



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

CITY OF EL CAJON

Co-Rec Softball Rules

1. Players

- A. A maximum of seventeen players on a roster, ten players constitute a full team.
- B. A team shall consist of ten players. However, a game may be played without forfeit with eight rostered players. Five women must be in the game at all times. Substitutions or courtesy runners must be of the same sex as the individual being replaced.
Note: If a game starts with eight players, four men and four women shall play.
- C. Free substitution; however, the substitute must play at least three outs in the field before he/she may bat, and must take the place in the order of the player substituted for.
- D. If a team has only nine players and a player must leave the game due to an injury, the game may continue. No team may play with less than eight players at any time.
- E. A minimum of three outfielders must remain behind an outfield restriction line (160 arc from home plate) until the batter swings at the pitch.
Penalty: Batter will be awarded first base unless he or she reaches the base safely.
- F. There are no restrictions on a player on to which defensive position he or she may play.
- G. A fifteen run rule will be in effect after five complete innings. (Example: after five complete innings, the score is 20-5, the game would be called.) This rule is optional and must be declared prior to game time. The fifteen run rule is mandatory in post season play.
- H. No drinking is allowed on school and park grounds. Any player who has been drinking will be removed from the league. Any team whose fans or players consistently are observed violating the no beverage prohibition, will be removed from the league.

2. Rules

- A. Ten minute grace all games (ten minute grace comes off regulation time).
- B. Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation Rules (S.C.M.A.F.) will be the rules with the exceptions detailed in the El Cajon's Co-Rec Softball Rules.
- C. First named team is "home" team.

3. Batting Order

Players must bat in alternating order male/female. When there are only nine players, two women would bat in consecutive order.

- A. Batting out of order will not be an appeal play. When the error in batting is discovered, the scorekeeper shall call the error is discovered while the incorrect batter is at bat, the correct batter shall take their place and assume any balls and strikes. If the error in batting is discovered after the incorrect batter has completed

their turn at bat and before there has been a pitch to another batter, go by the following:

1. If the incorrect batter reaches base safely all advancement of other runners and scoring is nullified and the correct batter shall bat with all runners to return to their original base. There is no penalty to the incorrect batter.
 2. If the incorrect batter gets put out, the out will stand and the player who should have batted will lose their turn at bat and the next batter shall be the player who follows the incorrect batter.
- B. If a player has been removed from the line-up and has not been substituted for, that player removed shall be called out for failure to bat. There will be no further penalty to that player for failure to bat.
- C. A male batter who is walked on four consecutive balls with no strikes thrown during his time at bat, or intentionally walked, shall be rewarded second base. Base runners advance only if forced to vacate their bases. The female batter following the male batter who was walked has the option of hitting or walking. The male batter who intentionally was walked shall touch first base, then proceed to second base. Bases must be touched in legal order. Failure for a runner to follow this order will cause said runner to be called out for taking second base illegally. The female batter who follows an intentionally walked male batter and requests the option to be walked, must make this request from the batter's box.
- D. A team will have the option of batting their entire roster or any number of players from ten to seventeen. If only nine players are present, an official game will take place. The batting order will be established prior to game time. Any player that shows up after the game has started, in order to bat, must be substituted in. However, if their team is batting all players present with no subs on the bench the late player has the option of being added to the bottom of the line-up or can be used as a substitute. If the player shows up late and their team is not batting all players present and the late player, if he/she is to bat, must be substituted in for another player. Any player who substitutes in must play three outs in the field prior to batting. If a team is batting all players present, it is not necessary for them to play in the field prior to batting. If a team is batting a portion of it's players, those players who are batting can alternate in on defense. Playing in the field for three outs prior to batting is only required for those players who come off the bench as substitutes.
- E. If, for lack of players, an official game cannot be started at game time, and both managers agree, a player not currently playing or having played for another team may be picked up for an official game. If the game is played, the score stands. If one manager wishes to call for the forfeit, no game will be played during the allocated time period. Any illegal player protests must be handled according to protest policy.
- F. The person at bat shall not deliberately bunt or chop at the ball. Batters will be declared out and runners may not advance. It will be treated as a dead ball.

4. Time Limits

- A. Time limit of one hour five minutes for each game will be imposed. The umpire has the official time.
- B. If, after seven innings, the game is tied and time is available, extra innings will be played. If the tie is not broken in complete innings before the time limit expires, each team will receive $\frac{1}{2}$ win and $\frac{1}{2}$ loss. When a game is called the score shall be what it was at the time the game was called if the team second at bat has more

runs than the team first at bat or if the team second at bat has in that inning tied the score. If the team second at bat has less runs than the first team at bat when the game is called, the score shall be that of the last completed inning by both sides. Tournament games will be played with a one hour forty minute time limit. If the tournament game becomes a regulation drawn game, the winner will be decided by the number of base runners left on base. In the event there is still a tie, total hits will decide the winner. Championship games will be played until a winner is decided.

5. Pitching Rules

- A. The ball must arc higher than the batter's head.
- B. The ball must not exceed the height of more than twelve feet above the ground.
- C. The pitcher must present the ball in one or both hands with one or both feet in contact with the pitcher's rubber.
- D. If the arc and height rules are violated, the pitch shall be called a ball.
- E. A pitched ball not struck at that touches the ground before crossing home plate shall be called a ball and declared dead. If the ball touches the ground and the batter swings and hits or misses it, the pitch will be ruled a strike and the ball declared dead.

6. Strike Zone

- A. The strike zone shall be 17" from the rear of the plate making a 17" x 34" rectangle. A legally pitched ball not struck at that lands on any part of the strike zone including the plate will be ruled a strike.
Note: You can score on the carpet. (due to slippery plate.)
The catcher must let the ball land on any part of the strike zone to be called a strike (for safety purposes).
- B. When after having two strikes, the batter hits a second foul ball (four strike rule), the batter is out. If the ball lands or is touched and not caught in foul territory, the ball is dead; if the batted ball is caught on the fly and the fielder remains in live playing area, the ball is **alive and in play**.

7. Pitching Distance

- A. Pitching distance for women shall be 46 feet.
- B. Pitching distance for men shall be 46 feet.

8. Base Running

- A. A runner may lead off after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
- B. Runner will be called out if he/she leads off before the ball is pitched.
- C. The base runner or batter runner is out when he/she does not slide or attempt to get around the fielder, when the fielder who has the ball is waiting to tag the runner out.
- D. A base runner, by coming into the base standing up causes contact with a player attempting a double play, that base runner and the batter runner may be called out. If the umpire deems said action was flagrant, the base runner may also be ejected.

- E. Base runners are not required to slide when approaching a base or home plate. They have the option of running to the base standing, sliding or giving themselves up, “surrendering to the out.” The intent of this rule is to avoid collisions whenever possible. At no time do we insist or make it mandatory for anyone to slide.

9. Stealing

- A. No base stealing. If a runner advances illegally to the next base, he/she is declared out. If the runner does not touch the base and is returned to his/her legal base, he/she can be forced out if the throw reached the base first
- B. If the ball is thrown to any fielder other than the pitcher and a dropped ball or an overthrow of the intended fielder results, the force is removed. All runners may advance at their own risk and need not retouch.

10. Equipment

- A. The city will provide the game ball. Home team is responsible for providing one good softball for back up. The manufacturer’s label must be legible.
- B. Bats made of, or containing, titanium and all double walled bats or bats not showing current ASA certification will not be approved for play.
 - 1. All players may loosen up with only one official softball bat or approved warm-up bat. No added equipment may be attached to a bat such as a donut, fan, etc., when loosening up, except for the “Pow’R” wrap type bat weight. The degree of infraction of this rule shall, in the official’s judgment, draw a minimum penalty of a warning or a maximum penalty of removal from the game.
- C. No metal spikes or cleats are allowed. Molded one piece rubber cleats or gym shoes may be worn. Shoes are mandatory, no street shoes are allowed.

11. Uniforms/Attire

- A. Uniforms are suggested, but not required. All players must, however, wear shoes, pants, and shirt. Shoes may be molded, one piece rubber cleats, or gym shoes. No street shoes are allowed. **Metal cleats will not be allowed.**

12. Player’s Bench

- A. Only players, manager, and scorekeeper are allowed on the team bench.

13. Player/Fan Conduct

- A. The S.C.M.A.F. players code of conduct will be in effect.

MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

1. Please let the staff at Kennedy Center know about any new telephone numbers.
2. Please make sure all of your players have signed the roster.
3. During inclement weather, it is your responsibility to call Kennedy Center, 441-1676, after 2:00 PM to find out if the games have been rescheduled.
4. No alcohol in the park.
5. If you cannot field a team, please let us know as soon as possible.
6. Please get your line-up to the scorekeeper 10-15 minutes prior to game time, with the first and last names. Please leave the dug-outs clean.
7. Remember this is a recreation league, HAVE SOME FUN.

Thank You,

EL CAJON RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF