



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
SPORTS SECTION
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MEN'S SOFTBALL RULES & REGULATIONS

Official Slow Pitch Softball playing rules as adopted by the Amateur Softball Association of America (ASA) shall apply unless amended herein.

1. GENERAL

- A. Dogs **are not** permitted at City of Alexandria playing fields.
- B. The City of Alexandria **will not** tolerate the use of alcohol or drugs on City property. Violations will be reported to the proper authority.
- C. Metal spikes **are not** permitted.
- D. Children **are not** to be left unattended near the field or bench area.
- E. Fighting, acts of aggression, verbal abuse toward players and umpires, or other disturbances to Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities programs will not be tolerated. Violations will result in player(s) and/or team(s) being suspended and/or terminated from league play losing all rights and moneys associated with the program.
- F. Teams will be dropped from further league play after three (3) sets of double headers are forfeited and will lose all rights and moneys associated with the program. Final determination of removal from league play will be made by the program supervisor after evaluation of forfeits.
- G. Scores must be called in within 24 hours of game time. The Adult Sports Office Voice Mail System is available 24 hours a day to report game scores.
- H. Players and managers are encouraged to call the Men's Sports Hotline at 703-746-5596 before each scheduled game.

2. ROSTER

- A. Limited to a maximum of 26 players and a minimum of 14.
- B. Players must be at least 18 years of age to participate by the first scheduled game of the season. Women are allowed to play on City of Alexandria Men's Softball

- teams.
- C. Roster changes may be made through May 31 for the Spring/Summer League, and through September 30 for the Fall League. **Roster additions must be made in writing (and be accompanied by the nonresident fee, if applicable), before a player will be eligible to participate.**
 - D. A player **cannot** be on more than one team's roster in the Alexandria Men's Softball Leagues. Violation of this rule shall result in forfeiture of all games in which the player participated, and the penalty for managers and players are as follows:
 - Player:**
 - First Offense:** Warning
 - Second Offense:** Three (3) game suspension, including playoffs.
 - Third Offense:** Suspension for the remainder of the season.

Note: Players knowingly violating this rule will receive the three (3) game suspension on the first occurrence, followed by suspension for the remainder of the season on the second offense.

 - Manager:**
 - First Offense:** One (1) game suspension from playing and managing.
 - Second Offense:** Three (3) game suspension from playing and managing, including playoffs.
 - Third Offense:** Suspension for the remainder of the season from playing and managing.
 - E. (New) Team Managers must have a copy of the final roster with full name, address, telephone number and jersey number available at each game. If requested, Managers must present an official final roster to the Umpire or Recreation Staff. Failure to provide the official roster as requested will result in automatic forfeiture of the game. If requested by a recreation official, players must provide a picture ID.
 - F. (New) Teams that do not cooperate with league officials (i.e., withholding information such as rosters, names of players, managers, or captains, etc.) Will automatically forfeit games in progress, the manager and/or team captain will receive a one game suspension, and the team will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season. A second offense will result in team expulsion from the league.

3. THE GAME

- A. A regulation game shall consist of seven (7) innings.
- B. A 60-minute time limit shall be in effect. No new inning can be started after 60 minutes has elapsed. If an inning starts before the time limit has expired, such inning shall be completed. In case a game is tied, such game shall be continued

- until a winner is determined, regardless of the time limit. One-pitch rule will be in effect in extra innings.
- C. There shall be a 15-minute grace period for the 6:30 p.m. Game. The first game shall be forfeited if a team cannot field at least 8 players by 6:45 p.m. An additional 15 minutes will be granted before the second game is forfeited (7:00 p.m.). There will be a 5 minute grace period for the 8:30 p.m. An additional 15 minutes will be granted before the second game is forfeited (8:50 p.m.).
 - D. The time clock for the first game shall start at 6:30 p.m.
 - E. A game stopped by the umpire because of rain, lightning or field conditions shall be a regulation game if 5 complete innings have been played; 42 if the Home Team is winning.
 - F. Home Team will be decided by a coin flip at the start of each double-header. Alternate for the second game.
 - G. Each team will present their starting line-up to the opposing team at least five minutes before scheduled game time.
 - H. A 10 run slaughter rule will be in effect. A game winner will be determined when the home team is ahead by 10 runs or more at the end of 42 innings or thereafter or when the visiting team is ahead by 10 runs or more at the end of 5 innings.
 - I. (New) There will be no base stealing in City of Alexandria league play.
 - J. (NEW) "Each team will hit the balls they supply to the umpire."

4. PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS

- A. (New) The lineup shall consist of ten (10) players. Eight (8) players MUST be present at the start of each game. Anytime a team falls below eight players, the game is forfeited. Teams may use unlimited batters in their batting order (See 7 Batting).
- B. It will be at the discretion of the opposing team's captain to furnish a player(s) to a team needing a player(s). When the player(s) missing from the lacking team arrives, the borrowed player may return to his own team and play. The arriving player must take the borrowed players spot in the batting order. Players may only be borrowed from the opposing team for which you are scheduled to play and if the opposing team has more than 10 players present.
- C. Due to the current A.S.A. rule regarding exposed blood, teams will be required to substitute for a player with an open cut. In case of a batter/runner, the substitute must be the last batted out. If a team does not have enough players to substitute for the injured player, the opposing team may offer a substitute as described in above.

- D. Injury Replacement - If a player is injured during a game, the player may be substituted as described in above. If an extra player is not available, then the injured players spot in the batting order will be skipped with no penalty.
- E. Ejections - If a player is ejected from a game, under any circumstances, and there is no substitute available, leaving the batting spot vacant, it will result in an automatic out when that position comes up in the batting order.

5. EQUIPMENT

- A. (New) Bats used in league play must conform to the Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.20. Multi-walled bats must have this rating stamped on the barrel. All bats are banned by ASA, including those listed with a BPF 1.20 rating, will be ruled illegal for all league, play-off and tournament games. The umpire's decision is final. An updated list of banned bats may be found at: www.asasoftball.com
- B. (New) All bats will be required to be inspected by the umpire prior to the start of all league games. Players arriving late to a game, and wish to use their bat may do so after the bat is certified by the umpire. The umpires decision is final. Teams substituting certified bats with a banned bat (see Section 5. A.), after the initial inspection, will be penalized as follows:
 - 1. Automatic forfeiture of the game in progress, and the offending team will be placed under probation for the remainder of the season.
 - 2. A second violation of the league rule will result in the manager and offending player being suspended for one game and the game in progress will be forfeited.
 - 3. Third violation will result in team expulsion from the league, and the game in progress will be forfeited.
- C. Teams must furnish all of their own equipment including game balls.
- D. Each team must give one new 12-inch Restricted flight@ .44 core softball to the umpire prior to each game (including playoffs).
- E. The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities will furnish the game bases. Teams in the first game install the bases, teams in the last game return the bases to their storage area.
- F. Only athletic footwear is allowed. No Spikes@, metal cleated shoes, or Street shoes@ are allowed. (Umpire's decision shall be final). If a player commits this infraction that player will be ejected from the games
- G. Uniforms are not required for league play.
- H. (New) The use of donuts, sleeves, or weights of any kind on bats is prohibited. Players found using such equipment will be automatically ejected.

6. PITCHING REGULATIONS

- A. The strike zone is the space over any part of home plate between the batters back shoulder and his knees when he assumes a natural batting stance.
- B. (New) The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground while not exceeding a maximum height of 10 feet from the ground.
- C. One-pitch rule will be in effect in extra innings.

7. BATTING

- A. A team's batting line-up shall consist of a minimum of 10 players (8 or 9 if playing short-handed). However, a team may choose to bat more than 10 players. Whatever number a team chooses to bat at the start of a game must stay the same for the entire game.
- B. The batter shall start with a one ball and one strike count. One courtesy foul is allowed after 2nd strike.
- C. Foul-Out Rule: The batter is out on the second foul ball after accumulating two strikes (including the automatic first strike).
- D. (New) Home-Run Rule: The Over the Fence Home Run Limits will be as follows:
 - Competitive League: 7 home run maximum and all other home runs ruled an out. Exception: When both teams have reached the 7 home run limit, each team may hit one additional home run. Each subsequent home run will be ruled an out until the opposing team hits an additional home run. Teams will be allowed to continue hitting one additional home run, not resulting in an out, each time home runs are equal for each team. The plus one will apply in the bottom half of the final and extra innings.
 - Recreational League: 2 home run maximum and all other home runs ruled an out. Exception: When both teams have reached the 2 home run limit, each team may hit one additional home run. Each subsequent home run will be ruled an out until the opposing team hits an additional home run. Teams will be allowed to continue hitting one additional home run, not resulting in an out, each time home runs are equal for each team. The plus one will apply in the bottom half of the final and extra innings.

8. RAIN-OUTS/RESCHEDULING

- A. Games will not be played if conditions are considered to be unsafe by either the umpire or Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities Staff. The umpire has the final decision. Please note that games completing at least 42 (5 if Home Team is losing) innings will count as a complete game.
- B. Weather cancellations or other information can be received 24 hours a day on the Men's Sports Hotline at 703-746-5598.
- C. Team managers are to call the Sports Hotline Number to receive game rescheduling information. Rescheduled information not available the evening of the canceled games will be available by calling the sports office after 10:00 a.m. the next business day.
- D. In the event play-off games are canceled due to inclement weather, all play-off games will be rescheduled for the next available business day.

9. PLAYOFFS

- A. A minimum of the top four (4) teams in each division per night will advance to single elimination playoff tournament. The total number of teams advancing to the league playoff tournament will be determined by the program supervisor.
- B. In the event there are tied teams in the final standings, the tie breaker is as follows:
 - 1. Head to Head record.
 - 2. Record versus common opponents.
 - 3. A coin toss or lottery drawing will be used to determine final seeding.

10. AWARDS

- A. A team trophy will be awarded to the season champion and runner-up for each division.
- B. A team trophy and individual awards will be awarded to the playoff champion and a team trophy will be awarded to the play-off runner-up. Individual awards will be limited to 18.

11. MISCELLANEOUS

Any situation not covered by these rules, or by the General Rules will be brought to the attention of the Adult Sport's Supervisor. These rules may be revised by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities as deemed necessary.