

New Bern Parks and Recreation

Coed Church League Softball

Rules and Regulations

Sportsmanship

1. The official is in charge of the game. Any unsportsmanlike conduct by the players or fans may result in: a warning, suspension from the game, suspension or expulsion from the league, or immediate suspension from the facility.
2. Team managers are responsible for the conduct of their players and fans. Managers must assist in keeping the game conducted in an orderly manner.
3. Anyone that is ejected from the game must leave the field immediately. Failure to leave the field within five minutes of ejection will result in an automatic forfeit.
4. All ejections will result in suspension from the facility and the next scheduled game.
5. A player who strikes another player will be suspended from play for one year.
6. Team members or coaches who physically attack an umpire will be suspended from play for one year.
7. No Profanity!! Profanity will not be tolerated in this league. There will be no warnings given. If you are removed from a game for profanity you will sit out the remainder of that game and the next game.

Team Rosters

1. Roster is limited to 20 players. Initial roster is due by March 11th. The final roster is due by the first game. Teams will still be able to add players during the season if they are under the 20-player limit.
2. A participant must be 16 years of age to play in this league (March 1, 2022 is the cut-off date).
3. **Player Contracts** must be completed, signed and returned to the Recreation Department prior to the players' 1st game. Any player who has not completed and turned in a contract will be considered ineligible.
4. Each team can have up to 5 players that do not attend church on a regular basis. Players that go to church do not have to attend the church of the team they play for.
5. Any player listed on the initial roster or added before the end of the season, and that has played in at least one regular season game is eligible for the tournament. Any exceptions will be determined by New Bern Parks and Recreation.

The Game

1. **Southern Softball Rules will be used unless otherwise stated in the following rules.**
2. A team shall consist of ten players, four of which must be females. Teams may play a game with more than four females, but never with more than six males. Example: five males and five females.
3. A team may play with eight players without a forfeit using any combination that involves six males or less. Example: five males and three females, or six females and two males. Teams may add the ninth or tenth player during the game at the top of the next inning.

4. Umpires will not be responsible for umpiring forfeit games
5. Teams will receive one out for having nine players present, and two outs for having eight players present. A team can receive no more than a two out penalty for not having enough players.
6. Teams may bat twelve players if they decide to use an Additional Hitter (AH). Teams must use a male and a female additional hitter (cannot use a male AH without a female AH). *Note: IF a team starts with twelve, they must finish with twelve, or an out will be recorded for each position dropped from the line-up.
7. All Batters begin with a 1-1 count. Players get one free foul ball after obtaining two strikes. The second foul ball on two strikes, will be an out.
8. Teams will use Men's 12" 44 core 400 compression balls. Each team will provide their own balls.
9. Each team will be allowed three homeruns. All other homeruns will be singles.
10. If a male is walked in front of a female, the female has her choice of either walking or hitting.
11. One male and one female courtesy runner will be allowed per inning. A male must run for a male and female must run for a female.
12. All players playing in the outfield are not allowed within 200ft of home when a female is batting. There will be a line marked on the field to remind each player of this. Outfield players are permitted to field a ball before it gets to the 200ft line but must not go beyond it before the ball is hit. If the defense breaks the 200ft line rule, then a single will be awarded to the hitter as well as one base to each runner (Including runners on 3rd).
13. Extra innings or tiebreakers will begin with a runner on second to start the inning. This runner will be the person who received the last out from the previous inning. This runner cannot be replaced.
14. Equipment: Bats will follow Southern Softball rules (Rule 2 Equipment -section 1, Effect Sec. 1 A-K, Effect Sec. 1 M-N). Bats must not exceed a BPF rating of 1.20. Also, the following list is bats not approved for play by SSAA and Church League
 1. Miken Balanced
 2. Miken Maxload
 3. Miken Ultra II
 4. Lady Virus VIRSP 3 By Combat
5. Bats made of titanium or titanium alloys are illegal.
(If a bat has dents, flat spots, does not meet the SSAA specifications or does not have "Official Softball" or in the umpire's judgment the bat has been tampered with, the umpire shall prohibit the use of the bat.)
15. All players must wear shoes while playing. No metal cleats are allowed.

Game Format

1. Game time is as scheduled. If less than eight players are present at 5 minutes past game time, the game is forfeited.
2. Games will be seven innings and played with an 80-minute time limit (One hour and 20 minutes). No new innings will start after the 70-minute mark (One hour and 10 minutes). There will be no exceptions. Game official will keep official time.
3. Championship Game will play the full seven innings (Mercy rule will still be in effect).
4. Mercy rule will be 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings, and 10 runs after 5 innings (regular season or tournament)

5. All protests will be handled on the field at the time of the incident. The team is responsible for proving their protest to the umpire with written rules. The umpire will rule on the information provided by the protesting team in a reasonable time determined by the umpire (2 to 3 minutes). The umpire may add time to the official game time if he deems it necessary.
6. SCOREKEEPERS ARE PROVIDED BY THE HOME TEAM.
7. **All ties in standings at the end of the regular season will be determined by New Bern Parks and Recreation.**