

MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD
2024 METRO MINNEAPOLIS TOURNAMENT - RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **All games will be governed by the USA SOFTBALL of Minneapolis regular season rules, except Men's, Women's & Coed Metro tournament which will abide by the USA SOFTBALL rules on:**
 - Courtesy runners.** (See Rule 8, Section 9B & C). Rule 8, Section 9B2 states: "Any eligible players that may participate on offense or defense and are on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner." Only one courtesy runner per inning.
 - The short-handed rule will be enforced** (Rule 4, Section 1D, 1 & 2). A game may begin or finish with 9 players; an out will be taken when the vacant position at the end of the batting order. When/if the 10th player arrives; that player must be inserted immediately into the vacant spot.
 - Substitutions must be reported to the umpire. (Rule 4, Section 6).
2. **Continuous Batting order may be used.** In Coed, teams may bat entire lineup with a minimum of 4 of one gender. Teams will create two separate lineups, one for males and one for females. The batting order will begin with the gender that has a greater number of players. Teams will then alternate batting by gender adhering to the lineup created for each gender. **An out will be taken in the 10th batting position ONLY if a team has 9 batters.** Teams with 10 or more players, but only 4 of one gender, can only field 9 players on defense.
3. **Home Team** will be determined by a coin toss. Home team for Championship game is undefeated team Home team for "if" game will be determined by a coin flip.
4. 3 Balls/2 Strikes, no Courtesy Strike.
5. Each team will supply **one new game ball per game.**
6. **Games will start as scheduled. No grace period will be allowed. In some cases, teams may play games back to back, in this instance; the team will be allowed a reasonable time to move from one game site to the next.**
7. There is no time limit for Metro Tournament Games.
8. Run rule on all games: 20 after 3, 15 after 4, and 10 after 5. (Rule 5, Section 9A3).
9. USA SOFTBALL homerun rules will apply on **all** fenced (or partially fenced) fields. The limit is **3 for Men's and 3 for Coed.** Any homeruns hit above the limit will be OUTS. (The batter and any runners on base are not required to run the bases.)
10. USA SOFTBALL Base stealing will be used in Men's games played when using 2 or more umpires. (See definition in Rule 1, or Rule Supplement #50).
11. **Inclement Weather Procedure:**
 - a. Check the MPRB website at [http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/minneapolisparcs/content/10807/Softball-USA SOFTBALLUSA](http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/minneapolisparcs/content/10807/Softball-USA%20SOFTBALLUSA)
 - b. Games scheduled on weekends will be called at the field.
 - c. It is important that Managers keep in contact with our office whenever inclement weather causes any delays, postponements or changes in scheduling of this tournament, Manager Only Please.
12. Players may play on one (1) team in a division; however he/she may play in more than one (1) division.
 - a. **Example:** A player may play in the Coed as well as the Men or Women's division. A player playing in the Men's or Women's "C" division may not play on a "B" or "D" team within the same division.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Scott Gagnon
Minneapolis USA SOFTBALL Commissioner

Paul Kraimer
Umpire In Chief