

Saratoga Springs Recreation

Adult Softball Rules-General rules



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Rosters:

- All players must be registered before they are able to play. No additions can be made to the roster after your team's 2nd game without permission from the Recreation Coordinator (requests after the 2nd game will be granted on very rare instances). The penalty for using an illegal player is that the said game will be a forfeit if recognized and reported by either the recreation department or the opposing team. If an unregistered player plays under the name of another player on the roster, both the registered player and the unregistered player become ineligible to participate for the remainder of the season.
- A player must play in 3 games in order to play in the post season tournament.
- Minimum roster- 10 Maximum roster-25 (maximum awards per team 15)

Eligibility:

- An eligible player is defined as a player who is 16 years of age, and who is officially registered on the team roster.
- Captains are responsible to have their players read and understand the "League Rules" and the players "Code of Conduct." Your team will be held accountable for the information contained therein.

Uniforms:

- Each team must have jerseys with legible numbers on the back. Taped numbers are not allowed!
 - Cold weather clothes must be worn under the team shirt when batting/running so number is visible.
- Each player should have their own number, no duplicate numbers.
- **NO METAL CLEATS PERMITTED!!**

Equipment:

- We will follow NSA guidelines for bats and balls.
- The bat must have the NSA 2012 logo and be manufactured by a bat company that is listed on the Approved Bat Company list found on the NSA website.
- The men will use 12 inch softballs, women will use 11 inch softballs

Game rules:

- 3 balls, 2 strikes. No courtesy foul will be given.
- Teams will play a maximum of 10 players on defense and a minimum of 8.
- Teams can have a maximum of 12 players on their batting lineup. 10 players on the batting lineup is the minimum required, without receiving and automatic out.
 - In the case where a team starts the game with 8 players, the vacant 8th and 9th spot in the batting order shall be declared an out for the entire game.
 - Once a tenth player arrives that would eliminate the automatic out.
- A pitch must have a legal arc minimum of 6' from the ground and shall not exceed 10' at its highest. Pitching distance is 53'. Pitcher must have one foot on rubber at the time of the release of the pitch. If a pitcher fakes, or is not in contact with the rubber it will be a "Dead ball" and the pitch will be determined a ball.

- **Home run rule:** Each team will be allowed 3 home runs per game. Any home run after the 3rd will be counted as an out.
- **NOTE:** The team at bat (or fans) is responsible for their home-run and foul balls. There will be extra on hand, but if they are all hit out and not retrieved, there will be a delay in game so please try to help to retrieve them.
- **Courtesy runners:**
 - 1 courtesy runner per team per inning for the batter only. Courtesy runner does not have to be the last out in that inning or previous inning. The courtesy runner must occupy the base, once time has been called, prior to the next pitch. If their turn to bat coincides with being on base, the at-bat will be an out. In COED you can have one per inning per gender.

Game time:

- A team captain must fill out the game score book with the players complete name (first and last, no nicknames) and numbers 10 minutes before game time. Have 2 lineups ready, one for the scorekeeper and one for your team.
- 55 minute time limit or 7 innings, whichever comes first. No new inning may be started after 55 minutes from game time.
- RUN RULE: 20 after 3 innings, 15 after 4 innings, 10 after 5 innings. There is no flip-flop rule. Extra-inning games will be governed by an international tie breaker.

Forfeits:

- Forfeit time will be 10 minutes after scheduled game time (6:00 game will be given 15 minutes)
- Any forfeiting team will pay \$25.00 reinstatement fee.
- Forfeited games will not be officiated.
- The postponement of games will not be considered. All games must be played as scheduled. If a rain out occurs, games will be played as soon as possible.

Rainouts:

- The postponement of games will not be considered. All games must be played as scheduled.
- If a game is cancelled due to weather, we will try to make it up as soon as possible.
- Make up and tournament games may be played on a different night than regularly scheduled game nights.
- Weather hotline will be updated at 4pm on regular workdays. 801-766-9793 ext. 164

Protests:

- All protests must be registered with the site supervisor prior to the conclusion of the game. To be considered further, the protesting team must submit a written protest to the Recreation Office, no later than the close of business the next working day following the protested game. The written protest must include the names of the teams and players involved, the name(s) of the officials, describe the situation, and cite the rule on which the protest is based. **Protests may not be made on judgment calls!**
- A \$25.00 fee must accompany the written protest. The fee will be refunded if protest is upheld.

Saratoga Springs Recreation Adult Softball rules- (Coed: in addition to general rules)



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- Co-Ed teams consist of five (5) women and five (5) men. If a team only has eight or nine players, there can be any number of male to female ratio as long as no more than five men are playing at a time. However an automatic out will be applied in the spot of a missing female. Teams must bat their line-up alternating men and women, taking outs where necessary. No man can bat back to back without an out in between. (Must have minimum of 3 males)

Offense:

- Team batting orders must alternate male and female at all times. When a male batter receives base-on balls or is intentionally walked, he will be awarded second base automatically. The next female batter has to bat.
 - Exception: With 2 outs the following female batter has the option to walk or bat.

Defense:

- 5 males and 5 females must play defense at all times. There must be 2 of each sex in the outfield and infield positions.
 - When less than 5 men/women are playing, fielding may be altered. (Ex. 2 males and one female in the outfield or 2 female, one male in the infield). There must always be one male at pitcher/catcher, one of each gender in the infield and one of each gender in the outfield.
- Each team must have a male/female pitcher/catcher combination.

Scoring Plate:

- A scoring plate will be located near the main home plate. This is ALWAYS to be used by the offensive player running coming into home (only touch the scoring plate each time). The defensive player must ALWAYS use the regular/main home plate (only use/touch the regular plate each time). A “commitment” line will be marked in foul territory half way between 3rd base and home plate. Once a runner crosses this commitment line, they are committed to going to home plate (the scoring plate). If they return to 3rd base after they cross the commitment line, they are not safe at that base. All plays at home plate will be ruled as automatic force plays. Once the offensive runner crosses the commitment line, they must touch the scoring plate before the defensive player catches the ball and touches the regular home plate to score a run. If the defensive player catches the ball and touches the regular home plate before the offensive runner has touched the scoring plate, the runner is out.
- The “scoring plate” rule is intended to provide safety for all players, male and female. It is not intended to cause confusion. Team Captains, it is your responsibility to ensure that all of your players know and understand this CO-ED rule (as well as all rules) and are familiar with it. Base coaches will be very helpful to help their players know when to run and when to stay and not cross the commitment line.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

The following "Player Code of Conduct" has been adopted by the Recreation Department. These rules of conduct will be strictly enforced during the coming season. It is the captains' responsibility to ensure all of his players know and adhere to these rules.

All Code of Conduct rules are enforced before, during and after the game.

1. **Physical & Verbal Abuse (Fighting) NO PLAYER SHALL:** At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike, threaten or be guilty of physical attack as an aggressor or in retaliation upon any official, player, or spectator anywhere on the premises. Officials are required to immediately suspend the player from further play and report such player to the Recreation Coordinator. Such player shall remain suspended until his case has been considered.

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from two (2) games and placed on probation for the rest of the season.

Maximum Penalty: Lifetime suspension and/or assault charges filed.

2. **NO PLAYER SHALL:** Be guilty of verbally abusive behavior, using profanity or swearing before, during, or after a game. For use of the "F" word, you will be given one warning, if it is said again; you will be ejected from the game.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from two (2) games and probation for the remainder of the season.

1. No player should ever throw a bat in anger towards the dugout or another player. If caught you will be given one warning. If it is done again, you will be ejected from the game.

Drugs/Alcohol:

1. Players are prohibited from the use of drugs or alcohol anywhere inside Patriot Park or any playing area. Players who in the opinion of the officials, Site Supervisor, or Recreation Coordinator appear to have been drinking alcohol or taking drugs, shall be removed from the game and premises.

Final Authority:

1. Any game may be stopped at any time by the officials, Site Supervisor, Recreation Coordinator, or Program Management staff at their discretion.

2. The Recreation staff has final authority over all disputes!

All Code of Conduct rules are enforced before, during, and after the game.