeit if a player is ejected by an umpire and a team cannot field 10 players on defense or 9 players if the team began with 9 players.
6. Cancelled games will be posted on the Quickscores app by 4:00pm.
7. Rules governing this program will be 1) Current NSA Slow Pitch Softball Rules and 2) Norwalk Recreation Department by-laws. The Norwalk Recreation Department By-laws will have preference over NSA rules.
8. Teams may use as many extra players (EH) as they want per game. In other words, a team may start a game with a batting order of ten or more players and play any combination of 10 players in the field. The defensive player can be changed at any time in the field, but the batting order must remain constant throughout the game.
9. Any team with a 20-run lead at the end of three innings, or 15 run lead at the end of four innings, or 10 run lead after five or six innings, will be awarded a win. An inning started must be completed, or played until the home team exceeds the run rule.
10. Teams will be given a minimum of two days' notice for all makeup games.
11. The home team will keep the official scorebook.
12. The supervisor and the director shall review and monitor all teams and players, and may question any discrepancy that may arise, including player eligibility, and take action to resolve the problem.
13. A team forfeiting two games may be dropped from the league at the discretion of the director.
14. All rules are in effect throughout the season.
15. The director will have the authority to veto any proposed rule changes if in his/her judgement they will be detrimental to the program.
16. Rainout games will be made up on your scheduled game day at the end of the season.
17. A starter may be withdrawn from the game and re-entered in the same spot in the batting order once per game.
18. Courtesy runner: One courtesy runner is allowed per inning. Courtesy runner can be anyone on roster.
19. Time limit. Each game will be seventy minutes or seven innings, whichever comes first. No new inning will start after 70 minutes.

Schedules

1. Schedules will be available online on Quickscores.com
2. Schedules will not be changed unless deemed necessary by the director.

Rosters

1. Maximum number on rosters is 20.
2. Teams are allowed unlimited non-residents.
3. Player registration and signing of waivers will be done electronically.
4. Rosters must be filled out completely, signed by coach, and turned in with league fee.
5. Any manager or team playing an illegal player may be suspended from the league for a period of time up to one year starting with the date of the protested game. The team may be dropped from the league, lose the right to play the following year, and forfeit all fees.

Adding/Dropping Players

1. A manager or coach may add players by emailing the director before the player is eligible to participate. Players may change teams once per season.
2. Teams may add and drop players until 5:00pm on July 14th, 2023. After that date, all rosters will be frozen for the remainder of the season, including league playoffs and tournaments.
3. When a coach follows proper roster change procedures, the transaction will take effect immediately. There will be no waiting period for players.

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Conduct

1. Coaches are to control their players at all times.
2. If a player is ejected, he/she must leave the field and site immediately. If he/she does not leave, the umpires will award the games to the opposing team regardless of score or inning and that player's team will receive a forfeit.
3. An ejected player may be suspended from further play for varying lengths of time for the following:
 - a. Fighting or abusive language.
 - b. Any act of aggression with intent to physically harm another person.
 - c. Any unsportsmanlike act or gesture not in the spirit of the program.
 - d. Use of illegal equipment as determined by the umpires or the recreation department
 - e. Falsifying residency status to avoid purchasing a parking sticker. That player's team will forfeit the right to compete the season and will lose the fee.

Protests

1. The director will handle protests, rule changes, disciplinary problems, and administrative issues.
2. Judgment calls by umpires are not subject to protest.
3. Any protest concerning a rule interpretation must be reported to the umpire before the next play. A coach must request a time out and inform the umpire politely that he/she is protesting the umpire's interpretation of the rule in question.
4. Protests must be filed with the Recreation department within 48 hours (excluding Saturday & Sunday) of the scheduled time of the contest in question.
5. Protest must be typed and include time and date of game in question, and a detailed description of what took place.
6. Any protest concerning player eligibility may be filed by any team through the last game of the season, including playoffs.
7. If a team files a protest, the home team must present the score book at the hearing. If the book is not presented or kept improperly, the home team will lose the protest.
8. It is the protesting team's responsibility to include pertinent documentation concerning the protest. If the protest concerns the age rule, the person in question must provide proof of age to the director within five days of notification. If player fails to comply, a forfeit will be ruled.
9. All director decisions are final.

Parking

All persons using city parks or participating in a recreation program are to park in designated parking areas only. This rule applies to players, coaches, and spectators. Vehicles should not be driven or parked on the grass. If anyone affiliated with a team in the softball program violates the parking rules, that team will be dropped from the program and forfeit all fees after one written warning has been issued by the Director to the coach of the team.

Miscellaneous

1. Players are responsible for their own insurance
2. Coaches are encouraged to contact the Recreation Department with problems or concerns.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL TEAMS!

Bobby Pentino, Recreation Supervisor

Norwalk Recreation and Parks: 203.399.3394

Schedules and standings: www.Quickscores.com/norwalkct