

PAMLICO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION



ADULT SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The current issue of the **Official Southern Softball Association of America** rules will be used with the exceptions listed below.

1:00 LEAGUES

- 1:01 MEN'S: Must be 16 years old on or before August 1st of current playing season.
- 1:02 CO-REC: Must be 16 years old on or before August 1st of current playing season.
- 1:03 WOMENS: Must be 16 years old on or before August 1st of current playing season.

2:00 **FIELD AND TEAM SIZE:**

| <u>Men's Divisions:</u> | <u>Co-Rec Divisions:</u> | <u>Women's Divisions:</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pitching 50' | Pitching 50' | Pitching 50' |
| 12" Certified Cor.44 | 12" Certified Cor.44 | 11" Certified Cor.44 |
| Base Paths: 65' | Base Paths : 65' | Base Paths: 65' |
| Team size: 18 maximum | Team size: 18 maximum | Team size: 18 maximum |

3:00 AGE REQUIREMENTS AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 3:01 Minimum age will be sixteen (16) years old on or before August 1st of current playing season in the Men's, Women's, Co-Rec Divisions.
- 3:02 **The Team Registration Fee must be turned in by the deadline.**
Rosters and participant registration forms must be turned into the Recreation Department at least

(5) working days prior to the team's first scheduled league game. All players are required to sign a registration form before they are eligible for participation. Each team's roster will be validated by the signature of the Recreation Director. This signature must be present on a team's roster for the team to be considered legal for participation within the league.

3:03 Rosters may be submitted in person or by mail to Pamlico County Parks and Recreation Department, P.O. Box 488, Bayboro, NC 28515, or by fax to (252) 745-2301 or by e-mail (garry.cooper@pamlicocounty.org). Please call to verify that your roster has been received.

3:04 A player may participate on only one (1) team in any given league. Any player caught playing simultaneously on two (2) teams will be suspended from any further participation in the program for the remainder of the year. Each game that the player participated in will be considered a forfeit.

3:05 Additions and deletions to rosters must be made at the Pamlico County Parks and Recreation Office prior to the teams next game. Signed registration forms must be presented and on file before that player is considered eligible.

3:06 Additions and/or deletions to/from the regular season team roster will be accepted up to the 2nd regular season game.

3:07 The Team Manager is responsible for keeping a copy of the signed, regular-season team roster in his/her possession on game days. These may be used to determine player eligibility during a protest.

3:08 No player may join a team if he/she has already played on another team in the same league in the same season. A player may play in different leagues, but may not switch teams within the same league during the same season.

3:09 Teams may carry a maximum of eighteen (18) players.

3:10 A player must play in at least four (4) regular season games to be eligible to participate in tournament.

4:00 EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS

4:01 The teams will provide all regular season and tournament game balls. (Licensed 12" .44 core 375 compression and 11" .44 core 375 compression and must be stamped on the ball along with ASA or USSSA).

4:02 A catchers mask is recommended to be worn by catchers but are not mandatory.

4:03 Numbered, identical color shirts with similar shirt style and logo are mandatory for all teams. A one week grace period will be given to teams at the beginning of season to comply with this requirement. Field Supervisors will make all decisions concerning shirts in question. Players not meeting this requirement will not be allowed to play. **Note: Tank top style shirts are not**

allowed.

- 4:04 No metal spikes allowed. Molded cleats or tennis shoes are allowed.
- 4:05 Shoes are mandatory.
- 4:06 All bats shall have a safety grip of cork, tape composition material. The tape shall not be less than ten inches (10") from the small end of the bat. The bat shall be marked "Official Softball" by manufacturer.

The following bats will be considered illegal for use in Pamlico County Parks and Recreation Adult Softball Leagues:

Miken Balance Series Bats
Miken Ultra II
Miken Ultra II Advanced
Combat VIRUS VIRSP 3 (Female)

For a more complete list, see the SSAA website, www.ssaasoftball.com.

BATS MUST NOT EXCEED 1.20.

5:00 SEASON GAMES

- 5:01 League scheduling will be done by the Pamlico County Parks and Recreation Department. Schedules will be made available to team managers at least one week prior to season.
- 5:02 An official scorebook will be kept for all games. The Parks and Recreation department will supply a scorekeeper for this purpose.
- 5:03 League standings will be kept and used in determining regular season champions and/or tournament seeding. They will be posted on www.pamlicocounty.org.
- 5:04 Officials will be furnished by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- 5:05 Each team is responsible for retrieving foul balls and home run balls.
- 5:06 Each team shall turn in a line-up card to the scorekeeper (10) minutes prior to game time.
- 5:07 Each team will consist of: ten (10) players or eleven (11) players including the additional hitter. If a team selects to use an additional hitter they must continue to use an additional hitter the entire game. The additional hitter may be replaced with any legal substitute.

Co-Rec League will consist of three (3) females and seven (7) males. The additional hitter can be either sex.

5:08 Minimum Player Rule

Men's League A team will be allowed to start with a minimum of 8 players and must continue with at least 8 players or the game will be forfeited. Any additional team member arriving late must be added to the bottom of the batting order until reaching 10.

Co-Rec League

A team will be allowed to start with a minimum of 8 players and must continue with at least 8 players or the game will be forfeited. Six players must be of the same sex.

Women's League

A team will be allowed to start with a minimum of 8 players and must continue with at least 8 players or the game will be forfeited.

5:09 Game Length Rule

All games shall be (7) innings or 70 minutes of play whichever comes first. Four complete innings will constitute a complete game in the case of a rain out. If game is tied, during regular season, game will end in a tie. If a game is tied during post-season play, teams will play until completion of game.
The first pitch will determine the starting time of the game.

5:10 Speed Up Rule

- (a) Pitchers are allowed five (5) warm-up pitches the first inning and only one
 - (1) Warm-up pitch between innings.
- (b) No infield after the start of the game
- (c) Ball thrown to pitcher after each out.

5:11 Hitting Rule

A player will go to the plate with the count already one ball and one strike. After two (2) strikes on the batter, the second foul ball will result in an automatic out.

5:12 Home Run Rule

Men's League

Modified D ball. 1 homerun hitter: First player to hit a homerun is the designated homerun hitter. Any homeruns hit after the first one are considered singles until that designated hitter is walked, then it is opened back up until the next homerun is hit.

Co-Rec League

Modified D ball. 1 homerun hitter: First player to hit a homerun is the designated homerun hitter. Any homeruns hit after the first one are considered singles until that designated hitter is walked, then it is opened back up until the next homerun is hit.

Women's League

Modified D ball. 1 homerun hitter: First player to hit a homerun is the designated homerun hitter. Any homeruns hit after the first one are considered singles until that designated hitter is walked, then it is opened back up until the next homerun is hit.

5:13 Thrown Bat Ruling

The penalty for a thrown bat will be as follows:

1-Incidental:

(a) First offense – team warning.

(b) 2nd offense – dead ball, batter out, runners may not advance.

2- Flagrant (intentional)

(a) - Dead ball, batter out, runners may not advance. - No Warning necessary **Note:** It will be up to the official to determine if a player intentionally throws a bat.

5:14 **A PLAYER WHO IS BLEEDING, OR HAS AN OPEN WOUND, OR HAS AN EXCESSIVE AMOUNT OF BLOOD ON HIS OR HER UNIFORM, MUST LEAVE THE GAME AND MAY NOT RETURN PRIOR TO THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH PLAYER TO RE-ENTER. IF THERE IS AN EXCESSIVE AMOUNT OF BLOOD ON THE UNIFORM, IT MUST BE CHANGED BEFORE THE PLAYER CAN RE-ENTER.**

5:15 Mercy Rule

Mercy Rule- if the visiting team has a 10 run lead after 5 innings or the home team has a 10 run lead after 4 innings the game shall be called complete. If the visiting team has a 15 run lead after 4 innings or the home team has a 15 run lead after 3 ½ innings the game shall be called complete. If the visiting team has a 20 run lead after 3 innings or the home team has a 20 run lead after 2 ½ innings the game shall be called complete

5:16 Base stealing is not allowed.

5:17 The batter will be called out for intentionally bunting or chopping the ball downward. It is the responsibility of the umpire to determine if the batter intentionally bunted or chopped the ball.

5:18 The roll block and/or take out slide is illegal. All base runners must slide directly to the base and or attempt to avoid all contact with the defensive player. The penalty is the player being called out and ejected, with the possibility of suspension after the incident is reviewed by Parks and Recreation Staff.

- 6:01 The league Commissioner will be the Recreation Director.
- 6:02 All business concerning league operation will be sent through the offices of the Athletic Supervisor.
- 6:03 All decisions concerning policy and league operation will be made or approved by the Recreation Director.

7:00 COMPLAINTS / INELIGIBLE PLAYERS/PROTESTS/FORFEITS:

- 7:01 Complaints concerning officials, supervisors, & other aspects of the adult program must be put in writing and submitted to the Athletic Supervisor within 24 hours of the incident.
- 7:02 Notification of intent to protest must be legally made by telling umpire and facility supervisor so it can be marked in the official scorebook.
- 7:03 Protests must be submitted in writing. Protests must be received by 5:00 pm on the first working day after the game in question.
- 7:04 All protests must be accompanied by a **\$25.00 check Made Payable to the Pamlico County Parks and Recreation**. If the protest is determined to be valid, the check will be returned. If the protest is unsubstantiated the check will be deposited into the Pamlico County Parks and Recreation general fund.
- 7:05 Protest based on the umpires judgment or decision in calling plays will not be accepted. **THE ONLY PROTESTS ACCEPTED WILL BE FOR AN ILLEGAL PLAYER THAT PLAYED.**
- 7:06 Protests that shall be received and considered concern matters only of the following types: **THE ONLY PROTESTS ACCEPTED WILL BE FOR ILLEGAL PLAYER PARTICIPATION.**
- 7:07 An ineligible player(s) protest will be required to be submitted within fifteen (15) minutes from the conclusion of the ballgame. Teams using ineligible player(s) will be required to forfeit the games in which the ineligible player(s) played. Coaches who allow ineligible players to participate will be suspended one (1) game.
- 7:08 Opposing teams may challenge the eligibility of any player(s) prior to or during a game. The team manager and player(s) are required to produce identification, and documentation of player eligibility which reflects information provided on the teams signed roster. Teams using an ineligible player(s) will be required to forfeit the game in which the player(s) played.
- 7:09 Team Managers are the only participants allowed to file protests.
- 7:10 Forfeit time will be ten (10) minutes after scheduled starting time **for the first game only!** All other games scheduled will begin at game time or immediately following the conclusion of the preceding game if it exceeds game time. For these games: game time is forfeit time.

7:11 Teams are allowed two (2) forfeits. If a third forfeit occurs the team will be dropped from the league all games prior and after that point will be considered forfeits and no refunds will be given.

8:00 POSTPONED GAMES/INCLEMENT WEATHER

8:01 In case of inclement weather, coaches and participants should call the following number for a decision as to whether or not the game will be played:

Pamlico County Parks & Recreation Message Line: (252)745-4240

8:02 If no cancellation is listed, teams must report to the field and wait for the officials or field supervisor's decision.

8:03 Prior to the start of the game, the field supervisor or Recreation Department staff on duty will have sole authority to postpone or play the game. After the game begins, the officiating crew chief will have the sole authority to postpone or play the game.

8:04 Each of the surrounding areas are different when it comes to inclement weather. It may be raining where you are but at your field it may not be. **ALWAYS** make sure.

8:05 Make-up and unfinished games with less than 4 completed innings will be scheduled at the first available date. A memo indicating date and time of make-ups will be made available to the league coaches. **NOTE: Make-up games may or may not be scheduled on the leagues regular day of play.**

9:00 TEAM MANAGER CONDUCT:

9:01 All team managers must understand and agree to carry out the duties, responsibilities, and policies as established by the Recreation Department.

9:02 The team manager will be responsible for keeping unauthorized persons out of marked bench area.

9:03 Team managers must set good examples of sportsmanship. Do not tolerate poor player conduct in a game or at a game site.

9:04 Only the team manager is allowed to discuss with an official in any manner the decision reached by the official.

9:05 The team manager will be responsible for enforcing the ruling and decisions of the officials, field supervisors, and/or Parks and Recreation Department.

10:00 SPORTSMANSHIP/PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT:

10:01 No alcoholic beverages are allowed on park property. This includes athletic fields. This is a

STATE/COUNTY LAW. If necessary, proper legal action will be taken to enforce this rule.
NO TOBACCO PRODUCTS -SMOKING, CHEWING, DIPPING, ETC...ARE ALLOWED ON THE PRACTICE OR PLAYING FIELD (THIS INCLUDES DUGOUTS).

- 10:02 Players will be expected to conduct themselves in a mature manner. Profane or abusive language will not be tolerated and will be cause for immediate ejection.
- 10:03 Any team manager, player, or spectator who is ejected from a game will be suspended for at least two (2) games. The suspension could be longer depending upon the severity of the infraction, and based upon review of the incident by the Recreation Department.
- 10:04 Fighting and/or unsportsmanlike conduct **WILL NOT** be tolerated before, during, or after the game. If a player or coach pushes, shoves, or strikes a member of the other team, he/she shall be ejected and suspended from play for a minimal of two (2) games. Persons guilty of a second offense involving fighting shall be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- 10:05 No player shall, other than the team manager, discuss with an official in any manner the decision reached by the official.
- 10:06 No player shall be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in the play of the game against the body and person of an opposing player.
- 10:07 No player shall at anytime lay a hand on, push, shove, or strike, or threaten to strike or intimidate an official or field supervisor. Penalty will be suspension from participation in league for minimum of one year.
- 10:08 No player or team manager shall be guilty of personal verbal abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary wrong decision of judgment. The penalty for this type of conduct will be ejection from game and a minimum one game suspension upon review of incident.
- 10:09 No player shall be guilty of physical or verbal abuse, as an aggressor upon any player, official, spectator, or Recreation and Parks staff. The penalty for this type of conduct will be suspension from participation in league for a minimum of one year. .
- 10:10 Violation of Players Code of conduct-each violation by a player or team manager shall be put in writing on a complaint sheet by either officials, opposing team manager, and/ or field supervisor if applicable within twenty-four (24) hours of violation. **Suspensions of 1, 2, or 3 games and/or expulsion from league and/or tournament play will be the penalty for violation of the code. The extent of the suspension will be to the discretion of the Recreation Director.**

11:00 TROPHIES

- 11:01 A Team trophy will be awarded to regular season champion and to the runner-up in all leagues. Individual trophies will be awarded to regular season champion only.
- 11:02 A Team trophy will be awarded to the tournament champion and to the runner-up in all leagues.

12:00 LEAGUE CHAMPION AND POST SEASON TOURNAMENTS

- 12:01 The league champion will be determined by won/loss record.
- 12:02 In cases where there is an odd number of teams tied for first place, a bye will be drawn before the playoff begins, and a playoff will determine the league champion.
- 12:03 In cases where teams have identical records, the tie will be broken by the winner of the regular season contest between the tied teams.
- 12:04 If still tied, the team which gave up the fewest number of points/runs during the regular season contests between the tied teams is declared champion.
- 12:05 If still tied the team which allowed the fewest number of points/runs during the league play.
- 12:06 If still tied the team which scored the most points/runs during the regular season contest between the tied teams.
- 12:07 If still tied; a toss of a coin determines League Champion
- 12:08 Post Season Tournament Championship games will be play a full seven innings or 70 minutes time limit, whichever comes first.
- 12:09 All regular season rules apply for all tournaments.
- 12:10 If at the end of a tournament game, the score is tied, the game will be played until a winner is declared.

REMEMBER: THESE ARE RULES NOT SUGGESTIONS!!

