

**CITY OF CELINA
PARKS & RECREATION**



**Adult Co-Ed Slow-Pitch Softball
Rules/By-Laws**

General League Information

League will be governed by the ASA Official Rules of Softball unless otherwise stated in this document.

General Information:

- Alcohol is PROHIBITED on playing fields, in dugouts, and in common space around Old Celina Park by the City Ordinance.
- Weather issues will result in a 15-minute maximum delay before cancelling the game
- Any player ejected from a game must leave the park at the time of ejection and is subject to further discipline from the Parks & Recreation Department.
- The Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to add/delete/modify rules at any time for the betterment of the program

Equipment:

- Uniforms:
 - NO REQUIREMENTS. Preferred that team members wear similar colors and numbers.
- Bats/Balls:
 - BATS- Any bat with new USSSA thumbprint or ASA stamp is legal. Illegal bats will be removed from the game without penalty unless it is used again. Then, the player using bat is ejected.
 - BALLS- 12", 52/300 Softball. **TEAMS** must furnish game balls.

Eligibility/Team Formation:

- Players must be a minimum of 18 years of age (subject to ID checks)
- Team Make-Up:
 - Teams may play with a minimum of 9 players (5 male, 4 female); 10th spot is an OUT
 - Teams CAN bat 12 or 14 if equal Male/Female
 - Teams CAN bat back-to-back females without penalty
- All players MUST have their photo ID on their person when the team is playing. During a roster check, players will be required to show photo ID that matches the team's official Roster/Waiver. Players WILL NOT be allowed to leave the playing area (going to the car to find ID). No ID, NO PLAY.
- All players must be included on the team's official Roster/Waiver form held by the Parks Dept. This is subject to ID checks at any time.
- PLAYOFFS:
 - Players are required to play at least 1 game with a team during the regular season in order to play with the team in playoffs
 - Players MAY NOT play for multiple teams during playoffs
- If a team is found in violation of an eligibility rule, that team will forfeit the game.

Game Format:

- Game Length:

- 55 Minutes or 7 Innings, whichever happens first (No new inning will start under 5 minutes; the home team WILL be able to finish their half of the inning.)
 - Mercy Rule Shortened Game: 20/3rd, 15/4th, 12/5th
- Home/Away:
- Teams flip coin before game to determine
 - PLAYOFFS ONLY: Higher seeded team will be HOME

Gameplay

- Batting
- NO BUNTING ALLOWED
 - All batters begin their at-bat with a 1-1 count.
 - Batter gets one courtesy foul once they reach 2 strikes, next foul is an out
 - Line-up must alternate Male/Female. Teams CAN bat females back-to-back without penalty
 - Walks-
 - Male- 2 bases
 - With 2 outs, female may choose to take first base, or hit
 - Home Runs-
 - Co-Ed 1-Up Rule in Effect:
 - A team cannot go more than 1-Up over the other team in HRs

-
- In the last 10 minutes, the home team cannot go 1-Up over the away team. If the away team goes 1-Up then the home team can match them
 - Player is OUT if they hit a HR over the limit
 - Females have unlimited HRs and do not count towards 1-Up rule
 - Team hitting HR is required to retrieve the ball and return it to the field
- Pitching
- Pitcher can stand on the rubber or up to 5' behind the rubber. Pitcher MUST come to a complete stop before releasing the ball
 - HALO Rule-
 - Ball must be hit back at pitcher
 - Pitcher must be in the pitcher's box (within 3' on either side of rubber and within 5' behind the rubber). If pitcher runs forward or is out of the pitcher's box, the HALO rule is not enforceable.
 - After 1st batter for a team is called out, the 2nd infraction will result in an **offensive** ejection. The player may still play defense

Extra Innings

- 8th Inning, or first inning after clock expires, all batters will face a 3-2 count with NO courtesy foul. A foul ball is an OUT.
- Starting in the 2nd EXTRA inning, the team batting will place their last out on second base.
- Must have a winner. NO TIES.

Special Rules/Considerations

- Defensive Alignment- Males and females DO NOT have to alternate defensively in the infield/outfield. The catcher and pitcher DO NOT have to be of opposite sexes and are considered infielders. Teams are NOT regulated as far as the number of infielders/outfielders or gender of each position. MAY NOT have more males than females defensively.
 - Our league is a competitive, but recreational league. While the alternating gender/positions rule is listed in the official ASA rules, we have never enforced it in this league in order to allow teams flexibility and encourage play regardless of how a team fills out their roster.
 - Please note that this is only for DEFENSIVE positioning. Offensive rules are stricter and will be followed as previously mentioned in this document.
- Player Substitutions- Player substitutions can only be made prior to game start as long as they meet criteria above, are officially added to the team roster, have signed the waiver form.