

Village of Evendale Recreation Department  
10500 Reading Road, Evendale, OH 45241  
563-2247

## **ADULT SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATION**

### **SUMMER 2012 SOFTBALL LEAGUE PROGRAM**

The purpose of the softball league program is to provide recreational opportunities for the participants. The rules listed on the following pages must be adhered to at all times. Questions concerning these rules should be directed to the Recreation Department. The Department reserves the right to rule and make recommendations on any and all matters related to the Softball League which it deems beneficial to the operation of the league. The Department will have the power to make decisions on any points not specifically covered in the rules, handbook or league schedule.

The official 2012 A.S.A. Slow Pitch Softball Playing Rules shall govern all league play except as noted:

ASA APPROVED BATS ONLY WILL BE ALLOWED – and will be checked weekly before every game. Titanium or double-wall constructed bats cannot be used in any league/division.

The home run rule will apply on all fields.

Field #2: A fly ball that hits the street (Glendale-Milford Rd.) on a fly is a home run. If it rolls into the street, it's a ground-rule triple. No limit on home runs.

Field #3: A fly ball that hits the street on a fly is a home run. A fly ball that hits the grass and rolls into the street is a ground rule triple. No limit on home runs.

Field #5 & 6: A fly ball that goes over the fence will be a home run. Two home runs will be allowed. Any other fly balls that go over the fence will be considered an OUT!

Base stealing is not permitted.

All players must be at least sixteen (16) years of age or older at the time they sign the player eligibility/roster form with the Recreation Department. Individuals presently attending high school may not be concurrently participating in the same sport.

NOTE: High School baseball/softball players are not eligible until the school season has ended. Players that are not eligible can be placed on the roster and become eligible when: the school season has ended; and they are at least 16 years of age before signing the player eligibility/roster form.

No player may be added to the roster after Thursday, June 16, without the consent of the program supervisor. Extenuating circumstances may force a team to lose players, i.e., relocation. If your team knows that this could happen, please inform the program supervisor before June 16 and it will be indicated on your form, which will allow you to add to your roster after that date. **A player must play in at least two (2) regularly scheduled games to be eligible for any playoff games.** Scorebooks will be used to verify games played, if questioned.

Any team using an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit each game in which the ineligible player participated. The player shall be suspended indefinitely from league play and the manager may also be suspended indefinitely.

Any team may start and complete a game with eight (8) eligible players. When a team has less than eight eligible players the team will forfeit the game. Forfeit time is fifteen (15) minutes after scheduled game time, with game time limit of 1 hour. An umpire may start the game on time if both teams have at least eight ball players.

Teams starting with eleven (11) players may continue with ten (10) players because of an injury. When the injured player's turn comes to bat, the turn will count as an out.

Each team at bat starts with a **1 & 1** count.

Continuous Batting Order - any/all players at game starting time may be placed in the batting line up (**optional**). Once the game has started this rule can not be instituted.

A team may not change their batting line up during the game and must bat all players for that game if this rule/procedure is used. For each scheduled batter that is not available to bat when due up, their team must receive an automatic "out". Again, this rule is **optional**, (Rocket Rule.)

Designated Runner (DR) may be used for an **injured player only**. Injured player = player that gets injured on the way to first base. The DR will be the player that scored the last out. Any other injuries requesting special permission must submit doctor's note.

A regulation game consists of seven innings. There is a one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minute time limit on all games (both regular season and playoff games.) (This may change because of team numbers in a certain league and field availability.) No inning shall start after that length of time has expired. Complete games are those in which a losing team gets to bat at least five (5) innings, unless halted because of the time limit. The time limit begins when the umpire declares "play ball" after the pre-game meeting/or if the manager does not show to the pre-game meeting, the time limit begins immediately.

If the score is tied at the end of the time limit or complete/regulation game, the tie-breaker rule will take effect. After seven (7) innings, if there is a tie game or at the time limit, the modified pitch rule will go into affect. The game will go to ONE pitch the following innings, regardless of home or away teams. So, the pitch is either a ball or strike. If it's a ball, the batter is issued a walk. If it's a strike, the batter is out. A foul ball is an out. Game will be finished.

Tournament Modification: after one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minute time limit, the modified pitch rule will go into affect. The Run-Ahead Rule below will still apply to play-off games.

Run-Ahead Rule: If a team is ahead by thirteen (13) or more runs after their opponents bat in the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, the game is over. The visiting team must bat at least five times.

Uniforms are highly recommended. Players should have a large number on their shirts with no duplicate numbers on their teammates jerseys. Players are not required to wear caps, but if they do, they must be worn properly.

No metal spikes are allowed. All-purpose sports shoes may be worn. Some type of footwear must be worn, (i.e., softball molded cleats, sneakers.) Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, may not be worn during the game. Helmets (approved NOCSAE) and catcher's mask is optional and must be supplied by the team. Helmets are permissible for batters, base runners and catchers. Other than the catcher's helmet, helmets may not be worn by a defensive player except for medical purposes.

Managers/Captains are responsible for the actions of their players, team, and spectators before, during, and after scheduled games. In addition, all information must be relayed by the manager/captain to his/her team players. **Profanity Rule** will be used. If a player uses the "F" word, they will automatically be ejected from game. If a player uses a swear word (that is heard by umpire and can be heard by crowd- at discretion of umpire) they are given an automatic out. If the player is batting- he is given an out for using swear word and the team is given another out. If the player is fielding at the time, the next at bat they will automatically have an out.

Any team forfeiting two (2) games may be dropped from the league. The program supervisor will make all decisions concerning the status of a team(s) in remaining league and playoff games.

Only the manager may confer with an umpire on a judgment call.

Games stopped because of an umpire's decision (interpretation) will be replayed from the point of stoppage. Team manager and umpires cannot set aside any rule.

Games on field #2 needing to be called because of darkness, will be moved to field #3 to satisfy "official game" rules. Games on field #2 will start at 6:10 p.m. Games on field #3 will start at 6:15 p.m.

Teams must supply their own first aid kit/supplies and treat their own injured players. (It is recommended that teams or players bring additional clothing to the games.) A player, coach, or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on his uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is left to the umpire's judgment. The umpire shall: A) stop the game and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game; B) immediately call a coach, trainer or other authorized person to the injured player; or C) apply the rules of the game regarding substitution, short-handed player and re-entry if necessary.

## **PROCEDURES**

Bases are secured at league games by the Umpire.

Diamond playability is determined by the Department until 4:30 p.m. The weather hotline **956-2667 ext. 620** will be updated by 4:30 p.m. **Please give this number to your teammates.** After that, in case of rain or threatening weather conditions, the two team managers, and umpires shall determine the start of the game at game time. The majority of the people just mentioned will prevail, so in other words, **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS TO START THE GAME.**

The “home” team will keep the official score of each game. Line-up should be on the “official” score sheet/scorebook at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled game time.

If the Hamilton County tornado siren goes on signifying a “tornado warning”, all games will automatically cease. If enough innings were played for an “official/complete” game, the score will be final. If the minimum game standards were not met, the game will be played (from the stoppage point of the game) at a later date.

## **POLICIES**

Awards for the team sponsor are given to the regular season league/division champion.

Individual awards (tee shirts) are given to the teams that place 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in regular season league/division play. 1<sup>st</sup> place individual awards will be given in tournament.

No batting practice is allowed on the fields. The starting pitcher will be allowed five (5) warm-up pitches during the first inning only and two (2) warm-up pitches thereafter.

No alcoholic beverages or other controlled substances are allowed on the playing field.

Any player caught using such controlled substance will be subject to penalties enforced by the local law enforcement agencies.