

**LAWRENCE PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ADULT SOFTBALL
GENERAL LEAGUE RULES**

RULES OF PLAY:

- A. Official guide of play for City League is the current A.S.A. Softball Rule book, unless superseded by the City League Softball Rules.

ADDITIONAL GAME RULES AND SPECIAL RULES FOR SLOW PITCH:

- A. Tennis shoes or rubber cleated softball shoes must be worn; no metal spikes by any player will be allowed.
- B. Only regulation softball bats will be allowed.
- C. Pitching distance will be 50 feet for men, women and coed. Base paths are 65 feet for men, women and coed.
- D. A pitchers ball can have a 6-foot minimum arc and no more than a 12-foot arc from the ground.
- E. No bunting or “chopping” of the ball is allowed during a Slow-pitch game. The ruling is an automatic out.
- F. No defensive player may play in front of the pitcher until the ball is struck by the batter.
- G. The official LPRD league ball must be a **core 44 or below** with an A.S.A. or USSSA certified stamp on the ball. Men must use a 12 inch ball and women must use an 11 inch ball. Coed men will hit 12 inch ball, women will hit at 11 inch ball when batting.
- H. Each team will hit their own ball. Home team is designated by the first team listed for each game on your schedule.
- I. EXTRA HITTER (EH): The EH can be used for the entire game. The EH may rotate into and out of a defensive fielding position during the game. The original EH may also re-enter the game under the standard re-entry rule.
- J. PLAY: During the ball game, the ball must be returned to the pitcher, it may not be thrown around the field after each out.
- K. Some leagues are structured with over-the-fence Home Run limits per team which are as follows: (All home runs hit excess of these limits, batter is ruled out.)
 - Class A – Five homeruns are allowed
 - Class B – Three homeruns are allowed
 - Class C – One homeruns is allowed
 - Class D – No homeruns are allowed

- *2008 L. **Maximum Run Rule – A game shall be called if a team is ahead by 20 or more runs at any time after the end of three (3) innings or 2 ½ if home team is ahead, 15 or more runs at any time after the end of four (4) innings or 3 ½ if home team is ahead and 10 or more runs at any time after the end of five (5) innings or 4 ½ if the home team is ahead. Rule also in effect for Coed leagues.**

SPECIAL RULES FOR COED PLAY ONLY:

- A. Players: Team on the field must consist of 5 men and 5 women with no designated positions on the field. If EH is used or added, team must consist of 6 males and 6 females.
- B. Game can be started with 8 players (4 of each sex).
- C. Men and women must alternate in the batting order.
- D. A.S.A. rule 8, Section 1C3 (Coed), the ball is dead. Any walk to a male batter (intentional or not) will result in a two base award. The next batter, a female will bat. **EXCEPTION: With two outs the female batter has the option to walk or bat.**
- E. Each batter in Coed will begin with a 1 ball and 1 strike count with one foul ball allowed when they reach two strikes.
- F. In Coed, all outfielders must be in the grass until ball is hit. Penalty for moving in front of grass prior to ball being hit is as follows:
 - 1. Batter may elect to allow play to stand.
 - 2. Batter may elect to replay the pitch.
- G. Teams which have (10) players, four (4) players must play in the outfield (on the grass) for all batters prior to ball being hit. Teams that have (10) ten players must have a maximum of (4) four infielders, and infielders must play on the infield area for all batters until the ball is hit, either foul or fair.