

City of Sacramento
Department of Youth, Parks, and Community Enrichment (YPCE)

2023 NIGHT SOFTBALL PARK
LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS:

***USA Softball rules will govern play. Local rules will supersede USA rules.**

1. Metal spikes or cleats are not allowed in any division of play.
2. In coed divisions, men and women may play any position on defense, but must alternate in the batting order.
3. ***SINGLE-WALL BATS ONLY. MUST USE THE BATS SUPPLIED BY THE CITY.***
4. Sliding is allowed. Sliding to take out a player or running into a player is not allowed.
5. Coed D-2 all plays at the plate are a force out. The runner crosses the plate line to score, they do not touch home plate. Once a player crosses the commit line at 3rd they must continue home.
6. 1-1 Count. All batters will start with one ball and one strike. Batters are allowed one extra foul ball (i.e. if a batter fouls off what would have been the third strike, they have one more strike. The next batted ball must be fair.)
7. Balls hit into trees or other natural environmental obstacles will be considered ground rule double. In which case the batter will take 2 bases.

ROSTERS AND LIABILITY WAIVERS:

Each team must submit their Roster with signed liability prior to the player's **FIRST** game. Roster changes and liability waivers may be turned into the scorekeeper onsite.

They will be accepted Mondays through Thursdays, between the hours of 10:00 am-4:00 pm. If you are dropping them off in person, please drop off at the Sacramento Softball Complex. **ONLY THE ORIGINAL SIGNED ROSTER LIABILITY WAIVER WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO XEROXED OR FAXED COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. PLEASE WRITE YOUR TEAMS NAME ON THE ROSTER BEFORE START OF FIRST GAME.** Player(s) may be added to your roster until your team's fourth (4th) game. Extension of this rule will only be allowed with the League Director's approval. A team may not have any player(s) on their roster that is playing at a different classification/division level on another team in this league, without the prior approval of the League Director.

GAME RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. Managers must submit roster with players first name and last initial+ Player Code of Conduct to scorekeeper **15 minutes prior to first season game.**
- B. Managers should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to game time to fill out your lineup card and give it to the official scorekeeper.
- C. Meet with umpires at home plate to go over ground rules.
- D. Check your watch with the Score Keeper to determine the official game time. The Score Keeper's watch is the official time.

GAME TIME AND FORFEITS:

The game time will begin as listed on the League schedule. First game at 6:30pm will be given a 5 minute grace period to commence, if it does not start within the 5 minutes, game is forfeit. To start a game, a team must have the required number of players (8) available in the playing area. Teams cannot submit a lineup card with player(s) name(s) that are not in the playing area. Forfeits will not be rescheduled.

DUE TO INSURANCE RESTRICTIONS, UMPIRES WILL NOT WORK A GAME THAT HAS BEEN FORFEITED. Any team that receives two (2) forfeits in regular season, team will not be eligible for playoffs. Teams forfeiting two (2) games may be dropped from the league. If dropped from the league, all games won and/or lost will be dropped from the league standings. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN TO TEAMS DROPPED FROM THE LEAGUE DUE TO FORFEITS.**

LINE-UP REQUIREMENTS:

Coed Divisions:

Teams shall consist of a minimum of four women and four men equal numbers as possible. A coed team may play with more women. A team may NEVER play with more men than women on defense; they can bat more men in the line-up and take an out where men bat back to back.

The batting order will alternate between women and men; the only exception is when a team has more women than men. Teams can bat multiple women directly next to each other in the lineup.

Women's and Men's Divisions:

The game clock will begin at the scheduled game time and no sooner once the first pitch has been released from the pitcher. Both teams (at least 8 players) shall be on the field or in the dugout and ready to play at game time.

If a team falls to 7 players for any reason at any time, game will result in forfeit. Players showing up late may be added to the bottom of the lineup, up to 10 players. After 10 players, additional players are considered substitutes.

COURTESY RUNNER:**Women & Men Divisions:**

Only one (1) designated player may have a runner per inning. Must be a player that made the last out or has not been entered into the game. If a player is injured during the game, they may also have a runner, who must be a player that made the last out or has not been entered into the game.

Coed Divisions:

Only one (1) designated player may have a runner per inning. Must be a player that made the last out or has not entered the game and must be of the same gender. If a player is injured during the game, they may also have a Courtesy Runner who must be a player that made the last out or has not entered the game and must be of the same gender.

LINE-UP CARDS:

Line-up cards must have first and last names. Line-up changes must be brought to the umpire or scorekeepers attention. If lineup changes are not reported and the opposing team bring it to the attention to the umpire, the unreported player will be called "OUT".

TIME LIMIT:

No new inning may begin after fifty-five (55) minutes or 7-innings, whichever occurs first. Game will **NOT** be extended in case of a tied game.

PLAYOFFS:

No New inning may begin after fifty-five (55) minutes or 7-innings, whichever occurs first. Game will be extended in case of a tied game and played until we have a winner. In extra innings the last batted out from the previous inning will be placed on second base. We will continue until we have a winner.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:

If the weather is questionable, please call 808-6087 after 3:00 pm. If it becomes questionable after 3:00 pm, please check back periodically field conditions may change. Umpires will determine the playability of the facility at and after game time. It is the team's responsibility to call this number to inquire on the status of fields. All games that are not official (4 innings) will be replayed from the point of suspension. Also, all games suspended due to mechanical failure, such as lights or sprinkler problems will be replayed from the point of suspension.

TEAM AND PLAYER CONDUCT:

It is also the team manager's responsibility to set an example of good sportsmanship and fair play. As a team manager, you are responsible for the conduct of your players and spectators, before, during and after the game. Every manager is responsible for turning in Player Code of Conduct to scorekeeper on first day of game play.

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SMOKING:

1. Smoking and/or the consumption of alcohol is **PROHIBITED** in all City parks and facilities.
2. Any player arriving at a game intoxicated will not be allowed to participate.
3. Any player observed by the scorekeeper, umpire and/or league director consuming alcohol or smoking prior or during a game may be suspended for that game and possible future games.

PROTESTS:

A protest can only be made on a misinterpretation of a rule. A protest will never be allowed on an umpire's judgment call. All protests must be submitted in writing to the City of Sacramento, 4623 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95819, by 5:00 pm of the next business day. A \$20.00 protest fee must accompany any protest. The decision on a protested game will result in one of the following:

1. The protest is found to be valid, and the game is replayed from the point in which the incorrect decision occurred. (The protest fee is returned).
2. The protest is found to be invalid, and the game results stands as played (Protest Fee is forfeited).

VALID IDENTIFICATION:

All players must have photo identification with them at the ball diamond. Player eligibility protests may be made at any time prior to the completion of the game. The player being protested must show a valid picture identification to the umpire. Teams will be allowed to protest only one (1) player during the game.

LEAGUE STANDINGS:

Winning percentage will be used to decide the League Champion. If there is a multi-way tie for first place at the end of the season, the following tie breaker system will be used in the following order:

1. Head-to-Head results;
2. If games are split, then run differential in those games will be used;
3. If still tied, Least Runs Allowed will be used for the entire season

MINIMUM PARTICIPATION FOR PLAYOFFS:

Only players that have participated in one (1) regular season games will be eligible for the playoff game.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (LCS):

First place teams are eligible to participate in the League Championship Series (LCS). This tournament is held in late September and early October and is sponsored by the Greater Sacramento Softball Association (GSSA)/USA Softball. League champions from 27 recreation and parks districts and other affiliated agencies compete in this tournament. It can annually include up to 150 teams.