

**CITY OF HUNTSVILLE  
ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE  
2015 RULES \***

**LEAGUE**

1. The league will be governed by modified league rules as established by the City of Huntsville Parks and Recreation Department. For items not covered in the modified rules we will defer to the USSSA rulebook.
2. Teams must register in person at the Metro SportsPlex between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, during the three week registration period. A team roster must be turned in at the mandatory coaches meeting. Teams failing to turn in a roster at the coaches meeting will not be eligible for post season play for that season.
3. \*\*\* A minimum of 4 teams must register in order for a division to make.
4. The League game days will consist of: Monday / Wednesday, Tuesday / Thursday and Sunday. PLEASE NOTE: RAIN OUT AND TOURNAMENT GAMES FOR WEEKDAY LEAGUES WILL BE SCHEDULED AT ANY TIME MONDAY THRU THURSDAY.
5. A player may play on one team per league per league game days.
6. Each team will play a 10 game regular season schedule plus a double elimination tournament.
7. Anyone participating in the league at Metro Sports Plex will not be permitted to officiate in any of the league games at Metro SportsPlex.
8. Anyone participating in the Metro Sports Plex league must be 16 years old prior to the start of season.
9. End of season tournament seedings will be determined by the league standings after 4 weeks of the regular season games are completed.

**ROSTERS**

1. All teams will be allowed a maximum of thirty (30) players on a roster. Players must be listed with first and last name. In order to play in the Church League rosters must be signed by an official of the church to verify it is a church team
2. Rosters must be submitted at the coaches meeting.
3. A new player must be added to the roster 24 hours before participation in writing. Before the cut off date.

4. Players cannot be dropped/added to the roster after the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) week of the game schedule. Sunday league has until the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) week of the game schedule.
5. Once a player is on a roster and plays for that team, that player must finish the season with that team. The player cannot change rosters once the player has played in a game with a team. If a player has not played in a game and is on a roster a Player Wavier form may be filled out by the roster drop/add date and the player apply to play with another team.

## GAME RULES

1. Rain out games will be made up in accordance with number 4 under LEAGUE.
2. First games will begin at 6:00 pm on weekdays and 4:00pm on Sundays.
3. Managers must list players in the scorebook by first and last name. A pictured identification card maybe asked for to prove a players identity.
4. The game clock will start at game time for the 6:00 p.m. game and for the 7:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., & 9:00 p.m. games at game time or no later that five (5) minutes after the competition of the previous game, if the game runs over the allotted time limit. If a team does not have enough players to play when the clock starts, it will have until the game clock hit 44 minutes before a forfeit is called. If players show before the clock reaches 44 minutes and the team has enough to play (8 players), the game will start and will have the remaining time on the clock to play.
5. There is a 60-minute time limit for the games imposed as follows: no inning will begin after the 60 minutes of play unless there is a tie. Tournament championship games will have a 75 minute time limit with no inning starting after 75 minutes of play unless there is a tie.
6. International tiebreaker rule will go into effect at the end of 7 innings or when time limits expire, 60 minutes or 75 minutes of tournament championship, if the game is tied.
7. A tie breaker system has been established to determine the first and second place teams in league play. (1. Head to head, 2. runs allowed, 3. runs scored). The SportsPlex scorebook is the official scorebook.
8. In tournament play, the team without a loss in the finals will be home team. In the event of an if game the other team will be home team.
9. Each team must provide their own softballs. **Each softball that enters the game will be handed to the umpire for verification that it meets requirements.** (See equipment rule number 1 for requirements.)

10. The following run rule will be in effect: Twenty (20) after 3 innings, Fifteen (15) after 4 innings and Ten (10) after 5 innings.
11. Protests will be handled as per the Protest addendum. Protest fee is \$25.00 cash for each protest (note: player protests are treated as separate protests for each player protested and each requires a separate protest fee).
12. Any game that is suspended due to weather or any other reason will be resumed at the point in which the game was stopped.
13. Players and Managers only will be allowed in the dugouts.
14. A team will begin with eight (8) players the ninth (9) players, a tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) and eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) player may be added to lineup during the game, they must be added to the end of the batting order. Co-Ed: A team will begin with eight (8) players, a ninth (9), a tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) and twelve (12<sup>th</sup>) player may be added to the lineup during the game, but they must be added to the end of the batting order. When beginning with eight there should be four (4) males and four (4) females. The only time an odd number is permissible is when a team begins with nine players- the split should be 4/5 shortage to be at discretion of the coach. Line up will be alternating genders (male, female, male, female, etc. – when an odd number begins a game the gender in the majority will lead the lineup and no penalty will be imposed when the same gender is batting back to back). Sunday Co-Ed teams play with a minimum of two (2) females no stipulation regarding placement in the batting order.
15. Injured Player Rule- a team can finish a game with less than the number of players it started with in the event of an injured player(s) with no penalty, providing the team has the minimum number of players required. The umpire and score keeper must be notified of the injured player(s) and that player will be eliminated from the lineup and skipped when their time comes to bat (no penalty). This rule applies if the team has no substitute for the injured player(s).
16. Departing or Ejected Player Rule- In the event that a player leaves the game early a team may finish the game if they have enough players to finish the game (i.e. 8 player minimum). In the event, a player leaves; there will be an out each time that player comes to bat.
17. If a player is ejected from a ball game, that player will be suspended for the minimum of (but not limited to) the next game and will be have to leave the park after their ejection.
18. When a player is suspended, he/she is not eligible to play on another night/division until the suspension is served.

19. Only players and coaches on the roster will be allowed in the dugouts and must remain in dugout and off the playing surface, unless taking part in the action of the game. Only player and coaches will be allowed on the playing surface at anytime.
20. Each batter will start with a 1-1 count.
21. There are no courtesy runners. If a player is put into the game to run for someone they are a substitute. Exception: If a team has no substitute, a player injured while running the bases may have the last player to make an out (of the same gender in coed) complete their turn on the bases. With this exception the person who was injured cannot continue to play in the game.
22. If a team forfeits two consecutive game dates, that team will not be eligible for tournament play.
23. One foot must remain in contact with or between the 50 and 55 foot rubber(s) during pitching.
24. The pitcher may use any wind-up desired provided he/she does not make any motion to pitch without immediately delivering the ball to the batter. He/she does not use a wind-up in which there is a stop or reversal of the forward motion. If this occurs a “no pitch” will be called and a ball will be added to the batters count.
25. Impending Play Rule- The base runner must make an effort to avoid a collision with the fielder. If this is not done by the base runner, it will result in an out and the ejection of the base runner from the game.
26. If a batter hits a pitched ball and the ball hits a defenseless pitcher, the batter is out and it shall be ruled a dead ball.

### **HOME RUN RULE**

<i>League</i>	<i>Home Run Limit</i>
MEN'S	A-6 B-4 C-2 D-0
CO-OED (ALL)	1
MEN'S CHURCH	C-2

Any home runs hit after the designated limit shall result in an out.

### **EQUIPMENT**

1. Softballs can be any sanction body approved ball with a legible .44 core and 375 lbs compression markings stamped on the ball. 12” balls for male batters and 11” balls for female batters.
2. Bats must be currently USSSA approved.

3. Teams must have like jerseys with legal numbers. No mixed colors on any team or altered jerseys. If you want no sleeves, please buy sleeveless jerseys but, all jerseys must be the same.
4. Uniforms may not have vulgar, alcohol, alcohol related, obscene, or other unacceptable markings.
5. No steel spikes, dress shoes, street shoes, or bare feet are allowed.

## **CONDUCT**

All managers/coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and will be held responsible for their spectators. It is also their responsibility that their players be familiar with the rules and regulations of the SportsPlex, as well as maintain good sportsmanship at all times.

1. Good sportsmanship is expected and required by anybody involved in City of Huntsville adult softball league and this will be strictly enforced.
2. Metro SportsPlex is a no smoking facility, City of Huntsville ordinance # 05-713. A copy of the ordinance is available upon request.
3. Pets and portable heaters are not allowed in the complex.
4. No drugs or alcohol are allowed on the field or in the dugout at any time. This will result in ejection and suspension.
5. Any manager, coach, or player that uses profanity (lewd, offensive language) or threatens another player, game official, or Sportsplex/League employee during or following a game may be permanently removed from the league.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Parks and Recreation will determine the number of teams admitted to the League (maximum 80). Requests for admission will be on a first come, first serve basis (Payment of fees being the deciding factor).

The City of Huntsville Parks and Recreation will not be responsible for injuries that occur during the participation in the League.

\* SportsPlex reserves the right to change, modify, or update rules