

Adult Sports Softball

Playing by the Rules

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League Standings and Player
information website:
www.rosevillesports.com

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General League Information

ELIGIBILITY & ROSTER REQUIREMENTS

- A. A player may only be signed on one roster and play on one team in the same league on the same night.
- B. Players must have a legal picture ID in their possession at each game. Roseville staff and officials reserve the right to conduct random ID checks.
- C. Rosters are “frozen” after 5th week of play in the season. Signatures can still be added until final game but must be done before the player participates in a game.
- D. Minimum age for participants is 18 years old.
- E. Coed leagues require an equal or greater number of women on defense and in the batting order at all times

PROTEST & ILLEGAL PLAYERS

- A. The manager or acting team captain is the only member of a team allowed to protest.
- B. To be accepted, the protest must be made immediately following the official’s or league’s interpretation of a rule followed up by the submission of the completed protest form and \$50 non-refundable protest fee. Protests must be made prior to the end of the program for that night.
- C. An illegal player may be challenged anytime during a game, before the conclusion, however, it is recommended the protest be made when the player is discovered participating in the game. All illegal player challenges must be made with the official by a team manager. Illegal player challenges must be made prior to the end of a game.

LEAGUE STANDINGS AND RAINOUT PROCEDURES

- A. Standings – League standings (wins/loses) will be posted within two business days. Standings will be posted at URL - www.rosevillesports.com.

LEAGUE REGISTRATION POLICY & PROCEDURES

- A. Full league fees are due at the time of registration.
- B. Discount opportunities:
 - a. Only one (1) first place championship coupon will be honored per league per season. First place coupons cannot be combined.
 - b. Under the League Director’s discretion, a team may be required to move up or down based on past performance. Conversely, a team may be required to move down a level. We will only move a team up or down, if need be, if there is a league to move up or down to on the same night of registered play.

REFUND POLICY

- A. A team withdrawing prior to a week of before the scheduled start date (Dates are listed in our registration system) will receive a refund.
- B. Teams withdrawing after the week of before the scheduled start date (Dates are listed in our registration system) will not receive any refund for league fees paid.
- C. No refunds will be granted for no-shows or team forfeits during the season.

MAKE UP GAMES / CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLIMENT WEATHER

- A. Make up games will typically be re-scheduled at the end of the season before playoffs. Make up games could be played on different nights, times and/ or location due to scheduling conflicts.
- B. Games will be subject for make up in the case of lockouts, inclement weather, power issues (lighting), protests and other reasons deemed necessary under the discretion of the League Director. The City of Roseville reserves the right to not reschedule games and instead refund a prorated amount.
- C. Rainouts – Rainouts will be announced via www.rosevillesports.com and on our Twitter feed. We will make the rainout decision ASAP (after 3pm) when such an occurrence arises.
- D. Please do not call or e-mail League Director for rainout info. There are times when Director is not in the office and you may not get an immediate response.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP COUPON

- A. League Championship Coupons (LCC) will be awarded to the team(s) who wins their league. League Championship Coupons can only be used for following:
 - a. \$150.00 is awarded to league winners in Softball. If multiple league winners we reserve the right to split the \$150.00 of awarded money.
 - b. League coupon expires one year of issuance and has no cash value and cannot be combined with other league championship coupons.

TEAM MANAGERS

Managers are responsible for their team & spectators.

- A. All managers are required to review league information including:
 - a. Manager Meeting
 - b. Code of Conduct
 - c. Softball Rules
 - d. Bat Requirements for respective leagues
- B. Managers are required to sign and submit Manager Acknowledgement form before the first scheduled game.
- C. If a player is ejected from a game, the team manager may receive immediate ejection as well.

- D. Following the ejection(s), the League Director will evaluate ejections and defer to the Code of Conduct rules for follow-up probations, suspensions, or permanent dismissal from Roseville Adult Sports Programs.

League Rules



USA Softball and/or Roseville rules and the “Code of Conduct” govern play, with exceptions listed. The League Director reserves the right to make changes at any time if he/ she feel it is for the betterment of the league.

USA Rulebook Notes:

The current USA downloadable online rulebook is provided with your registration at <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball> . You can also visit the USA website for rule clarifications, updates and all bat information. Team Mangers will be responsible for becoming familiar and educating teammates and fans of the USA and City softball rules.

City of Roseville Adult Sports Rules

ROSTER

- A. Each roster must consist of 10-22 players.
- B. Players must be on the roster, signed the roster, and have picture ID to be eligible to play. No Exceptions.
- C. Players may be added to the team roster through the 5th week of league play. After the 5th week of league play, the rosters are frozen, no additional players may be added.

GAME TIME

- A. Game time is forfeit time. Exception: Only the first game will be given a 10-minute grace period and the game clock will start at the scheduled game time. At the 6-minute mark of the grace period, the team ready to play will receive a 3-point advantage. After 10-minutes the game will be a forfeit and the team ready to play will win 7-0. Teams having 8 players at game time will start without a grace period.
- B. Games are 55 minutes or 7 innings, whichever happens first. If a game is tied after 7 innings and less than 55 minutes has elapsed, one more inning will be played and the game will end at the conclusion of that inning if still tied (regular season only). The USA Softball tie breaker rule will be used.
- C. Games that are called due to unforeseen Issues and have not completed five full innings (four and one-half if the home team is ahead) will be replayed in its entirety.

- D. Drop Dead Rule – After 55 minutes if a team is up by 15 or more runs the game is ended at that point.

FORFEITS

- A. Forfeits will count as 1.5 losses in the standings
- B. Two (2) forfeits will result in non-participation in the playoffs and possible exclusion from future leagues.

PLAYOFFS

- A. If a league has 4 team entries, the top 3 teams will be eligible for the playoffs. If a league has 5 – 9 team entries, the top 4 teams will be eligible for the playoffs. If a league has 10 – 12 teams, the top 6 teams will be eligible for the playoffs. All players must be on the team roster and have a picture ID present at all times and on playoff game day(s). No ID, not on the roster, no play.
- B. Playoff games 1 and 2 will be played to 55 minutes or 7 innings, whichever happens first. If a playoff game is tied after time or 7 innings have been completed, we will play an extra inning until a winner is decided with the USA Softball tiebreaker rule applied each extra inning needed. The Drop Dead Rule WILL be applied in playoff/championship games. The championship game will be played to 7 innings or 75 minutes, whichever happens first. If tied after 7 innings or time has expired, starting with the top of the next inning, the USA Softball tiebreaker rule will go into effect and each half inning thereafter.
- C. In the Championship game the higher seed can choose to be home team or visitors.
- D. The seeding of playoff teams will be decided by the following in order:
 - a. Overall record (Winning %)
 - b. Head to Head (unless tied teams didn't play equal number of games against each other)
 - c. Run Margin in "head to head" games (unless tied teams didn't play equal number of games against each other)
 - d. Least runs allowed in all league games
 - e. Most runs scored in all league games.
 - f. Coin Flip

BATS



- A. Leagues and Allowed Bats include:
All Leagues (except the CBL): Any USA Softball approved bat that is NOT on the banned list is allowed.
City Bat League: Only City provided single-wall USA Softball approved bats will be used in this league. No Exceptions!

- B. The USA Softball Non-Approved Bat Standard has been accepted by the City of Roseville. For more information please check www.usasoftball.com/about/certifiedequipment.asp
- C. Some older bats have been “grandfathered”. See your scorekeeper for the Approved Bat List information or visit www.rosevillesports.com to download the list.
- Any player using a Non-Approved bat for the specific league will be called out and ejected from play, including the team manager.
 - Any player suspected of using an altered bat will be immediately ejected from the game, as well as the manager, and be subject to the Players Code of Conduct.
 - Bats may not have any adhesive of any kind covering the bottom of the knob or at the barrel cap.

CITY PLAYING RULES **2024 USA Softball**

- A. **Pitching Rule:** (1) The pitcher may take a position from the front edge of the pitcher’s plate to 6 feet behind the pitcher’s plate within the 24 inch width of the pitcher’s plate with both feet firmly on the ground. (2) The pitcher shall NOT pitch the ball behind the back or through the legs. (3) The pitcher must come to a full and complete stop with the ball in front of the body. The front of the body must face the batter. This position must be maintained at least one second before starting the delivery. (4) The pitch shall be released at a moderate speed. The speed is left to the judgement of the umpire. (5) The ball shall be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground, while not exceeding a maximum height of 10 feet from the ground. (6) The pitcher has five seconds to release the next pitch after receiving the ball or after the umpire indicates “play ball”. (7) The pitcher shall not deliver a pitch from the glove.
- B. **No steel spikes allowed.** Shirts and shoes are required for all players.
- C. **Managers must turn in a lineup card 10 minutes prior** to game time. All players who are scheduled to play must be present and on the lineup card, even if they are not starting.
- D. **Teams may start and finish with 8 players.** A team falling to 7 players for any reason at any time will forfeit the game. Players showing up late may be added to the bottom of the lineup, up to 10 players. After the 10th player, additional players are now considered substitutes.
- E. **All defensive players must bat.** A player cannot only play defense.
- F. **When an ejected player’s spot comes up in the batting order**, that spot is an out, unless replaced with a substitute. If a player leaves due to injury their spot is NOT an out and can be replaced with a legal substitute.
- G. **Re-Entry Rule** allows a player to return multiple times to the batting order. If a player subs into the batting order, for example in the 6 spot, the player he replaced can only re-enter into the lineup in the 6 spot and vice versa. The original player and sub cannot re-enter the batting order in a different spot.
- H. **In a Men’s league, a player may leave the game for reasons other than ejection or injury** and the team not be penalized, unless falling below 8 players. However, if a player decides to leave the game, missing their at bat, a legal substitute can be used in that spot in the lineup and cannot be replaced by the original player.

- I. **In Co-Ed, if a female player leaves the game** for any reason and cannot be replaced with a legal sub, thus resulting in two males batting back to back, then the females spot in the lineup results in an out, unless the team decides to sit one male (the one prior or after the female who left the game) and now subject to - The batting order must alternate gender. No two males can bat back to back, however two or more females may bat back to back.
- J. **One courtesy runner of each gender and the pitcher per inning plus is allowed.** Any rostered player can be a courtesy runner as long as they are the same gender. If the courtesy runners spot in the batting order comes up while they are still on base, an out will be issued. In the case of a team batting around in an inning, if a player used a courtesy runner earlier in that inning, that same player can still use a courtesy runner if that player gets on base again that inning.
- K. **The Walk-Off Home Run rule will apply.** Anytime a home run is hit over the fence the batter and any runners occupying a base are required to walk off the field instead of rounding the bases.
- L. **Home run limit will be played with the “Equalizer Rule.”** Batters exceeding the HR limit will result in an out. The Equalizer Rule defined: A team may not go up more than one home run after reaching the division limit, up to the equalizer home run limit. Once reaching the Equalizer number of home runs, each additional home run is an out.
 - Men’s / Coed 2 Equalizer 3, any in excess are outs.
 - City Bat League 1 Equalizer 2, any in excess are outs

BASE RUNNING

- A. Sliding at all bases is permitted, as it is the base-runners responsibility to avoid collision.
- B. Players shall not intentionally collide with any other players. In the case of a runner intentionally colliding with a fielder, the runner will be called out and may, at the umpire’s discretion, may be ejected from the game.
- C. All base runners must either slide or give up their right to a base (avoid a collision by stopping or leaving a base path) if the defensive player (e.g. catcher) has possession of the ball and able to make an apparent play on the base runner. If a defensive player is not in possession of the ball, so that they are able to record an out (apparent play at any base), they cannot block the base (e.g. home plate) or be in the base path so as to impede (obstruct) the base runners right to that base. Under such circumstances, the defensive player shall be responsible in avoiding a collision. If a collision does occur under these circumstances the runner will always be considered safe, and the obstruction rule shall be enforced.

BATTING ORDER OPTIONS

- A. Bat 8, 9 or 10, all players are required to play offense & defense.

- B. Bat 11 (Extra Player Option), any 10 players can play defense.
 - a. Note: 11 players must be present at start of game
- C. Bat all players (Multiple Extra Player Option), any 10 can play defense
 - a. All players must be available at start of game
- D. Co-Ed, bat 12 (6 male/6 female) any 10 can play defense
- E. Note: the batting order can never change
- F. Players arriving after the start of the game are considered to be substitutes until 10 players arrive.

MEN'S LEAGUES

- A. Will use an extended rectangle strike mat with batter's box.
- B. Start with 1-1 count. The batter will receive an extra foul ball if two strikes.
- C. All USA Softball approved bats that are not on the banned list are allowed.

COED LEAGUES

- A. Will use an extended rectangle strike mat with batter's box.
- B. Start with a 1-1 count. The batter will receive an extra foul ball if two strikes.
- C. All USA Softball approved bats that are not on the banned list are allowed.
- D. COED City Bat Leagues use ONLY City issued USA Softball approved single wall softball bats.
- E. Commit line. Once a player crosses the commit line 40' down the third base line, they must continue home. The play is now a force out at home.
- F. There are NO defensive alignment requirements regarding male/female positioning in the field. A team must have an equal or greater number of female players in the field and in the batting order. A rostered player may choose to only bat or play defense; however, the rules pertaining to the batting order must be followed.
- G. Scoring line: base runners must cross the scoring line and not home plate. All plays at home are force outs. A base runner touching or crossing home plate or the mat will be called out.
- H. In coed, if a female player leaves the game for any reason and cannot be replaced with a legal sub, thus resulting in two males batting back to back, then the females spot in the lineup results in an out, unless the team decides to sit one male.
- I. 150' encroachment line in the outfield. Players may not cross this line until the ball is batted.
- J. A walk to a male batter will result in a two base award. The next batter (a female) shall bat. EFFECT: the ball is dead. EXCEPTION: With two (2) outs, the female batter has the option to walk. If the female chooses to accept the walk option, she must declare to walk prior to the first pitch of her at bat.