



## **ADULT MEN'S & CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUES GENERAL RULES**

League Nights: Monday

Registration Sites: Online at [pearlandparks.com](http://pearlandparks.com)

Cost: \$235

Pay umpires at the plate \$25 per game

- Schedule:** After registration ends, we will formulate the league schedules and they will be emailed to the manager or designated contact as well as being available on [teamsideline.com/pearland](https://teamsideline.com/pearland). Teams are responsible for checking the website often for schedules, standings, or bulletins concerning current and future leagues.
- Refunds:** Once the schedules have been written there will be no refunds issued for teams that choose not to play.
- Season:** The regular season will consist of 6 weeks of gameplay. At the end of the regular season we will have a single elimination playoff; qualifying teams will play in single elimination seeded playoffs for the top teams in each division.
- League Homerun:** Men's Recreational (1 UP), (First team to hit home run can't hit another until opposing team hits a homerun)  
Co-ed Recreational (1-Homerun)
- Rules:** Pearland Parks & Recreation, Amateur Softball Association (ASA), and Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) rules will govern play. The Pearland Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to delete or add rules that, in the opinion of this department, will help to make an even smoother running program.
- Age Requirement:** Minimum age for participation in Pearland adult leagues is eighteen (18).
- Location:** Games are played at Centennial Park Softball Fields  
3219 McLean Rd, Pearland, TX 77584

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- The full registration fee must be paid in advance for your team to be registered & we cannot “pencil” teams in. Please do not risk being left out. Register as soon as possible.
- Managers are responsible for distributing all information to their team members.
- There is a designated Athletic Attendant at the softball complex at all games. If there are any problems (ex. conflicts, confrontations, errors), please ask for this person for help on the night of ball games.
- Profanity is prohibited. Players can be ejected from the game.
- **The consumption of alcoholic beverages at Centennial Park is permitted per the following:**
  - No glass bottles allowed!
  - Teams will NOT be allowed to consume alcohol inside/outside the dugout during the scheduled game time
  - Consume responsibly. Any player or team exhibiting unruly behavior will be asked to leave the premises immediately and is subject to review by the League Administrator.
- Be sure to keep Centennial Park a place suitable for families so that everyone may enjoy the programs and facilities we offer.
- Pay at the Plate for Umpire for each game. Teams that forfeit are responsible for paying both teams umpire fees for each forfeit game (\$20 per team for 2 umpires and \$15 per team for 1 umpire, CASH ONLY).
- Forfeit deposits will not be charged this season. Instead we will be charging the file after the missed games. This will just help with paying less up front.

City of Pearland  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Softball League Rules

A. Rosters

1. Fully completed and correct rosters are due before your first game. Pick-up players must be added to the roster before the game begins. New rosters must be submitted for each league.
2. All player rosters shall be turned in to the Parks & Recreation office or the ball field attendant prior to the first game. Maximum number of players on a roster is 20 players. Any changes to the roster must be done through the Athletic Specialist and must be done before week 3.
3. Completed rosters are due before your first game. Rosters can be submitted through the google form provided by the athletic specialist .
4. If, and only if, your team has space available on your roster, each team is allowed to use (2 max) pick-up players for each game. Thus, in order to use pick-up players, you can only have 18 players on your formally submitted roster.
5. All players must be 18 years of age or older to be eligible. (bring your ID to softball fields)

B. The Game

1. ASA rules and T.A.A.F. rules shall take precedent unless stated otherwise in the Pearland Softball League rules.
2. Team line-ups must be submitted to the umpire before the start of the game.
3. A game will be seven (7) innings or a 50-minute time limit, whichever comes first, unless the game is tied.
4. No new inning will begin after the 50-minute time limit has expired. If the 3<sup>rd</sup> out is recorded prior to the time limit expiring, a new inning will be played.
5. In case of inclement weather, an official game will be (4) innings. Any game not completed will be replayed in its entirety.
6. Run Rule: 15 after 3 12 after 4 10 after 5
7. Ties: If at the end of game or if time has expired and the game is still tied. The game will continue using a "one-pitch" format. Each batter will receive one (1) pitch. If after (2) additional "one-pitch" innings the game is still tied, the game will be recorded as a tie.

7. A forfeit will be declared if a team cannot field at least eight (8) players within five (5) minutes from the scheduled starting time.
  - For every minute that a team cannot take the field after the scheduled starting time their opponents will be given two runs until forfeit time.
  - The forfeiting team will lose half (\$40) of their forfeit deposit.
  - After two (2) forfeits a team will be removed from the league unless they pay another \$80 forfeit deposit.
8. A team shall consist of ten (10) players in the field and an extra player (EP) to bat (if they choose to do so).
  - A team may play with a minimum of eight (8) players.
  - Any team who starts with less than the required number of players may add a 9th or 10th player to the bottom of the line-up but only at the top of an inning.
9. In Co-Ed, the minimum number of players is eight (8), if you start with eight (8), there must be equal number of women and men or more women than men.
  - In Co-Ed, if you begin with eight (8) players, you can add one (1) man and one (1) woman, to bring your total player count to ten (10).
  - You may also add only one (1) additional player to give you more women than men, but NOT more men than women.
10. In coed, there will be a 200 ft restraining line in the outfield that outfielders must stay behind until the ball is put in play (off the bat), violation of this rule will result in the batter being award 2<sup>nd</sup> base automatically.
11. No infield practice. "Warm-up" before the game in the grass areas designated for such purpose. We want to reduce the wear on the playing areas of the infield
12. A strike will be given for every instance of digging, scratching, kicking, or disturbing the dirt at home plate.
13. Bunting or chopping down on the ball is not allowed, and will result in a dead ball with the batter being called out.
14. The adult softball game schedule determines home team and away team during the regular season. Home-field advantage goes to the higher-seeded team in the tournament.
15. Ejections - If a player is ejected and you do not have a sub on your bench, then the ejected player line-up position will be an out. If your team no longer has 9 players due to the ejection then the game is forfeited. You may NOT find another person to pick up or to fill the spot.
16. A foul ball on the third strike is an out (but alive and in play, if caught). The batter is out, whether the ball is caught or not.
17. On a walk to a male batter (intentional or not) the male batter will advance to second base and the following female will bat for herself. All base runners will advance to the next base forced to, on a walk to a male batter. If a male batter is walked and there are two outs, the female may be given the option of hitting or receiving an automatic walk.

18. All players will start with a 1-1 count, there will be no extra fouls.

19. Any hard hit ball back to the pitcher within his grasp as he maintains a foot on the rubber will be a dead ball automatic out.

### C. Rain Outs:

1. In the event of inclement weather, contact the Weather Hotline at 281-412-8900 ext. 2 at 3:00 P.M. or after on the day of the game to check if of the games have been cancelled. Please do not call the office.
2. Any game called prior to being an official game (4 innings or run rule), will be replayed in its entirety. Make-up games will roll over and be picked up at the end of the season. They will not be made up the next week, unless the next week is the end of the season. Each team must play as scheduled, or forfeit. NO EXCEPTIONS!!
3. If a make-up game is rained out, it will be played the next week and the season will be extended by a week to make up for the lost week. Keep up with played and rained out games on your printed copy of the schedule.

### CI. Forfeits:

1. If a team receives a forfeit, they have the use of the playing field for practice until asked to leave by the umpire crew or Parks and Recreation Staff. NO umpires or scorekeepers will be available during this period. Forfeit score is 10 vs. 0. Any team that forfeits their scheduled game will be responsible for the entire amount due for umpires fees (1 game forfeit x 2 umpires = \$40.00).

### CII. Equipment:

1. Balls: Teams must provide at least two playable balls per game per team, please. Only 12", ASA stamped, COR .52 / 300 compression will be permitted for men's play.
  - a. In any Coed league, women will hit the 11", ASA stamped COR .44 ball.
  - b. Coed leagues must furnish two 12" and two 11" balls.
2. No metal cleats allowed!
3. Jewelry rule – Participants are not permitted to wear any visible jewelry. If participants choose to wear jewelry, it must be completely covered before arriving at the game site, with a band-aid or athletic tape. The City of Pearland Parks & Recreation Department will not provide band-aids or athletic tape to cover jewelry items. If covered, jewelry must remain flush with the skin and not be protruding out; this is for the protection of all participants. Medical alert bracelets are permitted but they must be taped down.

## G. Protests:

There are two types of protests:

### 1. Rule Interpretations

Protests involving rule interpretations will be considered on the field or court immediately following the incident in question. The game is suspended, and play should not continue until the umpire renders a final decision.

All protests must be made at the time of the incident and prior to the next pitch. A protest fee of \$50 cash must accompany the written report of the conditions causing the protest and be submitted to the Athletic Specialist by 12:00 p.m. on the business day following the protest (Mon.-Fri.). If the protest is upheld, the \$50 will be returned.

### 2. Player Eligibility

Protest concerning player eligibility must be made to the official by end of third inning of the contest in question. The protest will be ruled on by officials, recreation staff, and/or Athletics Specialist based on the submitted roster.

3. If a protest is being filed on player eligibility, notify the umpire during the game so the umpire can make a ruling based upon the roster. No protest on player eligibility can be made after the end of the third inning. The \$50 protest fee is waived for eligibility protests.

4. Only protests on rule interpretations and player eligibility will be accepted. Judgment calls cannot be protested. Protests on interpretation of the rules must be made at the time the game is being played.

## H. League Tie Breaker:

1. If in the event a league is tied between two teams, the following tie-breaker will be used.

1. Head to head competition
2. Number of runs allowed in head to head competition
3. Number of runs allowed for entire season
4. Number of runs scored

2. If in the event a league is tied between two or more teams, the following tie-breaker will be used.

1. Head to head competition
2. Number of runs allowed in head to head competition
3. Number of runs allowed for entire season
4. Number of runs scored

## I. Eligibility:

1. All participants in adult leagues must have attained the age of eighteen (18) years prior to the first day of that league.
2. Players may not be a full-time player on more than one team in the City of Pearland softball leagues. (A full-time player is defined as a player who is on a team roster.) EXCEPTION: Players may play on a Men's team and Coed team.

3. Changes to a team roster must be approved by the Parks & Recreation representative. Only team managers (or others so designated on roster) may make changes to the team roster. Changes may be made either in person at the Parks & Recreation office.
4. Pick up players must be added to the team roster prior to the game. If your roster is already maxed at twenty players you will not be able to add a pick-up player. Failure to comply with any part of this rule can make your team subject to eligibility protests. For clarity sake, add pick-up players to your roster when they are picked-up.
5. If a player picks up on another team, it is their responsibility to be ready for their original team's games or face the consequences including forfeit if the original team does not meet the starting requirements. Games will not wait for players picking up on other games.

## J. General Information

1. A.S.A. and T.A.A.F. rules shall govern play unless otherwise specified in the league by-laws.
2. Awards: Team trophies/plaques & t-shirts will be awarded to the first place team in each division. Team trophy will be awarded to the second place team in each league as well. No substitution of awards.
3. The Recreation Department has settled on these rules and regulations to accommodate a smooth-running program. The umpires who call these leagues are instructed to carry them out to the letter.
4. The Pearland Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to delete or add rules that, in the opinion of this department, will help to make an even smoother running program.

## K. Assumption of Risk

Individuals are encouraged to have a physical examination and obtain adequate health and accident insurance prior to participation in City of Pearland athletic activities. Individuals who participate in City of Pearland athletic events will be doing so at their own risk. The City of Pearland Parks and Recreation is not responsible for any injury that may occur to an individual participating in any athletic activity. Participation in City of Pearland Parks and Recreation athletic events is on a voluntary basis.

## L. The "Blood Rule":

Any player, who has a blood injury during the game, must leave the game and may not return until the injury has been properly cleaned and bandaged.

1. If the uniform has blood on it, the uniform must be changed. This player may return to the game upon approval from the game umpires or Pearland Parks & Recreation staff member.



## **CONDUCT OF TEAMS, INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS, & COACHES:**

### **1. Sportsmanship**

A part of the philosophy of the Pearland Parks & Recreation athletics program is that good sportsmanship is vital to every intramural contest. In order to encourage proper conduct during games, officials, staff, and administrative personnel shall make decisions to warn, penalize, or eject players/teams/spectators for poor sportsmanship. These decisions are final.

### **2. Prohibited Conduct**

No player, coach or spectator shall:

- Use abusive language, threaten or abuse any other player or Pearland employee before, during, or after any athletic contest.
- Participate in a game for which he/she is ineligible
- Argue with the game official. Only the captain may address (courteously) the game official concerning the interpretation of a rule.
- Intentionally strike, shove, or any other unsportsmanlike conduct towards another player or employee of Pearland Parks & Recreation.
- Mistreat the facility, equipment, or supplies of Pearland Parks & Recreation. This includes intentionally throwing a bat that injures a player, coach, umpire, or spectator by the act.

### **3. Fighting**

Under no circumstances will fighting be tolerated. Participants involved in any fighting shall be immediately removed from the contest and subject to further disciplinary action.

### **4. Verbal Abuse**

Verbal abuse of Pearland Parks & Recreation employees will not be tolerated. The City of Pearland Parks & Recreation specifically prohibits the use of grossly abusive language that insults, taunts, or challenges another person. This includes swearing, obscenities, epithets directed at an individual's race, color, ethnic identity, religion, sex or that which is personally abusive, degrading, and insulting.

### **5. Ejections**

- Any individual who is ejected from a contest must leave the facility.  
(Sight and sound). Immediately upon notification by the Pearland Parks & Recreation staff member.
- No individual may participate in or spectate any Pearland athletic league or tournament during his or her suspension.

- All players that are ejected will be suspended a minimum of two games and the team captain will be contacted by the Athletics Coordinator within 48 hours to discuss the situation and determine the penalty.