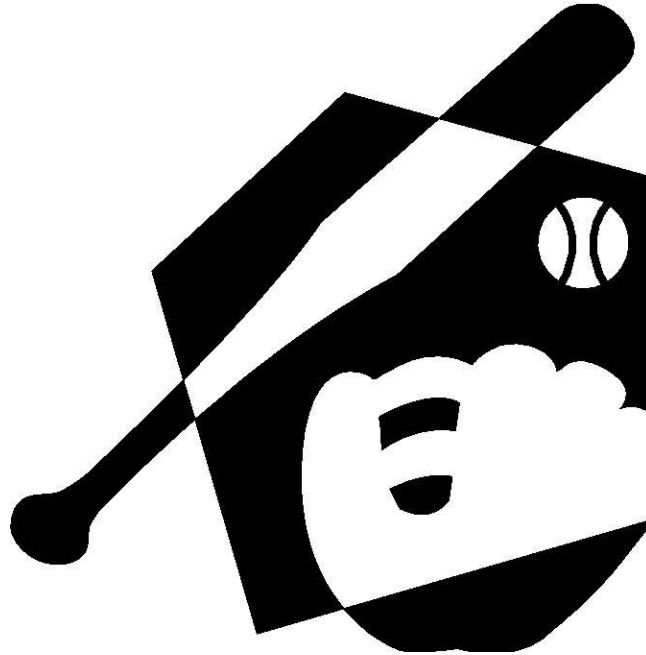


CITY OF McALLEN

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2023



SLOW-PITCH AND FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

City of McAllen
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McAllen, Texas 78501
Office : (956) 681-3333, Fax (956) 681-3300
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McALLEN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
SLOW-PITCH AND FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Written by
Omar Rodriguez
District 15 Commissioner

Edited by
Larry Pressler
Director

Adopted
January 26, 1994

Current Revision
August 2023

Fidel Covarrubies
Superintendent of Athletics

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McALLEN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL
LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
2021

U.S.A. Softball Association Official Rules of Softball will be in effect for all leagues and games played on the City of McAllen Softball fields with the following local exceptions:

RULE 1. LEAGUES

SECTION 1. AFFILIATION

The McAllen Parks and Recreation Department adopts the current OFFICIAL RULES OF SOFTBALL as set forth by the Amateur Softball Association as the standard for the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department Slow-Pitch and Fast-Pitch Softball Local Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 2. LEAGUES

The City may offer the following categories for league play:

A. MEN

1. Class A
2. Class B
3. Class C
4. Class D
5. Class E

B. WOMEN

1. Class B
2. Class C
3. Class D

C. CO-REC

1. (Competitive)
2. Recreational
3. Church

D. INDUSTRIAL

Classification of each league is determined by the City, according to the caliber of the teams registered for a particular night. The City, at the discretion of the Superintendent of Athletics, may move a team or teams into another league before the end of the first round of play. The City's placement of teams within a league is final. Any withdrawal by a team due to its placement is non-refundable.

SECTION 3. SCHEDULE

Each league will consist of the following:

- A. Minimum of four (4) teams.
- B. Double round-robin format (ten [10] scheduled games.)
- C. Schedule changes or cancellations will be rescheduled at the discretion of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department.
- D. Canceled games will be rescheduled on the regular nights of play and in the order in which cancellations occurred during the two-week period following the end of the regularly scheduled league season. Games not made up within this time period, will not be played and not considered in determining a team's final standings.

SECTION 4. REGISTRATION

To be eligible to play in a McAllen Parks and Recreation Softball League, teams must submit a preliminary roster and \$325.00 no later than each season's designated deadline to:

McALLEN PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE
1000 SOUTH WARE ROAD
McALLEN, TEXAS
OFFICE HOURS 7:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. MONDAY - FRIDAY

SECTION 5. AWARDS

The first (1st), second (2nd), and third (3rd) place teams in league play will receive an award. In the case of a tie for a first (1st) place trophy, the team that has a better record against the other will be awarded the trophy.

- A. If both teams have a win against the other, a play-off game will be scheduled.
- B. If more than two teams are tied for a trophy, a draw will determine the seeding for a play-off.
- C. A flip of the coin will determine the home team in a play-off game.

SECTION 6. MEETINGS

A league meeting, with team managers, the Umpire-in-Chief, and the Superintendent of Athletics, will be held before the start of the first league of each season and as needed throughout the season.

RULE 2. THE GAME

SECTION 1. TEAM DESIGNATION

The home team will be designated on the schedule. If the schedule does not dictate which team is home, the second team listed on the schedule will be the home team and will occupy the third base dugout.

SECTION 2. TIME LIMIT

Each slow-pitch game will be fifty-five (55) minutes (seventy-five (75) minutes for Fast Pitch) or seven (7) innings, whichever comes first.

A. In case of a tie at the end of regulation play in slow-pitch, the two (2) teams will continue to play with a 3-2 count given to the batter until a winner is declared. (i.e. The first batter at the top of the inning, after the regulation time has expired, will be given a one pitch at bat with last batter at 2nd base. A strike will be declared an out and a ball will award the batter a walk.)

B. Girls' fast-pitch ties will be played following the international tie breaker of placing the last player to have completed an at bat prior to the last out on 2nd base and continuing until a winner is declared.

C. In all slow pitch divisions, prior to the pitch the batter will enter the batter's box with a one ball one strike count.

D. Within the last two minutes of a game, a team at bat and trailing in score may not have the base runner intentionally leave the base ahead of the pitch for the purpose of being called out. The umpire will call such a pitch as a dead ball in this instance.

SECTION 3. RUN AHEAD RULE

A run rule of fifteen (15) runs after (3) innings, twelve (12) runs after four (4) innings or ten (10) after five (5) for slow pitch, (fifteen [15] after three (3), twelve (12) after four (4) or eight [8] after five [5] for Fast-Pitch) will be administered during league play. Complete innings must be played unless the home team scores the run rule total while at bat. (USA. Rule 5, Section 9)

SECTION 4. PRE-GAME

All teams shall be prepared to take the field fifteen (15) minutes prior to their scheduled game time. Line-up cards must be submitted to the scorekeeper.

A. The line-up card must show the players' last name, his/her first name, position to be played, and jersey number. Nicknames are not acceptable.

B. The manager must sign the line-up card and ensure that it is properly filled out and legible.

SECTION 5. HOME-RUN CLASSIFICATIONS

A limit of "over-the-fence" home runs will be used in all Men's and Co-Rec slow-pitch divisions. All hits "over the fence" by a team, in excess of the following limitations per game, will be ruled on as outlined in USA Rule 5, Section 8. **Excessive homeruns result in a "dead-ball out", with the exception of Class D (see below)**

A. **Class A Men's** - ten (10) home runs

B. **Class B Men's** - seven (7) home runs.

C. **Co-Rec [Competitive]**- three (3) home runs.

D. **Class C Men's** - five (5) home runs.

E. **Class D Men's & Women's**- three (3) home runs.

F. **Class E** - one (1) home run

G. **Class E [Recreational]** - zero (0) home runs & inning over.

H. **Co-Rec Recreation & Co-Rec Church** - zero (0) home runs.

SECTION 6. CO-ED MODIFICATIONS

Co-Rec A (Competitive) and Co-Rec Recreational and Co-Rec Church Leagues will play as prescribed by the Official Rules of Softball with the following local modifications:

- A. All batters will hit a twelve (12) inch and 300lbs or less .52 core ball in the Co-Rec Recreational & Church Leagues.
- B. Male batters must bat opposite their batting strength preference (i.e. a right-handed batter bats left-handed). The pitcher may request a batter to switch to opposite side of the batter's choice once per time at bat.
- C. Any walk to a male batter will result in his advancing directly to 2nd base. The female batter shall bat or not following USA. Rule 8 Section 1.C.5. (with two outs, female batter has the option to hit or walk)
- D. A team may start/play the game short a male player (6-females & 4 males) to make 10. The 6th female will be added to the end of the batting order and play an outfield position. If and when a male player arrives, he will be substitute to the 6th female batting order/position. The female starter (6th female) will not be able to substitute for another female for the rest of the game but may be a courtesy runner.

RULE 3. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1. OFFICIAL SPOKESPERSON

Managers are the official spokesmen for their team and are solely responsible for the eligibility of their team and players. An assistant manager may conduct the duties of the manager in his/her absence.

SECTION 2. ROSTERS

Rosters must be submitted, in complete form, by the respective season deadline, as set by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department. Any team not complying with the deadline may be excluded from that season's play and money partially refunded. (The McAllen Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to extend the registration deadline of any league so as to benefit the program.)

SECTION 3. ROSTER LIMITS

Teams must carry a minimum of sixteen (16) players on their roster at all times. A team roster may not exceed twenty (20) players.

- A. Teams sponsored by a company, in which said sponsor employs ALL players, may exceed the twenty (20)-player limit. These players must be certified as legitimate employees by the sponsor & have prior approval of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department.
- B. Teams sponsored by a church, in which all players are members of sponsor church, may exceed the twenty (20)-player limit. These players must be certified as legitimate members by the sponsor church & have prior approval of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department.

SECTION 4. ROSTER CHANGES

Roster changes will be limited to the first three (3) games of league play.

- A. Only managers may make roster changes.
- B. New players and transfer players may be added to the roster by signing the official roster at the Parks and Recreation Office, located at 1000 South Ware.
- C. New players will be eligible to play immediately after signing the official roster.
- D. Transfer players must wait eight (8) calendar days after being officially released by their former team to be eligible to play on a new team.
- E. Players may drop themselves from their team after notifying their team's manager.
- F. Players may transfer to another team within the McAllen Parks & Recreation Softball Program after notifying their team's manager.

SECTION 5. INDIVIDUAL LIMITS

An individual may only appear on one team roster per league night unless that player plays on a Men's or Women's team and a Co-Rec team on same night. Any duplication may result in suspension of the player in question and forfeiture of the offending team's games in which he/she participated.

RULE 4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1. ROSTERS

Players must provide all requested information on the roster, along with their signature, to be eligible to play each season. It is managers responsibility for providing complete information for all players prior to game play.

SECTION 2. AGE

Players in Adult Leagues must be at least eighteen (18) years of age as of the first game of the season in which they are registered. Girls Fast Pitch has different age limits & deadlines.

SECTION 3. NEW PLAYERS

New players are individuals who are not currently on a team in the McAllen Parks and Recreation Softball Program. New players are eligible to play immediately after being placed on a roster. New players are not allowed on roster after 3rd game.

SECTION 4. TRANSFER PLAYERS

Transfer players are individuals who are currently on a McAllen Parks and Recreation League team but are transferring to another team within the Softball program.

SECTION 5. PLAYING ON SEVERAL TEAMS

Players may be eligible to play in more than one league during the season but shall be limited to playing in one league per day/night. Players discovered to be playing on more than one league a night (league hopping) will be ejected from league play and suspended. (See Rule 7, Section 3).

A. A player may play in more than one league a day/night, providing that the leagues being played in are in different categories (See Rule 1, Section 2). Example: a player may participate in a Men's, Church, Industrial, and Co-Rec league on the same day/night, but shall not play on two (2) Men's teams the same day/night nor on two (2) Co-Rec teams on the same day/night (See Rule 3, Section 5).

B. Any league administrator and/or league official shall bring league hopping to the attention of the home plate umpire.

B1. Any player caught for league hopping will be suspended (1) week and team will automatically forfeit game. If a player is caught more than once during the season, that player will be suspended for a minimum of an entire season.

SECTION 6. PLAYER STANDING

Players must be in good standing with the McAllen Parks and Recreation Athletic Suspension Review Board.

A. Any player, playing under an assumed name, is considered to be ineligible.

B. Any player, who has been suspended from league play, for any reason, and who has not yet been re-instated, shall be considered an ineligible player.

SECTION 7. PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION AND AGE

A. A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of identification. Forms of identification which will be accepted are U.S. driver's license, U.S. Passport, or Military identification, which includes a current photograph and signature,

B. A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of age when participating in McAllen Parks and Recreation sports categorized by age classifications or divisions.

C. A player failing to provide appropriate proof of age or identification, when requested by a McAllen Parks and Recreation representative or official, may be declared ineligible and the team subject to forfeit or disqualification.

RULE 5. EQUIPMENT

SECTION 1. UNIFORM

All players on a team shall wear uniforms alike in color, trim, and style. Non-duplicating shirt numbers are recommended but not required. All uniforms and protective equipment should be worn properly.

A. HEADGEAR. Ball caps, visors and headbands are optional for all players. Players are not required to wear headgear or matching headgear, however, if worn, all headgear must be worn properly. Handkerchiefs do not qualify as headbands and cannot be worn around the head or neck. **Plastic visors, stocking caps, skull caps, etc. are not allowed as headgear.**

1. Protective headgear is required for Adult Fast pitch, Modified Pitch and Junior Olympic offensive players as outlined in USA Rule 3, Section 5E.

2. Protective headgear is required for Adult Fast pitch, Junior Olympic Slow Pitch and Junior Olympic Fast-Pitch catchers as outlined in A.S.A. Rule 3, Section 5E.

B. SHIRTS. Shirts must be no less than a sleeved shirt, same color, and have the same logo. Players with sleeveless shirts (i.e. muscle shirts) will not be allowed to play. Sleeveless shirts designed to be worn with a sleeved undershirt are acceptable. COED may have different style for the men and women but still follow along with the same color and logo. Back of the jerseys may have different names or number. There will be absolutely no inappropriate graphics or language allowed on shirts. (Plain shirt that matches the team's primary color may be used for the first five weeks of the season. A logo may be no bigger than two inches.)

C. PANTS. All players' pants may be either long or short in style and must have a neatly hemmed appearance. No player may wear ragged, frayed or slit-legged pants.

D. SHOES. All players must wear shoes. A shoe shall be considered official if it is made with either canvas or leather uppers or similar material(s). The soles may either be smooth or have soft or hard rubber cleats. (USA Rule 3, Section 6.G). METAL SPIKES, SCREW ON CLEATS, or STREET SHOES, INCLUDING BOOTS, WATER SHOES, GLOVE SHOES, SANDALS, ETC. ARE NOT ALLOWED IN LEAGUE PLAY.

E. CASTS. Plaster or other hard substances, in their final form, shall not be worn during the game. (USA Rule 3 Section 6.E)

F. JEWELRY. Players shall NOT wear jewelry, including watches, rings, bracelets, or body adornments, such as ear rings, studs or other facial jewelry during the game which is/are judged by the umpire to be a hazard. Players must remove jewelry immediately when asked to by the umpire. Dependent upon whether the player in violation of this section is offensive or defensive, a strike or ball will be awarded the batter for each ten (10) seconds delay of play incurred while the player is removing the jewelry. If the player fails to remove the jewelry, he or she will be suspended from the game. **(USA Rule 3, Section 6.F.)**

1. Wedding bands, which may be difficult to remove, will be allowed at the umpire's discretion.
2. Medical alert necklaces/bracelets must be taped to the body.
3. Body adornments must be taped down. You must provide own tape.

SECTION 2. GAME BALL

Each team must furnish two playable balls to the Home Plate Umpire prior to the beginning of each game. Balls must be A.S.A./U.S.A. approved & marked in such a manner. (USA Rule 3, Section 3.)

- A. Umpires are the sole judges as to the serviceability of the softballs.
- B. The ball must be an **ASA/USA approved ball having** a COR of .52 or under and a Ball Compression of 300.0 lbs or under and have a yellow optic cover with red stitches for slow pitch play.
- C. The ball must be an **ASA/USA approved ball having** a COR of .470 or under and a Ball Compression of 375.0 lbs. or under and have a yellow optic cover with red stitches for fast-pitch.
- D. The ball must be marked with the team's name.

SECTION 3. BASES

Hollywood style bases are used for all softball leagues. All leagues will utilize a double base at first base. (USA Rule 2, Section 3.H., and Rule 8, Section 2. N.)

SECTION 4. OTHER EQUIPMENT

All other equipment will be considered under USA Rule 3 Section 1 - 7 as prescribed in the current Official Rules of Softball. The USA. posts current information on certified equipment on its website at www.softball.org. (See the ASA/USA Banned Bat List).

Screens for the pitchers will be provided for the lower leagues for men, coed and senior league.

SECTION 5. BATS

Twelve bats (10) are the maximum number of bats allowed on bat rack. Bats must be currently on bat rack prior to the game clock starting. Once bats are on rack and accounted for, bats cannot be taken off the rack and back to dugout during game play. If bat is taken back to dugout, bat will stay in dugout and will be ineligible for rest of game. Bats will be randomly checked during league play for ASA/USA eligibility either by Superintendent of Athletics, Coordinator in Charge, or Assistant to Coordinator. Bats will be furnished to lower leagues (E and D) by the City of McAllen Parks and Recreation Department.

SECTION 6. BAT STICKERS

All players who use personal bats must have bats tested before the season starts and legal bats will be issued a City of McAllen Hologram Sticker. Bats that do not have an official City of McAllen Hologram Sticker will not be able to be eligible for league play. Stickers must be current and visible to be eligible for league play. All bats with stickers will be recorded for safety measures.

SECTION 7. ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement of Equipment rules are subject to a protest at the time the equipment in question enters the game. Rulings by the Umpire are final.

RULE 6. PARK RULES

SECTION 1. INFIELD PRACTICE

Infield or hitting practice is not allowed in the ballpark.

SECTION 2. WARM-UP

Warm-up areas are designated between Fields 2 and 3, Fields 3 and 4, and Fields 1 and 4. Team warm-ups are not allowed on any of the asphalt areas within the softball complex.

SECTION 3. INTOXICATING BEVERAGES

Intoxicating beverages are not allowed within the softball complex or in the parking lot during any athletic activity, sponsored by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department. (City Ordinance 1979-29, Article I. Chapter 21, Section 21-4). Any individual caught with possession of alcohol within facility will face up to a year suspension.

SECTION 4. TAILGATE PARTIES

Tailgate parties will be limited to the surrounding park area and picnic facilities.

SECTION 5. PETS

Pets are not allowed within the softball complex during any athletic activity sponsored by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department. Legitimate seeing-eye dogs will be allowed by special exception. (City Ordinance 1992-61, Article I. Chapter 21, Section 21-4).

SECTION 6. GLASS CONTAINERS

Glass containers are not allowed in the softball complex.

SECTION 7. SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted within the area of play, including the dugouts. (City Ordinance #2007-32)

SECTION 8. TRASH

Containers are provided for trash. Please help keep the area clean.

SECTION 9. CHILDREN

Children (anybody under the age of 18) are not allowed within the playing area or the fenced area of the dugouts.

RULE 7. CONDUCT "ZERO TOLERANCE"

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY

Managers are the official spokesmen for their team and shall be responsible and held accountable for the actions of their team members and fans. Assistant managers may conduct the duties of the manager in his/her absence.

SECTION 2. VULGARITIES

Vulgar language, spoken, worn, or displayed, obscene gestures or physical aggression toward other players, spectators, league officials or game officials, will result in ejection and a minimum suspension of one (1) game to a maximum of life suspension from further league play.

SECTION 3. FRAUD

Any player, coach, or manager who has been determined to have committed fraud (this includes, but is not limited to a player using an assumed name, falsifying rosters, employment and residential records, league hopping or using illegal "hot" bats) will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) year to a maximum of three (3) years of participation in any McAllen Parks and Recreation Athletic Program.

SECTION 4. ASSAULT

Any assault or threat directed toward a league or game official shall result in suspension of five (5) years to life from further participation in any athletic program sponsored by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department. The Parks and Recreation Department will report all suspensions to the T.A.A.F. and A.S.A./U.S.A. Suspension Committees.

SECTION 5. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Any player ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after the game being played will be automatically suspended for eight (8) game days (uninterrupted) from playing in any softball league sponsored by the McAllen Parks and Recreation League.

SECTION 6. DUGOUT CONDUCT

Coaches, players, substitutes, or other bench personnel shall not be outside the dugout area except when the rule allows or justified by the umpire. Players will receive one warning, and then will be ejected.

SECTION 7. ABUSE or THEFT OF PROPERTY

Any abuse, theft, defacing of game equipment or Parks property will result in automatic ejection from the game and reviewed for further suspension of play from any McAllen Parks and Recreation Program.

SECTION 8. DUE PROCESS

All ejections and suspensions are subject to review by the Director of Parks and Recreation or his/her designee.

A. Ejections will be considered final.

B. A Suspension Review Board will be set to hear any review of a suspension as deemed necessary for due process. The Suspension Review Board will consist of the following:

1. McAllen Parks and Recreation Umpire-in-Chief.
2. A member of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
3. Superintendent of Recreation of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department.

C. Notice of suspension is made immediately by the Umpire issuing an ejection.

1. Administrative Suspension. Suspension required by A.S.A. Rule or Rule 7, Section 5 of this document. Length of suspension will be for eight (8) calendar days or immediate reinstatement after the next scheduled league game, whichever is longer. The Director of Parks and Recreation or his/her designee will review of suspension.
2. Section 2-3, 6 Suspensions. Suspension required by Rule 7, Section 2-3 and 6 of this document. Length of suspension will be one (1) game to life suspension from further league play as recommended for review by the Umpire-In-Charge of the game situation.
 - a. The McAllen Parks and Recreation Director or his/her designee will review the suspension and a recommendation of suspension will be issued to the Suspension Review Board for final recommendation after a hearing.
 - b. One hearing date will be set and a notice, in writing, by certified mail, to the player in question, will be provided no less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the hearing date.
 - c. Notice of final suspension decision will be made in writing, to the player in question within three (3) days following the hearing.
3. Section 4 Suspensions. Suspension required by Rule 7, Section 4 and 7 of this document. Length of suspension will be five (5) years to life suspension from further participation in any athletic program sponsored by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department.
 - a. The McAllen Parks and Recreation Director or his/her designee will review the suspension and a recommendation of suspension will be issued to the Suspension Review Board for final recommendation after a hearing.
 - b. One hearing date will be set and a notice, in writing, by certified mail, to the player in question, will be provided no less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the hearing date.
 - c. Notice of final suspension decision will be made in writing, to the player in question within three (3) days following the hearing.

D. A suspended player has five (5) business days to make an appeal. Appeals of final suspensions may be made in writing to the Director of Parks and Recreation.

RULE 8. FORFEITS

SECTION 1. GAME TIME

Game time is forfeit time. All teams shall be prepared to take the field fifteen (15) minutes prior to scheduled game time.

A. Applicable only to the **first scheduled game of the day**, if a team is not prepared to take the field, the opposing manager may, through the home plate umpire, grant a ten (10) minute allowance to the short-handed team. The

home plate umpire will start the game clock at the prescribed game time.

B. Should both teams not be prepared, the home plate umpire will start the game clock at the prescribed game time, but will grant both teams ten (10) minutes. If at the end of this time, neither team is prepared to take the field, a double forfeit will be declared.

SECTION 2. EXPULSION

Teams with three (3) forfeits will be expelled from the league. No refunds will be made.

SECTION 3. EJECTION

A player(s) who has been ejected from a game and has been requested to leave the field and/or ballpark by an umpire has one (1) minute in which to leave the premises. Failure to comply will result in a forfeit for his/her team.

SECTION 4. ACCOUNTABILITY

Managers are held accountable for the actions of their team members and fans. Failure to control either or both may result in a forfeit by the offending team.

SECTION 5. INELIGIBILITY

Use of ineligible players will result in a forfeit (see Rule 4, Player Eligibility).

SECTION 6. FALSE IDENTITY

Any player suspected of playing under an assumed name or being under age must prove his/her identity to the satisfaction of the Home Plate Umpire (Example: Valid Driver's License with picture). Failure to prove identity to the Home Plate Umpire will result in a forfeit or they must replace the player (Excludes League Hoppers. See Rule 4, Section 5, Sub-section B1). (If their ID is in their vehicle, player will be given 30 minutes after the game is over to retrieve it, game will be played under protest. Failure to prove identity to site supervisor the game will result in a forfeit, win or lose.)

SECTION 7. LINE-UP

A minimum of nine (9) players must be able to take the field at the start of the slow-pitch game. The vacant position MUST be listed last in the batting order. (USA Rule 4, Section 1.D) If for any reason the number of players is reduced to eight (8) players, the game will result in a forfeit (see USA Rule 5, Section 4).

RULE 9. PROTESTS

SECTION 1. CONTENTS

All protests must be submitted to the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department in writing, containing the following information, as prescribed by USA. Rule 9, Section 6 A - E.

- A. The date, time, and place of the game.
- B. The names of the umpires.
- C. The rule and section of the official rule(s) and/or local rule(s) under protest.
- D. All information, essential facts, details and conditions pertinent to the decision of protest.

The written protest must be accompanied with \$25.00. Protests found to be invalid will forfeit the \$25.00 fee. The protest fee will be refunded if the protest is found valid. Protests may be submitted:

BY CERTIFIED MAIL to

City of McAllen
Parks and Recreation Department
P.O. BOX 220
McAllen, Texas 78505-0220

or (in person) to

City of McAllen
McAllen Parks and Recreation Office
1000 S. Ware Road
McAllen, Texas
Office hours 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

SECTION 2. NOTIFICATION

The manager or acting manager shall immediately notify the home plate umpire that the game will continue to play under protest. (See USA Rule 9, Section 4) A protest may be withdrawn at any time. All written protests must be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Office within three (3) business days of notice to the Home Plate Umpire of the game in question.

- A. Protest of eligibility on game starters must be made by the end of the **2nd inning**.
- B. If playing the game under protest, immediately following the game, the team in which the protest was made against must provide proper identification (i.e. driver's license) to league supervisor. Failure to properly identify any member of the team, against the team's official roster, will result in an automatic forfeit of the game.
- C. Protest of eligibility on substitutes must be made during the inning in which they entered the game.

SECTION 3. JUDGEMENT

Protests will not be considered valid if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire (see USA Rule 10, Section 3).

SECTION 4. RULES

Protests shall be considered only for the following: (USA. Rule 9, Section 3)

- A. Misinterpretation of a playing rule.
- B. Illegal player.
- C. Ineligible player.

SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY

Protests concerning player ineligibility may be filed in the following cases:

- A. Player not on the official roster submitted to the McAllen Parks and Recreation Office.
- B. Player who has been suspended and has not been reinstated.

SECTION 6. REVIEW

Protests will be reviewed by one of the following:

- A. The Superintendent of Athletics
- B. The Umpire in Chief of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Leagues.
- C. The local A.S.A./U.S.A. Umpire-In-Chief.

RULE 10. ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 1. ADOPTION

The adoption of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Local Slow-Pitch and Fast-Pitch Softball Rules and Regulations will be as recommended by the Director of Parks and Recreation and approved by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

SECTION 2. EDITORIAL CHANGES

Editorial changes, as prescribed by the current OFFICIAL RULES OF SOFTBALL and the TEXAS AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION SPORTS RULES, will be made periodically as applicable to this document.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENTS

Participants of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Softball Program may submit amendments and rule changes as follows:

- A. Participants may sponsor an amendment or new rule if he/she has participated in the program at least the previous year before adoption of new Rules and Regulations.
- B. Participant must be a resident or full-time employee in McAllen to sponsor an amendment or new rule.
- C. Any proposed amendment or new rule must be submitted, in writing, by the first Monday in November, to the McAllen Parks

and Recreation Office, with the following information:

1. Name of sponsor.
2. Home address and business address of sponsor.

3. Indicate the current rule to be amended.
4. State proposed amendment or new rule.
5. State purpose of the proposed amendment or new rule.

D. Proposed amendments or new rules will be addressed by a Rules Review Board, consisting of a McAllen Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member, the McAllen Parks and Recreation League Umpire-In-Chief, Two (2) McAllen Parks and Recreation League player representatives, and the Supervisor of Athletics. A public hearing of the proposed amendments and new rules will be held on the first Tuesday of December. Recommendation of the Rules Review Board will be submitted to the Director of Parks and Recreation for recommendation and approval by the McAllen Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

SECTION 4. DISTRIBUTION

Distribution of local McAllen Parks and Recreation Department Slow-Pitch and Fast-Pitch Softball Rules and Regulations will be made to all Team managers prior to league play. Every manager, player, and official shall read and understand these rules and regulations and strive, through cooperation and self-application, to maintain conduct within its provisions, for the mutual benefit of everyone concerned with the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department Slow-Pitch Softball Leagues.

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McALLEN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
SLOW-PITCH AND FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL
LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

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