

Adult Coed Summer Softball Organizational Meeting
Wednesday, March 14, 2013
6:45 p.m.

RULES

Registration Payment/Official Fees/Scorekeeper/Forfeit Fee

- Scorekeeping/Stats
 - \$12 for scorekeepers
 - \$15 for umpire
- **If a game starts (even 1 pitch thrown) and it gets cancelled due to weather, teams must pay umpire \$10 and scorekeepers \$6. The other half of payment will be returned.**

Final Rosters/Amount of Games to Be Eligible for Playoffs

- Final rosters are due **Friday, June 14**. **Tentative rosters need to be turned in by April 22** so Benander Games Sports Data can enter names into the computer. Managers can fax to Mayfield Village at (440) 461-2231.
- Playoff Eligibility: TDB (depends on total amount of games played)
- There is 20 person roster limit.

Bats/Spikes/Softballs

- No Metal Spikes. Players must change shoes if caught wearing spikes. If caught wearing them a 2nd time, its an automatic ejection.

- **Bats – ASA legal bats only** A copy of illegal bats will be kept in the strongbox. **All ASA legal bats then must be tested, approved and stamped with the Mayfield Village decal.** Any team caught using a bat that is not approved (Mayfield Village stamp), **the game is automatically forfeited and the player is suspended the following 2 games.** The bat used will then be confiscated and tested. If it fails the test, and is then found to be altered in any way, **that player receives a lifetime ban. If the decal is removed or tampered with, or the bat is altered after its been tested, the player receives a lifetime ban from all leagues in Mayfield Village.**
- Before each game, the approved bats should be lined up against the fence so umpires can inspect them prior to being used

- **Softballs-** Worth 52 core, 300 compression

Shirts

- Teams must have matching shirts with numbers on the back. Players must have the same color shirt with a number on the back.
- **Teams must have matching shirts by June 7.** If at this time, a player does not have a matching shirt, it is an out the first time they are up to bat, only if opposing managers
- If a team/player does not have a shirt (or shirts) by June 7, if a receipt or some type of documentation can be presented to show that it is on order, it will not be an out the first time up to bat.

Parking

- All players must park in the gravel lot located just south of the softball fields on SOM Center Rd.

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Rainouts/Make-Ups

- If the 7:00 p.m. games are cancelled, then all the remaining games will also be cancelled.
- Games rained out on Fridays will be made up the following Sunday (9 days from the Friday cancellation) All make-up games on Sundays will all be played at Parkview unless told otherwise beginning at 4:30 pm. This will be noted on the top of each schedule.
- Tell all team members that they can call the hotline at **(440) 954-4114** to find out if there are any game cancellations. League administration hopes to program the hotline on Fridays around 5:00 or 5:30 p.m. if needed. On Sundays, the hotline should be programmed around 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. If any game is cancelled, you will hear it immediately on the recording.
- If one team cannot make it to the make-up game on Sunday, then they will forfeit. If both teams cannot make it, then it is a double forfeit.
- No make-ups on Mother's Day or Memorial Weekend.

Forfeits

- If a team forfeits, the team that is waiting at the field, ready to play, will receive credit as a game played (will count for one of the games needed to be eligible for playoffs)
- There will not be rescheduling of games to avoid forfeits.
- After one team forfeits, if teams play an "unofficial game" and the umpires stay, each team will pay their regular amount. The only time the forfeiting team will pay for umpires and for the scorekeeper is when no game is played.

Equipment Strong Box

- First aid kit and a copy of illegal bats will also be available here.

Awards

Individual teams will decide if they want trophies or t-shirts. All teams will make the playoffs.

- Regular season for each league
 - Champions will receive a trophy/plaque for the sponsor.
- Playoffs for each league
 - Champion and Runner up will both receive a trophy/plaque for the sponsor.
 - Champion will receive individual awards (team manager must contact Sean to order awards)

Rules Reviewed

Rules will follow ASA standards except those rules created specifically for the Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation Adult Coed Softball League. Umpires & Managers must go over ground rules before each game:

1. The Infield Fly Rule will be in effect for this league.
 - Infield Fly Rule- If there are runners on 1st & 2nd or 1st, 2nd, & 3rd and a fly ball (excluding line drives) is hit into the infield, the batter is out and runners can advance at their own risk. (must have less than 2 outs)
2. Sliding is optional at 2nd and 3rd. No sliding at first and home.
 - The bases will be at 65 feet, and the pitching rubber will be 50 feet from home plate.
 - There will be a second home plate to avoid collisions. The play at home is always a force so they cannot tag the runner. If the runner uses the regular home plate it is an out.
 - The second home plate will be 8 feet from the original home plate, in line with the first base line.
3. Safety bag at first base
 - If play is at first base, runner must use the colored safety base and the defense must use the regular (white) base
 - If there is not a play at first base, runner may use white or colored base.
 - Runner may turn back to touch either the white or colored base.

(Next Page)

4. Safety Line

- There will be a chalk line 32 feet from third base that is perpendicular to the third base line. Once a runner passes this line, he or she must continue to the extra home plate. If the runner runs to the original home plate, it is an out. The catcher will always treat all plays at home as a force play.

5. Number of Players/Batting Order

- **Teams start with even amount of males and females (5 and 5, 6 and 6, etc.)**
- The only exception will be for teams starting 9 players. Teams may start with 5 men and 4 women or 5 women and 4 men. If starting with 5 men, a male must begin the batting order and the 10th spot will be an out. If starting with 5 women, a female must begin the batting order with two consecutive females batting 9th and 10th therefore no automatic out. If the fifth member of the opposite gender arrives after the game begins, he/she must be inserted in the tenth spot in the batting order.
- 14 batter maximum. There is a continuous batting order (everyone must bat).
- Each player must play 2 innings in the field. Therefore any sub used must enter the game by start of 6th inning to allow them the opportunity to play 2 innings. An inning is described as 3 out (i.e. – player can't be subbed in for 1 out then removed). If a sub is entered after the 6th inning, the sub/batter will be an out and original player must return or the game will be called a forfeit.
- Batting order alternates between males and females.
- Males bat strong handed.
- **Teams are allowed to have 2 females next to each other, but cannot have 2 males next to each other except at SS and 3rd base can teams have 2 males playing next to each other.**
- If a male is walked, the next female has the option of walking too or batting. This is decided prior to entering the batter's box. The previous male does not automatically go to 2nd if the female bats.
- If a guy sits and does not bat, the team will be given a warning because he must keep his spot in the batting order. If it happens again during the game, it will be an automatic forfeit
- If a player is injured during the game, he/she will be skipped over in the batting order without it being an out.
- A person arriving late to the game can be added at any time as long as he/she is able to play 2 innings in the field. He/she will be added to the bottom of the batting order.

6. Time Limit

- 70 minute limit.
- There will be a 5 minute grace period for the first game only but game will not go past 70 minutes (grace period cuts into game time)
- If a game is in the middle of an inning at the 65 minute limit, teams will play through the inning.
- **Games that end in a tie will be left in a tie during the regular season after 7 innings.**
- During the playoffs, if a game is tied, it will go into extra innings if it is within the time limit. If time does not allow extra innings then the *International Tie Breaker Rule* will be used. This rule states that going into the 8th inning, a runner (last out) starts out on 2nd base with no outs. After three outs, the other team receives the same opportunity. If it goes into 9 innings, runners start out on 2nd & 3rd base. The other team receives the same opportunity. If the game is still tied, teams will follow the above process but they will start with one out with a runner (last out) on second base. If it goes into the next inning then there will be runners on 2nd & 3rd with one out.

7. Pitching Mound/Base Distance

- Pitching mound will be 50 feet.
- Bases will be 65 feet apart
- Pitchers are permitted to use 6ft pitching area directly behind the rubber. Pitcher must have 1 foot within that "pitching box" while throwing pitch.

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8. Substitute Runners

- A runner is allowed to have a substitute runner as long as it is the last out male for male or female for female. **2 males and 2 female sub per game.**
- If it is the first batter of the game and they need a runner, use the last guy for guy or girl for girl in the batting order.

9. Flat Pitches

- **Pitching Arc – 6-10 ft.** If a pitcher throws a slow pitched ball with an arc less than 6 feet from the ground or higher than 10 feet from the ground, the umpire will announce “illegal pitch”. This is an automatic ball if the batter does not swing. If the batter swings at the pitch and misses it is a strike and if he hits the ball then it is considered a hit and playable. There is no penalty other than it will be an automatic ball.

10. Language/Comments to Umpires/Comments to Other Teams

- At no time should a player or spectator use foul language or make any inappropriate comments to the umpires or players on the field.
- If comments are made to the umpire or players during a game or if inappropriate language is being used, **the team will get a warning** from the umpire. If it happens again (during the game) with any player who's team received the warning already, the player will be thrown out and he/she must leave the field.
- If this behavior continues from other players on the team, then it is the umpire's and league supervisor's discretion to stop the game. If the game is stopped, then that team will receive a forfeit.

11. Miscellaneous

- Games will start with a 1 & 1 count
- Umpires will call base blocking & fake tags
- If batter has 2 strikes, after 2nd foul tip he/she is out
- An official game is complete after 5 innings (if home team is up in bottom of 5th and leading)
- Outfielders cannot move in past grass and infield cannot move in closer than baseline until the ball is hit.
- **3+1 home run rule.** – Meaning, once a team reaches 3 homeruns, they can't hit their 4^h until the other team reaches 3. It then goes up in increments of 1. (6-6, 7-7, etc.)
- **Run Rule – 12 runs after 5 innings**
- The higher seeded team will be the Home Team in the Championship Game.
- **Smoking will only be allowed in the designated smoking area.**

12. No Drinking is permitted at the Softball Fields. This goes for all players and spectators. Anyone caught drinking at the fields will be immediately thrown out of the game and suspended for 1 game.

Player/Team Conduct: Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation has the authority to eject players or teams from the league based upon improper behaviors and/or any other situation that arises which Mayfield Village feels is inappropriate. If a player or team is ejected, then they will not receive any refund from Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation.