

Emmorton Rec Council

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

I. GENERAL RULES

1. The season will begin around the 1st of May and end around the 1st of August.
2. Rosters must be fixed one (1) week prior to the start of the season and be registered online with Emmorton Rec Council. All players must have all fees paid prior to the start of the season.
3. Players are to be a minimum of eighteen (18) by the start of the season.
4. All games are on Sunday afternoons. Regular season games will start at 4:00 pm. Tournament games will start earlier in order to get more games played within a day.
5. Games will be played at either Box Hill South Park (333 Windy Laurel Drive, Abingdon, MD 21009) or Ring Factory Elementary School (1400 Emmorton Road, Bel Air, MD 21014).
6. Every attempt will be made to provide advance notice for games canceled due to inclement weather. The league chairperson will contact the team managers via text, phone call, or email with the notification. Managers will be responsible for relaying the notice to all their players.
7. For the regular season, two (2) games will be played. First team listed is the HOME team for the first game, and the VISITING team for the 2nd game.
8. A year end tournament will be played by seeding and either single or double elimination. Any teams tied at the end of the regular season will be decided by a coin flip. To be eligible to play in the tournament, a player is to have played in at least fifty percent (50%) of the regular season games. Play constitutes being present and on the roster for at least four and a half innings of the game being counted. Extenuating circumstances can be presented to the board and will be taken into consideration concerning the eligibility.
9. Each manager shall report game outcomes within twenty four (24) hours of the games to the chairpersons.
10. The HOME team will furnish one (1) new and one (1) good spare league provided softball for each game.
11. Umpire fees are to be paid by the HOME team prior to the start of the game. These fees will be provided to all the coaches prior to the start of the season.
12. The concussion protocol is in effect, so if you believe a player has received a head injury, you can remove them from the game and they cannot return without a note from a doctor.
13. The team's manager will be responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators.

14. Any violations to these rules will not be tolerated.
 - a. First instance in a day, results in a warning.
 - b. Second instance in a day, an out will be recorded to the team violating the rules.
 - c. Players or teams showing no regard for conduct and sportsmanship will be removed from games and/or league.
15. Complaints and protests can be allowed.
 - a. Only written complaints concerning conduct of any player, manager, umpire, or spectator will be addressed. In the event of a complaint, both managers and the umpire are to be notified before the game has ended.
 - b. All protests are to be in written form and postmarked before the protesting team's next scheduled game, and sent to the executive board which will rule on the protest after a review.
 - c. No team, player, manager, or spectator shall make a protest of any kind before, during, or after a game involving an umpire's accuracy of judgment.
16. No player, manager, or spectator shall use abusive or profane language towards any umpire, other player, other manager, or other spectator at any time. Anyone who violates this rule can be suspended.
17. Alcoholic beverages of any kind are strictly prohibited.
18. Each team is responsible for cleaning up their own area/bench after each game. This includes returning the field to its condition prior to the games being played.

II. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

1. Softballs will be Worth UC12 SY (Item #W602385) Gold Dot. 12" circumference, yellow with blue stitching, USSSA approved, with a .40 core rating and 325 lbs. maximum compression.
2. Only wood or bats with a performance factor (BPF) of 1.20 or less and an ASA 2004 certification mark will be allowed. A list of bats that are not allowed can be found at www.ASA.com. Additional bats can be ruled ineligible at any time under the guidelines of the ASA Championship Play and/or the discretion of the League Equipment Advisor. An illegal bat used will result in player(s) being ruled out.
3. Uniforms are at the discretion of the team and will not be purchased or mandated by the league. However, teams should have an identifying color worn by all their players.
4. Scoring plates, double bases, cones, and additional equipment will be available in a lock box at the field. Bases are to be affixed to the ground.

III. RULES OF PLAY

(The rules listed here are not the complete set of rules governing coed slow pitch softball. They do represent those that may be particular to this league.)

1. Unless otherwise noted, ASA coed slow pitch rules will be in effect.

2. The base path is sixty five (65) feet. The pitching distance is fifty (50) feet.
3. Orange cones are to be placed on the first and third base foul line at a distance of fifty (50) feet from the edge of the infield/outfield grass line. The outfield players may not come closer than the cones until the ball is hit.
4. Each game will be seven (7) innings, unless either team is ahead by twelve (12) runs after four (4) innings or ten(10) runs thereafter.
5. Regular season games end after the seventh (7th) inning, and a tie is recorded. Tournament games will be played until there is a winner.
6. Each team consists of ten (10) players on the field, two (2) of which must be female.
 - a. If the team only has one (1) female, the team may option to play with nine (9) players, and also taking an out where the 2nd female would be in the lineup.
 - b. If the team has less than nine (9) players by the start of the game, both teams may reach an agreement to share players. If both teams do not agree, then a forfeit is recorded against the team with fewer players.
7. Team batting order will be provided to the opposing team with a maximum of fourteen (14) batters.
8. This is a no contact league.
 - a. An alternate home plate or scoring plate will be used in this league. The scoring plate shall be located with its right corner eight (8) feet from the back of the home plate. The scoring plate shall be situated on the imaginary extension of the first base foul line. The scoring plate should be anchored to the ground to prevent slippage and change of position during the game. The offensive team must always touch the scoring plate when scoring. The defensive team must always touch the home plate.
 - a. If the runner touches home plate, the runner is automatically out.
 - b. If there is an attempt by the defensive team to tag the runner, the runner is automatically safe.
 - b. A double base shall be used at first base. Half or the white side of the base is to be in fair territory, with the other half or the orange side of the base in foul territory. The defensive team is allowed to use the white side of the bag, while the offensive team is to use the orange side of the bag.
 - c. A commitment line will be used in this league. A commitment line shall be marked in foul territory twenty (20) feet from third base on the third base foul line at a ninety degree angle to the third base foul line. Once a runner touches the ground on or past the commitment line, the defensive team can put the runner out by touching home plate while holding the ball. The defensive team cannot touch the runner.
9. All batters will start with a 1 and 1 count, with one (1) foul to waste.

10. If a male batter is walked with a female batter next in the lineup, the female batter has the option to walk or hit.
11. Only female players are allowed to bunt.
12. Pinch runners are allowed in this league.
 - a. Any pinch hitters are to be of the same gender.
 - b. A pinch runner will be allowed if the umpire and the opposing manager have been notified of players needing pinch runners before the game begins, unless the player is injured during the game.
 - c. The female who made the last out, pinch runs for another female, provided she reaches at least first base.
 - d. The male who made the last out, pinch runs for another male, provided he reaches at least first base.
13. Protective pitching screens are required in this league.
 - a. The screen will directly face home plate within one to three feet in front of the pitching rubber.
 - b. The screen may be positioned anywhere from the outer left side of the pitching rubber for a right-handed pitcher to the outer right side of the pitching rubber for a left-handed pitcher.
 - c. The screen must be placed to the left of a right-handed pitcher, and to the right of a left-handed pitcher to maximize the pitcher's safety.
 - d. Any batted ball striking any portion of the screen as observed by the umpire will be declared a foul ball and will be a dead ball. All thrown balls are in play.
 - e. Any pitch delivered with the screen not in a legal position will be declared "no pitch". If a pitcher refuses to place the screen in the correct position, the umpire will notify the player's manager and remove the pitcher from the pitching position.
 - f. A pitcher is eligible to field any ball in front of the screen.
 - g. One the screen is in position is becomes part of the field and may not be tipped over or thrown aside to accommodate a throw from the outfield.