



owensboroparks.org

OWENSBORO PARKS & RECREATION CORPORATE MINI-LEAGUE SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the City administered leagues shall be to promote and maintain amateur slow-pitch softball in Owensboro and Daviess County under conditions most favorable to the enjoyment of the game and to the development of good citizenship and a spirit of cooperation between the players, officials, spectators, and managers.

DIVISIONS

1. The league division is Co-ed Recreational.

ROSTER

- Any player under the age of 18 must have a parental consent form filled out and turned in with the team roster before the player is eligible to play.
- Teams must have a minimum of 9 players and a maximum of 24 players per team.
 - a. The team manager and or secondary representative must be listed on the roster as a player to be eligible to participate in league play.
- Only one official team roster will be allowed. Any player not signing the official roster, before deadlines, will be listed as an ineligible player.
 - All official team rosters will be recorded after the third scheduled game has been played.

ELIGIBILITY

- Illegal Player – a player non-compliant with the general eligibility rules, not listed on the team roster, a player failing to sign the official roster before deadlines, or a player failing to produce a government-issued picture ID will be ineligible.
 - a. Any team found to have an illegal player at the time of roster check or protest, will forfeit that game and be subject to forfeit all previous games played, regardless of which players were listed on the line-ups of the previous game.

COIN-FLIP

1. A team representative from each team will meet with the game official before the match to determine home and visitor status.
 - a. The game official shall toss a coin in the presence of each team representative.
 - b. The team representative of the winning toss shall choose home or visitor status.
 - c. If the team representative chooses a visitor, his/her team will bat at the top of each inning. The home team will bat at the bottom of each inning.

LINE-UP & SUBSTITUTIONS

1. Line-up cards must include the player's last name and first initial for it to be considered an official line-up.
 - a. Coed line-ups should list the batting order by alternating sexes, i.e., male, female, male, etc.
2. A team representative must submit an official 3-ply line-up card to the game official approximately 10 minutes before the scheduled start of a game.
 - a. If the line-up is not turned in at this time, an out will be charged to the offending team.
 - b. Changes made after the coin flip shall be considered substitutions.
3. Ten (10) players constitute a full team.
 - a. Teams can play a maximum of ten (10) players on defense and a minimum of nine (9).
 - b. Teams must have a minimum of 2 females.
 - c. There must be 1 female in the infield and 1 in the outfield.
 - d. If a male batter from the opposing team comes to the plate, one (1) infield female may choose to switch to an outfield position.
4. If a team starts a game with nine players, the vacant 10th spot in the batting order shall be declared an out.
 - a. If a team starts with nine (9) players and the tenth (10) player arrives, the team may insert the tenth (10) player immediately to the bottom of the lineup.
 - b. If a team is playing the game with ten (10) players and a player is removed from the game for any reason, that team may continue to play with nine (9) players with the vacated spot in the batting order being declared an out.

- c. When a team is left with a vacant spot in the lineup because of the removal of a player, the opposing team with two (2) outs may not intentionally or unintentionally walk the previous batter, to get to the “automatic out” created by the vacated spot in the batting order.

SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

1. The Parks & Recreation Department reserves the sole right to reschedule any games that cannot be played when originally scheduled for reasons beyond the control of the Parks & Recreation Department. Every effort will be made to give the team affected as much advance notice of such rescheduled matches as possible.
2. All games must start at scheduled time. Failure of a team to be ready to play at the scheduled time will constitute a forfeit to the opponent provided the opponent is ready to play. Failure of both teams to be ready for play shall result in a forfeit for both teams.
3. A third forfeit recorded by a team will automatically disqualify the team from the league and post-season tournament.
4. There will be a five (5) minute grace period for the first game only. After the first game and a team can't field a team or doesn't have enough players at the current start time, it will be declared a forfeit.
5. Any team knowing of a game forfeit must contact the Parks & Recreation Administrative Center before 4:30 p.m. The opposing team will then be contacted and will NOT be required to show up at the park.
6. There will be a one (1) hour ten (10) minute time limit on each game. Timing will begin at the scheduled time.

PROTESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH OFFICIALS

1. All communications to league officials throughout the league must be conducted via the team manager. Protests shall be considered only in the violation or interpretation of a playing rule.
 - a. No protests shall be considered on a decision involving a game official's ruling.
2. Protests can occur at any time before two outs in the last inning of the game.

- a. The team manager must make the protest and explain what they are protesting.
3. The decision made on a protested game or roster will be resolved within 10-15 minutes. The following ruling will be determined:
 - a. The protest is found invalid, and the game stands as played.
 - b. When the protest is allowed for misinterpretation of a playing rule, the game is replayed from the point at which the incorrect decision was made with the decision corrected.
 - c. When protest for an illegal player is found, the team shall forfeit the game played to the offended team, and subject to forfeit all previous games played, regardless of which players were listed on the line-ups of the previous game.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT/FOUL LANGUAGE

1. Any form of flagrant conduct, unsportsmanlike conduct, or the use of foul language on the part of the player, coach, manager, or spectator will automatically suspend the offending person or persons from the league for the remainder of the game, and/or for any period thereafter that the Parks & Recreation Department might deem fair and comparable with the violation.
 - a. If an individual blatantly uses profanity, they will be ejected.
 - b. If an individual throws their bat, they will be ejected.
 - c. If an individual is ejected they MUST leave the park, if the person ejected refuses to leave the field of play in 60 seconds, their team will receive a forfeit and the game will end.
 - d. If the situation escalates and creates an unsafe environment, the Owensboro Police Department will be contacted and a request for an Officer will be submitted.
2. "Flagrant Conduct" shall be construed to include verbal abuse toward and/or physical contact or attempted contact with a game official, other players, coaches, or managers.
3. Any player who has been suspended from a game may be suspended for the remainder of the season or any period decided upon by the Owensboro Parks & Recreation Department.
4. Any player who is ejected twice during a season from a game for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct will automatically be disqualified from the league and post-season tournament.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. All games must be played as scheduled unless postponed due to inclement weather or wet field conditions.
2. All players can check the status of game cancellations via our cancellation line at 270-687-0000, Facebook, and/or text messages.
3. If inclement weather occurs after 5:00 p.m. managers, or the second point of contact, should call the Parks & Recreation Department cancellation line at 270-687-0000 to confirm that games are canceled. We will also make efforts to contact team captains directly if a late notice on game cancellations arises. Postponed games will be played as rescheduled.
4. It will be the team manager's responsibility to check on times and dates of rescheduled games.
5. The Parks & Recreation Department will post updated schedules to the website and/or the bulletin board outside the athletic field house.
 - a. The Parks & Recreation Department will not individually notify each team manager of the make-up schedule.
 - b. If a make-up game is forfeited because a team did not call to check on the scheduled time, it will stand as a forfeit.
6. Make-up games may be scheduled on nights other than the regular league playing night.
7. Teams will be expected to make up games on the dates set.

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING POLICY

1. Parks & Recreation personnel on duty will monitor the weather situation.
2. Games will be put on a 30-minute delay at first sound of thunder or first sight of lightning.
 - a. Once declared a 30-minute delay, visitors must go to a safe shelter such as a vehicle.

GENERAL RULES

1. Home team will keep the scorebook.
 - a. If the home team only has 10 players and is unable to keep the scorebook, then the visitor team will assist as needed.
2. Each batter will start with a 1 ball and 1 strike count.
3. Run Rules are as follows:
 - a. Twenty (20) run rule after (3) innings.
 - b. Fifteen (15) run rule after four (4) innings.
 - c. Ten (10) run rule after five (5) innings.
 - d. Five (5) run rule after six (6) innings.
 - e. One (1) run rule after seven (7) innings.
4. Home Run Limits:
 - a. 3 home run rule limit after the third homerun declared an out.
5. All forfeited games will be officially scored as 14-0.
6. NSA slow pitch rules will be strictly adhered to unless contrary to these rules and regulations.
7. The team that hits a foul ball out of play or home run will be responsible for retrieving the ball.
8. Stealing bases will not be allowed.
9. All balls will be provided. We will be playing with Men's softballs 12" 44/400 and Women's softballs will be 11" 44/400. All balls will have the NSA ICON stamp.
10. A regulation game consists of 3 1/2 or 4 innings when 7 innings cannot be completed.
11. Double bases will be in effect.
 - a. The offensive player must tag the orange outer base to be safe.
 - b. Defensive plays must be played to the inner white base or else the offensive player will be called safe.
12. A pitching net will be placed, within a reasonable distance, in front of the pitcher for the player's safety.

- a. If a batter hits the ball up the middle, and it hits the net, it will be ruled a strike.
 - b. The pitching net shall not be altered during a batter's swing in an attempt to contact a hit ball and force a strike rule. Any player attempting this action can be ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - c. Courtesy rule is in affect with the pitching net.
13. No steel cleats are allowed for this season.
- a. If a player is found with steel cleats, the player must change immediately or be substituted out.
 - b. If no substitute is available, the player will be ejected from the game.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. Please be respectful and help the Parks & Recreation Department conduct an excellent league.
- 2. Observe all facility and field rules and help maintain a clean facility.
 - a. No sunflower seeds, peanut shells, gum, Sugary beverages, food, or tobacco products (including dip) allowed on the fields. ONLY Water is allowed on the field.
 - b. Use of tobacco and smoking products at all City parks, grounds, and facilities is prohibited.
 - c. Individuals will be ejected and subject to season suspension if disregarding rules.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parks & Recreation Cancellation Line	270-687-0000
Website: owensboroparks.org Facebook: Owensboro Parks & Recreation Instagram: @OwensboroParks	Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram and visit our website to find out more about all the City's parks and programming.
Bryson Morrow, Recreation Facility Manager	Office: 270-687-8725 E-mail: bryson.morrow@owensboro.org