



**CO-RECREATIONAL SOFTBALL  
RULES & REGULATIONS  
2020**

**REGULATIONS**

1. There will be an entry fee of \$424.00 per team which must be paid in full before the first game of the season.
2. A complete roster of players, with a **maximum of 25 players** is to be turned in to the Parks & Recreation Department before the first game of the season. The standard roster form is to be used with all requested information completed for each player. **No changes in the roster will be permitted after the sixth game of the season.**
3. **There will be no alcoholic beverages permitted in the parks at any time.**
4. Any player and/or manager removed by an umpire will be suspended according to the following rules:  
  
First Offense - One additional game suspension from League play.  
Second Offense - Three additional games suspended from League play.  
Third Offense - Expulsion from League play for the remainder of the season.
5. NOTE: The Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to expel any participant for the remainder of the season for any offense.
6. All players must have reached their eighteenth (18th) birthday before the start of the current season.
7. The Leagues will play a total of ten (10) regular season games plus a post-season tournament.
8. Each team will be required to complete a line-up card which will be supplied by the assigned umpire. These cards will be used to check the eligibility of players participating in the league.
9. **There will be no profanity. If profanity is used the following will take place: Immediate ejection. No exceptions. No warnings.**
10. All players will be required to show a picture ID prior to the start of each game. The site supervisor or umpire will verify with the official roster. If you fail to bring a picture ID, you will not be eligible to participate.

## **SPECIAL LEAGUE RULES**

1. The USSSA rule book will govern play except where noted below. USSSA league rules can be found at [www.ussa.com](http://www.ussa.com).
2. During games, teams shall be made up of five (5) males and five (5) females, who may play any position.
3. A team may begin play with nine (9) players, but there must be at least four (4) males and four (4) females present along with a ninth person who may be a male or female. Failure to be able to meet this rule will require forfeiture of the game. Should a team play with only nine (9) players then an out will be declared every time the vacant position comes up in the batting order.
4. Only the team coach will discuss calls or decisions with the umpires. Failure to comply will lead to expulsion from the game at the umpire's discretion.
5. There will be a no grace period for any game. The umpire's watch will be the official time. If both teams are not able to field the required minimum number of players, both teams will record forfeits.
6. Infield warm-up between innings is limited to the time the pitcher takes to complete three pitches or one minute, whichever comes first.
7. Sliding is permitted.
8. Protests for possible rules misapplication or misinterpretation only must be declared immediately to the game official as prescribed in the USSSA Softball rule book and in writing within 24 hours to the Parks & Recreation Department.
9. Score keeping will be the responsibility of both teams. By mutual agreement, a spectator may keep score.
10. **THE USSSA RULE FOR SUBSTITUTIONS WILL BE FOLLOWED IN THE LEAGUE. A STARTING PLAYER MAY LEAVE THE LINEUP ONCE AND RE-ENTER THE GAME BUT MUST RE-ENTER IN THE SAME BATTING POSITION IN THE LINEUP AS SUBMITTED TO THE UMPIRE AT THE START OF THE GAME.**
11. **THE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SUSPEND ANY PARTICIPANT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON FOR ANY OFFENSE.**

12. **Courtesy Runners: One courtesy runner may be used per inning, one time only. The courtesy runner can be any player in the line-up. If the courtesy runner is still on base when his or hers time comes up to bat an out will be declared and the next player in the line-up will be the batter. In coed a male player must run for a male and a female player must run for a female.**
13. **The only spikes that can be worn are those with plastic or rubber molded bottom. Athletic shoes with metal cleats are illegal to be worn by any players.**
14. Team batting orders shall alternate batters with male, then female, or female, then male. Teams are permitted to use the Additional Hitter rule of the USSSA rule book. If this option is selected by a team it must be indicated on lineup card. When a team uses the AH provision the team will list a twelve (12) player batting order with six (6) male and six (6) female batters alternating positions. Any five (5) of the male and any five (5) of the female players listed on the twelve player batting order may play defense. The changing around defensively by these players does not constitute a substitution.
15. Should a male batter be walked, the next female batter may have her choice of taking a walk or stepping into the batter's box to attempt to hit the pitched ball. The choice is irrevocable.
16. **All OUTFIELDERS (NO LESS THAN THREE)** must assume a position in the grass of the outfield. No pitch shall be declared by the umpire until the outfielders are in the proper position.
17. There will be a no grace period for any game. The umpire's watch will be the official time. If both teams are not able to field the required minimum number of players, both teams will record forfeits.
18. There will be a twelve (12) run lead rule in effect after the fifth or sixth inning.
19. Whenever substitutions take place, only male players may replace male players and female players must replace female players.
20. The two foul balls after two strikes will be used in league play. Once a batter has acquired two strikes in the count then only one foul ball will be permitted without being called out. A second foul ball will cause the ball to become dead and the batter declared out.
21. When a batter steps into the batter's box to start an at-bat the count on the batter will be 1-1 (one ball and one strike on the batter) before the first pitch is thrown to the batter.
22. Out of play areas down the first and third base areas shall be considered a dead ball area outside the fence lines extended.

## **GAME SCHEDULE**

1. The league will be a twilight doubleheader schedule format. Game times will be 6:20 and 7:40 p.m. each night. The followings rules will be followed:
2. The first game of the night will begin promptly as scheduled at 6:20 p.m. with **NO GRACE PERIOD.**
3. No new inning will start after one hour and twelve minutes has elapsed.
4. If the game is in the middle of an inning the umpire will announce that the last inning is in progress and no new inning will start at that point.
5. Should a game be tied at the time when the game is called due to the time limit then the game will be counted as a tie game for each team.
6. The time limit will apply for both the first and second game each night.
7. Schedules can be found on the City website at:  
<http://www.ci.reynoldsburg.oh.us/departments/parks-and-recreation/athletics.aspx>

### **RAINOUTS**

1. Games that are postponed due to the weather will be made up as follows:
2. The first two (2) times that games are postponed the games will be played by being rescheduled to the end of the regular season on the same night as the league plays.
3. Any additional nights of postponement after two (2) will be made up on any day available at the direction of the Parks & Recreation Department. **Most often this will be a Friday. It is also possible that it will become part of a double header on the same night as a regularly scheduled game.**

### **PLAY-OFF GAMES**

1. The league will be made up of maximum of ten (10) teams. Each team will play ten (10) games for the regular season.
2. At the end of the regular season there will be a single elimination tournament for all teams. With a maximum of ten teams, the first place team will play the tenth place team, the second place team will play the ninth place team, the third place team will play the eight place team and the fourth place team will play the seventh place team and the fifth place team will play the sixth place team.
3. Determination of places in the final standings will be based upon the standings after the ten (10) weeks of regular season play. If ties exist in the final standings these ties will be broken based upon head to head competition. Should two teams play each other twice in the

regular season and the teams split in their two games, the tie will be broken by giving the higher place in the standings to the team that scored the most runs against the other team that they were tied with after the regular season.

## **FORFEITURE OF GAMES**

1. The umpire's watch is the official time. If, at game time, a team does not have the minimum required number of players to start the game, it will be ruled a forfeit.
2. If both teams are not able to field the required minimum number of players, both teams will record forfeits.
3. Forfeited games will not be rescheduled.
4. Any team playing a participant not on the official roster will forfeit the game.
5. If the game forfeited is the first of a doubleheader, the second game is not forfeited until the regularly scheduled start time of the second game, unless either team declares a forfeit before the start time of the second game.
  - a. Teams must give at least 24-hour notification via e-mail to [dbauman@ci.reynoldsburg.oh.us](mailto:dbauman@ci.reynoldsburg.oh.us), if they must cancel or forfeit a game so opponents and game officials can be notified. No refunds will be given to teams that forfeit or cancel games.
  - b. A team that forfeits or cancels games may not be eligible for league playoffs and may be suspended from the current or future leagues. Prior notice of a forfeit or cancellation does not exempt teams from this rule.

ANY TEAM WHICH FORFEITS MORE THAN TWO (2) GAMES DURING THE SEASON WILL LOSE THEIR AUTOMATIC POSITION IN THE LEAGUE FOR NEXT SEASON.

For inclement weather call the Activity Status Hotline at 614.322.6834. The Activity Status Hotline is updated by 4pm.

**The City of Reynoldsburg Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to modify any rule as deemed necessary.**