



ADULT COED SOFTBALL RULES

1. Field Set Up

- a. Everything is cleared from the field except for bases and strike mat.
- b. Benches are played along the first base line and third base line.

2. General Rules

- a. Games are played with the NCAA Training Softball (NC12S)
- b. No seeds of any type are allowed on the turf.
- c. No alcohol is allowed on the field of play, including base coaches. Alcohol must stay on the bench.
- d. Cursing or harsh language towards the opposing team or umpire can result in an automatic ejection from the game.
- e. All ejections result in a one week suspension, minimum.
- f. Only team captains communicate with the umpire if any disagreements arise during the game.

3. Team

- a. All players must be registered within the Fredericksburg Field House's roster management system.
- b. Teams will supply their own supplies. The Fredericksburg Field House supplies the game balls, bases and strike mat.
- c. All players must be rostered with the league fees paid and waiver on file in order to play.
- d. All non-rostered players must pay a substitute fee at the front desk and bring the card to the Field Marshal at the Softball Field.

4. Game

- a. Each game will be 7 innings or 50 minutes, whichever comes first.
- b. The umpire will control the time and flow of the game. If the game reaches the 7th inning or the time is under 10 minutes remaining, "Last Inning", will be called.
- c. No team may score more than six runs in an inning unless it is the last inning.
- d. There will be unlimited runs in the last inning.
- e. Team captains will meet with the umpire at home plate before the game.
- f. Teams must have 7 players in order for a game to begin, two of which must be females.
- g. Teams must have 7 players present prior to the 40-minute mark. If 7 players are not present, a forfeit will be declared.
- h. If a team is playing with 2 females, the maximum number of players they can have in the field is 9.
- i. If a team is playing down, the opposing team may supply a catcher to return the ball to the pitcher. In the event a play has to be made at home, the fielding team must cover. The supplied catcher is not allowed to make a fielding play.
- j. The forfeit score is 10-0.
- k. Games must complete 4 innings to be considered a complete game in the event of inclement weather.

5. Batting

- a. The batting order will not contain three male batters in a row for the initial lineup.

Example;

- i. Male
- ii. Male
- iii. Female
- iv. Male
- v. Male
- vi. Female
- vii. Male
- viii. Male
- ix. Female

- x. Male
 - 1. This is considered the initial lineup where 1-10 are in the line-up.
 - 2. When you get to the bottom of your batting order, you do not need to place a female between batter 10 and 1 as you are starting your line-up over again.
 - 3. Players arriving late may be added to the end of the lineup as long as it remains legal. Legal referring to rule 5.a.
 - 4. In the event a team only has two females, the two females can rotate in the lineup to ensure the lineup remains legal.
- b. Batting out of order will result in an automatic out. Batting out of order will be called once the incorrect batter has seen at least one pitch.
- c. Batters will have both feet inside the batter's box when batting.
- d. Legal pitches have an arc between 6 feet and 12 feet. The umpire may call an illegal pitch at any time.
- e. An orange mat is placed behind home plate for balls and strikes. A strike is called if the pitch hits either the mat or home plate.
- f. All batters will begin with a 1-1 count (1 ball, 1 strike).
- g. 4 balls will result in a walk.
 - i. If a male batter is walked with 2 outs with a female coming up to bat, the female has the option to take first base and all runners will make the appropriate movement.
- h. 3 strikes result in an out.
 - i. All batters will receive one courtesy. A courtesy is a foul ball with two strikes. If the batter uses their courtesy and fouls another pitch off, they will be considered out.
- i. Batters will use approved, stamped, softball bats.
 - i. Fastpitch bats are approved.
- j. No bunting is allowed. When swinging the bat, both hands must be on the bat grip and the swing must come across the body of the batter.
- k. Batters must be wearing shoes while batting.

6. Fielding.

- a. All players must wear a glove and shoes in the field.
- b. The Outfield will have no more than 4 players.
- c. The infield will have no more than 4 players, plus the pitcher and catcher.
- d. Balls thrown into the first base fence or into the player's bench will be called dead and all runners advance one base.
- e. If a member of the batting team interferes with a live ball, the batter is called out.
- f. The ball must return to the pitcher with no runners advancing before the umpire will call time and play stops.
- g. When the umpire calls the "Infield Fly Rule", plays will stop. The batter is called out and there will be no runner advancement.
- h. Fielders will not block or interfere with the base runners if they do not have the ball.

7. Base Running

- a. When batters run to first base, they will run to the outside base to avoid collisions.
- b. Base runnings will run within the given base path which is defined as 3ft outside of each side of the base path.
- c. A base runner is responsible to run the base path no matter what. A fielder, with the ball clearly in their possession, may block the base path to tag the runner. The runner may not force a collision in order to get past the fielder.
 - i. If a runner is blocked or interfered with by a fielder, who does not have the ball, one base is awarded to the runner.
 - ii. All decisions are based on the umpire's discretion.
- d. Runners must avoid all hit balls or they will be called out.
- e. Runners and teammates will not intimidate or taunt the first baseman while making the catch.

8. Playoffs

- a. If a game is tied at the end of regulation, in the playoffs, extra innings will be played. The game is over when an inning ends with a winner.
- b. The higher seed will be the home team in the playoffs.
- c. Playoffs are done using a single elimination, seeded bracket using the following criteria;
 - i. Winning percentage
 - ii. Head to head record
 - iii. Runs allowed
 - iv. Run differential
 - v. Coin flip