



CHURCH LEAGUE SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

*THE CHURCH COED LEAGUE RULES WILL BE IN COMPLETE
ALIGNMENT WITH ASA RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING
EXCEPTIONS:*

1. The softball shall be a 12" yellow, COR .52, 300 lbs. with an ASA stamp.
2. No music is to be played before, during, or after games.
3. Both the mat and the plate are considered a strike.
4. ****NEW:** A 1 and 1 count will be used in league play. No courtesy foul will be allowed after the second strike.
5. There is a 5 Over the Fence Home Run Limit. Every home run after 5 will result in an out. Any player hitting a home run must touch first base.
6. Smoking, vaping, or chewing tobacco is not allowed – State of Iowa Law.
7. Run Rules: **15 after 5 innings**
8. **Scoring Line:** To limit contact at home plate, a scoring line will be placed 8 feet from the back tip of home plate.
 - i. The scoring line is to be used by the offensive player only.
 - ii. Home plate is to be used by the defensive player only.
 - iii. All plays at home plate are force plays. No tags or collisions.
 - iv. If an offensive runner's foot is touching the line in any way or is past the line, on the ground, before the defense completes the force out at home plate, the runner is safe.

9. **Commitment Line:** A line will be placed 35 feet from home plate. Once the runner's foot touches the ground on or past the commitment line, the runner may NOT re-cross it in the direction of 3rd base — the runner must continue towards the scoring plate. Violations will result in an out.
10. Current ASA Bat List and Ball Requirements will be enforced.
The bat barrel shall be free of audible rattles when shaken.
11. There is a 6' minimum and 10' maximum pitch height. **It is the responsibility of the home plate umpire to call this. If the pitch is not called in the air by the umpire as an illegal pitch, then it is considered a legal pitch. If the umpire calls it illegal, then it is considered a ball. If after an illegal pitch is called the batter hits the pitch, then it is a live ball.**
12. There will be a 175' continuous line in the outfield. All outfielders must stay behind these markings **for all batters** until after the ball is hit.
13. All infielders must be on the infield surface until the pitch is thrown.
14. Games start promptly at **6:15pm, 7:15pm, 8:15pm, 9:15pm**. There is **no grace period**. **Please have your team ready to play at game time, or preferably before game time.**
15. ****NEW:** There is a 55-minute time limit. No inning should start after that. **Umpire discretion and umpire's responsibility to announce game start time. The clock will start after the captain's meeting/prayer. Make sure it is known to both teams what time the game starts.**
16. If the score is tied after 7 innings and time has not expired, the game will be played with each batter beginning with a 3-2 count (no courtesy foul) – the game will continue until a winner is declared or time has expired. If the time limit has expired and the game is tied at the end of the inning, but less than 7 innings have been played, the game will end in a tie.
 - i. **Tournament Play:** If the score is tied after 7 innings or time has expired, the game will be played with each batter beginning with a 3-2 count (no courtesy foul) – the game will continue until a winner is declared at the end of the inning.
17. ****NEW:** Games times and start times are **6:15pm, 7:15pm, 8:15pm, 9:15pm**. **The only time this will not happen is when a previous game has an inning that is started prior to the 60-minute time limit and the home team has not yet batted. If the time limit has passed and the home team is batting and ahead, then the game is over.**
18. A team may play with eight players with at least 3 of them female. For each player less than ten, the team must take an out for each missing player. However, if you are only playing with 3 females and one of them gets injured and leaves the game, then the game becomes a forfeit.
19. If you are playing with 10 players or less, there cannot be more than 6 males playing. So you cannot play with 7 males and 3 females.
20. ASA umpires will be assigned for each game.
21. Anyone entering the 9th grade in the fall or 14 by April 1st is eligible to play with a signature from his/her parent or guardian. This is an adult sport and you and your parents assume all risk.

22. Anyone under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the roster. Roster sheets will be located at Upper Concession Stand.
23. If you have a female in the pitcher's spot, you must have a male in the catcher's spot. If you have a female in the catcher's spot, you must have a male in the pitcher's spot.
24. You must have one female in the infield other than the pitcher/catcher spot.
25. You must have one female in the outfield.
26. You may play the fourth female in either the infield (excluding the pitcher/catcher) or the outfield.
27. If you play with five females on the field, then you will have two females in the outfield, two females in the infield besides the pitcher/catcher, and one female in the pitcher/catcher spot.
28. If a player plays in the field, then they have to bat. You cannot play a person in the field and bat someone else for them. We do not allow a DH (Designated Hitter).
29. There will be unlimited substitutions. If someone re-enters the game, they must be in the exact same spot in the batting order.
30. You must stagger the batting order. You cannot bat all of the men, then the women. You must try to alternate them as much as possible. No more than 2 males in a row at any time.
31. If a male batter walks, he automatically goes to second base, they **do not have to touch 1st base**, and:
 - a. If there are less than 2 outs, the female has to bat.
 - b. If there are 2 outs, the female has the option of either batting or walking.
 - c. If there is another male batting, they have to bat no matter how many outs there are.
32. Teams may bat 12 in their line-up as long as the extra players are one male and one female and they are playing with no more than 6 males in the field.
33. If you are playing with extra players, all 12 must bat and any 10 (no more than 6 males in the field), may play defense. Defense positions may be changed as long as the coed positioning is followed. The batting order must remain in the same order throughout the game.
34. Only water coolers are allowed. ***Any player observed with food or beverages not purchased at the concession stand, minus any beer, will result in their team's next batter automatically being called out.***
35. Any food or beverages that are not purchased at the concession stand are not allowed. Violators will be asked to leave the park. ***All concession stand revenues go to complex maintenance and improvements.***
36. Swearing, abusive language, or other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Profanity will result in their team's next batter automatically being called out.
37. Throwing bats and other equipment will not be allowed. This is very dangerous to the bystanders and other people using the park as well as potentially damaging to the fields and complex. It is up to the captains to control their teams. If these actions do occur, it is the captain's responsibility to remove that person from the game.

38. Batters must not throw their bat after the swing. A warning will be given and each time following the warning, the batter will be called out.
39. No metal cleats allowed.
40. There is an open roster, but anyone playing must sign the roster before playing their first game. It is the captain's responsibility to make sure all players or parents have signed the roster. If a player is caught playing without signing the roster: (*see Rule 37 for tournament eligibility*)
 - a. First offense of team – warning
 - b. Second offense of team – 1 game forfeit
 - c. Third offense of team – not allowed in league tournament
37. To be eligible for tournament play, a player must play 2 league nights.
38. In case of inclement weather, please note the two cancellation methods on the League Schedule. If inclement weather comes up during games, please check with the complex manager or concession staff before you leave. It is the captain's responsibility to make sure what is going on with the games before they or the team leaves.
39. Season ending tournament will follow the end of the season.
40. The Kyle Foust Sportsmanship Award will be voted on by teams during the final weeks of play and presented before the end of the season.