



2010 Summer Adult Softball League Rules

Rev. 5/4/10

League Overview

The Adirondack Sports Complex (ADKSC) Adult Softball League has been formed to offer men and women from the surrounding communities and its businesses the opportunity to play throughout the summer. The league is considered recreational and social, yet competitive. Rules have been designed and constructed with the goals of promoting safe and fair play built on the foundation of good sportsmanship. This consists of exercising respect, fairness, honesty, responsibility and positive behavior.

Official Rules

The current ASA (Amateur Softball Association) rules will apply, with the understanding that ADKSC-specific rules listed throughout this rules packet supersede the specific ASA rule. These rules should be followed for all game play. Anything not specifically mentioned should be played out according to common sense and safety, and reported to ADKSC representative for clarification.

Eligibility

1. All league participants must have a current ADKSC Photo ID Card, and a completely filled out and signed "Official Adult Team Waiver, Release Liability & Roster Form" on file with the Adirondack Sports Complex ***prior to*** their first game.
2. Participants may not be on more than one roster in the same division.
3. A team will forfeit any games played with a non-rostered or ineligible player.
4. Players not on your teams' official roster on file with the ADKSC are ineligible to participate.
5. Minimum age requirement is 17 years of age.
6. Payment, in full, must be to the ADKSC prior to the first game.
7. To be eligible to participate in Playoffs, male players must have participated in four (4) regular season games and females must have participated in three (3) regular season games. Any team using a player found to be not eligible will forfeit ***any and all*** games they have played in.

Player Conduct

All players on all teams are required to exercise good sportsmanship in this league. This consists of exercising respect, fairness, honesty, responsibility and positive behavior.

1. No one is allowed to smoke on the grounds of the Adirondack Sports Complex.
2. There are absolutely no alcoholic beverages on the fields at any time.
3. Only the manager and or team captain will be allowed to question the decision of the umpire. Any act of unsportsmanlike behavior, including the use of profane, abusive or insulting language, may result in a player or players being ejected from the game.
 - a. If a player is ejected, the player must leave the facility immediately. If the player does not leave the facility immediately, additional penalties will be imposed to the player and/or team.
4. All players must remain in or behind the dugout with the exception of the player up or on deck.

Games

1. Games start at times listed in the online schedule.
 - a. Forfeit time is 5 minutes past the scheduled game. Forfeit score is 7-0.

2. No new inning may begin 1 hour and 10 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game, unless five (5) have not been completed (4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead).
3. Dugouts: typically the Home team – first base side, Visiting team – third base side.
4. Teams may have up to 10 defensive players in the field. For Co-Ed play, there must be a minimum at least 4 females on the field to start and finish a game.
5. Teams must have at least 8 players in the field to start and finish a game. Otherwise, the team must forfeit the game.
6. A Co-Ed team may start a game with 8 players if no other players are present, but at least four (4) must be female. At no time will there be more than six (6) male players in the field. A position in the batting order must be identified for the 4th female, which will be an automatic out until, and if, a player arrives to fill that position. The ninth and tenth spot in the batting order becomes an automatic out, unless 4 females are in the line-up. A ninth and tenth player may be added to the bottom of the order at any time in the game provided 4 females are in the line-up.
7. Two lineup card must be filled out completely for both teams, clearly listing all players (first & last name), including subs. Before the start of each game, lineup cards will be given both the umpire and the other team. The lineup cards will be used to determine each player's minimum game requirements for Playoffs.
8. The batting order may be put together in any gender order, except for the EH spot(s) in the Co-Ed leagues. All players must be listed on the lineup card before the start of the game. Co-Ed teams using EH's must alternate their EH's male/female, with the first EH being either a male or a female. Teams will be allowed to bat their entire line up (if they so choose), provided they alternate male/female or female/male after the 10th batter. Once a team reaches the point for their EH's were they can not continue to alternate the male/female or female/male they will not be able at add any additional EHs. Also for clarification, the Co-Ed team's four (4) originally required females must be placed within the first 10 positions in the regular batting order. Players may show up late and join a game in progress, but must be added to the end of the batting order.
9. Teams will be allowed unlimited substitutions.
10. For Co-Ed play, all defensive outfielders must be on the outfield grass at the time of the pitch.
11. All pitch heights must be: co-ed – 6'-15' arc, men – 6'-15' arc, women – 6' minimum.
12. Pitchers are allowed 5 warm-up pitches in the 1st inning with 2 warm-up pitches every inning thereafter.
13. The strike-zone mat at home plate will lay directly behind the plate. If the pitched ball hits any part of the plate or the mat, it is a strike. If it does not, it is a ball. A pitched ball that hits the front of the plate (where no mat exists) is a ball.
14. Home Run Rule: six (6) "over the fence" home runs will be allowed per game, any "over the fence" home runs after the first six will be an "out."
15. Pinch runners will be allowed for injured players who have already reached first base. The pinch runner must be of the same gender as the player replaced and must be the last available person of that gender to have batted.
16. Injury/Emergency Situation – if due to an injury, or in an emergency situation, a team may continue a game with fewer players than it began the game. However, no team may play with less than 8 rostered players.
17. Sliding is allowed. Sliding is recommended when going into any base on a close play. If there is a close play at the plate, YOU MUST SLIDE AND AVOID ANY CONTACT OR YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY CALLED OUT. Please slide, it is a safety rule.
18. Though if is not mandatory, for the purpose of safety, the Department of Parks and Recreation, strongly suggests/recommends that all catchers wear a catcher's mask.
19. Bunting or chopping down on the ball is illegal. The application of this rule is a judgment decision by the umpire. By definition, a bunt is a tapped ball not swung at, but intentionally met with the bat

and tapped slowly within the infield. A chopped ball is one at which the batter strikes downward with a chopping motion of the bat. A bunt or chop will result in an out.

20. No Leading/Stealing, no advance on a passed ball and no award of a base for a hit batsman.
 - a. Runners may not leave the base until the ball has reached the batter (umpires judgment) or has been hit.
21. A foul, on a 3rd strike is out. Runners may advance at their own risk on a foul 3rd strike, which is caught.
22. Bad Weather, Rainouts or Unplayable Fields – Captains are responsible for monitoring the weather throughout the afternoon and keeping their team informed. In the event of possible rain
 - a. Check the website
 - b. (Manager/Captain) call the ADKSC.
23. If field conditions are bad at any time, players must not play (and risk injury or field damage). Games called due to weather may be rescheduled at a later date, most often, when possible, using double headers.
24. Regulation Game – A game shall consist of 7 innings.
 - a. Exceptions:
 - b. In the case of inclement weather or darkness, a game is considered officially complete if 5 full innings have been played (or 4 ½ if the home team is winning).
 - c. In the case of a tie, at the end of 7 innings, and additional time is available within the time limit, additional innings will be played until a winner is determined.
 - d. Mercy Rule - A team leading by 20+ runs after 4 innings, or by 12+ after 5 innings, at the end of a complete innings, is declared the winner.
25. The team manager or captain must sign the umpires score sheet immediately following the game.
26. Point system for standings: Win = 3 pts., Tie = 1 pt., Loss = 0 pts.
27. For 2010 season, following the completion of the regular season games, the top eight teams will advance to a single elimination playoff.

Equipment

1. Game balls will be supplied by the ADKSC.
2. Only the currently ASA approved bats will be allowed during game play. All bats should be inspected by the opposing team's captain or umpire prior to game time.
3. There will be 2 bases at first base. One traditional (white) base in the usual spot for the fielder and a second (orange) base next to it in foul ground, for the batter. The batter is the only person that uses the orange side (when trying to beat out a grounder). Once the batter has reached safely, or if rounding first, the batter/runner would use the traditional base.
4. Though it is not mandatory, for the purpose of safety, the Department of Parks and Recreation, strongly suggests/recommends that all catchers wear a catcher's mask.
5. No metal spikes are allowed.
6. Teams are recommended to provide players with like colored shirts with numbers on the back.
7. All equipment must be kept in or behind the dugout.

Complex Rules

1. No soft-toss or hitting into any fencing.
2. No animals are allowed on the fields at any time.
3. Consumption of alcohol on or around fields is prohibited.
4. All players, spectators and fans will conduct themselves in a responsible, positive manner. The team manager/captain will be responsible to control their players and fan.
5. All garbage should be disposed of in the supplied garbage barrels.
6. Please be in charge your children at all times.

7. No parking on grass or along entrance road.