



THURSTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

Adult Coed Softball League

2009 Coaches Information & Rules

PLAYING RULES:

The league will follow the official playing rules as endorsed by the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) except where amended by the Thurston County Parks and Recreation Department (TCPRD).

Player/Team Eligibility:

1. All members will submit a complete roster (including full names, complete address, phone numbers, and signatures) to be eligible for league play. Completed roster is due by **May 13th**. Under NO circumstances will any refunds be given after **May 1st**.
2. **All changes or additions in the official team roster must be made in writing on the official roster at the Thurston County Parks and Recreation office, Monday through Friday 8am-5pm.**
3. All players participating in the Championship tournament must have played in at least one **league sponsored game** with his/her team.
4. Players become eligible for league play upon reaching their 18th birthday by June 1. Players reaching their 16th birthday by June 1 are eligible with the signed release by parent/guardian. (Release forms are available at TCPRD office)
5. No limit is placed on the number of players each team can carry on its roster; however **players may play for only one TCPRD Coed softball team.**
6. **A player's first name and/or last name must be written in the scorebook for games. Roster checks may be conducted periodically during the season.**
7. Any team found to have an ineligible roster (for any reason) will forfeit all games played to that point. The team will forfeit any further games in which the ineligible player participates. (See forfeitures #1.)

Forfeits:

1. Any team using an ineligible player/non-registered player will forfeit all games in which the ineligible player participated. (See Team/Player Eligibility section.)
2. The 6:10pm scheduled games will begin no later than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled starting time, all other games will begin as scheduled. A forfeit will be scored against the team not prepared to play at the scheduled game time (with the exception of the 6:10pm game time that has a 10 (ten) minute grace period). Note: Teams may start with 9 players, with no more than 5 players of either gender.
3. Any player or manager who participates in a game from which he has been suspended will result in the game being declared a forfeit.

Exceptional League Rules:

1. Any game that ends in a tie will be recorded as a tie and will not be replayed unless that particular game has a bearing on the league champion. Lineup changes may be made for the tiebreaker.
2. The Thurston County Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to reclassify teams during the season.
3. Team uniforms are not required but like colored clothing are recommended.
4. One male home run hitter is allowed per game, to be designated by the first player to hit a home run over the fence. All male batters that hit balls over the outfield fence afterwards will be ruled an out. No limit will be placed on female batters.
5. Unlimited Line-up - Bat the entire team (optional). If a player gets injured or thrown out of the game and there is not a sub to take their place, there will be an out awarded in their spot in the line up.
6. A run equalizer maybe placed on any team, at any time during the season. A run equalizer of 3 or more runs (depending on what is deemed necessary by TCPRD) will be given to the opposing team once they have scored their first run.
7. **The 10 run rule is in effect after the 5th inning.**
8. Any matter not covered by these rules and regulations or the USSSA rule book will be left to the discretion of the Thurston County Parks and Recreation Department.

Game Conduct:

1. **During the game, only coaches may question an umpire's decision; the umpire may remove any other player questioning a decision from the game.**
2. **Any coach, manager, or player found guilty of drinking, swearing, or smoking on the playing field will be subject to suspension by TCPRD.**
3. Any team manager, or player found guilty of being abusive toward the umpire or any Parks Department representative will be subject to suspension or forfeiture by the TCPRD. This will apply even though the game has been completed or forfeited.
5. Any player/coach who is removed from a game for causes other than physical fighting will be ineligible for his/her next regularly scheduled game. **If removed from two (2) games/park total during the season, the offending player will be ruled ineligible for further play during the current season.**

Any player/coach removed from a game/park for fighting or a flagrant violation of un-sportsman like conduct will be removed from the program and will be ruled ineligible for future play until the TCPRD reviews the situation. This is a RECREATIONAL League. If any team has two or more players/coaches removed from games/parks during the season, the TCPRD reserves the right to ban that team from any future play, with no refund for the season.

Games and Scheduling:

1. Rainouts--Team managers/coaches will be responsible for calling the Olympia Parks and Recreation Department (360) 753-4444 Ext.7370 after 4:30 p.m. for rainout information affecting that evening's game. If games have not been officially postponed, both teams must appear at the game site or the non-appearing team will forfeit. **Umpires or field personnel have the authority to cancel games due to unplayable conditions at any time before or during a game.**
2. **All game scores must be reported with 24 hours by the winning team at www.thurston-parks.org.**
3. The 6:10pm game will begin no later than 10 minutes after the scheduled starting time; all other games will begin as scheduled.
4. The game will end within 1 hr 15 min. from scheduled start time, regardless of whether the game is completed or not. The final score will be that of the last completed inning.
5. No new inning will start after 1 hr 5 min. from game start; however, the umpire may decide to end the game earlier due to darkness. The final score will be that of the last completed inning.

Umpires:

1. **In the event the scheduled umpire does not appear,** the visiting team will provide the home plate umpire and the home team will provide a base umpire.
 - a. The home team umpire can switch positions with a visiting team umpire after three innings and upon the consent of both coaches.
 - b. Umpires provided by visiting or home teams may be players or coaches.
2. The umpire will be the head official of the game and will have possession of the game clock.

Protest Procedures:

1. **All protests must be made in writing on an official protest form with the \$25 protest fee by the team protesting** and turned into the Thurston County Parks and Recreation Department office (4131 Mud Bay Rd SW, Olympia WA 98502) by noon the following day.
2. All protests, to be legal, must be made to the opposing manager and the umpire before the next pitched ball. For player eligibility, it should be protested before the game is completed. The date, time, and innings of protest must be noted in both scorebooks and initialed by the home plate umpire.
3. Once the protest form and \$25 fee are received by the TCPRD the protest will be looked into. The outcome of the protest will be decided by TCPRD.
4. TCPRD will have the final say on all protests, player misconduct, and all situations that may arise.
5. If the protest is upheld, the \$25 fee will be returned and the game may be rescheduled by TCPRD. If the game is rescheduled the game will resume from the exact situation where the protest was recorded. Lineups must stay the same for at least one complete inning. TCPRD will notify teams involved by mail as to results and date of reschedule.

**LBA FIELDS EXCEPTIONAL GROUND RULES
FOR THE THURSTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION & INDEPENDENT
CHURCH LEAGUE**

Field #1 (Parr)

- If ball hits path/bark/knoll/bushes or beyond in the air = home run
- If ball rolls into bushes/tree/path/bark or beyond the knoll = ground rule triple

Field #2 (Maguire)

- If ball flies in the air anywhere beyond trees = home run
- If ball hits or rolls into the bushes/trees or up the knoll = ground rule triple

Field #3 (Hopkins)

- If ball hits trees in the air or beyond = triple
- If the ball rolls into the tree or past = double

Field #4 (Williams)

- If the ball hits the path or beyond in the air = home run
- If the ball rolls up, onto, or beyond the path = triple

Field #5 (Taylor)

- Ball hit over the fence = home run

Field #6 (Mailhot)

- Ball hit over the fence = home run
- If the ball hits tree branches in the field of play = ground rule double