



## COUNTY OF DEL NORTE

Recreation Department

1005 H Street

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Phone: (707) 464-7237

### **Adult Softball League Policies 2022 Season**

#### **I. LEAGUES**

- A. Teams must play at the time, place and date specified by the Recreation Department. Game locations may include Pyke Field #2 or #3.
- B. The winner of each division will be determined by a PLAY-OFF SYSTEM after completion of the season. The Format of the Play-offs will be determined by the Recreation Department staff.
- C. Official rules as set forth by A.S.A. (Amateur Softball Association) will be used with the exception of any local county league rules.
- D. The divisions will be established by the Recreation Department.

#### **II. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- A. Men's slow-pitch players must be at least 15 years old.
- B. Women's slow-pitch players must be at least 15 years old.
- C. Players are eligible to play on only one Co-Ed, Women's and one Men's league team per year.
- D. No individual will be allowed to participate in any league until his or her name appears on the official team roster and they (or their parents/guardian signature if under 18 years old) have signed the waiver.
- G. If an ineligible player participates in a game, that game is subject to forfeit.

#### **III. TEAM ELIGIBILITY**

- A. No entry fees will be refunded if a team drops or forfeits from the league during the season, unless approved by the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors.
- B. All fees must be paid before the start of the season.

#### **IV. TEAM ROSTERS**

- A. All teams may carry maximum of 20 players on their league roster. (Note: There will be exceptions made for law enforcement, military, or emergency personnel on certain teams.)
- B. Additional players may be added to the roster after the season has started, up to the maximum number.
  1. All players must sign the roster and waiver, prior to the start of any game to be eligible.

2. NO PLAYERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PLAY IF THEY ARE NOT LISTED ON THE TEAM ROSTER AND SIGNED IT.
  3. Players may be added to the roster at any point during the regular season.
- C. All rosters must be turned into the Recreation Department office before the first day of competition, any team failing to comply, is subject to forfeit all existing games until the roster has been turned into the Recreation Department.
  - D. An individual is only allowed one roster change per year which must be pre-approved by Recreation Department Staff.
  - E. A player must have played in at least **three** of the teams games to be eligible for the play-offs. **NO EXCEPTION!!!!**

## V. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. Official rules as set forth by the most recent A.S.A. (Amateur Softball Association) rulebook,  
**with the exception of any local league rule.**
- B. The Homerun Rule is as follows:  
FIELD 2 – Any ball hit over fence in fair territory is considered a homerun. Each team will be allowed to hit a maximum of 3 Homeruns into the net area. After 3 the net is in play. The limit for homeruns is 3 progressive (no team can go up by more than 3 home runs on their opponent if they hit 2 you can hit 5 and so on). Any home run hit after that will be an OUT. For women any ball hit into the net on either field is a HOME RUN and they are unlimited. FIELD 3 – Any ball hit over the fence in fair territory is considered a homerun.  
(Exception: Field 2 & 3 Nets – Balls hit off of nets are in play, balls going through nets are ground ruled double. Balls hitting wall of building are live balls.) Any ball hit **OVER THE NET on Field 3 is an OUT.**
- C. All players will start with a 1-1 count. With one courtesy foul allowed. (one foul w/ 2 strikes)
- D. Homeruns for men in coed and wood bat leagues are 5 progressive. THEN OUTS
- E. All players are expected to know the rules set forth by A.S.A.

## VI. GAMES

- A. All game starting times will be determined by the Recreation Department and will be printed on the league schedule.
- B. Forfeit time is game time. Teams must have 5 eligible players by game time to constitute the start of a legal game. There will be no exception to this rule.
- C. Co-Ed teams can start a game with 5 players, but 3 of those 5 players must be females.
- D. Teams with only 5 players or more present at game time will have to take the field and begin play. Other players arriving late to the game can be added numerically at the

end of the batting order up to 10 players. Everyone else will need to sub regularly.

- E. Teams will be allowed 2 forfeits per season. Upon the third forfeit, teams will be suspended from league competition.
- F. Rain-outs: All efforts will be made to make the decision as early as possible but no later than 1:00PM Teams should contact the Recreation Department to find out if the games are cancelled.
- G. Any rained out or otherwise postponed game shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Recreation Department. Games will be played at any opening times Monday through Thursday during the season. The Recreation Department will make an attempt to accommodate teams involved.

## VII. TIME LIMIT

1. No New inning may start after one hour and five minutes.
  - a. If the time limit is up in the middle of an inning, the full inning will be completed unless the home team is ahead. The plate umpire is the official timer.
  - b. If a game is started late and it is not the fault of the teams taking the field, the length of the time between the scheduled game time and the actual starting time will be added to the game time.
  - c. Tie games will not extend past 9 innings. Games tied after nine innings will be played off at season's end if the outcome affects playoff seeding.

## VIII. EQUIPMENT

- A. It is recommended that all purpose shoes, rubber or plastic cleats be worn. **(No Metal Cleats allowed!)**
- B. All A.S.A approved bats will be allowed to be used.

## IX. PRE-GAME AND GROUND RULES

- A. Line-ups must be turned into the scorekeepers 5 minutes prior to game time.
- B. Pre-game infield practice will not be allowed.**
- C. No batting practice will be allowed on the infields prior to the game.**
- D. Teams are responsible for picking up their own equipment. Bats must be kept behind the screen while not in use.
- E. Foul balls and home run balls are to be recovered by the team at bat. (Except on Field #3: No balls hit into the City Yard may be retrieved. Balls hit into the City Yard will be retrieved by the Recreation Department Staff on the next working day.)
- F. A coin flip is made by the umpire with a member of each team present. The

winner of the flip can choose to be home or visitor. Immediately following the end of a game, a player from each team of the up coming game must be ready to flip and take their positions.

## **X. PROTESTS**

- A. Protests **will not be** considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the judgment of an official.
- B. Protests are governed by A. S.A. rules applicable at the time of the protest.
- C. All protest must be lodged before the next pitch.
- D. If a protest is made, the game will not continue until the officials render a decision regarding the protest in question. If a decision can't be reached, the game will be continued under protest.
- E. ANY TEAM THAT FORMALLY PROTEST AND LOSSES THAT PROTES WILL AUTOMATICALLY FORFEIT THAT GAME.
  - 1. All protests must be filed with the scorer and umpire before play continues, if a decision isn't reached. Protests must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Department by 5:00 p.m. the next office day. A formal protest must contain the following:
    - a. The date, time and place of the game.
    - b. The names of the officials.
    - c. The rule section of the official rules or local rules under which the protest is made.
    - d. The decisions and conditions surrounding the matter in question.
    - e. All essential facts involved in the matter protested.
- D. No protests will be allowed once the game is over.
- E. Any protest not resolved at the time of the protest will be reviewed and decided by the Recreation Department Staff.

## **XI. PLAYER CONDUCT**

- a. The use of alcohol and drugs will not be permitted during any of the Del Norte County Recreation programs, nor is alcohol or drugs allowed on the grounds of Pyke Field, unless expressly permitted by the Recreation Department or the Board of Supervisors. If an official believes a participant is under the influence of alcohol or drugs and presents a danger to his or her self or other participants or officials, the official shall request the participant leave the facility. Failure to leave will result in a suspension of up to one (1) year from all Department programs.
- b. Smoking and chewing will not be allowed on the field during the game. This includes the dugouts and coaches boxes.
- c. Any player ejected or suspended from a game must leave Pyke Field immediately. Failure to leave will result in an indefinite suspension. In addition the team is subject to forfeiture.
- d. Excessive rough tactics will not be tolerated. In the interest of safety, runners must try to avoid colliding with a fielder with or without the ball. If in the umpire's judgment the runner would have been safe had he/she taken a direct route to the base. The runner will be ruled

safe and any other runners can be awarded proper bases caused by the obstruction. (Incidental contact will be ruled upon the Umpire's judgment) Players who use rough tactics can be called out and/or ejected from the game and possibly the league. (PLAYER SAFETY COMES FIRST!!)

- e. For consequences related to conduct matters please refer to the Del Norte County Recreation Department Rules of Participation.

## **XII. MISCELLANEOUS RULES**

- a. Managers are responsible for their teams. **NO BOTTLES, DOGS, TOBACCO, OR BICYCLES ARE ALLOWED ON PYKE FIELD.** Please clean out the dugout after your games.
- b. One spokesperson designated prior to the game will be allowed to speak to umpires, in a professional manner.
- c. Teams can bat up to (14) fourteen players and substitute freely on defense, however, the batting order must remain the same. Any participant playing on defense must also be included in the batting line-up. If a team starts with 9 players, the tenth player may be added to the bottom of the line-up. Only the tenth player may be added, any other players arriving late will be required to substitute normally.
- d. No hard cast or loose jewelry will be allowed.
- e. Players leaving a game for illness or injury must stay out for the remainder of the game. If there isn't a substitute to take their place in the batting order then an **OUT** will be recorded with that spot in the lineup comes up.
- f. **DOUBLE BASE** - The batter/runner **MUST** use the orange portion of 1<sup>st</sup> base when there is a play on the batted ball at first (ground ball in infield), however, should he/she reach and go beyond first base he/she must return to the white portion. After the first attempt at 1<sup>st</sup> base, the white portion must be used.
- g. **Player Safety Rule:** If a player runs through 1<sup>st</sup> base and continues down the right field line in an effort to beat the throw to 1<sup>st</sup>. That runner is required to use the orange bag. If the runner only uses the white bag running through 1<sup>st</sup> base it is considered an out.

## CO-ED SOFTBALL RULES

- I. Batting order must alternate male, female or vice versa. However, if a team has more females than males, they may bat females back to back.
- II. Teams may start with 5 players, but at least 3 must be females.
- III. Teams must have two female outfielders, two female infielders and the catcher and pitcher must be of opposite sex.
- IV. If there are two outs and a male batter is walked, the female batter has the option of hitting or choosing a walk to first.
- V. Any ASA approved bat can be used by the women. *Any player entering the batter's box with an illegal bat will be called out.*
- VI. Courtesy runners must be the last batter of the same sex. (i.e. if a male needs a runner, the courtesy runner would be the last male out.)
- VII. All male batters will be required to use wooden bats in Co-Ed play.
- VIII. A team may have one more guy than girl but between the two males an additional out will be recorded. (teams will not be allowed to start the game unless they have at least 3 females).