

WESTCHESTER PARK DISTRICT

16" Co-Ed Softball Team Rules

Field Conditions: <https://wpdparks.org/field-status> - *check after 4:00PM, Mayfair Park East Field (A) and Mayfair Park West Field (B)*

League Website: <https://wpdparks.org/adult-sports> *or under*

Programs

Adult Sports

16" Softball Co-Ed League (Fridays)

FEES, ROSTERS & ELIGIBILITY

1. League fee is \$750, payment can be made at the Mayfair Center, Community Center or online at <https://www.wpdparks.org/registration-form> but new account approval may take up to 48 hours. Teams not paid by this point will be removed from schedule and the schedule altered to reflect this.
2. Teams will play 8 games. Rainouts will be rescheduled as soon as possible.
3. Any team participating in this league must turn in their Official Roster before their second registered league game. The roster shall be limited to 20 players.
4. All roster information must be complete for a player to be eligible for league play. All rostered players must sign the roster themselves or are ineligible. If any information is incomplete, that player will be ineligible to play.
5. **All team rosters must be turned in to the Softball Supervisor by the second game.** Teams participating without a complete roster on file automatically forfeit their game(s). It is the team captain's responsibility to make sure all roster information is correct and complete.

***A team who requires a roster change must apply to the Recreation Supervisor at a minimum of 48 hours prior to the game. Roster changes cannot be done for the final game of the season or for the playoffs. Roster changes are not guaranteed and must be approved to move forward.

6. All players must have a photo ID at all games to verify their identity as a roster player. A player will be given 5 minutes to go to their vehicle to retrieve their ID.
7. Any player listed on more than one roster, within one league, will be ineligible to play in any league.
8. Teams are limited to 20 players and must be 18 years old to participate before the first game.
9. No metal cleats are allowed in Co-Ed League.
10. Teams/Captains that win over \$600 must fill out a W-9 tax form or we must have multiple "co-captains" on file to split up the winnings to avoid filling out the W-9 form.
11. Schedules, standings and results will be posted at www.wpdparks.org, under the tab "Programs," then by clicking on "Adult Athletics: 16" Softball – Co-Ed League (Fridays)." While the site will be updated fairly regularly, the captains will also be e-mailed updated schedules as soon as there are changes. While effort will be made, web updates will not necessarily be updated in real time.

FORFEITS

1. Game time is FORFEIT TIME. Only the first games scheduled of the evening are granted a 10-minute "grace period". Every game following the first scheduled game is to start at its scheduled time or immediately following the previous game.
2. Teams must have at least (9) nine players present to start the game; (4) of the (9) must be women. You will be issued an out in the lineup when the (5) woman spots appear at the plate to bat. The batting order must rotate between men and women.
3. Any team that forfeits will be charged a \$100.00 forfeit fee unless arrangements are made and authorized by the Mayfair Center Manager.

RAINOUTS / CANCELLATIONS

1. The Umpire or Softball Supervisor has the right to stop games or place games on a standby in case of lightning or inclement weather. EVERYONE MUST VACATE THE FIELD. There is a 15-minute waiting period for all clear to be determined by the Softball Supervisor on duty and the umpires. The website at <https://wpdparks.org/field-status> will be updated at 4p.m. on game days. In the case of late weather issues, team captains will be called or e-mailed.
2. For games affected by rain, a minimum of 4½-innings must be complete if the home team is leading, 5-innings for the visitors if they are leading. If this is not the case, the game will be rescheduled as a rainout and the game will start over from the beginning.
3. All rainouts are made up prior to the start of playoffs at the end of the season on league nights. If rainouts become excessive, games may be made up on other days.
4. Rescheduled games as posted are final. If the team cannot make the day/time of the rescheduled rainout, it is a forfeit.
5. The **CAPTAINS** are responsible for informing his team of the rescheduled date.

LINE-UP CARDS

1. Captains will be given line-up cards to be used for each game and must be completed prior to the start of the game. Captains shall give a copy of the lineup card to the umpire and opposing team captain prior to the start of the game.
2. The Softball Supervisor verifies all players listed on the line-up cards with the teams' roster nightly. Any discrepancy will result in a forfeit.

LEAGUE RULES

1. USA Rules and Regulations are in effect with the exception of these Westchester Park District Rules. If there is a conflict in rules, these rules would take precedence over SSA.
2. Home team will be the second team listed on the schedule.
4. Batters start with a one and one (1-1) count.
5. If a male batter is walked he goes directly to second base. The female batter has the option of taking the base as a walk or hitting.
6. The length of the base will be 60 feet and the pitching distance will be 38 feet.
7. The pitching drag-foot rule is in effect. A pitcher may take 1 step to the right, left or backward. The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc of at least SIX FEET from the ground, not exceeding the maximum height of TWELVE FEET from the ground. The arc is the judgment call of the official. Pitchers cannot hesitate in their delivery and must deliver directly to home plate.
8. All games will be 7-innings. If the home team is leading by 10 or more runs after 4½-innings or the visiting team after 5-innings; the game will be declared a slaughter. There is a mercy rule of twenty or more runs after 3 ½ innings or 4 innings if the visiting team is batting.
9. There is no batter box; however, a batter is called out if, in the opinion of the umpire, he/she steps on the plate, steps in front of the plate or crosses the plate. Players may not run up to the ball from deep behind home plate. The umpire may decide what is permissible.
10. A no contact rule is in effect. In a play at any base, the base runner MUST AVOID CONTACT or will be declared out.
11. With the double-first base, when a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white half; batter-runner must use the orange half or runner will be declared out.
12. We allow up to 12 batters. DH and EH but must be one girl and one boy. Must alternate in the batting order; however, you can start the game with 9 people and the 10th would be an automatic out.
13. GROUND RULE TRIPLE - Any ball bouncing over the home run fence or rolling under it will be awarded a triple.
14. Women can use any type of mitt.
15. **No lead-offs.** A runner cannot advance until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.

16. There is no time limit, but no inning will begin after an hour and fifty minutes of play. If extended games become frequent, the Park District reserves the right to institute an hour-limit rule.

17. Teams may place female batters back-to-back in the order with no penalty if they have more female players than men players

18. No new inning may start after 1:15 has elapsed from the start of the game. All games that exceed the 1 hour, 15-minute time limit shall be declared final and official at the end of the current inning.

- *Exception 1:* All playoff games shall have no time limit and play until finish.
- *Exception 2:* (Sudden Death Rule) – No games will end with a tie score. If the 1 hour, 15-minute time limit is declared, or extra innings are necessary to complete a game, the following will occur: a. Each team will start with a runner on 2nd base with no outs. Full innings will be played until one team outscored the other. The runner on 2nd base will be the last batted out from the previous inning.

PROTESTS

1 No protest shall be considered unless it involves a misinterpretation or violation of the rules. The protesting captain shall notify the umpire, opposing captain and the Softball Supervisor that the game is being played under protest.

2. The team's captain shall notify the Recreation Supervisor, in writing, no later than 5:00 pm on Monday following the game.

3. The protesting captain must submit a letter of protest with a \$100.00 non-refundable protest fee. This letter shall state the captain's opinion and purpose of the protest. Be thorough.

4. The protest will then be reviewed and if granted, the protesting team will be reimbursed the protest fee. If the protest is not upheld, the fee will be forfeited to the league.

Protesting the validity of a player:

1. Can be done after the first pitch has been thrown but not after the start of the second inning. **PROTEST CAN NOT BE MADE AFTER THE GAME.**

2. The team captain must notify the umpire, opposing captain and the League Coordinator of the protest so they can produce the roster.

3. The player under protest **MUST** produce an ID, be on the roster and have complete information including a signature or his team will forfeit that game. If a forfeit occurs, the team will be charged \$100.00.

Protesting a Game Situation:

1. Protests based solely on a decision, which involved the judgment on the part of any official, shall not be received or considered.

2. The team's captain must notify the League Coordinator that the game is being played under protest. The league Coordinator will notify the umpire and opposing captain of the protest.

PLAYER CONDUCT

1. If an umpire ejects a player or coach from a game due to conduct, that player/coach has one-minute to leave the park grounds and parking lot and shall be ineligible to participate for the rest of the evening. The ejected player will receive a one game suspension. A second ejection for any player/coach will automatically be ejected from the league without a refund. All players on a team's roster are eligible to be ejected regardless if they are on the field, bench, bleachers, or anywhere in the park area. In the event the player does not vacate the premises, the umpire has the authority to forfeit the game and the Softball Supervisor will call the police to have the player removed from the premises.

2. **Fighting:** Any player(s) involved in fighting in the park(s), whether on or off the field, shall be ejected and automatically suspended for the season.

3. Swearing or derogatory or threatening language toward other players, umpires, staff or patrons: This league shall have a no tolerance rule regarding swearing and derogatory or threatening language. Any player using profanity or such language which is directed at the umpire, another player, park district staff or patron shall be given one warning. If that player continues to use profanity/derogatory language at that time or any other time in the game that player shall be ejected from the game plus one. Certain displays of derogatory or threatening language may result in an immediate ejection without a warning.
4. The Mayfair Center Manager has the authority to issue suspensions to any and all team members, beyond those stated above for any action that interferes with the orderly progress of the game.
5. If the umpire suspects that any player is intoxicated, they have the authority to eject that player from the game (see Addendum: Drinking Policy below).

DRINKING POLICY

Liquor Consumption Policy:

1. The Board of Commissioners of the Westchester Park District has become increasingly frustrated with the consumption of alcohol in the parks.

The policy outlines are as follows:

- 1st infraction will result into the entire team forfeiting their next game (even if just one of your players). Also, the forfeit fee of \$100.00 will be assessed to your team. This fee **MUST** be paid prior to the start of your next game.
- 2nd infraction reported on the same team (even if it is just one of your players) will result in the team's dismissal from the league without any refund.

PLAYOFFS

1. ALL teams make the playoffs.
2. All players must have played in some regular-season games and established on the roster to be able to participate in the playoffs.

Please see schedule for playoff breakdown

Any issues/rules not covered by our House Rules and the SSA Rules shall be resolved by a meeting involving a player from each team, League Coordinator and on site Umpire.

Rules updated May 2024 and subject to change.