



City of West Palm Beach Recreation Division 2010 Adult Co-Ed Softball Rules and Regulations

The Team Captain is responsible to discuss these rules with your team. Each player should be familiar with these rules before beginning play.

Remember this is a recreation program, and we are here to have fun!

League Director: Chandler Brinkman *Deadline:* December 31st, 2009
League Entry Fee: \$500

Regulations

1. League play will begin January 11th, 2010. Games will be played at Howard Park/Gaines Park.
2. Games will be played on Monday nights at 6:30 PM, 7:30 PM, and 8:30 PM.
3. League Rules are in conjunction with the N.S.A. rules for league play. It is the coaches' responsibility to inform all of their players of the rules. The City of West Palm Beach reserves the right to change the rules and procedures of their program when deemed necessary.
4. Violation of the rules pertaining to conduct or any specific rules infraction as noted under N.S.A. rules may result in game forfeit or suspension from the league.
5. A player ejected from the game will be suspended from league play for at least one game starting with the next scheduled game played. Any ejected player must leave the park immediately, or his/her team will receive a forfeit. A second ejection will result in an eviction from the league. Anyone fighting will be automatically suspended from all West Palm Beach athletics programs for one full year. Umpires and the softball director have the ability to eject players from the present game and future games. The ejected player may not come and watch the next game.
6. A team trophy will be awarded to the league champions and playoff champions.
7. Awards will be given to playoff champions.
8. Overall record will determine league champion and runner-up. If a two team tie occurs the tie will be broken in order: head to head game record, head to head run differential, least number of runs scored against, and overall run differential. Ties among three or more teams will be broken by head to head game record, record versus common opponents, run differential in games involving teams in the tie, least number of runs scored against; total runs scored in league play, coin flip.
9. **In case of inclement weather, Please call the Athletics Hotline at 804-4908 after 4:30 pm and listen to recording for cancellations. Decisions on weather to play after 4 pm will be left to the discretion of the umpire-in-chief.**

10. Rainouts will be rescheduled, schedule permitting, and played on the day and time set by the league director. Wednesday nights have been reserved for rainout days.
11. **A team that forfeits a game will be responsible for the fees of the officials for that game.**
12. **Teams that forfeit two games will be disqualified from the league, without a refund.**
EXCEPTION TO RULE 6 AND 7: The team captain must contact the League Director of the team's absence 24 hours before game time.
13. Absolutely no money will be refunded once league play has begun.
14. All league info once the season begins will be given out via email only.
cbrinkman@wpb.org

Team Roster

1. Team rosters and waiver forms must be completed and submitted to the official scorekeeper at the first game.
2. Teams may add player(s) to the team roster up to and including the 4th regular season game. After that game, all additions must be approved by the league director.
3. Any player on the team roster who has played at least 3 games is eligible for participation in the playoffs.
4. All players must be 18 years of age and out of high school by the first league game. Any team found having an ineligible player will forfeit all games that player participated in and is subject for possible suspension.
5. A player may play for only one team in the league.
6. Changes to a team roster must be done by contacting the league director. Additions to the roster must not exceed the maximum roster limit of 15 and must be done 48 hours in advance of the scheduled game in which the new player participates.

Line-Up

1. Team line-up must be handed into the official scorekeeper at least 10 minutes before scheduled game time.
2. Each line-up must have the player's first initial, last name, and number.
3. Each team must have the same colored shirt with manufactured numbers by the third game of the season. **NO WRITTEN OR TAPED NUMBERS.** A player may wear the same color shirt as long as the team name is on the front and a number is on the back, or no name on the front, but a number on the back. It is advised that the team manger keep extra team t-shirts to avoid any problems. If a player does not have the team shirt or same color shirt he/she will receive a warning. A repeated offense may result in that player being ineligible to play in that game. The league director will have the final decision.

4. Players running late must be written at the bottom of the lineup card under substitutes.
5. Once the lineup is submitted to the scorekeeper it cannot be changed other than adding a tenth player in the tenth spot of the batting order.

Players

1. In order to begin the game with 10 or 12 players an equal number of male and female players are needed OR you must have more females with at least 4 males.
2. The batting order must alternate male, female or female, male, however, if you have more females than males you may bat females consecutively.
3. In order to start the game you need a minimum of 5 males and 4 females or 4 males and 5 females. If you are missing a female you will take an automatic out in the 10th spot, if a male is missing you will skip the out. Two males cannot bat back to back.
4. The missing player can be added to the line-up by notifying the score keeper and the umpire-in-chief.
5. The Extra Player (EP) rule applies to League Play. Teams are able to use 1 male extra hitter and 1 female extra hitter, bringing their starting batting order to 12 players. **You may bat 11, if that extra batter is a female. At no point may a team use a male as the extra (11th) batter, team shall never bat males consecutively.**
6. If the Extra Player is used, these players may play defense at any time, but they must retain their original positions in the batting order. The batting order must remain the same unless a substitution is used in the offensive line-up.

Games

1. **Each team is required to keep a scorebook during the games. Scores will be confirmed during each half inning. The Official Scorekeeper will be there to clarify any confusion or discrepancies.**
2. A female/male combination is required for pitcher/catcher. There must be two females and two males in the infield defensively. There must be two females and two males in the outfield.
3. There must be four outfielders out on the field. Outfielders must stay in the outfield; they may not be on the infield surface. Outfielders must be in the outfield at the time the ball is pitched and it is the umpire's discretion to determine if the defensive team is in compliance.
4. A 180 foot restraining line will be painted and utilized only when there is a female at bat. Outfielders must stand behind the line until the ball is hit.
5. Infielders may not stand closer than a direct line between first and second base, and second and third base until the ball is hit when a female is at bat.
6. **Penalty: dead ball.** Batter, base runner, and all preceding base runners will be awarded two bases from the time of the pitch.
7. If a male batter walks, he will be awarded two bases. The subsequent female batter may elect to bat or be granted a walk.

8. Games consist of seven innings; a one hour time limit is in effect for all games except the Championship game. No new inning will start after one hour unless the game is tied. The mercy rule is always in effect. The clock will be monitored by the umpire; however, the official can stop the clock when necessary for emergency situations such as serious injuries, weather, field safety, etc.
9. The clock will begin at the scheduled start time for the first game. On occasion, there will be allowed a 10 minute grace period for the 6:30 PM game. That means the game clock starts at 6:30 PM and the forfeit time now is 6:40 PM. This will be allowed as long as it is not abused. The game will start when all the players are on the field, ready to play, not in the parking lot at 6:40. All other games will begin when the umpire has both teams ready for the pre-game conference.
10. Game time is forfeit time.
11. **Games will be official if five (5) full innings are completed (4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead). If games are suspended due to inclement weather before game is official, the game will be rescheduled and will start over.**
12. The mercy rule is as follows, 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings, or 10 runs scored difference after 5 innings of play. **Games will be ended during the inning if the mercy rule has been reached.**
13. Batters start each at bat with a normal 1 and 1 count.
14. Third strike is an out.
15. Third strike foul ball is an out and a dead ball; no runner may advance or be put out.
16. The ball must be pitched in a 6-10 foot arc.
17. A Courtesy Runner of the same sex may be used once per inning for a total of two (2) courtesy runners per inning one (1) male and (1) female. The courtesy runner must be the same sex player who made the last out.
18. The sliding rule will be in effect and enforced, base runners will be called out when and if they don't slide or move out of the way to not cause contact or obstruction with any baseman. There shall be no intention by the base runner to break up a double play by sliding, only to avoid a collision.
19. There will be a three home run limit per game per team. This includes all playoff games and championship game.
20. Batters hitting a home run in excess of the limit will be called out. Base runners will not advance.
21. Re-entry rule is in effect. All starters may be substituted for and return to the game in their original batting position only once.
22. Metal cleats, sandals, and bare feet are not allowed.
23. The highest seed is the Home Team for the playoffs. The championship game is the only game with no time limit; you play a full 7 innings.
24. If a team forfeits two games that team can be dropped from the league with no money refunded at the league director's decision.
25. **Umpires will be in complete charge of all games and the time in between games. Any harassment of an umpire or City employee before, during, or**

after a game will not be tolerated and will lead to suspension for the next game. No profanity will be tolerated at the park by players or spectators. The umpires and the league director have the authority to eject any player, coach, or spectator for using profanity. Anyone who has been ejected from the park and refuses to leave will cause the team they are associated with to receive a forfeit loss for that game. A second violation of this rule will result in a one game suspension; a third violation will cause an eviction from the league.

26. If ejected from the game, the player ejected will be suspended for the following game and must leave the park immediately and not return to watch the following game.
27. All bats used in this league must be listed under the current N.S.A. approved bat list.
28. All judgments of the umpire and or the official scorekeeper are final.
29. Fighting will not be tolerated. **Any player deemed to be involved in fighting can and will be suspended from all West Palm Beach athletics programs for up to one full year at the discretion of the League Director and Recreation Supervisor.**
30. N.S.A. rules will apply to all league rules and regulations.
31. **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.** Any players or coaches found to be in possession or under the influence during a game will be disqualified from the league for the remainder of the season.

League Director: Chandler Brinkman
Office: 804-4908
Email: cbrinkman@wpb.org