

Rantoul Recreation Department-2019 Co-Rec Softball Rules and Regulations

1. Teams & Players

- A. Each team will be allowed unlimited players. There is no participant fee. Team rosters will be open. The batting order and fielders must be equal men/ women. For example 10 players must be 5 women and 5 men.
- B. Players are eligible if they are at least 14 years of age and have not played on another team during the season. **Players may only play on one team per league.**

2. The Game

- A. Any type of shoes with metal or steel cleats are prohibited.
- B. Seven innings will constitute a complete game. There will be a sixty (60) minute time limit on all games. no new inning will begin once the sixty (60) minute time limit has expired; **Inning underway will be played to its completion. If inning is tied after completion, it will remain a tie in league standings. Tournament games are an exception of this rule.**
 - In case of bad weather or other circumstances during regular season requiring the umpires to call a game, it will be considered complete if four or more innings are completed. (3 1/2 if the home team is ahead.)
 - During tournament games, in case of bad weather or other circumstances requiring the umpires to call a game it will be postponed if four or less innings are completed.
- C. A game can be played with 8, 10, or 12 players. If a team is short they may begin with 8 players **(4 male and 4 female – no exceptions).**
- D. Five males and five females play on the field at one time. The batting order must alternate **(m-f-m-f-m-f).**
- E. The Co-Rec league will use the “additional hitter” (AH) Rule. At the beginning of each game the manager will have the option of using 12 hitters in the batting order (1 extra male and 1 extra female). The AH rule may only be used at the start of the game and must be used for the entire game. If the AH rule is used (12 hitters), any ten players may take the field to play defense each inning. The re- entry rule is still in effect for all twelve hitters. If a team begins a game with twelve (12) players (two additional hitters), and a player is either ejected or injured and must leave the game, that team must then play with ten players.
- F. Substitution is by sex only. (A male for a male and a female for a female). The re-entry rule will be used.
- G. The ten (10) run rule will be in effect after five (5) innings. The fifteen (15) run rule will be in effect after four (4) innings. The twenty (20) run rule will be in effect after three (3) innings.
- H. Game time is forfeit time. There is no grace period. Lineups are due to the scorekeeper ten (10) minutes prior to the start of the game.
- I. Only one (1) umpire will be used to make all decisions. Please respect his/her judgment. The mat provided will be used this year to constitute balls or strikes. All pitches hitting any part of the mat will be a strike. If the pitch hits home plate it will be ruled a strike.
- J. There will be no pre-game infield practice allowed by any team, which includes the 1st game also.
- K. All batters will start with an automatic one (1) ball and one (1) strike count when they step into the box.
- L. **Players will be awarded one courtesy foul. The second foul will be considered a foul out.** Players may advance on the base paths following the standard Tag-up rules on a caught foul ball.
- M. Any team forfeiting two consecutive games will be eliminated from the league for the remainder of the season unless that team contacts the Recreation Department 48 hours prior to their next game.
- N. PLEASE NOTE: This season female batters must take their turn at bat at all times unless there are two outs. If a male batter walks with two outs (intentional or non-intentional) the female batter has her choice of batting or taking a walk. A male batter will always go to second base when walked and runners on base will advance.
- O. Softballs will be alternated. Male batters will use an 11” Incrediball and female batters will use an 11” regular softball.
- P. PLEASE NOTE: This season there will be a progressive home run limit per team per game. The progressive rule is that each team will be allowed to hit 3 home runs per game. Once either team reaches the 3 home run hit maximum, no more home runs will be allowed until the other team reaches the 3 home run maximum. After both teams reach the 3 home run total, each team will be allowed one more home run. If both teams reach the four home run total, each team will then be allowed one more home run and so on. Any home run over the limit will result in an out.

Q. This year, in effort to avoid players colliding, home plate for the runners will be the mat. The catchers will still use home plate.

3. **Ground Rules**

- A. Any fair ball hit on the fly over the outfield fence (designated the home run fence) will be a home run.
- B. A ball hit on the bounce and in fair territory over the fence or through the fence will be a double.

4. **Appeals**

- A. The ASA rule book will be followed in the case of protest. The protest must be submitted in writing by 9:00 am the following day to the Recreation Department.

5. **Recreation Department Rules**

- A. No alcoholic beverages permitted on city property.
- B. Unsportsmanlike conduct towards officials WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Team managers are responsible for their players conduct on and off the field. There will be a special attempt to halt the swearing and unsportsmanlike language on the field this season. Penalty will be ejection from the game.
- C. Blood Rule - If there is noticeable blood on a player or coach or on a player's or coaches' uniform the game will be stopped by the umpire until the bleeding is stopped and covered or the uniform is replaced or covered. The length of the time the game will be stopped is up to the judgment of the umpire.
- D. Any player using unsportsmanlike conduct will be ejected from the game. Upon ejection the player will receive an automatic two game suspension. If the player is ejected a second time they will be suspended for the remainder of the season.