



Adult Coed and Men's Softball Rules

Updated SPRING 2025

Official USA Softball rules will govern league play unless stated otherwise below

The objective of FRRPD Adult Sports is to provide the opportunity for participants to benefit from a quality leisure time recreational activity which encourages fitness, healthy competition, fun and fellowship in the form of organized sports.

Website Resources: <http://frrpd.com/adult-sports>

Team Sideline: www.teamsideline.com/frrpd

Behavior and Sportsmanship Guidelines

It is every player's responsibility to know the Player Code of Conduct and league rules and to abide by them. It is also every player's responsibility to respect and cooperate with the officials and facility attendant/scorekeeper. It is the responsibility of the team manager to insure proper behavior on the part of his/her team's fans.

Divisions

FRRPD offers Men's and Coed, Slow Pitch Divisions of play. Depending on the number of teams registered, leagues may be broken into subdivisions. All Divisions are considered Recreational.

Game Staff

Each game will have at least one umpire and one facility attendant/scorekeeper on site monitoring all fields. In the event that no umpire is available the game(s) may be rescheduled, teams can use the field if they choose. Umpires will be responsible for umpiring the game, keeping track of the game time and runs scored. Umpire will notify teams when there is 10 minutes left. Umpires have the final say on rules interpretation, and all calls on field. Facility attendants/scorekeepers will advise the umpire on ineligible players, incomplete/incorrect lineups, and batting out of order. If there is a discrepancy between the score book and umpire's scorecard the score card is considered final. Managers are asked to please initial scorecards at end of game.

Conversations with officials/umpires will be kept to a minimum. Team managers, and only team managers, may address the officials. Managers may only address matters of rule interpretation or essential game information and must do so in a courteous manner. Please respect our staff.

Team and Player Eligibility

Only players who have signed the roster and/or the player addition form are eligible to play. Once we have reached the half-way point in the season new players cannot be added without prior approval. Players must be 18 years of age, or 15-17 years of age with parent permission. Players may only be on one roster in Coed divisions. Further, a player can play in the Men's division and in one Coed division. A person cannot play on two coed teams regardless if they are in different divisions. Once a player is on a roster, they are only eligible to play for that team; they cannot switch to another team at any point in the season.



Rosters & League Fees

All teams must have a minimum of 10 players on their roster when submitted.

A complete roster is due before the start of the first game. **Team managers must submit roster on Team Sideline before the first game.** Please make sure all players sign and fill out the appropriate information (including full first and last name that is on their state ID.) Players must have a valid state ID prepared to show prior to game time.

Pick-Up Players

In the event a team is short players they may use pick-up players from another team under the following guidelines

1. Team must start with a minimum of 6 rostered players from their own team and can pick up a maximum of 4 additional rostered players bringing the **total to 10 rostered players.**
2. "Pick up players" are only allowed to play with the same team up to 3 times.
3. **For every player that is picked up it will count as a run against your team.**
4. Teams may not use pick up players in playoffs

COED: Teams with less than 5 men and 5 women may use pick up players to bring the total to 5 men and 5 women.

1. Coed teams must play with an equal amount of men and women, **or** more women than men. AT NOT TIME can male players outnumber female players. *Exception: if both managers agree to play with more men than women, then the game can be played.*
2. Teams must have at least 1 male player for the game to be played.
3. Teams must have at least 4 female players for the game to be played.
*Exceptions to rules related to game time roster may be considered if **both** managers are in agreement with the proposed exception. The game official should consider safety, fairness and the opportunity to maximize participation and enjoyment of the game.*

MEN'S: Teams with less than 10 players may use pick up players to bring the total to 10.

Schedules

Schedules will be handed out at the Manager's Meeting prior to the start of the season and will be posted on Team Sideline. In the event of changes to the schedule, managers will be notified by phone and by email, and Team Sideline will be updated. Managers are responsible for notifying team players of changes to the schedule.

The schedule posted on Team Sideline on the day of the game, is considered the official schedule.

Rules and Regulations

Official USA Softball Rules except where FRRPD League Rules take precedence.

Scorebooks/Line Ups

Home team is responsible for keeping the scorebook. The player's first and last name must be written clearly in the scorebook lineup for each game. (Nicknames are fine in addition.) Players must be present to be entered in the lineup. Once entered, the lineup is final, and the rotation of the batting order cannot be changed.

NOTE: Late players may be added: please see below rules.

Late arriving player must be announced to the official **before** their at bat.

Coed: If a male/female player arrives late they need to share/rotate a spot in the lineup with another male/female.

Men's: If a player(s) arrives late they are to be added to the bottom of the line-up unless they already have 10 players in which case they would have to share/rotate a spot in the lineup.



Equipment

- Ball** Men's: Men's game will be played with a 12" softball.
Coed: Coed game will be played with a 12" softball.
- Bats:** FRRPD will follow the current ASA banned bat list. List is on Team Sideline, under Downloads.
- Cleats/Jewelry:** No metal cleats or exposed dangerous jewelry.

Use of illegal equipment

- If observed before use in game, illegal equipment to be removed.
- If observed during game play, the player is out, and the player is ejected.
- If observed that illegal equipment has been used throughout the entirety of the game, the violating team will be forfeit the game.
- Managers will be responsible for ensuring that players are properly and legally equipped.

Blood Rule

A player with a bloody injury or blood on his/her uniform must leave the game. The player may not return to the game until the wound is no longer bleeding, the wound is covered, or the uniform is changed.

Game Play

- Courtesy Catcher** If a team only has eight (8) players, the opposing team must supply a courtesy catcher. The courtesy catcher will only be used to return the ball to the pitcher.
- Courtesy Runners** One courtesy runner per inning per gender will be allowed. Unless, an injury occurs during the game then that player gets unlimited use of a courtesy runner.
- Designated Hitters** Not allowed.
- Starting Pitch Count** 1 and 1 with "1 foul to give"
- Sliding/Base Play** Sliding is permitted. However, players must not slide aggressively in an attempt to "take out" a fielder (at the umpire's discretion). Players that do so will not only be out, but may be ejected from the game.
- Commit line** Will be used for all coed games.
- Home plate line:** Will be used for all coed games.
- Bunting:** Not allowed. (Player is out. This does not include "full swing bunts.)
- Stealing/Leading off:** All base runners must stay on the base until the ball is hit.
(Players that leave the base early will be call OUT.)
- Hitting up the Middle** Purposely hitting up the middle or joking about hitting up the middle may lead to ejection and possible suspension.

Home Runs

Men's: Three plus equalizer: Each team may hit three home runs. Once a team reaches three, they cannot hit another one until the other team hits three. Thereafter, no team may ever get more than one home run ahead of the other team. When a team hits a home run in violation of this rule, an out will be called.

Exception: When the game reaches the 7th or last inning, the visiting team may go up by one and the home team may "catch up" but not go ahead.

Coed: Three home runs are allowed per game per gender totaling six (3 for men, 3 for women).

Ten Run Rule If a team is ahead by 10 after 5, 15 after 4 or 20 after 3, game may be called.

Game Length 55 minutes or 7 innings, whichever comes first. No minimum number of innings are required.



Game Play: Coed Specific Rules

Offensive rules: Batting order must alternate male/female. If you have more men than women, the additional men must share a spot in the line-up. If more women than men, then males it is okay for them to bat back to back (must have one man). This rule applies for players listed on your roster only.

A male player who walks on three straight pitches is awarded second base. The female batter who follows has the option to hit or be awarded first base regardless of the number of outs.

Any male batter walked after the 5th inning, regardless of the count will be awarded 2 bases.

Defensive Rules: There should not be more men than women on the field playing defense at any time.

There are no restrictions **on arrangements/positioning of** male/female players in the outfield or infield. In the infield, there can be no more than 7 players (pitcher, catcher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, shortstop and rover).

Playoffs/End of Season Tournament Play

Top 4 teams will make playoffs. All rostered players must play a **minimum of 3 games** in order to be eligible to participate in playoffs. Players must be listed in FRRPD scorebook lineups in order to be eligible.

All playoff games will be 60 minutes or 7 innings, whichever comes first, with the ten-run rule in effect.

In the event of a Tie: 1 inning only will be played with the international tie breaker rule.

The last batter out will start at second base. No pick-up players will be allowed for playoffs.

The Championship game will be 7 innings. The ten-run rule is in effect.

Protests

All judgment calls will stand. Only rule interpretation calls may be protested.

When a matter of protest arises during the game, the manager of the protesting team must immediately before the next pitch, notify the umpire and opposing team that the game is being played under protest. The protest must be noted in the official score book.

This must be followed up by submitting a written report of the protest by 5:00pm the following business day, to the at the FRRPD office along with a \$10.00 protest fee.

The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

Protests of illegal players must be made to the umpire prior to the top of the third inning.

Facility Attendant verifies eligibility with the Umpire. If it is determined by the facility attendant that there are illegal players playing, the game will be called a forfeit. The game may continue as long as the illegal player has left the field (and dugout), but the result will stand as a forfeit.

Ejected Player

An ejected player must leave the dugout and field of play within two (2) minutes following the ejection.

Failure to do so may cause the player's team to forfeit the game. Any player ejected from a game will be suspended for minimum of 1 game, and he/she must meet with Recreation Supervisor to be reinstated.

FRRPD Staff and Team Manager will report the player ejection to the Recreation Supervisor within 24 hrs.

The ejected player and team manager **MUST** make an appointment to review ejection prior to playing again. Should an ejected player attempt to play before meeting with the Recreation Supervisor, his/her team will forfeit the game in which he/she played.

No Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco

Alcohol/Drugs/Smoking is prohibited during game play, and will not be permitted on the field, in the dugout, or near the field of play.



Player Code of Conduct

The objective of FRRPD Adult Sports is to provide the opportunity for participants to benefit from a quality leisure time recreational activity which encourages fitness, healthy competition, fun and fellowship in the form of organized sports.

Friendly competition and good spirited rivalry are expected. However, players, coaches, managers, umpires or spectators will not make disparaging or insulting remarks to or about opposing players, coaches, managers, officials, spectators, or FRRPD staff- use expletives or negative comments that may be heard by those in the stands and surrounding area of the playing field or commit other acts that should be considered unsportsmanlike. The game official will have discretion to warn teams and/or eject players. The league directors may also issue suspensions for negative remarks or unsportsmanlike comments directed towards players, umpires, spectators or FRRPD staff. Conversations with officials/umpires will be kept to a minimum. Team managers, and only team managers, may address the officials. Managers may only address matters of rule interpretation or essential game information and must do so in a courteous manner.

- 1) No person shall: Be guilty of Objectionable demonstrations of dissent at official's decision or discuss with an official in any manner the decision reached by such official except the team manager. **Minimum Penalty:** Warning by the official. **Maximum Penalty:** Removal from game. (see player eject rule)
- 2) No person shall: Refuse to abide by official's decision. Officials are required to immediately suspend player from further play and report such player to the League Directors. Such person shall remain suspended until his/her case has been considered by the League Directors. **Minimum Penalty:** Placed on probation for the remainder of the season. **Maximum Penalty:** Suspension for two league games and placed on probation for the remainder of season.
- 3) No person shall: Be guilty of an abusive attack (verbal or nonverbal) upon any player, official or spectator. Officials are required to immediately suspend player from further play and report such player to the League Directors. **Minimum Penalty:** Placed on probation for the remainder of the season. **Maximum Penalty:** Suspension for one calendar year and placed on probation for one season upon returning to the league action.
- 4) No person shall: Be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in the play of the game against the body or person of the opposing player. Officials are required to immediately suspend person from play and report such player to the League Directors. **Minimum Penalty:** Probation for the remainder of the season. **Maximum Penalty:** Suspension for one year.
- 5) No person shall: Be guilty of physical attack as an aggressor upon any player, official or spectator. Officials are required to immediately suspend player from further play and report such player to the League Directors. Player will remain suspended until his/her case has been considered by the League Directors. **Minimum Penalty:** Suspension for two league games and placed on probation for the remainder of the season. **Maximum Penalty:** Suspension for life and/or assault charges filed.

Any player being placed on probation for the remainder of the season and reported again for violating the "Player Code of Conduct" may result in further disciplinary action.

Any player removed from a game and asked by the official to leave the park or school facility must do so immediately. Failure to do so may result in further disciplinary action.