



2024 Adult Softball League Rules and Regulations

Program Presented by:



CORVALLIS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1310 SW Avery Park Drive | 541-766-6918

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OVERVIEW

2024 RULE ADDITIONS:

- League Management section
- Team Classifications section
- Sunday weather cancellation notification @ 12pm
- Softball Advisory Board applications
- Nomad rule for all leagues
- Pitching arc for all leagues 6'-10'
- Same home run rule for all leagues
- Uniforms section
- Miscellaneous section
- Coed includes a rover for the encroachment line
- Scorekeepers provided for Albany leagues

2023 RULES REMOVED:

- Teams providing back up balls
- Albany Coed - If the same batter is called for Halo infraction twice in a game that player will be ejected from the game
- Paper rosters, game schedules and standings
- Church Coed – Special strike zone

1 LEAGUE MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Eva Daliana | W: 541-754-1706, C: 503-877-2224 | eva.daliana@corvallisoregon.gov
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- A. The Program Coordinator has final authority to make decisions pertaining to all softball league rules, regulations, and schedules; to act in the best interest of the City of Corvallis; and to make decisions in the spirit of competitive balance and fair play.
- B. Upon registering as a team in leagues coordinated by the City of Corvallis, each team and all participants agree to abide by Parks and Recreation’s rules and regulations.
- C. Parks and Rec staff and umpires may stop, postpone or cancel any game due to weather, darkness, unsafe conditions or other circumstances that may jeopardize participant safety in anyway, including games in which player behavior is deemed out of control.

Parks & Recreation Sports Management Team Sideline Page:
<https://www.teamsideline.com/sites/Corvallis/home>

1.1 FEES

- A. All teams must pay the league entry fee as listed on the information sheet by the specified deadline. Teams that pay after deadline are subject to dismissal from the league.

1.2 LEAGUES OFFERED

	League	Primary Game Night
Full Season	Coed (Corvallis & Albany)	Sundays
	Women’s	Wednesdays
	Men’s Single	Mondays and Tuesdays
	Men’s Double Header	Wednesdays and Thursdays
Shorter Season	Church Coed	Mondays

1.3 TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS

The Program Coordinator and Softball Advisory Board have full authority to take measures they deem necessary to create balance among all the leagues in order to involve as many teams as possible in the program. The primary goal is to create leagues that are evenly balanced and enjoyable.

- A. Past team performance may be considered during league composition.
- B. Number of returning and new players may be considered during team classification.

2 SOFTBALL ADVISORY BOARD

The Softball Advisory Board Charter can be found [here](#).

- A. The Softball Advisory Board provides counsel and recommendations to the Program Coordinator in governing league play. The Board provides input, perspective and opinion on current aspects of the

Softball program and proposed new initiatives, all for the purpose of maintaining fun and competitive leagues.

- B. The Advisory Board will consist of team managers/players from each league (Men’s single, Men’s double-header, Women’s, Corvallis Coed, Albany Coed, and Church Coed), the Softball Program Assistants, and the Program Coordinator for the Parks and Recreation Department.
 - a. Note: Only women will serve as the Women’s League representative.
- C. Board members are selected by an application process every 2 years.
- D. The Board will meet at least twice per year – Pre-season in April and post-season in September.

2.1 2024 MEMBERS

<i>League</i>	<i>Member</i>
<i>Coed</i>	Neil Abrew, Van Hunsaker, Chris Giessinger, Dana Gonzalez Avery, Brandi Robinson
<i>Women’s</i>	Rachel Hart, Ronda Kossow
<i>Men’s Single</i>	Terry Robertson, Jason Wallis, Sylas Caputo
<i>Men’s Double Header</i>	Mitch Wiltbank
<i>Church</i>	Dana Gonzalez Avery, Brandi Robinson

3 ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

3.1 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

All players in the full season leagues must be at least 18 years of age or going to graduate from high school this school year. Players in the Church Coed league must be 14 years or older. Players under 18 must have a parent’s signature on the roster.

3.2 ROSTERS

- A. To be eligible, players must be added and “enrolled” on the official team roster through TeamSideline prior to playing in any league games. Failure to comply subjects a team to forfeiture of games in which ineligible player(s) participated.
 - 1. Official team rosters must be completed on TeamSideline.
 - a. Initial roster deadline for Men’s, Women’s, and Church Coed - **Friday, May 10 2024.**
 - b. Initial roster deadline for Sunday Coed – **Friday, May 17, 2024.**
 - 2. Rosters are not limited to a maximum number.
 - 3. New players may be added to rosters after the initial roster deadline date.
 - 4. **The final deadline to add new players is Friday, July 19 2024 (June 21 for Church League).** TeamSideline rosters will be locked after deadline.
 - a. After the deadline, appeals to add players solely for replacing injured team members must be submitted to the Program Coordinator. The coordinator will then forward the request to the Softball Board for approval or denial.

3.3 ELIGIBILITY FOR TEAMS

- A. A player can only be on one roster per scheduled league. No player may be on two different team's rosters within the same league.
- B. A player can be on more than one team in different leagues.
 - 1. Men can join a Men's Single, Men's Double Header, Sunday Coed, and Church Coed teams.
 - 2. Women can join a Women's, Sunday Coed, and Church Coed teams.
 - 3. Players CANNOT play on two different Sunday Coed teams, even if they are in different cities (Corvallis and Albany).
- C. Women cannot play on a men's team per USA rule 4-1- B. "Male rosters shall include only male players and female rosters shall include only female players."

3.4 PLAYER CHANGE

If a player decides to transfer to another team within the same league, both team managers must agree, in writing, to the change. Player must register for new team roster; sit out one game (if this rule applies).
EXCEPTION: if a team forfeits out of the league, players may register for another team.

**VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE TEAM REQUIREMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY WILL MEAN FORFEITURE OF GAME(S)
AND/OR SUSPENDING A TEAM FROM LEAGUE PLAY.**

4 SOFTBALL AND ADULT SAFETY AWARENESS

As adults, we play softball for many of the same reasons that children do. We like to compete, have fun, and continue to share the excitement of playing a sport we love with friends. However, just as youth players play against others in their own age group to achieve a relatively fair and safe playing field, adults have to make certain considerations regarding fair and safe play. While it is common sense that an "A" player should not bat against a certain "Novice" pitcher, some leagues form in ways that could produce just such a situation. Coed leagues often bring together a wide range of skill levels. While it is nice to try to accommodate everyone, it is wise to keep players of widely different ability levels from playing against each other in the same game or league. There is a greater likelihood of injury in games where players having a wide disparity of skill levels are playing in the same game. As a general rule, adults are going to hit the ball faster and harder; therefore, there is often a greater risk of injury. The game of softball is played with bats and balls. Although termed a 'softball', a softball is a hard object that can cause serious injury or even death. As such, at all levels of the game, especially adults, horseplay with bats and balls should never be tolerated. ***It is strongly recommended that at least one player on every team is First Aid/CPR Certified.**

Smoking, Vaping and consuming alcohol on Corvallis and most Albany city property (parking lots, parks and sports complexes) is a violation of City of Corvallis and City of Albany ordinance. Violators are subject to arrest and/or fine. The umpire has the authority to forfeit the game if players, managers, or spectators are smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol on City property before, during or after a game. We encourage teams to inform their spectators of this City ordinance.

**TEAM MANAGERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF THEIR TEAMS IN RELATION TO LANGUAGE,
RULES, SPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOR, ETC.**

GENERAL RULES AND GAME REGULATIONS

(Applies to all leagues)

CURRENT [USA Softball Association SLOW PITCH rules](#) GOVERN PLAY EXCEPT THE VARIATIONS DENOTED HERE. THE CORVALLIS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY RULES, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES WHENEVER DUE CAUSE WARRANTS A CHANGE.

5 GAME PROTOCOL, FORFEITS, TIME LIMITS

5.1 GAME SCHEDULES

- A. Games will be scheduled by the Program Coordinator. Schedules will be posted to TeamSideline and linked to the Parks & Recreation website.

5.2 GAME LENGTH

- A. Games will be seven (7) innings or one hour and fifteen minutes in length, whichever comes first. No new innings may begin after one hour and fifteen minutes, unless the game is tied. All tied games must be played to a conclusion.
- B. In case of darkness or weather conditions after 4.5 innings have been completed and the home team is winning, the game is considered a regulation game.
- C. Start time is the scheduled game time.

5.3 INCLEMENT WEATHER

- A. Team Managers and players must call 541-766-6921 to verify game cancellations due to weather conditions (such as rain, heat, or smoke). Decisions regarding weather-related cancellations will be announced at 3:00pm for weeknight games and at 12:00pm for Sunday games.
 - a. Team Managers will also receive email notifications through TeamSideline regarding weather-related cancellations.
 - b. Important Note: even if the department cancels games at noon due to inclement weather, and the weather improves later in the afternoon with drying fields, the games will still remain canceled.
- B. If rain, excessive heat, or smoke arises after 3pm on weekdays or after 12pm on Sundays, and the department confirms that the games are still on, the umpires will make on-site decisions regarding the game's feasibility. If the umpire initially starts the game but later postpones it due to safety concerns, all scheduled games on that field for the evening will also be postponed.
- C. Weather makeup games: Every effort will be made to reschedule them as doubleheaders on the league's regular playing day. If this proves to be impractical, makeup games can be scheduled on Fridays, other weeknights, or, in exceptional circumstances, on a Saturday.

5.4 FORFEITS

- A. If a team manager knows that his/her team is going to be short players, the team is encouraged to play short-handed or play as a forfeited game with an Umpire and Scorekeeper assigned. Please notify both

the Program Coordinator (eva.daliana@corvallisoregon.gov, 503-877-2224) and the opposing manager at least 24 hours in advance if forfeiting a game.

1. A team can play with fewer than ten (10) players. There is no required number of players a team must have before they forfeit a game.
 2. Teams may pick up Nomads to sub for missing players – see rule 5.5 below
- B. If a team forfeits three games, they will be suspended from further league play. If a team uses an ineligible player and forfeits the game for that reason, the forfeit will count as one of the three forfeit games they are allowed.
- C. If a team drops or forfeits out of the league, the games won by that team will not count in the league standings and the team will not be eligible for the league playoffs.
- D. Games will not be rescheduled due to team forfeits.

5.5 NOMAD RULE

- A. Any team may pick up currently rostered player(s) from another team in the same division, or a lower division, (i.e. “nomad”) to play for their team to avoid forfeit and play competitively.
1. Teams may only add enough nomads to bring their team roster up to the league standard of ten (10) for the game.
 2. Team Managers MUST notify the Scorekeepers/Site Leader prior to the start of their game if nomad players are being used. **If the Scorekeeper is not notified, the game will be a forfeit.**
 3. If a player who is on the team’s current roster shows for the game, the nomad player must leave the game. The player will replace the nomad in the batting order.
 4. A player may only be a nomad 3 times for the same team during the course of the season.
- B. Players not on the roster of another team (i.e. free agents) are not eligible to be nomads. They need to be added to your roster through TeamSideline prior to the start of the game.
- C. The Nomad rule will NOT be in effect for the playoffs.**

5.6 SCOREKEEPING / UMPIRES

- A. A single plate umpire will be provided for each game. During championship games, a plate and field umpire will be provided.
1. In case of the absence of an official umpire, both teams may agree not to play the game, and it will be rescheduled by the Parks and Recreation Department. However, if the two teams do agree to play with another person acting as the umpire, the game will be an official league game.
 2. Teams cannot make requests to specifically select or exclude umpires for their games. Team Managers should meet with the Program Coordinator and Umpire Coordinator if there is an umpire safety concern.
- B. Scorekeeper’s are provided for each game that keep a book.
1. The official lineup card (containing first and last names of each participant) is due to the scorekeeper at least 15 minutes prior to scheduled game time.

5.7 REGULAR SEASON LEAGUE CHAMPION

League champion will be determined as follows:

- A. Win/loss record of league games.
- B. If two or more teams tie for first or any other position the tie breaker shall be:
 - 1. The overall record of games played between the teams that are tied.
 - 2. In the event that the tied teams are still tied, the second tiebreak shall be runs allowed between the teams.
 - 3. If there is still a tie between each of the teams, the tie breaker will be broken by a coin flip.

6 EQUIPMENT

6.1 UNIFORMS

- A. Metal or ceramic cleats are not permitted at any time. Only rubber type baseball, soccer cleats or tennis shoes may be worn.
- B. It is recommended that pitchers wear safety masks during the game. Any player may wear a safety mask/helmet to prevent injury if they are so inclined.
- C. Although not required, it is recommended that players have a legible number on the back of their uniform/shirt to assist the scorekeepers.

6.2 BALLS

- A. Parks & Recreation will provide the new game softballs and back up balls. All leagues will use these softballs.
 - 1. Men's League: 12"
 - 2. Women's League: 11"
 - 3. Coed League: Female batters: 11". Male batters: 12"
 - 4. Church Coed League: Male and Female Batters: 12"
- B. The backup softball comes into play exclusively when the game ball is hit or thrown out of bounds. This protocol applies consistently whenever the game ball leaves the field of play. Both the pitcher and batter don't have a say in selecting the game softballs. A game ball intentionally or unintentionally moved out-of-play by a player will remain in play.

6.3 BATS

Only 2011 – 2024 USA/ASA/NSA/USSSA bats are allowed for league play.

- A. Any legal bat with the USA/ASA stamp may be used but it does not have to have the latest stamp.
- B. No Senior, Wood or bats on the USA softball non-approved bats list will be allowed.
 - 1. The USA non-approved bats list can be found at <https://usa.asasoftball.com/e/BB1P2000.asp>
- C. The bat shall be free of dents and visible cracks. Umpires may take a damaged bat out of play at any time.
- D. The umpire will make the final decision whether a bat is legal or not.

Any participant(s) or team who conspire to introduce illegal, altered or non-approved equipment into a game(s) shall be subject to sanctions determined by the Program Coordinator.

7 PITCHING

- A. Pitching arc is 6 feet (minimum) and 10 feet (maximum) for all leagues (USA Rule 6C-3). The ball shall be delivered with perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground, while not exceeding a maximum height of 10 feet from the ground.
 - 1. No quick or fake pitches.
- B. The pitcher may pitch from the pitching rubber or from the pitching area (between the front and back pitching rubbers / on the mat).
 - 1. After assuming their position, the pitcher must present the ball in front of them for at least one second.
- C. The pitcher may hold or grip the ball in any manner before the delivery.
 - 1. Only a definite underhand motion is permitted in the delivery of a pitch.
 - 2. The pitcher may release the pitched ball in any manner when delivering the pitch.
- D. If permitted by the umpire due to time considerations, a pitcher may throw a maximum of three warm-up pitches each inning or 5 warm-up pitches upon entering the game in relief.
- E. The speed of the pitch and height of the pitched ball are left entirely to the judgment of the umpire (NOTE: For sake of uniformity in decisions, any doubtful pitch should be ruled as an unfairly delivered pitch).
 - 1. The umpire shall warn a pitcher who delivers a pitch with EXCESSIVE SPEED that repeating such EXCESSIVE SPEED PITCH will cause the pitcher's removal from the pitcher's position for the remainder of the game.
 - 2. A pitch that does not arc the full 6 feet as required (flat level pitch) may not be an EXCESSIVE SPEED PITCH, but merely an unfairly delivered pitch.

8 BATTING & BASERUNNING

- A. All players who play in the field (defense) must bat. After the batting order is set, if a player has to leave the game for any reason other than an ejection, that spot in the batting order is just skipped in future at bats. If a player is ejected from the game, each time that spot in the batting order comes up, it is an automatic out.
- B. Players who throw their bat intentionally or unintentionally after hitting the ball, may be subject to ejection from the game.

8.1 COUNT

- A. The batter shall assume one-ball, one-strike count upon entering the batter's box.
- B. The batter will be allowed to foul off one pitch after two strikes. If a second foul ball should occur after two strikes, the batter will be declared out.

8.2 COURTESY RUNNER

This rule is for injured players only. A team may begin a game with an unlimited number of courtesy runner(s).

- A. The courtesy runner(s) must be declared to both the scorekeeper and/or umpire prior to the beginning of the game.

- B. The player must reach first base before they can have a courtesy runner.
- C. Their replacement shall be the player of the same gender who made the last previous out.
- D. All players that play defense must also bat when on offense.

8.3 HOME RUN RULE

- A. A progressive home run rule will apply for all leagues. Each team will start with a limit of three (3) home runs. Following that, a progressive one (1) home run limit will be imposed.
- B. In practice, if both teams have reached the initial three (3) home run limit, one team can only hit one more home run than the other. For example, if Team A leads in total home runs over the fence with 4 compared to Team B's 3, Team A cannot hit another home run until Team B has hit 1 or 2 home runs.
- C. If a team has reached its HR limit the next home run out-of-park will be a dead ball out.

Note: In order to save game time, home run hitters do not need to touch first base as out-of-park home runs will be considered a walk-off.

Albany Leagues Exception: On a Home Run Hit if a base runner decides to run "home" and crosses the home plate or touches any part of the mat, instead of the Scoring Line that runner will be called OUT, and will NOT score.

Home Run Defined:

- A. Any ball that travels over the fence untouched (and any ball that hits the netting at Timber Linn and Bryant Park fields #3).
- B. Any ball that travels over the fence in the air via touching any part of a player and/or their equipment prior to going over will be considered a 4-base error and not count against that team's home run count.

8.4 SAFETY 1ST BASE

- A. The ORANGE safety base should be positioned such that the white portion is located where first base would normally be (in fair territory) and the colored portion (orange) should be in foul territory. Any batted ball hitting the white portion should be fair and any ball hitting the orange portion should be foul.
- B. On the initial throw to first base from the infield or outfield, the batter-runner MUST TOUCH the orange portion of the base but not the white. If legally appealed by the defense during a live ball situation, the runner will be called out. The defensive player MUST always touch the white portion. This rule is in effect only on the initial play at first base. This does not include:
 - 1. Returning to the base after over running,
 - 2. Running on a base hit to the outfield; runner may touch the orange or white base,
 - 3. Or Re-tag to advance on a fly ball.

EXCEPTION: On any attempt to force the batter runner out at first base on the initial throw that pulls the defense off of first base into foul ground, the defense and the batter may use either the white or colored portion of the base.

EFFECT: If the base runner uses the orange portion at any time after the first attempt at first base, and is not in contact with the white portion, then he is considered off the base.

8.5 HALO RULE (ALBANY LEAGUES ONLY)

Will only be in effect in the Albany Coed, Church Coed and Men's DH leagues. It will not be in effect for the games played on the Corvallis fields.

Halo Rule Defined:

- A. A dead ball out is called when a batted ball is a line-drive hit directly at the halo zone.
- B. The Halo zone is an imaginary box measuring 3 feet by 7 feet, the same size as the pitching mat.
- C. Any ball that travels through the designated pitchers box area from the ground to 7' in the air will result in a dead ball and the batter is out.
- D. If the ball hits the ground prior to the pitching rubber, it is a ground ball regardless if the pitcher is in the halo zone.
- E. If it is a line drive through the halo zone, it is a dead ball out.
- F. Pitcher is not protected if the ball is hit outside of the halo zone.
- G. If at any time, the umpire feels a ball was intentionally hit into the Halo zone the batter will be immediately ejected from the game even if it is the first offense.

9 SUBSTITUTION METHODS

- A. Open substitution: All players present at game time will bat. Players arriving late can be added to the bottom of the lineup with no penalty.
- B. Defensively, there are no restrictions as to substitutions as long as:
 - 1. There are no more than 10 players on the field at one time.
 - 2. Substitutions are done only between innings. EXCEPTION: If a player is injured, ejected, or has to leave because of personal reasons, a team may substitute during an inning. Pitching changes may also be made during an inning.
- C. In all leagues, pitching changes may be made with one of the 10 defensive players on the field or a substitute player from the bench
- D. USA Softball Substitution: Similar to regular substitution but with the following differences:
 - 1. Option to use an extra player (EP) must be known prior to the start of the game. The EP must be used the entire game. If an EP is used, all 11 on the starting lineup (12 coed) must bat and any 10 of the 11 may play defense. Any starting or non-starting player may be substituted and may re-enter once, provided they occupy the original batting position. Before each game, each team must decide which substitution method they will use. Once a game is started, a team cannot change the substitution method.

10 MERCY RULE

- A. If either team is ahead by 15 runs or more after 5 innings, the losing manager has the option of ending or continuing the game, unless there is 10 minutes or less remaining to play, in which case the game will end.
 - 1. If losing team decides to continue the game, the next inning will be played. At the end of that inning, if the score difference is still 15 runs or more and, if there are less than ten minutes

remaining, the game is then considered complete. If more than ten minutes remain, another inning may be played if losing team decides.

11 GAME PROTESTS

- A. All protests must be made to the umpire at the time the question arises and noted to the scorekeeper/site leader.
- B. At the time of the protest, the official scorekeeper shall record all strikes, balls, and other information. **Protests can only be registered on rule infractions, not on judgment calls.**
- C. A written protest must be turned into the Parks and Recreation Department or emailed to the Program Coordinator within 24 hours. Only the team manager, coach or captain can protest or question rule interpretations to the umpire.

12 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any abusive or inappropriate conduct (physical or verbal) will result in the player being ejected. Abusive or inappropriate conduct directed towards spectators, umpires, opposing players, league officials, or onsite staff before, during, or after games may result in the suspension of the offending player(s).

12.1 BASIS FOR PLAYER DISQUALIFICATIONS / EJECTIONS

- A. Use of obscene or profane language at games.
- B. Destruction of property at the site of league play.
- C. The umpire has the authority to forfeit a game if a player is ejected from the game and refuses to leave the field. USA Rule 5-4-G.
- D. The umpire has the authority to forfeit the game if any player, coach, manager, or team manager is consuming any alcohol on City property before, during or after a team game. We encourage teams to inform spectators about this City Ordinance, Section 102.01.06, which is a Class C Misdemeanor. Violators are subject to arrest and/or fine.
- E. Any players or managers committing an unsportsmanlike act toward other players, umpires, scorekeepers, or spectators will be ejected from the game.
 - 1. If a player is ejected from a game they are subject to be suspended from future games. The Program Coordinator will determine if a suspension is merited and will determine the length of the suspension. Players or managers may appeal a suspension to the softball board if the suspension is longer than one (1) game.
 - 2. When a player is ejected from the game for an unsportsmanlike act, an out will be recorded each time their turn at bat in the order occurs.
- F. Any player striking an umpire or another player will be suspended from further league play that season.
- G. Multiple game suspensions can carry from the current season to the next.

13 PLAYOFFS

Playoff scenarios are subject to change based on weather, or other natural occurrences throughout the season.

- A. At the end of the season, there will be a playoff to determine the champion for each league.
- B. The top six teams in each league qualify for the playoffs. If there are six, or fewer, teams in a league all of the teams will qualify.
- C. The playoffs will be double elimination for all leagues. This will require the COED teams to play one weeknight game between the beginning and end of their playoffs.
- D. Seeds 1 and 2 will have a first game bye. Seeds 3 – 6 will play a doubleheader on the first night of the playoffs. Lower bracket games will also likely include a doubleheader during the playoffs.
- E. The higher seeded team from the regular season standings will be the home team in each playoff game.
- F. Playoff champions win T-shirts.

13.1 PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY

- A. For playoffs, all players must be listed on a legal team roster by the deadline and should present a photo I.D. to the scorekeeper/site leader before each game. In case of non-compliance, the player won't be eligible for that game.
 - 1. To avoid delays, team line-ups and players with I.D. should check in with the scorekeeper/site leader ten minutes before the game starts.
 - 2. Team rosters will be available on-site for clarifications regarding player eligibility.
 - 3. Players not listed on a legal team roster won't be allowed to play.

14 MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Notify the Program Coordinator of any potential scheduling errors. The Parks and Recreation Department will make every effort to resolve logistical issues.
- B. TeamSideline is the primary source for up-to-date league info including schedules, standings and rules.
- C. Blood Rule: When blood is visible, the game will be stopped to allow for quick dressing of wounds. Wounds must be covered and no blood can be visible before player may return to play.
- D. Wearing jewelry is discouraged for safety reasons.
 - 1. Players must tape, cover or remove jewelry during active participation if the umpire identifies a safety hazard.
 - 2. Casts (plaster, metal or other hard substance or any other item deemed dangerous by the umpire) may not be worn during the game.
- E. Music may be played in the dugouts at a low volume. Music may not contain profane language or subject material. At any point, umpires or scorekeepers can ask teams to turn it off.
- F. Play at your own risk. All players are responsible for their own insurance coverage. The City of Corvallis does not provide accident insurance for league participants or spectators.

COED LEAGUE RULE ADDITIONS

Regular USA slow-pitch rules and general rules and regulations above apply to Coed leagues.

15 BATTING ORDER

A team may play with fewer than 10 players. See batting order and defensive positioning rules below. If a team has five male players, they must have at least three females for either batting order to work.

- A. The batting order must alternate male and female batters. The Wheel Batting order is allowed.
- B. A courtesy runner must be of the same gender as the injured player.
- C. Teams may use Open, USA substitution, or Wheel batting order.

15.1 OPEN BATTING ORDER

- A. If a team has more males than female players, the extra male(s) must alternate times at bat, with another male(s) in the same batting position. No other males may alternate into this batting position or any other batting position.
 - 1. Example: If there are seven (7) males and five (5) females, the two (2) extra males must share another batting position, and alternate times at bat with two (2) other males. The five (5) females would have their own batting position and would not be able to share a batting position with each other. Players may only share a batting position when that team has more of one gender in the line-up. This is determined by the team manager.
- B. If a team has more female than male players, additional female players may follow each other at the end of the batting order, or have the option to share a batting position with another female batter, and alternate times at bat, in the same batting position. This is determined by the team manager.

15.2 THE WHEEL BATTING ORDER

- A. Teams can bat as many players as they want, up to twenty, even if the male to female ratio is uneven.
- B. ALL players present must be listed in order in the scorebook. For scorekeeping ease, it helps to list all of one gender and then list all of the other gender instead of alternating.
- C. The batting order must always alternate male/female. A batter will always follow the same person of the same gender throughout the game. Once all batters of one gender have batted, that gender line up starts over.
- D. Players arriving late can be added to the bottom of the lineup with no penalty .

16 DEFENSE POSITIONS

- A. When a team has ten (10) players, they are required to play with the USA softball rule 1E. Three females and three males in the infield, two females and two males in the outfield.
 - 1. Defensive positions are not required to alternate i.e. the pitcher and catcher do not have to be opposite genders. They can both be female or both be male. Likewise, the infield and outfield positions are not required to alternate.

- B. When on defense: a team that has less than ten (10) players, may play with five (5) males **or** five (5) females in the field. Example: a team only has five (5) males and three (3) females; they may play all five (5) males in the field when on defense with a maximum of three (3) male infielders and two (2) male outfielders.
 - 1. Note: a team may play with more females than males in the field. Example: If there were seven (7) female and only three (3) male players at the game, you can play all seven (7) females in the field.
- C. Any walk to a male batter will result in a two base award for the batter. Runners are advanced only if forced to advance. The next batter (a female) will bat. Exception: with two (2) outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.

16.1 ENCROACHMENT LINE RULE / ROVER

The encroachment line starts on the left field foul line approximately 150 feet from home plate, and it runs parallel to the outfield fence until it reaches the right field foul line.

- A. There will be ONE Rover allowed when a female is batting and ALL other outfielders shall remain behind the encroachment line until the pitched ball is hit. No player except the rover shall cross this line until after this ball has been batted or a base will be given to the person at bat. ALL infielders must stay on the infield dirt until the ball is hit. If a violation occurs, the batter will be awarded 1st base.
- B. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to notify the umpire if they think the opposing team is encroaching beyond the single rover. The encroachment line is very difficult for the umpire to see from behind home plate and will ultimately be a judgement call.

17 ALBANY COED RULE ADDITIONS

17.1 NO COLLISION/COMMITMENT LINE RULE

- A. An alternate "Scoring Line" will be installed for base runners coming in to score (similar to the orange safety first base). This will eliminate the unsafe contact plays at home plate between male and female players, as a result all plays at home will not require a tag in order for the defense to obtain an out. See Church Coed League rule 19.2 for more details.

COED CHURCH LEAGUE RULE ADDITIONS

All general rules and regulations above apply to Church League.

18 ABOUT

- A. Church League is for teams that are affiliated with a recognized church. If no normal church sponsorship is available, a team registering in this league, must be dedicated to the fun and fellowship of the game with like-minded believers.

- B. Unsportsmanlike behavior and language will not be tolerated. Umpires will have the right to forfeit a game if this system is not being followed. Multiple complaints against one team could result in the team being removed from the league.
- C. All teams will be expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, within a family friendly atmosphere and a game of learning and growing.
- D. Although team uniforms may not be required, please be sure that all clothing worn reflect the family values of the league.

18.1 FIELDING A TEAM / DEFENSIVE POSITIONS

- A. Normally a coed team in the field plays with five (5) men and five (5) women. However, teams may play with seven (7) men and three (3) women. A team may also play with seven (7) men and two (2) women, but in this case a team will only be allowed to play with a total of nine (9) players and will take the extra out while at bat. A team may substitute players defensively as needed. Church Coed teams do not need to alternate male/female defensively.

19 BATTING & BASERUNNING

19.1 ORDER

- A. Female batters must come to the plate a minimum of every 4th batter in the line-up to avoid an out, and the female batters must rotate accordingly to ensure equal opportunity. Once all batters of one gender have batted, that gender line up starts over to maintain this rotation.
- B. The "Platoon Rule" may be implemented for teams that have one or more players that are rotating into the same position and alternate the batting position simultaneously. What is platooning? Defensively, you can have 2 players play the same position but alternate each inning. Offensively, you can rotate 2 batters in the line-up every other at bat.

NOTE: Teams may develop their batting orders any way they want in the best interest of their team, as long as they maintain the ratio of every 4th batter being a female, or the team will be issued an out.

Example: if you want to bat 15+ people, only 10, or platoon the choice is up to the team as long as the ratio stays with a female every 4th batter.

19.2 NO COLLISION / COMMITMENT LINE RULE

- A. An alternate "Scoring Line" will be installed for base runners coming in to score (similar to the orange safety first base). This will eliminate the unsafe contact plays at home plate between male and female players, as a result all plays at home will not require a tag in order for the defense to obtain an out. See details below.
 1. A three foot "Commitment Line" shall be marked across and perpendicular to the foul line and placed thirty feet from home plate. Once a runner has crossed the "Commitment Line" he: (a) cannot return to third base; (b) must continue home; (c) can no longer be tagged out by the defensive player; the defensive player must touch the "Batter's Box Home Plate".
 2. A "Commitment Line" thirty feet from the "Scoring Line" will be used. Once a runner's foot touches the ground on or past the "Commitment Line", the runner is committed to advancing to

the "Scoring Line" and may no longer be tagged out. EFFECT: Tag of the runner by a defensive player will not be allowed. The runner will be called safe; the ball remains live, and the runner is not required to touch or cross the scoring line.

NOTE: If a runner re-crosses the "Commitment Line" in an attempt to return to third base, he/she will be declared out and the ball remains live.

19.3 RETIRING A BASE RUNNER AT HOME

- A. Non-Force Situation - A base runner may be retired at the "Batter's Box Home Plate" in a non-force situation. The defensive player must have possession of the ball while touching any portion of the "Batter's Box Home Plate" after the runner has passed the "Commitment Line" but does not yet have a foot down on or down past "Scoring Line."
- B. Crossing or Touching "Batter's Box Home Plate" and/or "Batter's Box" - The runner shall also be called out, if he touches any portion of the "Batter's Box Home Plate" or the "Batter's Box". The ball also remains live. "Just getting the bat" is irrelevant, if the RUNNER touches ANY PART of the mat, they WILL BE CALLED OUT. Wait until the umpire calls time before retrieving the bat.
- C. "Scoring Line"- A base runner's foot down on or down past the "Scoring Line" prior to the ball being received by a defensive player touching the "Batter's Box Home Plate" results in the scoring of a run. The runner MUST cross on or over the scoring line or to the right side of the pad. If a runner crosses anywhere between the Batter's Box and the left side of the scoring line, the runner will be called out.

MEN'S DOUBLE HEADER LEAGUE RULE ADDITION

20 EQUALIZER RULE (INTER-LEAGUE PLAY B – C) / RUN SPOT GUIDELINE

This rule applies to **Fall double header league only** –

- A. Fall double header league will play by a home run rule of 5 per game than progressive.
- B. When a team plays another team that is classified 1 division higher, that team will be spotted 5 runs, if a team plays another team that is classified 2 divisions higher, that team will be spotted 7 runs. Upper level team will ALWAYS be declared the home team.
 - 1. Team's division will be determined by summer league classifications.
- C. Modifications to this "Equalizer Rule" may be changed throughout the season as needed based on scores and umpire evaluations, managers will notified via email prior to any changes made mid-season.