

City of
SACRAMENTO

Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment



ADULT SOFTBALL

RULES & REGULATIONS



SACRAMENTO SOFTBALL COMPLEX RULES & REGULATIONS

All games will be governed by current USA Rules; except for the Sacramento Softball Complex rules listed will supersede USA rules.

League entry fee covers the cost of league games & playoffs only. Fees shall defray the costs for officials, awards, scorekeeper, and field supervisor.

Schedules will be made in advance to league play. Changes to the current schedule may be refused.

The Greater Sacramento Softball Association Code of Conduct policy will be enforced, and the manager will be responsible for their players and spectators.

Complex Regulation

The playing of music from any device shall have limited sound to the team's dugout area and not have any objectionable language or content. Staff may request that volume be lowered or turned off at any time.

Alcohol consumption is prohibited at the Complex, **except if purchased in the Café' and consumed in the café' or the designated beer garden.**

Smoking of any kind (ex.: cigarettes, chewing tobacco, vaping, etc...) or outside food is prohibited in the Sacramento Softball Complex.

Recycling is prohibited in the parking lot and inside the complex of the Sacramento Softball Complex.

Animals are prohibited in the Sacramento Softball Complex except service animals.

Eating of any shelled nuts (sunflower seeds, peanuts, etc...) is prohibited on the fields, in the dugouts, or any of the spectator areas of the Sacramento Softball Complex.

Manager Responsibility

The team manager is responsible for his/her players knowing these rules and regulations. It is assumed that all players will be so informed. Any questions regarding these rules should be directed to the Complex Coordinator or field supervisor. Managers are ultimately responsible for the actions of their team members and fans.

Failure to Adhere to league Rules & Regulations

Any team, manager, or player who fails to abide by the Sacramento Softball Complex Rules and Regulations, USA rules, may be subject to forfeiture, suspension, or even banning from league. Program staff reserves the right to determine at any time the consequences for falling to adhere to the rules.

Ejected Players

Any player or manager is ejected from a game they cannot play the remainder of the game. Also, they may not play in the next game. If the conduct is determined to be extreme, suspensions may be more than one game.

Schedules

All league schedules and standings will be available online. The address to check your schedules is www.teamsideline.com/sacramento. All communications with managers will originate from this site. Be sure to give Sac Complex an accurate email and secondary email if possible.

Team Rosters

All teams must have their Roster liability/waiver completed and signed to participate in any league. Players must be minimum age of 18. Rosters are available on the first day of your game. Team rosters will be limited to 16 players.

All players participating in this league must be on a roster from the same league.

Managers are encouraged to check their official roster from time to time.

Player Adds/Drops

Players can be added or dropped from the roster at any time **before** the fifth (5) game of season. The Add/Drop form can be received from the on-site supervisor. It is the added player's responsibility to be sure their add form is processed and have been placed on the team.

Players may NOT be added after the 5th game of the season

Batting Order & Line-up

Each team manager shall provide a line-up to official scorekeeper **fifteen minutes prior to game time.** Line ups must have **player's first name and last initial.** The line-up is not official without correct **first name** and **last initial** of all players playing in the game. If a vacant spot occurs during the game, that line-up spot shall be an out each time the spot in line-up is scheduled to bat (Unless the vacant spot is filled by a valid sub from the line-up card).

Teams must sit in their perspective dugout according to Team Sideline schedule. Home team will sit on 1st base side, Away team will sit on 3rd base line. If teams are assigned a double header on the same field they may stay where they are for the second game.

Teams may bat up to 16 batters, only ten players may play on the field. The batting order is then set and may not be rearranged, except for legal substitutions. When playing substitutes, managers are responsible to inform the scorekeeper when subs are entering the game.

One & One Count

All batters will start with a one ball – and one strike count. 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).

Game time

All games will play within (55) a fifty-five-minute time limit no new inning after 55 minutes. The new inning shall start immediately after the last out of the previous inning. If the home team is at bat and is leading when the 55-minute time limit is reached the game is over.

The official game clock time shall be kept by the scorekeepers.

Mercy Rule

If a team is losing by 15 or more runs after five innings, the game will end immediately.

Tie Game

In the event of a tie after 55 minutes of play or 7 innings, the visiting team will then put the player who made the last batted out on second base starting with (1) out. The lineup will continue as normal. After the 3 outs are reached the home team will then have an opportunity to bat under the same circumstance. If the game is still tied after the extra inning, the game will be declared a tie.

***You cannot put a courtesy runner on second base until runner has advanced to third base.**

Courtesy Runners

One courtesy runner may be used per inning, per team (even if you go through the line-up). For Coed teams, one male and one female runner may be used per inning. Can choose any player in line-up.

Strike Mat

A mat will be used behind home plate to determine balls and strikes. A ball pitched with a legal arc that hits any part of the strike mat is a called strike. A ball pitched with a legal arc (6'-10') and does not hit the mat or hits the home plate is called a ball.

Starting the Game

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.

A team falling to 7 players for any reason at any time will forfeit the game. Players showing up late may be added to the bottom of the lineup, up to 10 players.

“NO RETOUCH OF BASE”

Home Runs

Competitive leagues is allowed 3 home runs. Intermediate leagues are allowed 2 home runs. Recreation divisions are allowed no home runs. **Every home run hit after limit, will result in END of inning.**

The hitting team is responsible for immediately retrieving home runs and foul balls that leave the field of play.

Any fair batted ball that's in the umpire's judgment travels over the fence and touches a tree shall be a home run. Any ball in the umpire's judgment touches a tree prior to going over the fence shall be a ground rule double.

Coed Rule Line Ups

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.

Male and Female may play any position on defense. If a male batter is walked, intentional or not, this will result in a two-base reward. **The next female batter must bat unless there are two outs.** The female batter will have the option with two outs to either walk or bat.

Divisions Combined ***New Rule***

If Upper & Lower division is combined in the same league the lower division team will automatic receive 5 runs to begin the game(Upper division will always be the Home team).

“PLAYERS”

Players may play in different leagues on the same night. A player playing in two different leagues may only have the second game held for five minutes to complete the first game.

In Coed Injury

If a player gets injured and is unable to continue to play, the team may continue batting it original line up taking an out at the injured player place in the line-up (if no substitute). However, the number of males/females in the field must remain equal.

Men’s Division Injury

If a player is injured (and must be removed from play) and there is no substitute for him, this player can be skipped in the line-up without receiving an out. Scorekeepers will note this in the book.



Protests

Protests can only be made on misinterpretation of a rule or ineligible player

All protest must be made to the umpire, who shall inform the scorekeeper and opposing manager.

Misinterpretation of a rule must be made prior to the next pitch in the game. The manager is required to submit a written protest by 5:00 PM the next working day.

An ineligible player must be made prior the last out of the game.

A protested player must show valid identification upon request from any league official. Failure to comply will result in a forfeit.

Equipment

- Bats may be tested and inspected at any time by the Complex staff.
- Softballs, one new and one used will be provided for each game.
- Uniforms are not required. Open toe shoes will not be allowed.
- The Sacramento Softball Complex will utilize the USA bat list.
- Metal spikes are not allowed in slow pitch softball.
- Titanium bats will not be allowed

League Standings

If a tie should occur, the following criteria shall be used to break the tie:

1. Head to Head Win-Loss
2. Fewest number of runs allowed in games played between tied teams
3. Fewest number of runs allowed for the entire league
4. Net run score between tied teams
5. Coin Toss

Playoffs/Awards

All players will have a picture ID check before a playoff game and must be listed on the roster with a Liability waiver on file. Any player not having picture ID or listed on the roster with a liability waiver on file will not be allowed to play.

Maximum number of awards shall be fifteen per league. Teams winning the regular season or playoffs will receive an invitation to the L.C.S.

“Championship Game”

Playoff games are 55 minutes, with the championship game being 7 innings or 70 minutes whichever comes first. If there is a tie for any playoffs, we will play tie breakers until there's a final winner.

Tie Breaker: The batting team will start the extra innings with a baserunner on second base with 1 out, the baserunner must be the batter responsible for the final out in the previous inning.

USA Registration

All teams MUST be registered for the current calendar year to participate in Sacramento Softball Complex leagues. Proof of USA registration should be included with your team registration.

Rated Players

Any player rated “A” or higher by any national organizations shall be ineligible for leagues at the Sacramento Softball Complex. For Recreational Divisions, If you have 3 or more tournament players on your lineup card the opposing team will automatically be granted 7 runs **UNLESS** the opposing team has equal number of tournament players.

Inclement Weather/Postponed Games

During inclement weather conditions, managers are required to visit www.teamsideline.com/sacramento after 4:00pm for postponement information. Also, you may call our weather line at (916) 808-6087.

All postponed and suspended games will be rescheduled and played prior to the playoffs. This may include doubleheaders scheduled.