

# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

## CO-ED SOFTBALL RULES

**All ASA/USA or DPR League Rules will be followed with the following exceptions:**

1. Teams should use ten (10) players, but may play with as few as (8) or (9) players. Teams may play with as many female players as they choose, but at NO TIME can male players outnumber female players. (Exception: When a team has (9) players, it may play with 5 males and 4 females. This is the only exception). If at any time a team is reduced to playing with 2 more males than females, the opposing manager will have the option of taking a forfeit, or continuing the game. Teams reduced to less than (8) players due to injury, or ejection will forfeit immediately.
2. Field position requirements are as follows: No more than (3) males on the infield, and no more than (2) males in the outfield. 5 infielders may be used. (Note: There are no requirements as to which infield, or outfield positions males must occupy). Pitcher and Catcher positions cannot be occupied by males at the same time.
3. The batting order must be drawn up alternating male and female players, including when a team has more female players than men. (Exception: When beginning a game with nine (9) players, two (2) players of like sex may follow each other; however, they must be the first and ninth batters in the batting order. A team reduced to nine (9) players may have two (2) players of like sex batting consecutively anywhere in the batting order. Also, a team may end up with consecutive men or women in the line-up if these players were added after the game had started.
4. Males may bat from their normal batting style using a Single Wall bat. In the case where a team is suspect the male batter is using any bat great than a Single Wall, an appeal may be made at any time, and the batter in question must change bats immediately, or take an out.
5. When a male batter receives a walk, he will be awarded first and second base, regardless of whether a male or female batter follows in the batting order. If there are 2 outs, the next female batter will have the option to walk, or bat. She loses this option once she steps into the batter's box. She must bat if there is less than 2 outs.
6. Any team utilizing the "Everybody Bats Rule" may always bat more females than males. If more males are present, the extra males may only enter as a substitute for another male. If a team is batting equal numbers of males and females and a female is injured or ejected, the male corresponding to her place in the batting order must also leave the game. If the corresponding male is on base, he will be removed when he is "put out" or has scored. Neither player may re-enter the game.
7. The "Courtesy Runner" allowed to run for an injured runner when utilizing the "Everybody Bats Rule" must be the last person to make an out and be the same sex as the injured runner. A female can always run for an injured male runner if desired.
8. Co-Ed teams cannot utilize the Extra Player (EP) rule.
9. A team can only score (7) runs per inning during the first four (4) innings, and only one (1) of those runs is permitted to be a homerun. This is not including a homerun made on errors committed by the defense, but a single hit made over the fence. All additional homeruns will be counted as an out.
10. Leagues will use one 12" softball: 52/300

11. A perpendicular chalk line will be indicated halfway between Third Base and Homeplate as a Commit Line. If a runner is running towards home and has crossed that line, the play at Homeplate is now considered a force out.
12. The outfield will have a line placed so that when a female batter is batting, the outfield cannot move in front of those lines. This is to allow for a better playing experience for all players, both on defense and offense.
13. At no time, should a batter who hit the ball to Left Field be running from Homeplate to First Base, and the Left fielder attempt to make a play by throwing the ball from Left Field to First base. If this happens, the Left Field and Team Manager will be issued a warning. If it happens again the Left Fielder and Manger will be removed from the game.
14. To prevent teams from being unable to fulfill their rosters, there is a document that has been shared with each team captain and they are responsible for filling in their subs before the game starts.
15. This is a game, have a fun and enjoy your time!