



Adult Softball League Rules

Updated 3/27/2012

A. League Authority

1. The Ottawa Recreation Commission, its staff, and its agents will not be responsible for any injuries or accidents incurred by players or spectators.
2. The ORC will reschedule games due to adverse weather conditions or unplayable grounds. ALL games will be cancelled once the ORC staff makes the decision regardless of an improvement in the weather.
3. Team Managers will be contacted with Rain Out information. It will also be posted on the website, www.orcottawaks.org. It is the team manager's responsibility to notify all other team members.
4. All players shall be registered on the roster form before playing. Players will be allowed to be added to rosters at the game site if: ***they are not playing on another team in the same league*** during the current season, and the player's name must be added to the roster before the start of the game in which he/she is playing.
5. Teams may carry a minimum of 8 players.
6. All players must be sixteen years of age or older.
7. ***ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED AT THE ORLIS COX SPORTS COMPLEX AND AT FOREST PARK. ANYONE WHO VIOLATES THIS POLICY WILL BE IMMEDIATELY EJECTED FROM THE GAME.***

B. Playing Rules

1. The 2012 United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) Rules and Regulations will apply except as amended below.
2. Each team will furnish and hit their own new or acceptable USSSA approved softballs per game. Balls should not exceed a COR of .47. No other balls will be allowed in league play. The umpire and the ORC staff will have final authority in determining approval and use of game balls.

3. The official bat may not measure longer than 34 inches. Miken Velocit-E Ultra, Miken Ultra II and Miken Velocit-E Ultra bats are banned from ORC softball events.
4. Each game will consist of 7 innings or 55 minutes, whichever comes first. The top of a new inning will not be started after the 55 minutes has expired. In the event of a tie after 7 innings or 55 minutes, extra innings will be permitted to finish the game and determine the winner.
5. The mercy rule will apply: if one team is ahead by 15 or more runs after 3 completed innings or 10 or more runs after 5 completed innings, or the home team is ahead by 15 or more runs after 2 ½ innings or 10 or more runs after 4 ½ innings, the game will be called.
6. It will take a minimum of 8 players to start and continue a game. If a team starts with 10 players, and someone is forced to leave (other than an ejection) the game may continue as long as the team has at least 8 players, no automatic out will be applied.
7. **Home Run Rule:** Maximum of 3 per team per game (Men's Competitive/Coed)
Penalty for rule violation: 1st team violation – foul ball
2nd team violation – out
3rd team violation – offensive ejection, the player may play defense but, the batting position will be an automatic out. There will be no substitutions allowed for that offensive position.
***Unlimited** amount of home runs for Men's Rec. League.
8. **If a player is ejected from the game, the team will receive an automatic out every time he/she is up to bat. He/She cannot be substituted for offensively.**
9. ***Effective Spring 2012. PLAYERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO STEAL OR ADVANCE BASES AT THEIR OWN RISK AFTER THE BALL HAS CROSSED THE PLATE. (MEN'S LEAGUE ONLY)**
10. There is a mandatory slide rule. When a defensive player has the ball, or is about to catch the thrown ball and a runner does not make an attempt to slide, they will be out. If, in the umpire's judgment, the act was flagrant, the player will be ejected.
11. Infield practice is allowed during the pitcher's warm up.
12. **NO METAL CLEATS ALLOWED**
13. Game time is forfeit time, unless prior agreement with ORC is made (i.e. players arriving late from other ORC or USD 290 activities).
14. Profanity, drinking alcohol, & unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated at any time.

15. UMPIRE DECISIONS ARE FINAL

16. Co-Ed Play: There must be as many females as males (minimum: 4 females, 4 males) playing at all times. Teams may play with a greater number of female players than male players

**** Players may only play on *one (1) team per league*. This will be strictly enforced. If a team must use a player from another team within their league on the same night, that game is a forfeit. Teams may still play an unofficial game for fun if they choose to do so.**

**** THE ORC AND ITS STAFF RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE ANY OTHER JUDGMENT ON RULES AS DEEMED NECESSARY ****