



**ROSWELL RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
2010 SPRING ADULT SOFTBALL RULES**

A LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

1. The governing body of this league will be the Roswell Recreation & Parks Department.
2. Amateur Softball Association slow pitch rules will govern league play except where superseded by local league rules.
3. RRPD reserves the right of final interpretation on all league rules.

B PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. **TITLE VI COMPLIANCE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION:** Federal and City of Roswell regulations strictly prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, handicap, gender, sexual orientation, AIDS or ARC. Teams must have one of these forms on file with our Department or they may not participate.
2. All players must be at least 18 years old before 1/1/2009.
3. Managers are required to bring their initial roster to their first game. A team's roster shall be determined by the **SIGNED** player roster form on file at the fields. If roster is not turned in by the first game, that game will be a forfeit. Roster size is unlimited, but it is the responsibility of the team manager to make sure all players have signed the roster. Players not on rosters are **INELIGIBLE** players. Games played with ineligible players are subject to forfeiture.
4. Players can play on multiple teams long as they are in different leagues. However, player's names must appear on **EACH** team's roster for whom they are playing. A player wishing to be released from his/her present team to play for another team within that same league, must call the league supervisor's office at (770) 594-6134 to obtain the proper procedures.
5. Managers wishing to add players must have the player sign the team roster form at the field before his/her game begins. **Players may be added through each team's eighth (8th) game. After a team has played their 8th game, all rosters are final.**
6. In order for a player to be eligible **for post-season play**, a player must have participated in **at least 3 regular season games**. Players discovered in violation of this rule shall be declared ineligible.
7. College or high school students who play organized college or high school sports shall be ineligible to participate in any Roswell Recreation & Parks Department Softball program until the conclusion of the college or high school season.

C GAMES

1. All games deemed "Exhibition" will carry the same considerations as a regularly scheduled game (umpires, jerseys, etc.) but will not impact won/loss records. These games do count as forfeits if you do not show up.
2. Teams will not be allowed to change game times or days with other teams. *The Roswell Recreation & Parks Department reserves the right to reschedule games at any time if it determines it is in the best interest of the program.*
3. **FOR SAFETY REASONS – DURING WARM-UP – NO BALLS MAY BE THROWN OUTSIDE THE FIELD OF PLAY. WARM-UP IS PERMITTED ONLY INSIDE THE FIELD OF PLAY ON THE OUTFIELD GRASS BETWEEN GAMES.**

4. A manager must submit a written line-up to the umpire on the form provided by the Roswell Recreation & Parks Department. Line-ups not on this form WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. The line-up must consist of FIRST NAMES, LAST NAMES, AND NUMBERS.
5. A minimum of two (2) umpires will be assigned to each game. Umpires are responsible for keeping the score on the board and filling out the game summary sheet at the end of each game. Teams wishing to appeal the score must be done before the first pitch, legal or illegal, of the following half inning. Games are still official if only one (1) umpire is present.
6. Game time is determined by the home plate umpire. A ten (10) minute grace period will be allowed on the *first* scheduled game of the day/night only.
7. Teams that do not have a minimum of eight players at game time (with respect to rule C, 6) shall forfeit the game. If neither team has a minimum of eight (8) players the game will be declared a double forfeit. **FORFEITED GAMES WILL NOT BE OFFICIATED.**
8. If a team forfeits three (3) game dates during the regular season, that team will be expelled from the league unless that team pays a fine of one-half of the total league fee by 5:00 pm the day of their next scheduled game. If the team elects not to pay the fine, they will be treated as a new team the following year. Exhibition Games (E) do not count in the standings, however if not played, do count towards you forfeit total.
9. Home team will be designated on the schedule. Games with an (F) will indicate that home team will be determined by a coin toss or by whatever means the officials have available.
10. All games are scheduled for seven innings with the following possible exceptions:
 - a) There is a ONE HOUR TIME LIMIT. Time limit constitutes an official game regardless of the number of innings played. The time limit begins when the home team takes the field.
 - b) If play is interrupted due to rain, five innings (4 ½ if the home team is ahead) will constitute an official game. An interrupted game which does not go the minimum number of innings to constitute a complete game will be resumed at the exact point of the game which was interrupted. This includes all time remaining in the one hour limit.
 - c) Tie games will be played out as long as the time limit has not expired. If time has expired and the game is tied, one (1) more inning will be played, regardless of the number of innings played. If the game is still tied at this point, it will be recorded as a tie.
 - d) Run rules will be 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings, and 10 runs after 5 innings. If the home team is ahead, they will not bat in the bottom half of the inning.
11. Pitchers may pitch from either the 50 foot or the 56 foot Pitcher plates but may not pitch from a distance between them or be in violation of any ASA pitching rule. Pitches must still meet all ASA requirements.
12. ALL AT BATS WILL BEGIN WITH A ONE BALL AND ONE STRIKE COUNT. PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED ONE FOUL ON THE THIRD STRIKE. ANY SUBSEQUENT FOUL BALLS WILL RESULT IN AN OUT.
13. **The following home run limits will be enforced for all leagues:**

Men's Competitive – 8	Coed Competitive – 4
Men's Recreational – 2	Coed Recreational – 2

Home runs hit in excess of the limit shall be recorded as an OUT. The batter runner as well as all other runners on base at the time a home run is hit are not required to touch any further bases and may return to the bench area.
14. If time allows, the league supervisor will contact coaches if games are to be canceled. If it is questionable as to whether a game will be played or not, coaches and players are advised to come to the field. A rain-out line has been established and recordings of cancellations will be put on this machine **FOR MANAGERS ONLY AFTER 3:00 PM- East Roswell Park (770) 594-6508. Waller Park Ext 770-641-3836.**
15. Teams are advised to be prepared to make up games at the first available date. This might include days/nights that you were not originally scheduled to play.

D UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

1. One (1) new ball and one (1) used ball will be furnished by the RRPD to begin the game. COR 44 red stitch balls with a compression rating of 375 lb or less will be used. Teams are **urged** to bring extra COR 44 red stitch balls to throw in for home runs and foul balls. *The optic yellow ball will be used in 2010.*
2. Teams will be required to use bats certified by the Amateur Softball Association and currently not on the banned bat list. Bats that are currently approved will have an ASA stamp placed somewhere near the barrel of the bat*. The list of current legal and illegal bats can be located on www.softball.org. *Please note that some illegal bats may still bear the ASA symbol. **Anyone caught with an illegal or altered bat will be ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct.**
3. All players must have legal jerseys in order to participate in a game. A LEGAL JERSEY IS DEFINED AS SHIRTS THAT ARE THE **SAME** COLOR WITH PERMANENT NUMBERS (NOT TAPED ON OR DRAWN ON). Must be softball/baseball type/tee shirt jerseys. No football, basketball, etc. jerseys will be allowed. EXAMPLE: If a team has royal blue jerseys, any player on that team with a navy blue jersey will not be allowed to participate. NUMBERS MAY BE EITHER ON THE FRONT AND/OR BACK. Sleeves, trim, color of numbers, and screening do not have to be the same. Legal numbers are defined as 0-99. No decimals or fractions are allowed. EACH PLAYER MUST HAVE A DIFFERENT NUMBER!
4. **PLAYERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PLAY IF THEY DO NOT HAVE A LEGAL JERSEY. If not detected by staff, the opposing team may protest the wearing of an illegal jersey. However, this protest must be made when the offending player takes their first turn at bat or their first turn in the field – whichever occurs first. The officials will note the protest on the score sheet and the game will continue. The regular protest Rules (Section G) apply following the game. Once a player has taken their first turn at bat or first turn in the field, no protests for illegal jerseys may be made.**
5. Teams are NOT permitted to share jerseys with a team in their own league.
6. No one will be allowed to play bare-footed, in socks, or steel cleats. A cast or brace made out of hard and unyielding leather, plaster, pliable plastic, metal or any other hard substance will NOT be allowed (even if covered with soft padding) when worn on the elbow, hand, finger, wrist, or forearm. Unless approved by the league office, braces must be approved for safety by game officials before the start of the game.
7. ASA rules regarding hats will be enforced.

E SUBSTITUTIONS, RENTRY AND EXTRA PLAYER

1. Any *player* may be removed from the game and re-enter once. The returning player must return to the same place in the batting order. Defensive assignments do not affect this rule.
2. If a player, for whatever reason, is unable to continue playing and only if no legal substitute is available, the player's spot in the order will be skipped WITH NO PENALTY (provided it does not put that team below the minimum number of eight players). ***The only exception is if a team has used up all of their available legal substitutes they may re-enter a substitute or starter previously used in order to keep them from going below the minimum number of eight players.***
3. "Courtesy Runners" are not allowed unless there is an injury to a base runner or batter runner as stated in rule E, 2.
4. If a team begins with eight players, the ninth and tenth players may be added at any time during the game. They may take their defensive position at any time also. An EP (extra player) can NOT be added after the game has started.
5. An EP is optional, but if used, it must be in the line-up prior to the first legal pitch of the game. The EP may be listed anywhere in the batting order and must stay in that spot. If an EP is used, all eleven must bat and any ten of the eleven can play defense. Defensive changes among these eleven players do not have to be reported. If an EP can not continue for any reason, the same procedure in E, 2 is used.

F CONDUCT

1. IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO POSSESS AND/OR CONSUME ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE, OR BE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE WITHIN ANY PUBLIC PARK AND/OR WITHIN ANY BUILDING UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE ROSWELL RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT. VIOLATION OF THIS RULE WILL CARRY A MINIMUM TWO (2) GAME SUSPENSION WITH A MAXIMUM OF AN INDEFINITE SUSPENSION FROM THE PARK.
2. Smoking is not allowed on the field of play or in the bench area.
3. Only uniformed players are authorized to be in the bench area. Non-players, at the request of an official or RRPD staff member, may be asked to leave the area. Please keep the children out of the bench area and off the field.
4. Judgment calls by the umpire will not be discussed. Players and/or managers questioning judgment calls by the umpire are subject to ejection from the game. For rule interpretations only, the designated manager is the only person authorized to address the umpire(s).
5. Profanity will not be tolerated. Offending individuals on the bench or field are subject to ejection.
6. Any player or coach ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for the next two (2) games that the team plays.
7. If a player is ejected from a second game for unsportsmanlike conduct, that player will be suspended for the remainder of that season.
8. If a team has three (3) players ejected from three (3) separate games, that team will be suspended from league play and will be treated as a new team the following year.
9. Any player, manager, coach, or spectator who threatens and/or causes bodily harm to any umpire, RRPD official, or opposing player, manager, coach or spectator before, during, or after a game may be suspended from all Roswell adult athletic league play indefinitely and may be suspended from the park. **Players are subject to post game ejections from the officials.**
10. The Roswell Recreation & Parks Department reserves the right to suspend any or all players, coaches and managers for unbecoming conduct before, during, or after a game.

G PROTESTS

1. **Judgment calls by an official can NOT be protested.** Protests for rule interpretations must be submitted as follows:
 - a. Manager will call time-out and notify the home plate umpire before the next pitch (legal or illegal)
 - b. A written protest, accompanied with a fee of \$50 must be presented to the league supervisor's office before 5:00 PM the next working day.
 - c. Each protest must outline the events as they transpired and must cite specific rules, sections, and sub-sections to bear out the protest.
2. The RRPD reserves the right, based on eligibility, to forfeit or end any games.