

2014 Co-Ed Country Softball League Rules

In an effort to update and further promote fellowship among the teams in the league the league has restructured some of the rules for the 2014 season. The words that are ~~striked out will be removed for the season.~~ The words highlighted in yellow are additions for the 2014 season.

1. The home team will hold group prayer before and after each game.
2. Each team is to have a manager, whose duties to the league are:
 - a. To know the league rules and regulations.
 - b. To have control over their team.
 - c. To be present at each game or have an alternate present
 - d. To report rainouts to the scheduler (724-924-2061) the night of the game or the home team will forfeit the game.
 - e. To call scheduler and the visiting team by 5pm to cancel rainouts.
 - f. To be present or have a rep. at each league meeting or the team will receive an additional loss for each missed meeting.
 - g. Each team must have a rep. at playoff (end of season meeting).
 - h. Each team will have appointed members who will assist with the umpiring duties.
 - i. Each team will be responsible to provide a new league approved game ball for each home game
 - 1) Dudley SB 12 Slow Pitch (COR. 44 and Compression 375lbs) Yellow Balls Flat Red Stitch
3. There can be one game schedule change per tam for a church meeting if the league is notified before the scheduled game. Any other changes will be made at the league meeting when the schedules are handed out. Only rain or an act of God will not be forfeits.
4. Games will start at ~~6:45pm~~, 6:30 or 7:30. Forfeit time will be ~~7pm~~ game time. Home team field warm up is until 6:20pm, visiting team warm up is from ~~6:20pm-6:40pm~~. Teams scheduled for the 7:30 game are to provide umpiring for the 6:30 game. Teams scheduled for the 6:30 game are to provide umpiring for the 7:30 game
5. Each manager is to submit ~~a team roster~~ and a list of their home field rules to the league and each team in the league at the last meeting before the season starts or that team forfeits the season.
6. ~~A roster will consist of: 30 players, the pastor, a manager, and two coaches. All within this roster are eligible to play.~~
7. ~~There can be one person change to any team roster before the midseason meeting if approved by the president. All other roster changes will be made at the midseason meeting.~~
8. The home team will supply: bases (1st base will be the double wide base), 1 new ball, 1 backup ball.
9. ~~The home team will pay the ASA umpire \$25.00 for a complete game and \$15.00 for show up to a rainout game. If there is a forfeit the day of the game the forfeiting team will pay the umpire.~~
10. There will be no swearing: the person swearing will be expelled from that game and the next four games that person attends.
11. No smoking or chewing tobacco by anyone on the bench or on the field. There will be one warning, and if no action is taken, expulsion from the game.
12. No unnecessary roughness, umpires discretion. If you disagree with the ruling, document the facts and bring it before the executive board immediately.
13. There will be no arguing between teams or with umpires. Any disagreement will be brought to the attention of the team manager. Managers and umpires will discuss the problem. Any arguing will be reprimanded with a warning, followed by expulsion.
14. A game can be played and finished with 9 players, if 2 girls are not in the lineup and fielded that team will have to forfeit.
15. There will be no metal spikes worn. If so, the player will be ejected.

16. All catchers must wear protective face mask equipment. (This can included a hockey mask)
17. All fields must be approved by the board before April 1st.
18. Each team will have a minimum of 3 girls playing at *all* times. If 3 are not at the game an out will be batted until the third girl arrives. The extra player rule is not in effect unless 3 girls are playing at the start of the game.
19. There will be no male for female switches unless there are more than 3 girls in the lineup, and then only switches can be made to reduce the number of girls to 3. Any variation of this will be a forfeit of the game.
20. Minimum church attendance will be twice a month year round. Military and non-commuting college students will be exempt from the year round requirement but are required to attend two services while at home. Church attendance must be any regularly scheduled all church service. Any exception must be approved by the executive board. Any team using non-church attending players will forfeit the season.
21. Any softball bats purchased within the last three years that are not banned by ASA and have the ASA emblem are usable. Any old softball bats purchased prior to the ASA emblem requirement can be used only if any bat questioned by an umpire is approved by the opposing coach.
22. Extra Player:
 - a. Field 10, bat 11. The 11th player is not required to be female.
 - b. Field 10, bat 12. One of the extra players must be female.
23. ~~Players must play in ½ of the regular season games, or it added to the roster at the midseason meeting ¾ of the remaining games, to be eligible to play in the playoff games. The senior pastor is exempt from this rule.~~
24. A mid-season meeting will be held to discuss any problems and vote on each team to see if they are to be kept or removed from the league. A 2/3 majority expels a team for the rest of the season.
25. An end of season meeting will be held to set up next year's rules and vote on any team being asked not to return next season. A 51% majority will stop a team's return.
26. ~~If a male batter draws a walk the next batter being female can choose to walk or bat before entering the batter's box.~~
27. There will be no merging of churches to form a team unless that merger is approved by the league officials.
28. If there is a close play at any base the runner must slide or avoid contact with the fielder. If contact is made without sliding causing the ball to be dropped the runner is out. If contact is with the appearance of intent to cause harm, the runner is ejected.
29. ~~A player must play in one complete inning (including batting and fielding of each game) in order to have playoff eligibility. An extra player must bat 2 times in a game to be eligible for that game to count towards a playoff requirement.~~
30. A courtesy runner is a runner who replaces a base runner due to injury or illness. This is not a lineup change.
 - a. The runner must be changed female for female and male for male.
 - b. Managers must agree on an exchange before the game or after an injury.
 - c. If a courtesy runner is used and is already in the game, and that person's turn to bat comes up while still on base that is an automatic out for the batter.
31. Anyone ejected from a game will be suspended from the next 3 games that person attends, and will be interviewed by the executive board to determine if there will be any additional games suspended. Both managers must inform the league officials of an ejection immediately following that game.

32. ~~Any fielder, other than the catcher, fielding a play at home plate must go to the home plate first, then field the ball. If a player other than the catcher covers home plate, the catcher should back up that fielder.~~ All plays at home base will be a force out, a runner must run to the mat and the fielder will use the plate. Once a runner passes halfway between 3rd and Home, they are committed to home base for the force out.

33. Any league official noting a rule infraction can enforce the rule violation.

34. All games, including playoff games, will be complete games after five innings if a game is shortened by weather or time. Normal games are seven innings. All 6:30 scheduled games will be played till completion, or they will finish their current inning as of 7:20pm, no new innings are to begin after 7:20pm. All 7:30 games are to be played till completion.

35. ~~Any game started but not completed will not be a suspended game. The game will be rescheduled, like a rainout, and will start as a new game.~~

36. Clothing worn by any participant will be of modest appearance. No cut-offs. Shirts with shoulder straps will need a t-shirt under it. Once the game starts there will be no warnings, only an ejection from the game.

37. Shorts will cover the knee cap of the person while that person is in a normal standing position. If shorts fail to cover the knee cap, that person will be ejected from the game.

38. ~~Any batter entering the batter's box will start without and automatic 1 ball/1 strike call against the batter as ASA rules state.~~ All batters will begin with a 1ball/1strike count

39. Balls and Strikes will be called by a team appointed umpire, there will be a mat at each field to aid in the calls of balls and strikes. Strikes will only be foul balls, and slow arced pitches 6-12 ft which end up landing on any part of the mat or home plate. Any pitched ball that meets the arc specifications and lands on any part of the mat or home plate is a strike.