



Baseball & Softball Sport Complex

Adult Softball Rules:

A. Playing Rules

Mount Paran Sports softball league will be governed by the official rules of the Amateur Softball Association of America (A.S.A.) with the following modifications.

1. Tennis shoes or rubber-cleats must be worn. Metal cleats are illegal in all leagues.
2. **GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME!** Teams must be ready to play at scheduled time with a minimum of 8 players. Non forfeiting team has the option to grant 5 min extended time.
3. Six innings will constitute an official game, unless time limit, darkness, rain or run rule prevails. 4 innings (3 1/2 if the home team is ahead) is an official game. **If a game is postponed while in progress, it will be resumed at the point from which it was stopped.**
 - Time Limit is 1 hr
4. **No new inning will be started after 60 minutes.** Game time begins & ends with a word of prayer. At the end of the time limit (upon completion of inning started), the game will be called, unless darkness, rain, or run rule have been invoked.
5. A team leading by 15+ runs after three innings or 10+ runs after four innings (3 1/2 innings if home team is ahead) or any complete inning thereafter will be declared the winner and the game complete.
6. During the regular season, there will be no extra inning play.
7. Every player bats. There are no restrictions concerning field substitution but, the batting order must remain the same.
8. If a team begins with only 8 players they may add players at the bottom of the batting order up until all players in the line-up have batted once. They will not be charged an out in 9th and 10th positions. Once every batter has batted no players can be added to the line up.
9. Whenever a team is playing with only nine players, an out will be taken when the 10th position in the batting order appears.
10. When the batter enters the batter's box he/she will have the count of one ball and one strike. After the batter has received a count of two strikes, he/she will be declared out on the second foul (the first foul will be called a "courtesy foul").
11. All players in the field (maximum of 10, minimum of 8) must appear in the batting order. Defensive changes are unlimited provided that the game is not unduly delayed.
12. **Courtesy runners will be allowed** for injured players. All courtesy runners must be the last player to have made an out. In coed play, the courtesy runner must be of the same gender.

13. A pitch delivered legally with the proper arc requirement that crosses the plate within the strike zone will be called a **strike**. The strike zone is that space over any part of home plate, between the batter's back shoulder and front knee, when s/he assumes a natural batting stance. The pitch, delivered with an underhand motion, must have a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground, while not exceeding a maximum of 12 feet.
14. If the catcher in any way obstructs the umpire's view, the pitch shall be declared a ball.

SPECIAL COED MODIFICATIONS

1. **Teams must start a game with a minimum of 5 males and 3 females in the field of play.** A team may play with unequal numbers of males and females, but must take an "automatic out" if doing so. For example, if a team plays with 2 females and 7 males, an automatic out will be recorded in the #10 position in the batting order. For every female not in the line up an out will be awarded. Unless both teams are without the same amount of women the captains can decide to play straight up without penalties.
2. The batting order must alternate males with females.
3. Once the pitcher has received the ball and assumes a stance to address home plate, all outfielders, including the "rover" when fielding ten players, must remain behind the 165' restraining arc until the pitched ball reaches home plate.
4. A male batter who receives a walk (intentional or not) will be awarded second base. Runners advance if forced. The next batter (a female) will bat. Exception: With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.
5. **The 12-inch size ball will be used for all batters in all games.**

B. The Playing Field

1. Bases will be 70 feet apart for both men and women
2. Umpires will establish ground rules prior to the game regarding out of play areas, permanent obstacles in the field of play, etc.

C. Equipment

1. In order for a bat to be deemed legal it must be an official A.S.A. approved softball bat. It must have a safety grip (no smooth tape) and must be free of rough or sharp edges. Baseball bats and fungo bats are not legal.
2. Balls will be provided by Mount Paran Sports and given to each head coach for games.

D. Ejection Policy

1. Zero Tolerance rule for unsportsmanlike behavior, cussing, fighting, which includes players, coaches, and fans
2. Players will be suspended for 2 games for umpire ejection. However, if player is ejected for fighting or threatening players they will be ejected for the season.

E. Protest

1. If a team chooses to protest a game they must first protest through the games umpire. If unsatisfied with the ruling, the captain then lodges his/her protest to Mount Paran Sports. Games are deemed official after 24 hours of play.