



2011 Summer Adult Softball League Rules

Rev. 5/28/11

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.

Complex Rules

1. No soft-toss or hitting into any fencing.
2. No animals are allowed on the fields at any time.
3. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages on or around the fields at any time.
4. ADKSC is a Non-smoking facility for all activities, whether inside and outside.
5. 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.
6. All garbage should be disposed of in the supplied garbage barrels.
7. Please be in charge your children at all times.

No parking on grass or along entrance road.

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. Payment, in full, must be to the ADKSC one week prior to the teams first game.
2. 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*** the their first game.
3. Players not on your teams' official roster on file with the ADKSC are ineligible to participate.
4. The penalty for use of a non-rostered or ineligible player is game forfeiture for any games involving the non-rostered or ineligible player(s).
5. Players may not be on more than one roster in the same division.
6. Team Rosters are limited to a maximum of 24 players.
7. Team Rosters will be "locked" following the fourth (4th) game.
8. The only way for a team to alter their roster after their fourth (4th) game is use the ADKSC Player Drop / Add Form. These forms will be available at the Dome office.
9. Minimum age requirement is 17 years of age.

10. 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

1. 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.
2. Any unsportsmanlike conduct, including the use of profane, insulting or abusive language, may result in ejection from the game, and possible game forfeiture(s) and/or league suspension(s).
3. No one is allowed to smoke on the grounds of the Adirondack Sports Complex.
4. There are absolutely no alcoholic beverages on the fields at any time.
5. 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, which may include game forfeiture(s) and/or league suspension(s).
6. All players must remain in or behind the dugout with the exception of the player up or on deck.

Games

1. Bad Weather, Rainouts or Unplayable Fields – Team 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 may call the ADKSC.
 - c. Check the website (www.adksc.com): should weather conditions cause the need to be postpone any games, we will place an announcement of the postponement on the Home Page of the Dome's website (www.adksc.com) as soon as the decision to postpone is made.
 - d. Make-up games will be rescheduled as soon as we can reach a consensus with both coaches.
2. Games start at times are listed in the online schedule.
 - a. Forfeit time is 5 minutes past the scheduled game. Forfeit score is 7-0.
3. 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).
4. Regulation Game – A game shall consist of 7 innings.
 - a. Exceptions:
 - i. In the case of time limit, 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).
 - ii. In the case of a tie, at the end of 7 innings, and additional time being available within the time limit, additional innings may be played until a winner is determined.
 - iii. 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.
5. Dugouts: typically the Home team – first base side, Visiting team – third base side.
6. Two (2) lineup cards must be filled out completely for both teams, clearly listing all players, including first & last names, and including subs. Before the start of each game, one lineup card will be given to both the umpire and the opposing team. The lineup cards will be used to determine each player's minimum game requirements for Playoffs.
7. Teams may have up to 10 defensive players in the field. For Co-Ed play, there must be a minimum at least 3 females on the field and a maximum of 6 males to start and finish a game.
8. Teams must have at least 8 players in the field to start and finish a game. Otherwise, the team must forfeit the game.

9. A Co-Ed team may start a game with 8 players if no other players are present, but at least three (3) must be female. At no time will there be more than six (6) male players in the field. A position, within the first ten (10) positions in the batting order, must be identified for the fourth (4th) female, which will be an automatic out until, and if, the fourth (4th) female player arrives to fill that position. With eight players, the ninth and tenth spots in the batting order become automatic outs, 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.
10. In the Men's and Women's Divisions, teams may use one Extra Hitter (EH) in their batting order. If used, the EH would be in the eleventh (11) spot in the batting order and would be identified on the Line-Up card as the "EH".
11. In the Co-Ed Divisions, 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 or female/male, 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 to 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.
12. Defensively, any ten may players may be in the field at any one time, provided that for the Co-Ed divisions there are at least 4 females in the field and never more than 6 males.
13. Teams will be allowed unlimited substitutions.
14. For Co-Ed play, all defensive outfielders must be on the outfield grass at the time of the pitch.
15. All pitch heights must be: co-ed: 6'-15' arc, men: 6' – unlimited arc, women: 6' minimum.
16. Pitchers are allowed 5 warm-up pitches in the 1st inning with 2 warm-up pitches every inning thereafter.
17. 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.
18. A foul, on a 3rd strike is out. Runners may advance at their own risk on a foul 3rd strike, which is caught.
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. Base tunners may not leave the base until the ball has been hit (contact rule).
21. 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."
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. **Sliding is allowed.** Sliding is recommended when going into any base on a close play. If there is a close play at any base, YOU MUST SLIDE IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID ANY CONTACT WITH THE FIELDER. If in the judgment of the umpire, the runner did not attempt to avoid contact with the fielder, the runner will be called out. Please slide, this is a safety rule.
25. Though it is not mandatory, for the purpose of safety, the Adirondack Sports Complex,

strongly suggests and recommends that all catchers wear a catcher's mask.

26. If field conditions are bad at any time, players must not play, risking injury or field damage. Games called due to weather may be rescheduled at a later date, most often, when possible, using double headers.
27. The team manager or captain must sign the umpires score sheet immediately following the game.
28. Point system for standings: Win = 3 pts., Tie = 1 pt., Loss = 0 pts.
29. Regular season standings will be determined by:
 - a. Record
 - b. Head to head (provided each of the tied teams have played each other)
 - c. Least runs allowed
 - d. Most runs scored
 - e. Coin toss

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.

Playoffs:

1. League playoffs will be determined based upon the final number of registered teams in the league. Usually, if there are eight (8) or fewer teams in a division, all teams will advance to the playoffs, otherwise, the top eight (8) teams from the regular season will advance.
2. Playoff format will consist of a seeded single elimination bracket.
3. Only those male players that have played in four (4) regular season games for their team and only those female players that have played in three (3) regular season games for their team will be eligible to participate in the Playoffs.
4. Games start at times are listed in the Playoff schedule.
 - a. Forfeit time is 5 minutes past the scheduled game. Forfeit score is 7-0.
5. 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).
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