



## Adult Slow-pitch Softball Rules

This program shall make use, when possible, of USA (formerly known as ASA) approved officials and the USA Rules Book. SCPR League Rules will supersede those of USA.

Leagues offered include the following: Men, Women and Co-Rec each for Session 1/2/3. See general information sheet when selecting league preferences. Teams that place 1<sup>st</sup> in their selected session will be promoted to a higher league in that same session the following year. Top finishers in each league will receive a credit towards another athletic activity or placed on their account. Standings are determined by win/loss records. If two teams have the same record at the end of the session, the tie will be broken in the following manner:

- Head to Head Meeting
- Head to Head Run Differential
- Total Runs Against
- Forfeits
- Coin Toss

**RULES OF PLAY:** Official guide of play for Shawnee County Parks and Recreation is the USA Softball Rule Book, unless superseded by the following Shawnee County Parks and Recreation Softball Rules.

1. ALL PARTICIPANTS AND COACHES SHOULD READ AND UNDERSTAND THE SPORTSMANSHIP EMPHASIS.
2. ROSTERS: Team rosters are limited to 20 persons. Rosters are due in the Sports Office no later than the close of business the day of the first game. It is the responsibility of the manager/coach to see that their team's paperwork is complete.
  - Players may be on one roster at a time per division.
  - Minimum age for all players is 16 years old and the parent or guardian must play on the team. Participants under 18 must have a parent/guardian signature on file at the Sports Office.
  - Any roster changes must be turned into the Sports Office 24 hours prior to the event.



3. UNIFORM: Team uniforms are highly recommended, but not a requirement. Numbers on shirts are suggested. A shirt, shorts or pants and shoes are required. STEEL spiked shoes, flip flops or open toed shoes, and playing barefoot is illegal.
4. SCHEDULE: When creating a league schedule all requests and conditions are evaluated to devise the optimal schedule prior to release. SCPR reserves the right to change, alter, or decline requests. Teams may have to play doubleheaders, play early and/or late games, travel within the community, accept the current online schedule or forfeit those games.

The athletics office requires 72 hour's notice for a request to change any schedule. It is then at the discretion of the SCPR Sports Office to honor the request.

5. HOME TEAM: Home team is designated on the schedule online.
6. RAINOUT GAMES: For possible cancellation due to rain or inclement weather, you are advised to phone the ATHLETICS HOTLINE 785-251-6940. Updates occur daily by 4:30pm. Please do not phone county offices for playing conditions. These lines must remain open for communications for daily business matters. Notices will be emailed and posted online.
7. SUSPENDED GAMES: If a game is delayed because of inclement weather and then resumed that day/evening, time limit will be resumed from time the game was stopped. If a game is in extra innings when weather forces an umpire to stop play, official score is determined by reverting to last complete inning in which one (1) team was ahead (you should not revert prior to the 5<sup>th</sup> inning). Game is considered official and will not be rescheduled when 4 ½ innings have been completed and home team is ahead.
8. FORFEITS: Teams that forfeit a scheduled game will lose that game by a score of 7-0. Please call both the athletic office and your opponent if you are going to knowingly forfeit a game before 3pm. Forfeited games rained out WILL NOT be rescheduled.

9. **ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO: Any player(s) seen with any alcoholic beverages on Shawnee County properties are subject to the charges and penalties outlined in County Resolutions. Teams will be suspended in violation. Any alcoholic beverages before or during the game will make that game subject to forfeit. Repeat offenders will be immediately suspended from ALL play at ANY complex. Coolers, cups or**

**other containers are subject to search by any SCPR staff, Park Police or officials. Also, there is no tobacco allowed on Shawnee County properties.**

10. Any player who receives ONE (1) UNSPORTSMANLIKE violation will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of two (2) additional games from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any team receiving a total of TWO (2) ejections during the session will be suspended for one full year. Unsportsmanlike conduct may include throwing at an opponent's body or head, or tactics noticeably designed to delay or make a mockery of the game, team or inflict harm. This also includes verbally abusive language or physically threatening actions towards the umpire.

### **GAME SPECIFICS**

11. LEAGUE GAMES: Official game time will start when the umpire tells the home team to take the field. Game time is forfeit time. If the previous game runs late, games will start no later than 5 minutes from the end of the previous game. See schedules for game time.
12. **2-Up Home Run rule:** All leagues for Spring & Fall sessions will play by a 2-up home run rule. Teams can only hit 2 more home runs than their opponent at any point in the game. This will be a running tally kept throughout the game.

Ex – Team A hits 2 home runs, then hits a third home run before Team B hits their first home run, Team A's third home run will be considered an out and base runners cannot advance. If Team A hits 2 home runs, Team B is now -2 in the HR category and can hit up to 4 HRs before they would take an out.

This replaces the HR/No HR leagues as we have less team registrations in these two sessions.

13. A complete game is 7 innings or a time limit of 55 minutes. 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 5 innings.
14. Batter's count will begin with 1 ball and 1 strike; all leagues are granted a courtesy foul ball.
15. Managers please turn in your written line-up 10 minutes before scheduled game time.
16. BATS: Men will not be allowed to bat with any bat that states Miken Ultra, Miken Ultra II or other bats marked specifically for Senior Play in any men's or corec league. The

penalty results in the batter being called out and base runners return to the last base occupied.

17. **FIELD SETUP:** pitcher's plate – 50 feet; pitching height – 6' min/10' max; base distance – 70'
18. **OFFICIAL BALL:** Each team shall provide at least one if not more game ball(s) with the compression (lbs) and COR marked on the ball to the umpires at the pregame meeting at home plate. Teams will hit their own softball unless play merits otherwise. i.e. Foul ball, balls are deemed unplayable by umpire.
  - **MEN'S:** 12" softball must be 300 lbs. and COR .52;
  - **WOMEN'S:** 11" softball must be 300 lbs. and COR .52.
  - **COREC:** The above combinations are acceptable this session. **GROUND RULES:** Umpires discuss at the pregame meeting with both managers

### **COREC PLAY GAME SPECIFIC**

19. **CR Player Ratio**
  - Team should play five male and at least five female.
  - Teams may begin or continue a game with eight players or nine players of which four must be females. Teams that have ten players, five players must be female.
  - Teams not fielding a full ten players will have two automatic outs with eight players and one automatic out with nine players.
  - Batting order must rotate by gender when the number permits.
  - **WALKS:** Male batters advance to 2<sup>nd</sup> base upon 4 balls no matter how many outs there are.
    - With two outs and a male batter walks, the following female batter will have the option to bat or take a walk. With less than 2 out, the female batter will hit. The male batter goes to second base regardless of decision.
20. **175' COREC LINE:** All outfield players must remain behind the 175' line marked from home plate until ball is put in play by either a female or male batter. Penalty for moving in front of 175' line prior to ball being hit is as follows:
  - Play stands – manager's choice.
  - Replay with same batter – manager's choice.

21. COREC DEFENSIVE PLAYERS POSITION: Teams do not have to have a certain ratio or order such as male-to- female positions. Examples: you may play a female catcher and pitcher, three male outfielders or five female infielders.
22. Infield players must have both feet on the infield surface until ball is hit.
25. EXTRA HITTER: An extra hitter (referred to as an EH) is optional. If used the EH must be used for the entire game and so listed in the regular batting order. The EH must remain in the same batting position for the entire game. Defensively the manager has the option to substitute any players, not to disrupt player's ratios. When using the EH, if a player becomes injured or must leave the game for any reason, and there is not a legal substitute available to play, an automatic out will occur in the vacated batting position. MEN, WOMEN and COREC teams may have one or two however, a lineup shall consist of 12 players max (including the EH).
26. IF an EH is substituted for by a pinch runner or pinch hitter that player becomes the EH. The substitute must be a player who has not yet been in the game. If removed, the original EH may re-enter the game in their original starting lineup batting position. The reentry rule applies only to the starting 12 players while they are legally in the game.
27. Courtesy Runner: One courtesy runner will be allowed per inning in men's and women's leagues. Runner can be any player on the lineup. One courtesy runner per gender per inning will be allowed in CoRec leagues

Revised 3/17/23