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## Adult Coed and Men's Softball Rules:

Official ASA rules will govern league play unless stated otherwise below.

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**Website Resources:** <http://frrpd.com/adult-sports/>

Schedules, rules, player add/delete forms, rosters, team payment plan and status of games

### **Behavior and Sportsmanship Guidelines**

It is every player's responsibility to know the rules and abide by them. It is also every player's responsibility to respect and cooperate with the officials and facility attendant. It is the responsibility of the team manager to insure proper behavior on the part of his/her team's fans. All infractions will be governed by the Players Code of Conduct.

### **Player Code of Conduct**

The objective of FRRPD Sports Leagues is to provide the opportunity for participants to benefit from a quality leisure time activity which encourages fitness, healthy competition, fun and fellowship in the form of organized sports. Friendly competition and good spirited rivalry are expected. However, Officials and Facility Attendants are FRRPD employees and will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse or threats from or amongst players, coaches or spectators. Inappropriate conduct can result in penalties ranging from game ejection to lifetime suspension. The Official or Facility Attendant may forfeit games if either team's participants or supporters act in such a way as to interfere with proper conduct of the game.

**Conversations with officials/umpires will be kept to a minimum.** Team managers, and only team managers, may address the officials. Managers may only address matters of rule interpretation or essential game information and must do so in a courteous manner.

### **Blood Rule**

A player with a bloody injury or blood on his/her uniform must leave the game. The player may not return to the game until the wound is no longer bleeding, the wound is covered or the uniform is changed.

### **No Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco**

No glass bottles allowed, due to them being a safety hazard. No smoking, chewing or drinking on or near the fields.

### **Rosters & League Fees**

All teams must have a minimum of 10 players on their roster when submitted. A complete roster is due on or before game time of your first game. Please make sure all players sign and fill out the appropriate information (including name, address & phone number). Teams may also submit a roster to the FRRPD office before your first game.

### **Team and Player Eligibility**

Only players who have signed the roster and/or the player addition form are eligible to play. Once we have reached the half-way point in the season new players cannot be added without prior approval.



Players must be 18 years of age or 15 years of age with parent permission. Players may only be on one roster in coed divisions. Further, a man **can** play in the Men's division and in one coed division. A man or woman **cannot** play on two coed teams regardless if they are in different divisions. Once a player is on a roster, they are only eligible to play for that team; they cannot switch to another team at any point in the season.

### **Playoffs:**

Top 4 teams will make playoffs. All rostered players must play a **minimum of 4 games** in order to be eligible to participate in playoffs. All playoff games will be 7 innings regardless of time, with the 10 run rule in effect. **No pick-up players will be allowed for playoffs.**

### **Divisions**

Coed divisions will be split up into competitive (comp) and recreational (rec). In the event that several teams register for either division, that division can be split up at the discretion of the Recreation Supervisor.

At the half way point in the season (or sooner if deemed necessary) divisions will be evaluated, if there is a team(s) who needs to move up or down that is up to the discretion of Recreation Supervisor.

### **Staff**

Each game will have **one umpire** and there will be a facility attendant onsite monitoring all fields. In the event that no umpire is available the game(s) will be rescheduled, teams can use the field if they choose. Umpires will be responsible for umpiring the game, keeping track of the game time and runs scored. Umpire will notify teams when there is 10 minutes left. If there is a discrepancy between the score book and umpires scorecard the score card is considered final.

### **Forfeit**

Once the schedule is out it is considered final. If a team cannot make a game, it will be considered a forfeit and we will not reschedule the game. If a team knows that they cannot make the game in advance, we ask that they call the Recreation Supervisor at the FRRPD office on or before game day by 2pm.

### **Score Books**

The home team is responsible for keeping the book. Each team is responsible for entering first and last names in the score book, once entered the line-up is final and the rotation of the batting order cannot be changed. Late players may be added please see below rules.

**Coed:** If a female player arrives late they can be added to the bottom of the lineup. If a male player arrives late they need to share/rotate a spot in the lineup with another male.

**Men's:** If a player(s) arrives late they are to be added to the bottom of the line-up unless they already have 10 players in which case they would have to share/rotate a spot in the lineup.

### **Equipment**

Men's division will play with a 12" softball. Coed divisions women will play with a 11" softball and men will play with a 12" softball.

**Bats:** FRRPD will follow the current ASA banned bat list. Please visit our website so the most



update banned bat list. No one at any time may use **illegal equipment** including altered or ASA banned illegal bats or senior bats.

**Cleats/Jewelry:** No metal cleats or exposed dangerous jewelry.

If found in violation, the penalty is immediate ejection from the game and a minimum of a one game suspension or maximum of a lifetime suspension will be enforced. Penalty is up to discretion of Recreation Supervisor.

### **Protests**

All judgment calls will stand. Only rule interpretation calls may be protested. When a matter of protest arises during the game, the manager of the protesting team must immediately before the next pitch, notify the umpire and opposing team that the game is being played under protest. The protest must be noted in the official score book. This must be followed up by submitting a written report of the protest by 5:00pm the following business day, to the Recreation Supervisor at the FRRPD office.

**Protests of illegal players** must be made prior to the top of the third inning and the facility attendant will verify. If it is determined by the facility attendant that there are illegal players playing the game will be called a **forfeit**. The game can continue as long as the illegal player has left the field (and dugout), but it will still be a forfeit.

### **Game Time**

A minimum of 8 players is required for it to be an official game.

Game time is as listed on the schedule. If there are not enough players to start the game at game time an additional 5 minutes will be allotted for players to arrive, however, the official game time does start as listed. If after the additional 5 minutes there are not enough players to field a team the game will be declared a forfeit.

Games will be 65 minutes or 7 innings, whichever comes first. No new inning may be started after 65 minutes. If the time limit is up in the middle of the inning, the inning will be completed.

In the event of a Tie: 1 inning only will be played with the international tie breaker rule. The last batter out will start at second base. After the additional inning if the game is still tied, it will be declared a tie.

All games called due to weather, darkness, or any other unplayable conditions are official after the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning.

### **Home Runs**

**Men's:** Three plus equalizer: Each team may hit three home runs. Once a team reaches three, they cannot hit another one until the other team hits three. Thereafter, no team may ever get more than one home run ahead of the other team. When a team hits a home run in violation of this rule an out will be called. Exception: When the game reaches the 7th or last inning, the visiting team may go up by one and the home team may "catch up" but not go ahead.

**Coed:** Three home runs are allowed per game per gender totaling six (3 for men, 3 for women).

### **Pick-Up Players**

In the event a team is short players they are allowed to pick-up players from another team under the following guidelines:



1. Team must start with a minimum of 6 rostered players from their own team and can pick up a maximum of 4 additional rostered players bringing the **total to 10 rostered players**. Pick up players are only allowed to play with the same team up to 3 times. For every player that is picked up it will count as a run against your team. In the **coed divisions** they must have an equal amount of men and women or they can play with more women than men. Teams must have at least one male player. However, if both managers agree to play with more men than women then the game can be played. At least four women have to play.

**COED:** If you have less than a 5 males and 5 females you are allowed to pick up players to bring the total to 5 males and 5 females.

**Men's:** less than 10 players teams are allowed to pick up players bringing the total to 10.

### **Ten Run Rule**

If a team is ahead by 10 or more runs after 5 innings or 4.5 innings if the home team is ahead, the game will be called.

### **Sliding**

Sliding is permitted. However, players must not slide aggressively in an attempt to “take out” a fielder (at the **umpire's discretion**). Players that do so will not only be out, but can be ejected from the game. If a player is ejected from a game they are also ejected from the following game and possibly more games, this is up to the Recreation Supervisor. A commit line will be used at home plate which eliminates sliding at home for **coed**.

### **Courtesy Runners**

One courtesy runner per inning per gender will be allowed. Unless, an injury occurs during the game then that player gets unlimited use of a courtesy runner.

### **Designated Hitters**

Not allowed.

### **Coed Specific Rules**

Teams must have an equal amount of men and women to play the game, with the minimum being 8 players, **6 of those players must be on your roster**. Batting order must alternate male/female. If you have more males than females the additional males must share a spot in the line-up if more females than males it is ok for them to bat back to back. This rule applies for players listed on your roster only.

**Defensive Rules:** There are no restrictions on male/female players in the outfield or infield. In the infield there can be no more than 7 players (pitcher, catcher, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, shortstop and rover).

### **Batting**

A male player who walks on four straight pitches is awarded second base. The female batter who follows has the option to hit or be awarded first base regardless of the number of outs. Any male batter walked after the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, regardless of the count will be awarded 2 bases.