

Moore County Parks & Recreation
2023 Adult Co-Ed Softball League Rules
www.moorecountync.gov/parks-and-recreation

Purpose and Objectives:

The purpose of this league is to encourage, promote and operate a Co-Ed slow pitch softball league. The objective of such a league shall be a program for men and women solely for the purpose of recreation.

Rules and Regulations:

1. The first game of the day (6:30pm) will begin within five (5) minutes of the scheduled start time or a forfeit will result. For all games following that day, game time is forfeit time. In case of forfeit, the teams involved can practice until ten (10) minutes prior to the next scheduled game time; unless the forfeit is the last game of the day, in that case the facility will be closed within 10 minutes of scheduled game time.
2. Uniform shirts with numbers on the back are encouraged to promote the quality of the league. All Sponsors must be approved by Parks and Recreation staff.
3. Teams may play games with (9) nine players or ten (10) players.
 - A 10-player team will consist of 6 male and 4 female players: 1 male and 1 female in the pitcher-catcher positions.
 - A 9-player team will consist of 5 male and 4 female players: 1 male and 1 female in the pitcher-catcher positions.
 - Extra hitters are allowed. If used, the team must have both a male extra hitter and a female extra hitter in the lineup. If not, then the extra player position cannot be used.
 - Females will bat in the 2, 4, 6 and 8 slots in a 9 or 10 player line up. In a 12-player lineup; the females will bat in the 2, 4, 6, 8 and 11 slots in the line up.
 - If a team begins the game with nine (9) players; the tenth player can be added when they arrive as long it is before the second inning begins. This player that fills the 10 spot can be male or female. If a team begins with nine players, they cannot add the extra hitter positions to the line up. **If playing with only nine (9) players; the tenth position in the batting line up is not an out.**
 - Teams will be allowed to play games with five (5) males and five (5) females if the team so desires. In this case, the females would alternate in the lineup all the way through. (Females would hit in the 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 slots in the line up).
4. Defensive positioning shall include six (6) males and four (4) females; one (1) male & one (1) female in the pitcher-catcher position. The other female players may play anywhere in the field. Team must always have four (4) female players on the field whether they are playing with nine (9) or ten (10) players. If a female player has to be removed from the game for any reason (injury, ejection, etc.) she can only be replaced with another female player. **Outfielders must remain behind a 200-foot commitment line until ball is batted. Penalty: Offense may choose the outcome of play or may choose to replay the pitch.**
5. Games will be seven (7) innings or 1 hour and 10 minutes. No new inning will begin after 1 hour and 5 minutes. Time will be kept on the scoreboard. Tied games will be played until a winner is declared. **Tournament games:** run rule and time limit remain in play. High seed will be home throughout tournament until Championship and if game, then flip for home team.

6. A 3-2 count will be played. Each batter will have an automatic 1-1 count when they come to bat and will receive (1) additional foul. If a male batter is walked, the next female has the choice to walk or hit. The umpire must be informed prior to the first pitch to the batter if she wants to receive the walk.
7. There will be a limit of three (3) home runs allowed per team per game. Each additional ball hit out of the park will be a single and all base runners will advance one base. (A home run is determined to occur when a batted fair ball clears the outfield fence on the fly). We will use the hit and sit rule (all players who hit a home run over the fence do not have to run the bases).
8. All bats will be furnished by the league (MCPR). No other bat can be used.
Any player that damages a bat on purpose will have to pay \$150 for a replacement.
Any player caught using a bat that is not owned by MCPR will be ejected from the game and serve a two-game suspension.
9. There will be a 10 Run Rule in effect for each game. If at the end of five (5) or more innings one team is leading by ten (10) or more runs, the game will be called. In three (3) innings, a 15 Run Rule will be in effect. **This will also apply to tournament play.**
10. Moore County Parks and Recreation will provide an official scorekeeper in the scorer's tower. The coach should before each game obtain a line up card from the Field Supervisor, fill it out with **players first and last name and number**, and then return it to the field supervisor.
11. Only team personnel are permitted in the dug out or on the playing field.
12. **The team manager or coach is the only person to discuss rule interpretations with the umpire. There will be no discussion on a judgment call.** If there is a discussion with the umpire about a call and the umpire declares "Play Ball" if the offending team refuses to begin play, the game shall be forfeited and counted as a loss.
13. **All players and coaches will be expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner. Anyone ejected from a game must leave the softball complex (outside the fenced gate) and will also be suspended for the next two (2) games that their team plays. No smoking** on Moore County Property, Field Supervisor will issue one warning per team, per season. After that, offenders will be ejected from the ball game and will also be suspended for the next two (2) games their team plays. When a player is ejected, a more severe penalty may be imposed by the Moore County Parks & Recreation Department after investigation. Suspensions can carry over to the next season. The Recreation department reserves the right to eject any team from the league, without a refund, that is disruptive or does not follow league rules.
14. **Alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited on the premises of Moore County Sports Complex. Anyone caught consuming, possessing, or under the influence of alcohol by the field supervisor, umpires, parks & recreation staff or Carthage Police will be banned from Moore County Sports Complex and from participation in any activity sponsored by Moore County Parks and Recreation for (1) one year.**
15. Pitched balls must reach 6' from ground and be no higher than 10' from the ground at its highest peak.
15. A courtesy runner must be the same sex as the player they run for, and must either be the last player out, or a roster player not in the game. **Teams will be limited to one (1) courtesy runner per inning per sex.**

16. When a runner is on first or third base and they feel that it would be safer for them to be off the base in foul territory to keep from getting hit by the batted ball, then they may be off the base; they must retouch the base before moving to second base or home plate whichever applies.
17. ASA Softball Rules will govern play except for local league rules.
18. If a team forfeits three games they will not be allowed to play in the tournament.

Postponement and Rescheduling:

- A. Games may be postponed due to weather or field conditions. Whenever a game is cancelled, it shall be played in the order of cancellation according to the Parks & Recreation Department.
- B. In the event of rain during the day, the Athletic Department will inspect and decide on the condition of the field. Players can check our website @ www.moorecountync.gov/parks-and-recreation for any weather updates. After 5:00 p.m. the decision will be made by the Field Supervisor. Their decision shall be final.
- C. If for rain or other conditions the game is delayed by the Field Supervisor or officials, teams must remain at the ballfield area until a decision is made if the games are to be cancelled. Should either team leave or not be ready to resume play at the time the umpire declares the game may proceed, the game will be forfeited.
- D. It is the responsibility of the team manager to notify all team members of cancelled games and the correct date and time of any rescheduled games.

Uniforms and Equipment:

Uniform shirts with numbers on the back are encouraged to promote the quality of the league.

All sponsors and uniform logos must be approved by the Parks & Recreation office.

Metal or steel cleats are not allowed.

Each team will furnish their own softballs for their team to hit. White or Yellow balls may be used; it is each team's option. Males will hit a **readable** 12-inch .52 cor 300 lb compression ball with ASA stamp or USA stamp and the Females will hit a **readable** 11- inch .52 cor 300 lb compression ball with ASA stamp or USA stamp

Females can option to hit the 12-inch ball if they wish. The base coach will switch balls with the pitcher as needed.

Eligibility of Players:

1. League players must be at least 18 years old; players under age 18 can play with the approval of the Moore County Parks and Recreation and a parent's signature, age is determined by August 1 of current year.
2. Players remain on the roster they first participate with; players may not switch teams.

3. **Players must participate in three (3) games to be eligible to play in the tournament.**
If your team receives a forfeit; the coach will gather all his/her players in the dugout for the field supervisor to check names off the line up card to be claimed as participating in that game.

4. All players must have filled out their individual registration form to be listed on the official roster form. If a players' name is not on the team roster, they are considered an illegal player. All games in which an illegal player participates will be forfeited. **Players may be added to rosters up to the teams' third (3) game.** Individual registration may be done at the ball field with the field supervisor or at the Parks and Recreation office.

Moore County Parks & Recreation reserves the right to change, add, or delete any rule or regulation at anytime during the season.

Revised 7/25/2023