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## OWENSBORO PARKS & RECREATION CORPORATE MINI-LEAGUE WIFFLE BALL RULES

### OBJECTIVE

The objective of the City administered Corporate Challenge Mini Leagues is to promote and maintain a variety of sports 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.

### DIVISION

- Co-ed Recreational Wiffle Ball.

### LOCATION

- All games to be played at McConnell Plaza.

### 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 6 players in the lineup and a maximum of 20 players per team.
  - **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.
  - **A team roster must be filled out, legible, signed by all players listed, and submitted** to Parks & Recreation personnel or the game official before the team's first scheduled game time.
- **Player changes to the team roster can be made before the second scheduled game. After the second game is played there will be no player changes made for the rest of the season.**

- All requests for player changes must be submitted by the appointed team representative in writing to Bryson Morrow, Recreation Facility Manager (bryson.morrow@owensboro.org)
- All official team rosters will be recorded after the third scheduled game has been played.

## **TEAMS**

- Teams may have a maximum of 20 players on the roster. A minimum of 6 players and a maximum of 10 players may bat. 6-9 players are allowed to be in the field.
- Substitutions for fielders and batters can only be made in between innings unless an injury occurs.
- Batting out of order is ruled as an out.
- Pitcher must face one complete batter before being replaced.

## **THE GAME**

- Five innings equals a complete game.
- Ten-run “mercy rule” applies after three complete innings.
- Three outs allowed per inning for each team.
- Count will begin with 1 ball and 1 strike.
- A foul tip that hits the strike zone while having 2 strikes is an out.
- In extra innings, both teams will start the inning with the bases loaded. This format takes place immediately after the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning.

## **GAME SITUATIONS**

1. Any fly ball caught in the air is an out. There is no infield fly rule.
2. A foul ball cannot spin back into fair territory.
3. Runners are allowed to tag on a play with zero or 1 out.
4. A ball that travels over the outfield fence is a home run.

## **BASERUNNERS**

1. Stealing bases is not allowed.
2. Baserunners can tag up on fly balls with less than 2 outs.

## **THE BATTER**

1. The batter may switch sides at any time in the count. The batter must notify the pitcher before doing so, otherwise the pitch will be called a strike.

2. Any batter interference with the pitch will be called a strike.
3. There is no hit-batsman rule. The pitch will be called a ball.
4. If a player leaves the game (after lineups are set) without a replacement, for whatever reason, it will be considered an out every time it is that person's turn to bat.

## **THE PITCHER**

1. The pitcher must have at least one foot touching the rubber when he releases the ball. If a ball is pitched in violation of this rule, the pitch will be ruled a ball.
2. A pitcher can throw an entire game and can throw every game. Pitching changes can be made at any time except in the middle of an at-bat. There is a maximum of three pitching changes per game.
3. The maximum speed of a pitch will be 40 m.p.h. An illegal pitch will be considered a ball.

## **GENERAL RULES**

1. Coin toss will decide the home team.
2. Teams must play all scheduled games. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit.
3. All teams and players will adhere to all rules of the league. Any violations may result in ejection from the game and/or league.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

1. **Illegal Player – a player non-compliant with the above 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

## **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. Line-ups should list the batting order by alternating sexes, i.e., male, female, male, etc.

2. **If a game is postponed due to inclement weather the team is only required to have the same number of players on the line-up for the make-up game, not necessarily the same player in person.**
  - a. All original players that can play must play in the original batting lineup.
  - b. Players that did not play in the original game will then fill any open slots, up to the total amount of players that originally started the game.

### **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. 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.
4. Any team knowing of a game forfeit must contact the Parks & Recreation Administrative Center before 4:00 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 forty-five (45) 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:
  - b. The protest is found invalid, and the game stands as played.
  - c. 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 area, if the person ejected refuses to leave the area 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 4:30 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.

## 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: <a href="mailto:bryson.morrow@owensboro.org">bryson.morrow@owensboro.org</a>