

City of Anderson Parks and Recreation Department  
We Create Community through People, Parks, and Programs  
Coed Softball Rules

The purpose of this program is:

---to provide the adult residents of the Anderson area an opportunity for fun and enjoyment through an organized softball league

---to offer the opportunity for its participants to engage in physical activity and to exhibit good sportsmanship.

ORGANIZATION

1. Each team must have a current roster on file with the Recreation Department.
2. Only a coach will be allowed to add or drop a player from the roster. Any such changes must be made by September 3rd---all rosters must be finalized by this date. To add players, the coach must come in to the Rec and write the name on the original roster.
3. To be eligible to participate in tournament play, a person must have played at least 3 games during the regular season (not just be listed on the roster).
4. All players must sign the liability release form to be kept on file with the Recreation Department to be eligible.
5. Players that turn 16 by September 1<sup>st</sup> will be allowed to play. These players must have the liability release form signed by a parent or guardian. However, no team roster may have more than 3 players under 18 years old
6. Any change in coach or the address of the coach should be reported to the office. This will keep your team from missing important and timely notices.
7. Players will not be allowed to change teams---once you have played a game with one team, you must complete the season with them.
8. Schedules will not be changed once they are completed unless the department makes a mistake. Any possible conflicts must be turned in with the team entry form.
9. Game balls will be provided by the Recreation Department at the beginning of the season. Teams are then responsible for keeping up with their own.
10. No bat on the ASA non-approved list will be allowed in this league.
11. Any team that forfeits 2 games in a row or 3 games during the season may be dropped from the league if deemed necessary by the staff.
12. **Players must wear matching jerseys with different numbers on the back.**
13. No player will be allowed to play barefooted or in metal spikes.
14. Game time is forfeit time. However, if the preceding game runs over, game time will be when the umpire calls for play to begin.
15. The line-up with names and jersey numbers should be given to the scorekeeper no later than 5 minutes prior to the game. Changes may be made if necessary.
16. Any ties in the final league standings will be broken by head to head competition.
17. No tournament brackets will be finalized until all regular season games have been played.

## GAME PLAY

1. A time limit of 1 hour, 15 minutes will be allowed for each game. No new inning may begin after 1 hour, 5 minutes has passed. However, once an inning starts, it must be completed. It is not necessary for an announcement to be made that it is the last inning.
2. The line-up shall consist of 5 females and 5 males or 6 and 6 whenever the EP (extra player) is used. A team may never have more men than women but may have more women if necessary.
3. The batting order must alternate male-female. If more women are playing, they may bat back-to-back. Either a man or woman may lead off.
4. There must be two of each gender in the infield and in the outfield. The pitcher and catcher must be opposite.
5. It is highly recommended that women do not pitch in coed play. However, if one does, a special rule will be used. A 6-foot circle will be drawn from the center of the pitching rubber. Should any male batter hit the ball back towards the pitcher while she is in the circle and it makes contact with her, he will be called out immediately and the ball is dead. A second violation by the same batter will result in ejection from the game.
6. A line will be drawn 215 feet from home plate from foul line to foul line. When a female is batting, no outfielder will be allowed to cross the line until the ball is hit. Also, no infielder will be allowed to play on the grass prior to the ball being hit.
7. If a man is walked (intentionally or not), he goes directly to 2<sup>nd</sup> base. The next female has the option of walking or taking her turn at bat.
8. The pitch must be delivered with perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground but not exceed 12 feet. The pitching will be 50 feet from home plate.
9. One homerun will be allowed per inning. After that, it will be a single.
10. There will be an extra foul allowed on the third strike.
11. There will be no stealing.
12. When covering a base, a player must keep half of the base available to the advancing runner.
13. Once positions are set at the beginning of an inning, they must remain that way for the remainder of the inning with the exception of the pitcher.
14. A game may begin with 8 players---with at least 4 females present. The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> players may be added on arrival (as long as the ratio stays legal).
15. If a player leaves early with no available substitute, the team may finish the game. The first time the missing player's batting position comes up, an out is called. This is a one-time penalty. Exception: If the preceding batter draws a walk, the missing player is not out.
16. Run Limit: 20 runs after 3 innings  
15 runs after 4 innings  
10 runs after 5 innings
17. While on offense, all players must remain in the dugout except the batter, runners and base coaches.

## CONDUCT

1. All players and coaches are expected to display proper sportsmanship at all times. Anyone not doing so will be subject to ejection and suspension. Showing out will get you nothing but trouble.
2. The umpires will be in charge of the game at all times. They will take NO ABUSE!
3. In the event that a team fails to respect the umpire's authority or decisions, the umpire is instructed to forfeit the game to the other team after one warning has been given that such action will be taken.
4. In any discussion with an official, only the manager will be allowed to participate. Time-out must be requested before approaching the official.
5. No profanity or abusive language will be allowed.
6. There will be no alcoholic beverages or drugs allowed on the field or in the spectators area. Anyone caught with or under the influence of either will be asked to leave.
7. Smoking or other tobacco products will not be allowed inside the fence.
8. Fighting will not be tolerated. Teams will be responsible for fights involving their players during the course of the game or while still at the field. Umpires have the option of suspending a team or players after one fight and a team may be dropped from the league after two fights.
9. The umpires will report to the recreation supervisor any of the actions listed below that occurs on or at the field. After reviewing the incident, the accompanying consequences may be applied.  
UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT-----1-2 GAMES  
PROFANITY-----1-2 GAMES  
THREATENING A PLAYER OR OFFICIAL-----SEASON SUSPENSION  
HITTING AN OFFICIAL-----INDEFINITE SUSPENSION  
DRINKING-----SEASON SUSPENSION  
FIGHTING-----INDEFINITE SUSPENSION
10. If a player or coach is ejected from the game, he may be seated in the stands. If he continues to argue or show unsportsmanlike conduct, he will be asked to leave the field. If he refuses, the game may be forfeited.
11. Any problems concerning any part of the program should be brought to the attention of the recreation supervisor as soon as possible.

## PROTESTS

1. No protest will be considered unless it involves a question of eligibility or the misinterpretation of the rules.
2. The protest must be made verbally to the umpire before another pitch is made. He will notify the opposing team and make a note in the scorebook.
3. To complete the process, the protest must be brought in writing to the Recreation Department by 4:30pm of the second business day after the game in question. It must be accompanied by a fee of \$25.00 which will be returned if the protest is upheld.