



YUBA CITY PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2009 ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

The league will be played under the local rules and regulations as noted below and determined by the Parks & Recreation Department. The rules of play will be according to the Amateur Softball Association of America Official Softball Rule Book and Guide.

ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS

1. "Department" means the Yuba City Parks & Recreation Department.
2. "League Director" means the Recreation Supervisor who administers the Softball Program.
3. "League" means this adult softball league which may be composed of division(s) and each of the divisions may vary in the degree or caliber of competition and skill or ability levels.
4. "Manager" means an individual designated by each team to represent that team at all league meetings, games and in all other matters relating to the league. Managers are charged with the responsibility for keeping their team's players informed of all matters relating to this league.
5. "Athletic Committee" is an advisory group consisting of one representative from several divisions of the softball league. The athletic committee will assist the department in the Code of Conduct; and conducting hearings, protest and disciplinary cases necessary to insure the proper application of the aims and objectives of the adult sports program. The committee will meet as needed or as requested by the Department. This is an advisory group and will not be required or expected to make decisions.

ARTICLE II - PLAYER AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITY OF PARTICIPATION

1. No player(s) may be placed on a roster in this league unless they are at least *16 years of age on or before the league start date*. Participants that are under 18 years of age must have a liability waiver signed by his/her parent/guardian attached to the team roster. High school and college athletes should check with their coach or athletic director to see if participation in a recreational softball league is in conflict with their team, league or federation rules.
2. A player may play for only one slow pitch, one fast pitch, one modified pitch and one coed softball team within this league.
3. Priority for entry into the league will be given to all teams on a first-come, first-served basis.
4. Teams may request the division of their choice within this league; however, the league director reserves the right to place a team in another division in order to maintain equal competition between the divisions.
5. Women's and Coed league: It is recommended no player more than three months pregnant be permitted to play.
6. If a team has a player with special needs under the definition of the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the Manager's responsibility to set up a meeting between the league director, the team manager, and the player to discuss what special considerations need to be made to accommodate the player.

ARTICLE III - TEAM ROSTERS

1. Due no later than 5 p.m. on the final roster deadline date. Rosters will not be accepted unless completely filled out and accompanied with full payment of league fee. Rosters without at least 14 participants with complete information or without the full registration fee will not be accepted. Rosters placed in the City Hall Water Bill Drop Box after 5 p.m. on Friday deadline date will not be accepted.
2. All managers must sign the verification of information statement on the roster form.
3. Players who appear on more than one team roster will be considered the property of the team for which they play their first league game.

4. Pick-Up Policy & Ineligible Player

Should a slow pitch team fail to field at least eight legal players or a modified pitch or fast pitch team fail to field at least eight legal players by the specified game time, the game shall be considered a forfeit. A team can play with eight players without penalty outs in the missing batting positions. Team players can be added to the line-up after the game starts as long as the first batter has not stepped up to the plate for their second at bat, however the batting order cannot be rearranged. Forfeited games will not be replayed. All fields will have a list of every player, their division, and the team roster that their name appears on.

- ❖ A *legal* line up is 8 players minimum. During regular season games a team may pick up one (1) or two (2) players to make a team up to ten (10). These players MUST bat at the end of the line up.
- ❖ Teams will NOT be allowed to pick up players for Playoff or Championship games.
- ❖ Once you have picked up a maximum of two players, the Manager or Player representative *must* notify the Umpire and Scorekeeper and list them on their own line-up sheet so there are no discrepancies.
- ❖ When a player from the original roster shows up that would take the team over 10 players, the “pick up” player MUST BE SUBSTITUTED IMMEDIATELY with the “rostered” player.

❖ Violations of this rule will result in:

TEAM & TEAM MANAGER:

*The violating Team Manager will be fined \$30 for each violation. The fine MUST be paid at City Hall prior to their next game.

**If repeated, the second violation and any subsequent violations will be incremented by \$30.*

*The violating team will also forfeit the game win (if applicable).

PLAYER(S)

*The violating PLAYER(S) will receive a two (2) game suspension from his/her legally rostered team.

**If the PLAYER violates the rule again, then a fine and/or league suspension will be placed. The fine will be \$75 and the suspension will last through the duration of the season. All infractions will carry over to the next season if warranted.*

5. As of the date the managers sign and submit their team roster, they verify that each player is physically fit to participate in the softball season.
6. Rosters shall contain not more than 20 or less than 14. If managers play, they are considered part of the team roster.
7. Managers will be allowed to add or drop players from their roster up until 5:00 p.m. on the second Friday of league play. Any players who have not signed their roster by this time or have missing mandatory information will be automatically removed from their team roster *by the League Director.* See Article III, 4 for penalties concerning ineligible players.
8. If, during a season, extreme hardship (i.e. season ending illness, job relocation) causes a team to lose a player, that player may be replaced on the roster if proof is established (i.e. verification from a doctor, an employer or *apartment manager, etc.*) to the satisfaction of the League Director as to the validity of the case.
9. Teams may, at any one point and one time only in a season, drop their roster to ten players and then add up to four players, to total fourteen active players. Once a player has been dropped from the roster, that player cannot be added back to the roster or any other team roster later in the season.
10. In replacing players, both before and after the roster freeze date, managers must submit to the League Director the name of the player(s) who are to be removed and the name of the player(s) to be added. Their names will then be added to the roster by the League Director. The new players are eligible to participate after verification with the League Director and the new player has signed the official roster and listed all other required information on the official roster.

ARTICLE IV - TEAM INSURANCE

1. It shall be understood by all participants that the City of Yuba City and all other connected with this league shall not assume responsibility for accidents occurring during play or in coming to or returning home from the game.
2. The League Director urges all teams and/or individuals to seriously consider insurance coverage for themselves and their respective teams. Team insurance is available through ASA. Call Bollinger at 1-800-526-1379 or check out their website at www.bollingergroup.com for more information.
3. It shall be the manager's responsibility to make their players aware of Articles IV 1 and IV 2.

ARTICLE V - EQUIPMENT

1. The department shall provide one new official softball for each regularly scheduled game.
2. Umpires will try to use the best ball available during the game and the pitcher must use the ball supplied by the umpire. The team at bat is required to shag all home runs and foul balls. Games will not continue until this effort is made.
3. Each team must supply its own bats and catcher's equipment. Only "Official Softball Bats" are allowed.
4. No metal spikes or cleats are allowed.
5. The department will provide lights, bases and field maintenance. No protests will be allowed on these items.

ARTICLE VI - GAME OFFICIALS

1. Through the team entry fee, the department shall provide the best available game officials for each regularly scheduled game. No protests will be allowed regarding the quality of game officials.
2. If the game official has not arrived by game time, a volunteer substitute umpire may be used if agreed to by both team managers prior to the start of the game. Game results are final and not subject to protest. If use of a substitute volunteer umpire is not agreed upon by both managers, the game will be rescheduled and played at a later date.
3. The official score shall be kept by the scorekeeper. The umpire shall sign the scorebook at the completion of the game indicating the correct final score. Also, the official starting time and ending time of the games should be noted in the official scorebook.
4. Official lineup cards must list the players' first and last names and each score sheet must be dated.

ARTICLE VII – FEES

1. The team entry fee levied by the department is used to recover the cost of all game officials, ball, lights, bases, awards, a portion of the maintenance and other related program costs.
2. All fees paid by check or money order should be made payable to the "City of Yuba City".
3. All teams wishing to enter must pay the full amount required League fee for the team no later than 5 p.m. of the roster deadline date. No partial payments will be accepted. No refund will be given after a team has been accepted into the league.

ARTICLE VIII - GAMES SCHEDULING AND RULES OF PLAY

1. Priority will be given to all league games. If a team chooses to enter a tournament during the league season, all games missed will be entered as forfeits.
2. All scheduled league games will be seven innings with the following exceptions: 1) If a power failure or inclement weather occurs before a game has reached the time limit and before five innings of play have been completed, the League Director will reschedule the contest on the first available date (See Article VIII, Rule 6). All games reaching the established time limit will constitute a legally completed game regardless of the number of innings played. NOTE: If a team is in a tie breaker and has an absent player who should begin the half inning at second base, do not

declare an out. Instead, place on second base the player whose name precedes the absent player's name in the line-up.

3. There will be no time limit for championship games.

4. **GAME TIMES: Slow Pitch Starting Times**

| Game # | 3 Games Per Field | |
|--------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | 6:30 p.m. | No new inning after 65 minutes of play |
| 2 | 7:45 p.m. | No new inning after 65 minutes of play |
| 3 | 9:00 p.m. | No new inning after 65 minutes of play |

5. **FORFEITS:** Each team will be allowed **ONE** announced forfeit with **NO** penalty fee. Every forfeit after the one "FREEBEE" will have a \$25 forfeit fee. If a team is a no show with no prior notice the \$25 forfeit fee will be put into affect and must be paid before their next scheduled game.

6. Managers must have teams ready to play ball at least 15 minutes before the scheduled game time. Managers must present their line-up to the scorekeeper 10 minutes before game time. Unless a game finishes early, there will be no time for field warm-ups.

7. **UNLIGHTED OR WET FIELDS:** If, in the umpire's opinion, playing conditions are unsafe for any reason (i.e., unlighted or wet fields), the umpire may call the game and the game will be a completed game if 5 innings of play have been completed., (4 1/2 if the home team is ahead). All games not completed will be resumed at the exact point where they were stopped. The score will revert back to the last completed inning. If, at the end of the inning, the game is tied and time has run out, the game shall end in a tie.

8. If a game is delayed due to officials, the time will be accounted for and made up if at all possible. No protests can be made in this situation. Injury time will be made up at the discretion of the umpire.

9. All games played against a team which disbands before the end of the season will be considered a forfeit win.

10. In case of injury, and a team has used all of its players, a team may re-enter a player to fill the injured player's position as long as that player was not previously ejected.

11. Should a slow pitch team fail to field at least eight legal players or a modified pitch or fast pitch team fail to field at least eight legal players by the specified game time, the game shall be considered a forfeit. A team can play with eight players without penalty outs in the missing batting positions. Team players can be added to the line-up after the game starts as long as the first batter has not stepped up to the plate for their second at bat, however the batting order cannot be rearranged. Forfeited games shall not be replayed.

12. Teams will be allowed to start with a maximum of **16** players on their line up and drop down to 9 players in the event of injury. If an ejection occurs, Rule VIII #16 will be in effect.

13. In the event of a tie game, at the end of 1 hour and 10 minutes, the visiting team, followed by the home team, will place the last batter that completed the previous inning, or a legal substitute, at 2nd base and additional innings will be played until a winner is determined.

14. **Home Run Rules:** In Men's and Coed Leagues D-3 and higher, teams can hit a maximum of five (5) homeruns. Each additional home run will be declared an out. The Home Team can win on a home run. In Men's Leagues D-4 and lower, teams will play with a 1 for 1 equalizer. In Coed Leagues D-4 and lower, teams can hit a maximum of three (3) home runs. Each additional home run will be declared an out. The Home Team can win on a home run. THE TEAM AT BAT IS REQUIRED TO SHAG ALL HOME RUNS AND FOUL BALLS. GAMES WILL NOT CONTINUE UNTIL THIS EFFORT IS MADE. *If teams are playing in a combined division, the rule that applies to the lower division will be used.*

15. **Injuries/Ejections:** (Men's, Women's and Coed Slow Pitch Softball) a team may end the game with fewer players than they started with in their line-up for any reason except ejection. If an injury or ejection occurs, an accident/incident report must be filled out when applicable. If the player who has left the game was ejected, an out

shall be declared when he/she is scheduled to bat. If the player left the game due to injury, an out will not be called when he/she is scheduled to bat. (Exception: See Article VIII, 10)

16. **Ejections:** Any individual player, coach or manager being ejected in any one game shall be ineligible to play per Yuba City's Recreation League Code of Conduct. In addition, the ejected player must pay a \$30 ejection fee no later than 5 p.m. on the date on which the player becomes eligible to resume league play. The individual will remain ineligible to participate in all recreation activities until the ejection fee is paid.
17. **Run Rule** – If either team is leading 20 runs after 4 innings or 15 runs after 5 innings the game will be called.
18. **Courtesy Runner** - Each team may have one courtesy runner per inning (Woman for Woman/Man for Man). The courtesy runner must be the last person who completed his or her time at bat in that respective half inning.
19. **Blood Borne Pathogens Policy:**
 - A. The purpose of this policy is to limit exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials to participants since any exposure could result in transmission of blood borne pathogens which could lead to the disease or death.
 - B. After attending to a bleeding cut or injury, a participant must wash with soap and water.
 - C. Any cut or bleeding player or coach must be removed immediately from participating until such time that the bleeding is stopped and any necessary dressing has been applied. For example a player with a bloody nose or scrape from sliding will not be allowed to participate until the bleeding is stopped or adequately bandaged. Game officials are in charge of establishing when a player may return to the game.
 - D. A participant must remove all bloodied clothing before returning to participate.
20. **Jewelry:** NO jewelry will be allowed. Medical bracelets must be taped to the body or covered with a sweat band.
22. **DUGOUT CONDUCT**
This rule reflects on coaches, players, substitutes, or other bench personnel. Standing near the batter's box between innings observing the pitcher warming up is not permitted (unless it is the on-deck batter). If someone is standing outside of the dugout and gets hit by the ball, then it will be ruled interference and the runner closest to home will be called out. Please do not abuse this rule. There will be absolutely NO DRINKING ALLOWED during the game. If players are found drinking by softball officials, they will be ejected.

ARTICLE IX - TEAM AWARDS AND INFORMATION

1. At the end of the first half of the season, each division's first place team will move up a division and each division's last place team will move down a division. At the League Director's discretion, more than one team may be moved up or down. These teams will then play in their new divisions for the second half of the season. Failure of a team to move up or down for any reason will result in the team forfeiting their entry fee and being removed from the league. Make-up games for the first and second half of a season and the championship games at the end of a season can and will be played on any night during those two weeks that fields are available. NOTE: These games may not be your regularly scheduled game nights. If you cannot play on these nights, your game will be considered a forfeit.
2. In the event of a two-way tie, the winner will be determined by previous head-to-head competition during that half of the league. If two teams tie in head-to-head competition (win/loss record), the three-way tie breakers that follow will be enacted. In the event of a three-way tie, the winner of the half will be determined by: (1st) run differential between the teams head-to-head competition (2nd) fewest runs allowed in head-to-head (3rd) most runs scored in head-to-head (4th) coin toss. There will be no playoff games after each half.
3. Each division will play two halves. A team's record will be a combination of the two halves. At the conclusion of the second half the top four teams in each division will compete in a playoff game (1st place vs. 4th place and 2nd place vs. 3rd place). The winner of each of those two games will play for the division championship. If a team moves up or down after the first half, their record will go with them.

4. There will be a mandatory ID check for all playoff and championship games. Any player without their ID will not be allowed to play. Pick-up payers are not allowed. Teams must play with their original rostered players for these games.
5. Division champions and second place teams will receive sponsor trophies. The Department will provide 15 individual awards to each championship team. If a team wishes more than 15 awards, they will be allowed to submit the number needed along with the fee necessary to pay for the additional awards by the next working day following their championship game. Managers will be asked to submit a list of t-shirt sizes with the team roster to expedite the ordering of awards. Awards will be presented as soon as possible to the Managers.
6. The "Player Code of Conduct" has been adopted by the Yuba City Parks & Recreation Department and will be strictly enforced during the season. *All sanctions imposed upon a player will be forwarded to the appropriate Regional and/or State ASA Commissioner. Sanctions may be enforced at all levels of play; including Regional, State and National competition. At the local level, results of sanctions will be forwarded to other recreation departments in the area. The Yuba City Recreation Department may honor and enforce all sanctions imposed by the other recreation agencies on players, managers or coaches who also play in Yuba City.*

ARTICLE X - PROTESTS

1. Notification that a protest is to be filed must be given to the umpire at the time of the decision. The umpire, upon receiving such notification, shall immediately inform the official scorekeeper that a protest has been filed and shall also notify the manager or captain of the opposing team of the action.
2. Notification of intent to protest must be made immediately before the next legal or illegal pitch or before the umpires leave the field of play at the conclusion of the game. In the event that an official is assisting in closing down the facility for the night, i.e., picking up bases, a protest must be filed within 20 seconds of the game ending.
3. **Written notification of any protest, together with a \$100 deposit, must be delivered to the department no later than 5 p.m. of the first working day after the protested game. The written protest must indicate the team concerns at issue, the rule or rules violated, and must be signed by the manager of the protesting team. If the protest is allowed, the \$100 will be refunded. If the protest is rejected, the \$100 will be forfeited.**
4. **Protests of player eligibility must be filed with the umpire during the game by the opposing manager (without the \$100 protest fee). If the protest is deemed valid, the team using the ineligible player must remove the player or forfeit the game. If the team has used the ineligible player in past games resulting in a win, those games will result in a forfeit. (See Article III, 4).**
5. **Failure to properly file the protest will result in the protest being rejected.**
6. **Valid protests will be replayed from point of dispute at the next available date and time at the discretion of the League Director.**

COED SOFTBALL RULES

COED RULES - Yuba City Parks & Recreation Department Adult Slow Pitch Softball Rules apply with the following changes or additions:

1. A team shall consist of players in the following positions: two (2) males and two (2) females in both the infield and the outfield, and one (1) male and one (1) female as pitcher and/or catcher. NOTE: If a team plays shorthanded with either three in the infield or outfield, at least one of the three must be a male and at least one of the three must be a female player. Once determining positions, the players must be stationed in fair ground, except the catcher.
2. All outfielders must stay behind the "outfield line" until the ball is hit (175 feet from home plate). This does not apply to the "rover" position.
3. The batting lineup must be staggered, i.e., man, woman, man, etc. In the event of more women than men playing, staggering must be done until all men have been used. Women may then be grouped together in a row. Coed teams may begin a game with more women than men in the event a team is lacking male players at the beginning of the game. Once the line-up is handed in it becomes official. If a male batter arrives late he may be placed at the end of the line-up if the first and last people on the line-up are women. In the event that the first or last people on the line-up are men, the male batter may substitute in for a woman that is batting between two other women. In this event, the woman substituted in for may re-enter the game one more time for another woman. If the male batter is substituted for, he must be replaced by a male.
5. Coed teams may start with a minimum of **8** and a maximum of **16** players. There should be an equal number of men and women OR more women than men in the rotation.
6. When four balls have been called by the umpire, the batter-runner is awarded one base without liability to be put out. The ball is dead. Any walk to a male batter will result in a two base award. The next batter (a female) will bat. EXCEPTION: With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat. NOTE: Should the female batter-runner pass a male batter-runner when choosing to walk, no out should be called during the dead ball period. A male batter-runner advancing to second base without touching the first base shall be called out if properly appealed.
7. Sliding shall be allowed as a means for a runner to stop at a base, or elude a tag. Sliding shall not be allowed if the intent is to make contact with a defensive player. Any player, in the umpire's judgment, that makes contact with a defensive player while sliding with the intent to make the defensive player drop or miss a thrown or batted ball, or to confuse, hinder, impede or restrict the ability of the defensive player to throw the ball shall be ejected.

*** Much time and thought was given to all of the issues involved in a RECREATIONAL softball program. Due consideration was given to the welfare of all teams desiring to enter into such recreational play. If your team's manager did not attend the pre-season manager's meeting, nor did a representative of your team, you were not able to take part in this valuable opportunity to shape and guide our softball program. It is imperative that managers and players bear in mind that the above rules and regulations are for their benefit, were adequately discussed by managers and team representatives, as well as finalized by the League Director, Coordinator and Athletic Advisory Committee and must be adhered to in letter and in spirit. If any Managers feel that changes need to be made, they are welcome to join the Athletic Advisory Committee. Please note: the League Director may find it necessary to clarify or add to the above regulations and all teams will be notified accordingly. Thank you for participating in the Parks and Recreation Softball Program!**