

2025 Spring Captains Meeting Agenda

Welcome to the City of Westminster

- 2025 staff: Seth Neal – Recreation Specialist Colin Siegel- Assistant Recreation Specialist and will be at the fields every night. Nightly support staff for Colin...Sport Supervisors Julie Coffman, Mike Trisler, and Mason Ortiz
- Reminder: The Captain's responsibility to make sure their full roster is aware of all the rules and anything else we go over during the meeting
- **Rosters will stay open throughout the Spring season-** available to download on TeamSideline. Must have roster in by week 2 and no nicknames, full name must be used with complete contact information and will be available on the fields every night
- Bats – Softball bats are allowed in our league as long as they have an ASA/USA stamp. The non-approved bat list can be found on TeamSideline. Wood bats will be allowed with the stamp
- Game time is 55 minutes. The first game has a 10-minute grace period (clock will start at game time) all remaining games have a 5-minute grace period. Game time starts at the end of the captain's meeting, **games will not start early**
 - We will, however, give an initial warning followed by a possible ejection. This may take its place if there are repeated line drives at the pitcher.
 - Ruling will be based on umpire and city staff discretion.
- Home Runs – same as last season: DRU – 2, DRL – 1, No one up rule.
 - **We will no longer implement the inning-ending home run rule. SHAG YOUR BALLS or we will bring back the inning-ending out rule to minimize the loss of balls.**
- Balls- teams used to all start with one new and one old...the breakdown is still: DRU start with 2 new/2 old and DRL will start with 1 new/1 old. To do this we need all players and fans to understand that the cost of softballs increased tremendously and why we mark every softball with COW. This helps us to notify everyone that they are City property and we need them back. Umpires will not be able to just "get more" if teams are not helping out by shagging balls.
- Player safety – No standing outside of the dugout other than base coaches, batter, & on deck batter. Team will receive one warning, after that batter will be called out
- Player ejection or roster protest- clock will not be stopped
- Music is allowed at fields at a reasonable level. If it gets to the point where it's affecting players' ability to hear or if it's offensive (to anyone at the complex), player will be asked to turn it off
- Beer available, drink responsibly and remember alcohol in the dugout, no alcohol on the field, (dugout is part of the field). Last call will be 9:30 pm, only 2 drinks per person, no special deals for free beer, and no drinks will go out the window past 9:45 pm. If

outside alcohol is found in the dugout or the complex, you will be given 2 options, chug it or dump it. Failure to comply may cause your team to forfeit

- 10 Run rule after 5 complete innings, 15 Run rule after 4 complete innings **OR** 40 minutes played
- Line-up cards need to be turned in to scorekeeper **15 min before the game with legal names** and not nicknames
- The Sport Specialist reserves the right to reclassify any team to try and promote a well-balanced league
- Games will be delayed and fields cleared if lightning is present within an **8-mile** radius of the facility per alignment with NCAA rules, (**signaled by an airhorn**). Play will resume as soon as lightning moves out of that range.
- Cancellations or delays will be posted only on TeamSideline. **All** players are encouraged to sign up for text communications
- Weather-related cancellations will be made up on the following 2 weeks after league OR specified weekend rain dates if needed:
 - Weeks of April 21st & 28th (First the scheduled night, then where there are openings)
 - Weekend dates if needed: July 12th, August 23rd & September 27th
- **Pro's Plus is recruiting for anyone wanting to join their team of umpires**

2025 Updates – Softball Rule Additions/Clarifications:

- All players MUST have a similar colored shirt with a number on the front or back to play in any 2025 season.
 - Duplicate numbers are prohibited (exception: 1 male/1 female on the same team). Plain T-shirts & drawn-on numbers are acceptable.
 - Players must present their number before entering the batter's box PRIOR to their first at-bat (include on lineup if possible). No # = Batter Out
- In alignment with the USA Softball Official Rulebook, baserunners must attempt to avoid unnecessary contact with fielders trying to make a play to avoid collision. Interference calls are ultimately a judgment call by the umpire. (see USA Softball Supplemental Rules for further details, p.129)
- Lineups should be completed and turned in prior to the start of game time. Lineups should not be altered after the game clock has started. Exceptions for injuries and ejections if there is a legal sub.
 - If a team has fewer than 10 players at the start of the game, they may add players up to 10 at any time but must be at the bottom of the lineup. Additional late players 11 & 12 must be listed as substitutes in the lineup.
 - Please refrain from listing players who are not present when you turn your lineup in.
- Subs must be of the same level of play!
 - Subs from other teams in the division are allowed at the discretion of the opposing team if the team has less than 8 players but must sign the "sub" section of the team's roster.
 - **SPECIALIST AND SUPERVISORS HAVE TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO DENY A PLAYER THE RIGHT TO PLAY IN A LEAGUE THAT DOESN'T SUIT THEM.**

Past 2024 Updates – Softball Rule Additions:

1. Addition to Equipment:
 - a. The City recommends that protective gear be worn when playing key defensive positions, ie – pitcher and catcher.
2. Completed Game:
 - a. Games that are called by the umpire before time has expired will only resume at a later date if 5 innings have not been completed.
3. Team uniforms with numbers are highly recommended for Spring and Fall seasons and will be REQUIRED for Summer.
 - o Note: uniforms do not need to be expensive; plain matching colored t-shirts with a drawn-on number are acceptable.
4. The batting lineup will be limited to 12 batters (20 on the roster)
 - a. Additional players must be listed as subs on the lineup if they plan to play that game.
5. Picking Up Subs:
 - a. When picking up a sub for the night, the substitution player needs to be the same level as the team they are subbing with. Supervisors may refuse multiple subs if players are more highly skilled than the team they are subbing with.
6. Forfeits:
 - a. Teams that forfeit for any reason will be exempt from taking first place. Forfeits **called** in with less than 24 hours' notice are subject to a fine
