

**City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine**

**Adult Sports Program**  
**Men's & Coed**  
**Softball**



**Contact Information**

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# FAQs

## Team Fees

- Men's & Coed: \$450 per team
- Sunday League: \$350 per team

## Officials Fee (Game Fee)

- \$20 per team per game (paid in cash to the umpire prior to game start)

## Forfeit Fee

- \$40 per forfeited game (equivalent to both teams' officials fees)

## Game Times

- Weeknights: 6:30 PM / 7:45 PM / 9:00 PM OR 7:00 PM / 8:15 PM
- Sundays: 12:00 PM / 1:15 PM / 2:30 PM
- Game times are subject to change based on registration and field availability.

## Game Locations

- El Dorado Field #3, El Dorado Field #4
- Pan American Field #1, Pan American Field #2
- Joe Rodgers Field

## Roster Limit

- Maximum roster size: 16 players

## Free Agents (Individuals)

- Register as a free agent at [teamsideline.com/longbeach](http://teamsideline.com/longbeach)

# Player Code of Conduct

## 1. PLAYER SAFETY & PHYSICAL CONDUCT

No participant shall:

- Make physical contact with, threaten, or attempt to strike an official
- Throw equipment or objects at any participant, official, or spectator
- Engage in or initiate a physical altercation
- Endanger the safety of any player, official, or spectator
- Use unnecessary or excessive physical tactics

**Penalty:** Immediate ejection and suspension from further play.

- Unwarranted physical contact results in an automatic one (1) year suspension, not appealable until the suspension period has expired.
- All involved parties must submit a written report within two (2) working days of the incident.

## 2. RESPECT FOR OFFICIALS & CITY PROPERTY

No participant shall:

- Refuse to comply with an official's decision
- Verbally abuse or harass an official
- Damage or misuse City property

**Penalty:** Immediate ejection The Sports Office may impose probation, suspension, or require a hearing.

# Player Code of Conduct

## 3. SPORTSMANSHIP & COMMUNICATION

No participant shall:

- Demonstrate dissent through throwing equipment or aggressive actions
- Argue or discuss calls with officials  
(Managers/Captains only may address officials)
- Verbally abuse any player, official, or spectator
- Use profane, obscene, or vulgar language at any time

Penalty: At the official's discretion, penalties may range from a warning to immediate removal from the game.

## 4. CONDUCT ON THE FIELD

No participant shall:

- Smoke on the field of play or while entering or exiting the field
- Publicly criticize officials or players to spectators during a game

Penalty: Warning issued. Continued noncompliance will result in removal from the game.

## 5. BENCH & DUGOUT RULES

No participant shall:

- Allow non-team members in the dugout or on the bench (Managers and Coaches excepted)
- Leave the bench or dugout to interact with spectators during the game

Penalty: Warning issued. Continued noncompliance will result in removal from the game.

# Player Code of Conduct

## 6. ALCOHOL & DRUG POLICY

No participant shall:

- Appear at a City facility while intoxicated
- Consume alcohol or drugs while on City property or participating in a program

Penalty: Immediate ejection and referral to the Adult Sports Coordinator. The team will forfeit the game and may face suspension and forfeiture of league fees.

## 7. GAMBLING

No participant shall:

- Gamble on any play or the outcome of a game with officials, spectators, players, or opponents

Penalty: Violations will be reported to the Sports Office and may result in further disciplinary action by the Adult Sports Executive Committee.

## **1 - LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION**

### 1.1 Registration and Fee Deadline

To provide consistent league operations, registration deadlines are strictly enforced.

- All team fees must be paid in full before league play begins.
- Teams not paid in full by the published deadline are not guaranteed placement.
- Partial payments are not accepted.

### 1.2 Refund Policy

- Refunds are not available once league schedules are generated and posted.
- Teams removed from a league will not receive a refund.
- Refunds will only be processed if a league is cancelled.
- A \$10 processing fee applies to refunds.

### 1.3 Scheduling and Missed Games

If a game is not played for any reason, teams should continue following the original schedule for remaining games unless notified otherwise. For rescheduling questions, contact the Sports Office.

## **2 - ROSTERS, ELIGIBILITY, AND PLAYER REQUIREMENTS**

### 2.1 Rosters and Paperwork Deadlines

An official team roster is due before the 4<sup>th</sup> game of the season.

- If a completed roster is not received by the deadline, the team will receive a paperwork forfeit for the first game and each game thereafter until a completed roster is submitted.
- League and playoff schedules will not be adjusted to accommodate individual teams or players.

## 2.2 Add/Drop Deadline

Players may be added or dropped up until the beginning of the 7th league game (including holidays and make-up games).

- All adds/drops must be submitted in writing on the official add/drop form before the player participates.

## 2.3 Player Eligibility

- All players must be **18** years or older to participate.
  - Exception: Senior Softball requires 55+ (if applicable to a separate league).
- No active professional or collegiate athletes may participate.
- Former professional or collegiate athletes must have been inactive for at least one (1) year.
- If a team uses an ineligible player, the team will forfeit all games in which the player participated.

## 2.4 Photo Identification Requirement

All players must have a valid photo ID available at every game (e.g., CA Driver's License).

- If an eligibility protest is made and upheld, teams using players without ID or not on the roster will forfeit the game.

## 2.5 Illegal Players (Definition)

An illegal player includes:

1. A person playing whose name and signature do not appear on the roster or add/drop form
2. A person rostered on more than one team in the same division/league/night
3. A person signed in on the scorecard who is not in attendance

Penalty: Forfeiture of all games in which the illegal player participated.

## 2.6 RECLASSIFICATION

TEAMS MAY BE RECLASSIFIED AFTER THE FIFTH (5TH) GAME PLAYED AND SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SWITCH NIGHTS OF PLAY IF NEEDED.

- TEAMS MOVED TO HIGHER CLASSIFICATIONS ARE ASSURED A PLAYOFF SPOT.
- SUBSEQUENT PLAYOFF CLASSIFICATION MAY BE DETERMINED BY SECOND-HALF RESULTS.

## **3 – GAME DAY PROCEDURES**

### 3.1 Scorecards and Official Scorekeeping

- The umpire is the official scorekeeper.
- All players MUST write their name AND SIGN (no one should sign anyone else in)
- Managers of both teams must initial the scorecard after the game to confirm the result.
- Illegible handwriting may affect a player's eligibility. If a name cannot be read and verified, the player may be considered ineligible and subject to protest.

### 3.2 Officials Fees (Paid to Umpire)

- Each team must pay the umpire \$20 in cash prior to the start of the game.
- No game will begin until both teams have paid.
- A team that does not pay will be charged with a forfeit loss.
- If only one official is present for a scheduled game requiring multiple officials, the fee paid to the working official will be half of the regular per-team fee (when applicable).

### 3.3 Forfeit Time (Late Arrival / Grace Period)

- A ten (10) minute grace period applies to the first scheduled game only.
- All other games are expected to start at their scheduled time.

### 3.4 Rule Clarification During a Game

Only the team manager/captain may approach the umpire to clarify a call. Discussion must remain respectful and concise.

### 3.5 Protests

Protests are permitted only under the procedures below.

#### a) General Protests

- An oral protest must be made by the manager/captain to the umpire and opposing manager prior to the next live-ball situation.
- A written protest must be received in the Sports Office within one (1) working day of the incident.

#### b) Protests for Ineligible Players

- Must be made before the end of the game to allow the umpire to check ID.
- A player requested to show ID must do so within ten (10) minutes.
- If the player does not return in time or ID does not match the scorecard name/signature, the game will be declared a forfeit.

## **4 – FORFEITS, FEES, MISCONDUCT, AND ALCOHOL/DRUGS**

### 4.1 What Counts as a Forfeit

A forfeit occurs when a team:

- Fails to appear for a scheduled game
- Arrives with an insufficient number of eligible players
- Fails to comply with league rules or game-day requirements
- Has a game terminated due to player, manager, or spectator misconduct, including failure to comply with an ejection

Recording: All forfeits are recorded as a loss for the offending team and a win for the non-offending team. No official score is recorded for forfeited games.

#### 4.2 Accumulated Forfeits (Season Consequences)

- Two (2) forfeits: team becomes ineligible for playoffs
- Three (3) forfeits: team is removed from the league and forfeits any unused balance of league fees
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#### 4.3 Forfeit Fees

Teams that forfeit any game must pay the forfeit fee

- Payment must be received in the Sports Office within one (1) week of the forfeited game.
- Failure to submit payment may result in additional penalties, including suspension or removal from the league.
- Accepted payment methods: cash, check, credit/debit card
- Checks payable to: City of Long Beach

#### 4.4 Advance Notice Exception (Avoiding the Forfeit Fee)

Teams may avoid the forfeit fee if proper advance notice is provided:

Weeknight leagues: notify by NOON (12:00 PM) the day before the scheduled game

Weekend leagues: notify by NOON (12:00 PM) on Friday prior to the scheduled game

Notification must be made by both email and phone:

- Email: [Josue.Salinas@longbeach.gov](mailto:Josue.Salinas@longbeach.gov)
- Phone: (562) 570-1731

Scheduling note: If the first scheduled game is forfeited, the second game may be moved up. If the second game is forfeited, the first game may be delayed, at the discretion of the Sports Office.

#### 4.5 Misconduct Forfeits (Game Termination)

If a game is forfeited after it has officially started due to misconduct (including alcohol/drug violations):

- The umpire and/or City staff will declare the game a forfeit immediately.
- The offending team receives a loss; the non-offending team receives a win.
- The umpire will return officials fees to both teams at the time the forfeit is declared.
- The forfeiting team remains responsible for all applicable forfeit fees billed by the City.
- Individuals involved are subject to a minimum one (1) game suspension, with further discipline as warranted.

#### 4.6 Alcohol / Drugs (Zero Tolerance)

Alcohol consumption and/or drug use on any City of Long Beach property is strictly prohibited.

Any player, manager, or spectator found consuming, possessing, or believed to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be immediately ejected by the umpire and/or City staff.

#### 4.7 Ejection Removal Requirement

- Any ejected individual must leave the immediate playing area and surrounding facility within five (5) minutes. Failure to leave within five (5) minutes will result in an immediate forfeit. The team associated with the ejected individual will be considered the offending team.

## **5 - DISCIPLINE, EJECTIONS, AND SPORTSMANSHIP STANDARDS**

### **5.1 Participant Ejection (General Rule)**

Any player, manager/coach, or spectator ejected before, during, or after a league game will receive:

- An automatic suspension of at least one (1) game, plus the remainder of the current game

A suspended person may not participate in or attend any City of Long Beach Adult Sports activity during the suspension period. Failure to comply will result in additional penalties.

Following an ejection, the game will not continue until the ejected person(s) vacate the facility. Failure to vacate may result in additional penalties and/or game forfeiture.

### **5.2 Fighting**

Fighting by any team, player(s), or spectator(s) before, during, or after any league game will result in immediate ejection from the facility.

Minimum penalties:

- Team: minimum three (3) game suspension (not counting the game in which the incident occurred). Not appealable.
- Individual: indefinite suspension pending Executive Committee review.

### **5.3 Trash Talking / Verbal Abuse**

Abusive language or gestures directed at officials, staff, or participants are not permitted.

- The official may issue a warning on the first occurrence.
- Continued behavior will result in ejection and suspension per policy.

#### 5.4 Personal Conduct (Bat in Hand)

No player or coach may address an official while holding a bat at any time. Violation may result in immediate ejection and further discipline pending review.

**RULE CLARIFICATION:** Only the manager/captain may approach the official(s) to clarify a call.

#### 5.5 Music Policy

Music is permitted at City of Long Beach Softball games provided it meets the following requirements:

- Music must be clean, appropriate, and free of profane, obscene, or explicit content
- Music must be played at an appropriate volume that does not interfere with game play, communication, or officiating
- Music may be played before games, between innings/plays, and after games, but not in a manner that disrupts active play

Officials and City staff have full authority to require music to be turned down or turned off at any time. Failure to comply may result in removal of the music source and/or disciplinary action, including ejection.

#### 5.6 Authority

##### Umpire

The Umpire is the final authority for on-site decisions related to safety, conduct, game administration (including suspensions), and enforcement of league rules.

##### Adult Sports Coordinator

The Adult Sports Coordinator is the final authority for interpretation of rules, hearings, and discipline under the rulebook and Code of Conduct.

## **6 – PLAYOFFS AND STANDINGS**

### 6.1 Playoff Format

- Playoffs use a single-elimination tournament format.
- Top four (4) teams in each division advance.
  - **Game 1: #3 vs #2**
  - **Game 2: #4 vs #1**
  - **Game 3: Winners play championship**
- Wildcards may be added at the discretion of the Adult Sports Coordinator if needed.
- Teams must be available to play at alternate locations, nights, and potentially multiple nights in the same week.

### 6.2 Playoff Eligibility (Players)

Players must:

- be listed on the official roster or add/drop form, and
- have participated in four (4) regular-season games
- Players should be prepared to show a VALID PHYSICAL ID to the umpire and staff throughout Playoff and Championship games.

**IF NO PHYSICAL ID THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS MADE!**

### 6.3 Minimum Players to Avoid Forfeit (Playoffs)

Men's and Coed teams may play with a minimum of eight (8) players. (see Coed rules for additional detail).

### 6.4 Tie Breakers (Final Standings)

If final standings are tied, the tie breaker order is:

- 1.Total wins
- 2.Head-to-head result
- 3.Head-to-head differential
- 4.Common opponents
- 5.Strength of schedule
- 6.Total run differential
- 7.Lowest number of forfeits
- 8.Coin flip

## **7 - WEATHER, SAFETY, AND FACILITY RULES**

### 7.1 Weather / Field Conditions

Call the Field Conditions Hotline after 3:00 PM on game day: (562) 570-3799

Teams are responsible for checking conditions. Make-up games may be scheduled on short notice.

### 7.2 First Aid

The City does not provide first aid at adult sports facilities. Teams are encouraged to bring basic first aid supplies.

### 7.3 Blood Rule

A bleeding participant must be removed until:

- 1.bleeding has stopped
- 2.the wound is fully covered
- 3.bloody clothing is removed/replaced

Teams should have spare clothing available.

### 7.4 Pets

- Gyms: pets are not allowed.
- Fields: pets permitted on leash; owners must clean up and bring waste bags. Pets must be well-behaved and not create safety issues.

## **8 - SOFTBALL RULES OF PLAY**

### 8.1 Governing Rules

Current official SCMAF Softball Rules plus the City of Long Beach supplemental rules in this document are the official rules for play.

## 8.2 Official Batting Order

Batting order must be established before the game on the official scorecard and followed accordingly.

Teams may choose to bat:

- their entire legal roster, or
- any number of players from 8–16 who are present at game time.

## 8.3 Team Size, Lineups, and Substitutes

- Defensive players: 10
- A game may be played without forfeit with 8 rostered players present at game time (Coed requirements apply—see Coed section).
- Substitutes are permitted when allowed but must be clearly marked as “Sub” on the scorecard and meet all eligibility requirements.
- If a team is short a player at game time, the team may use one (1) emergency substitute from another team within the same division to avoid a forfeit, provided the substitute is registered and eligible in that division that night and is filling in as an emergency player only (not permanent).

## 8.4 Game Length

- Seven (7) innings or 65 minutes, whichever comes first
- An inning that begins within the time limit will be completed unless the home team is ahead in the bottom half
- Games are official after four (4) completed innings
- Final championship playoff game is played without time limit unless mercy rule applies

### 8.5 Mercy Rule

Game may end after 4 innings if a team trails by 15 runs or more and has completed its at-bat.

### 8.6 One-and-One Count

All batters start with one (1) ball and one (1) strike.

### 8.7 Three-Strike Rule (Second Foul)

Batter is out after two strikes if the batter hits a second foul ball.

### 8.8 Home Team / Visiting Team / Softballs

Home team occupies third base dugout and must provide:

- one new approved softball
- Visiting team must provide:
- one good approved backup softball
- Umpire determines ball quality. Failure to provide required ball may impact home status or result in forfeit when applicable.

### 8.9 Approved Footwear

Metal cleats are not allowed. Players wearing metal cleats must change or be ejected if they refuse/cannot legally substitute.

### 8.10 Pitching Distance and Pitch Height

- Pitching distance: 50 feet
- Base paths: 60 feet
- Max pitch height: 16 feet
- Pitch must arc higher than batter's head to be legal

### 8.11 Courtesy Runners

No limit per inning, but a runner may courtesy run for only one player per inning.

If the courtesy runner is on base when it is their turn to bat, an out is awarded (and runner remains unless it is the third out).

Coed courtesy runner rules apply (see Coed section).

### 8.12 One-Up Home Run Rule (Fenced Fields Only)

The first team to hit an over-the-fence home run cannot hit another until the opposing team hits one.

Ineligible home run = single. Specific touch/deflection ruling applies per current rule language.

### 8.12 Legal/Illegal Bats

All full composite and titanium bats are banned in all City of Long Beach softball leagues. Bats must have a BPF not exceeding 1.20.

A bat with a composite handle is legal only if the barrel is alloy (half-and-half). If an umpire believes a bat has been altered from its original condition, the bat may be deemed illegal and removed from play.

#### Approved Bats – Men's Leagues

- Men: single wall, double wall, or half-and-half. Which means composite handle / aluminum barrel. (See Coed rules for additional detail)

#### Penalty for Illegal Bat Use

- Batter is out
- Runners return to original bases
- Player is ejected
- One (1) game suspension is assessed

Illegal bat issues cannot be protested after the game.

## **9 – Coed-Specific Rules**

### 9.1 Defensive Requirements

Coed defense: 10 players, maximum 5 men and 5 women.

To avoid forfeit:

- 8 players (4 men/4 women), or
- 9 players with no more than 5 of either sex

### 9.2 Batting Order

Batting order must alternate by sex; two batters of the same sex may not bat consecutively.

### 9.3 Approved Bats

Approved Bats – Coed Leagues

- Women: single wall, double wall, or half-and-half (composite handle / aluminum barrel)
- Men: single wall or half-and-half (composite handle / aluminum barrel)

### Penalty for Illegal Bat Use

- Batter is out
- Runners return to original bases
- Player is ejected
- One (1) game suspension is assessed

Illegal bat issues cannot be protested after the game.

### 9.4 Intentional Walks

A male batter intentionally walked on three consecutive balls (no strikes called) is awarded second base. Runners advance only if forced.

### 9.5 Courtesy Runners

Men may only courtesy run for men; women may only courtesy run for women.

## **10 - Field-Specific Ground Rules**

El Dorado #3 and #4 — 2800 Studebaker Rd.

Out of play: imaginary lines extend from dugout fences parallel to foul lines to outfield fences.

Joe Rodgers — 10th and Park

Out of play lines angle from dugout fence ends to next immediate light pole, then parallel to foul lines.

Pan American #1 and #2 — 5157 Centralia

1. Out of play lines angle from dugout fence ends to the last (third) light pole, then parallel to foul lines.
2. Fly ball in foul territory striking overhanging tree/bush = dead ball; strike to batter; runners do not advance.
3. Batted ball in fair territory that strikes tree/bush/sidewalk/buildings/street/tables/benches in outfield = automatic home run; runners score. (Also applies if the ball rolls onto these areas.)