

## WEBER COUNTY RECREATION SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. GAMES WILL BE PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OFFICIAL ASA/USA RULES, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THESE GROUND RULES.
2. AGE LIMIT WILL BE 16 YEARS AND OLDER. PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE REQUIRED IF UNDER 18.
3. CODE OF CONDUCT:  
TEAMS AND THEIR INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS WILL COMPLY WITH THE LEAGUE RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCT. ANY PLAYER WHO FAILS TO PLAY IN A SPORTSMANSHIP LIKE MANNER WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE GAME AND POSSIBLY SUSPENDED FOR 1-2 GAMES. ANY PLAYER WHO STARTS A FIGHT WITH ANOTHER PLAYER, SPECTATOR, OR UMPIRE WILL FORFEIT THEIR RIGHT FOR FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN THE LEAGUE AND MAY BE SUSPENDED FOR ONE YEAR. SUSPENSIONS MAY BE INCREASED IF SEVERITY WARRANTS BY THE LEAGUE DIRECTOR.  
  
ANY PARTICIPANT OR SPECTATOR WHOSE LANGUAGE OR BEHAVIOR IS DEEMED BY THE UMPIRES OR RECREATION STAFF, IN THEIR SOLE DISCRETION, TO BE DANGEROUS OR OBNOXIOUS TO OTHERS USING THE FACILITY, SHALL BE EJECTED FROM THE GAME AND MAY BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE FACILITY. THIS INCLUDES HARASSING UMPIRES OR PLAYERS FROM THE OPPOSING TEAM. THE 'F' WORD WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL BE CAUSE FOR EJECTION WITH NO WARNING. COACHES/CAPTAINS ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP THEIR TEAM AND SPECTATORS UNDER CONTROL. \*SEE CODE OF CONDUCT.  
  
IF AN EJECTION OCCURS AND TEAM DOES NOT HAVE A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER THAT HAS NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE GAME IN ANY WAY TO REPLACE THE EJECTED PLAYER, THE GAME IS A FORFEIT.
4. RELEASE FORMS:  
RELEASE FORMS ARE DUE **PRIOR** TO YOUR FIRST SCHEDULED GAME. IF YOU HAVE NOT TURNED IN YOUR RELEASE FORM AT GAME TIME OF YOUR FIRST GAME, THE GAME CLOCK WILL BEGIN. NO PLAY WILL BE ALLOWED WITHOUT SIGNED RELEASE FORM. THE OTHER TEAM WILL BE AWARDED A POINT AT GAME TIME, A SECOND POINT AT 5 MINUTES IN AND AT 10 MINUTES IN, YOU WILL FORFEIT. EACH PLAYER MUST SIGN THE TEAM'S RELEASE FORM/CODE OF CONDUCT INDIVIDUALLY TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. NO PERSON SHALL SIGN FOR ANOTHER PERSON. IF SIGNATURES ARE FOUND TO BE ILLEGAL (ONE PERSON SIGNS FOR SEVERAL PEOPLE) YOUR RELEASE FORM WILL CONSIDERED INVALID AND PLAYERS ARE ILLEGAL. IF A PLAYER HAS NOT SIGNED, HE/SHE IS CONSIDERED ILLEGAL.  
  
PLAYERS MAY BE ADDED AT ANY TIME DURING THE REGULAR SEASON BY SIGNING THE TEAM'S CODE OF CONDUCT/ RELEASE FORM. THE FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NIGHT SUPERVISOR. PLAYER WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY THAT NIGHT. IF A PLAYER FAILS TO SIGN THE RELEASE FORM, HE/SHE WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ILLEGAL PLAYER.  
  
***NO PLAYER(S) CAN BE ADDED TO A RELEASE FORM AFTER LEAGUE GAMES HAVE ENDED (YOU MAY NOT ADD PLAYERS TO RELEASE FORM FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY). YOU MUST HAVE PLAYED AT LEAST ONE LEAGUE GAME TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY TOURNAMENT GAME.***
5. TEAMS MUST BEGIN/END WITH A MINIMUM OF EIGHT PLAYERS. TEAMS WILL TAKE AN AUTOMATIC OUT IN THE BATTING ORDER FOR EACH PLAYER NOT PRESENT. THIS RULE WILL OVERRIDE THE SHORT HANDED ASA. RULE. CO-ED MUST BEGIN WITH EQUAL NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN OR ONE MORE WOMAN THAN MAN. NEVER MORE MEN THAN WOMEN.
6. BATTING:  
THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF BATTERS IS 12 FOR ALL LEAGUES.  
COED: BATTERS MUST BAT ALTERNATING MALE AND FEMALE BATTERS (6 MALE AND 6 FEMALE WHEN BATTING 12, 5 MALE AND 5 FEMALE WHEN BATTING 10). TEAMS WILL TAKE AN AUTOMATIC OUT WHEN NOT ALTERNATED. IF ONE LESS MALE IS PRESENT, YOU TAKE AN AUTOMATIC OUT FOR HIM (SEE RULE 5).

7. LINE-UP:  
THE GAME PLAYERS LINE-UP SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE SCORE KEEPER 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED GAME TIME. THE GAME CLOCK WILL BEGIN AT THE PRECISE SCHEDULED GAME TIME (UNLESS PREVIOUS GAME IS RUNNING BEHIND SCHEDULE, THE NEXT GAME WILL START 5 MINUTES AFTER CONCLUSION OF THE PREVIOUS GAME.) IF A TEAM HAS NOT TURNED IN THEIR OFFICIAL LINE-UP AT GAME TIME, GAME TIME WILL BEGIN. THIS MEANS THAT EVEN IF NO PLAY IS OCCURRING ON THE FIELD, GAME TIME IS PROGRESSING. THE GAME CLOCK WILL NOT BE DELAYED. IF TEAM HAS NOT TURNED IN LINE UP AT GAME TIME, THE DELAYED TEAM WILL BE AWARDED 1 RUN. AT 50 MINUTES (5 MINUTES HAS RUN OFF THE CLOCK), DELAYED TEAM WILL BE AWARDED A 2<sup>ND</sup> RUN. AT 45 MINUTES (10 MINUTES HAS TUN OFF THE CLOCK), THE GAME WILL BE FORFEIT - SCORED 10-0 FOR THE DELAYED TEAM.
8. PROTESTS:  
THERE WILL BE A \$30.00 PROTEST FEE ON ANY PROTEST FILED. MONEY MUST BE SUBMITTED AT TIME OF PROTEST FOR PROTEST TO BE CONSIDERED. IF PROTEST IS UPHELD IN PROTESTING TEAMS FAVOR, THE PROTEST FEE WILL BE RETURNED. PROTESTS MUST BE REPORTED BY THE COACH OR MANAGER TO THE UMPIRE BEFORE THE LAST OUT OF THE GAME. THE UMPIRE WILL IN TURN IMMEDIATELY REPORT TO THE FIELD SCORER WHO WILL THEN INFORM THE NIGHT SUPERVISOR. THE NIGHT SUPERVISOR WILL COLLECT YOUR PROTEST FEE. A WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE PROTESTING COACH MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE NIGHT SUPERVISOR IMMEDIATELY. STATEMENT MUST INCLUDE WHICH PLAYER OR RULE IS BEING PROTESTED AND WHY. ONLY ONE PLAYER OR RULE MAY BE PROTESTED. PROTESTING TEAM IS NOT ALLOWED TO LOOK AT OPPOSING TEAMS ROSTER OR RELEASE FORM. NIGHT SUPERVISOR COMMUNICATE WITH TEAMS AFTER HE/SHE HAS RESEARCHED PROTEST. OPPOSING COACH MAY TURN IN A WRITTEN STATEMENT IF THEY DESIRE.  
PLAYER PROTEST: GAME WILL CONTINUE WITHOUT DELAY AFTER PROTEST IS REPORTED TO OFFICIALS. GAME CLOCK WILL NOT BE DELAYED  
RULE PROTEST: CLOCK WILL STOP.
9. TEAMS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN NUMBERED SHIRTS (4" MINIMUM AND CLEARLY VISIBLE BY THE SCORE KEEPER ON BACK.) ALL LEAGUES WILL BE GIVEN ONE WEEK GRACE PERIOD, NO EXCEPTIONS AFTER GRACE PERIOD. WEBER COUNTY WILL NOT PROVIDE MARKERS, TAPE, OR ANY OTHER ITEM FOR MARKING JERSEYS. **ANY PLAYER THAT STEPS INTO THE BATTERS BOX WITHOUT A NUMBER THAT IS READABLE BY THE SCOREKEEPER WILL BE CALLED OUT.** THE ONLY EXCLUSION WILL BE DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER WHEN COATS OR SWEATERS ARE WORN. UMPIRE MAY STILL ASK TO SEE PLAYER'S NUMBER.
10. SECOND TEAM LISTED ON SCHEDULE SHALL BE THE HOME TEAM.
11. GAMES WILL BE 7 INNINGS OR 55 MINUTES, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST. NO NEW INNING WILL BEGIN AFTER 55 MINUTES. **SCOREKEEPER WILL BE THE "OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER"**
12. RAIN-OUTS:  
TEAMS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF RESCHEDULED GAMES DUE TO RAIN-OUTS. A GAME THAT IS BEING CALLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER OR UNSAFE CONDITIONS AT ANY TIME BEFORE 4 COMPLETE INNINGS WILL BE POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE - NOTING TIME, SCORE AND ANY PLAYERS POSITIONS ON BASE. ON A FUTURE DATE, GAME WILL RESUME FROM THAT POINT ON. IF GAMES ARE CALLED AFTER TEAMS HAVE PLAYED 4 COMPLETE INNINGS, THE FINAL SCORE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE LAST COMPLETE INNING.
13. ONLY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OF 4% ALCOHOL BY WEIGHT OR LESS ARE ALLOWED. NO GLASS BOTTLES! ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN KEGS, BARRELS OR CONTAINERS LARGER THAN 32 OZ ARE NOT ALLOWED. ANYONE FOUND VIOLATING THIS RULE WILL BE WARNED AND ASKED TO REMOVE CONTAINER FROM THE PREMISES OR THROW IT AWAY. WITH SECOND WARNING, VIOLATOR WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE PREMISES.
14. RUN RULE:  
A GAME WILL BE CALLED BY RUN RULE IF A TEAM IS AHEAD BY 15 RUNS AFTER 5 INNINGS AND 20 RUNS AFTER 3 INNINGS.
15. HOME RUNS:  
WHEN AN OVER-THE-FENCE HOME RUN IS HIT (AND 1-UP RULE DOES NOT APPLY), THE BATTER DOES NOT NEED TO RUN BASES, UNLESS THEY CHOOSE TO DO SO. HE/SHE MAY RETURN TO THE DUGOUT.

ALL BASE RUNNERS MAY GO DIRECTLY TO THE DUGOUT, IF THEY CHOOSE, AND DO NOT NEED TO CONTINUE RUNNING BASES.

1-UP HOME RUN RULE: TEAM AT BAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RETRIEVING HOME RUN BALLS. ANY OTHER HOME RUN IS CONSIDERED AN OUT.

16. STRIKE ZONE COMPLAINTS:

PITCHER, CATCHER AND BATTER WILL BE THE ONLY ONES TO QUESTION STRIKE ZONE. ALL OTHERS, PLEASE REFER TO CODE OF CONDUCT. PITCH HEIGHT IS 6' TO 12'. 3 BALLS 2 STRIKES. IF THE BALL HITS THE PLATE OR THE MAT, IT IS A STRIKE.

17. CO-ED LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES:

- A. SLIDING ONLY IF NECESSARY. INTENTIONAL OR TAKE OUT SLIDES CAN BE CAUSE FOR EJECTION. THIS IS A JUDGEMENT CALL.
- B. CO-ED TEAMS MAY BE POSITIONED DEFENSIVELY ANYWHERE ON THE PLAYING FIELD.
- C. ANY WALK TO A MALE BATTER WILL RESULT IN A TWO BASE AWARD. THE NEXT BATTER (A FEMALE) WILL BAT. EXCEPTION: WITH TWO OUTS, THE FEMALE BATTER HAS THE OPTION TO WALK OR BAT.
- D. INFIELD MUST STAY ON DIRT, NO MATTER WHO IS BATTING, MALE OR FEMALE.

18. MENS LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES:

UP TO TWO WOMEN MAY PLAY OR SUB FOR A MENS TEAM. YOU MAY HAVE MULTIPLE WOMEN ON YOUR RELEASE FORM AND BE PRESENT BUT ONLY TWO WOMEN MAY BE ON THE FIELD AT ANY GIVEN TIME OR BE IN THE BATTING LINE UP. NO SPECIAL RULES WILL BE ALLOWED FOR THE WOMEN (NO CO-ED RULES WILL APPLY).

19. 200 FT LINE:

- COED: OUTFIELD MUST STAY BEHIND 200 FT LINE, NO MATTER WHO IS BATTING, MALE OR FEMALE.
- MEN: 200 FT LINE DOES NOT APPLY
- WOMEN: 200 FT LINE DOES NOT APPLY

20. SPECIFIC RULES:

- ALL PITCHERS MUST WEAR A PROTECTIVE FACE MASK WHILE PITCHING. WEBER COUNTY HAS MASKS YOU MAY BORROW DURING YOUR GAME IF YOU DON'T HAVE ONE. MASK MUST BE RETURNED UPON COMPLETION OF YOUR GAME.
- NO METAL CLEATS.
- NO OPEN TOED SHOES OR BAREFEET (MUST WEAR SHOES).
- ALL NECKLACES NEED TO BE TUCKED INSIDE SHIRT.
- NO STEALING BASES

21. YOU CAN WALK A BATTER TO GET TO AUTOMATIC OUT.

22. SUBSTITUTIONS:

- A. WHEN SUBSTITUTING A PLAYER, THEY ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE PLATE UMPIRE WHEN THEY BAT, NOT WHEN THEY GO IN THE FIELD. PLAYER MUST SIGN RELEASE FORM PRIOR TO STEPPING ON THE FIELD (SEE RULE 4).
- B. A MALE PLAYER MUST SUB FOR A MALE, FEMALE PLAYER MUST SUB FOR A FEMALE. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS IN THE MEN'S LEAGUE. A MALE OR FEMALE MAY REPLACE THAT PLAYER (SEE RULE 18).
- C. WHEN A PLAYER IS DISQUALIFIED, TEAMS MAY USE A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER THAT HAS NOT PARTICIPATED IN THAT GAME. IF TEAMS CHOOSE NOT TO USE, OR CANNOT FIND, A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER, THERE WILL BE AN AUTOMATIC OUT IN THE BATTING ORDER FOR THAT PLAYER (SEE RULES 5 AND 6).
- D. WHEN A PLAYER IS EJECTED, TEAMS MUST USE A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER. IF NO SUBSTITUTE PLAYER CAN BE FOUND (SEE RULE 22.B), THAT TEAM FORFEITS. TEAMS MUST END THE GAME WITH THE SAME NUMBER OF PLAYERS THEY STARTED WITH WHEN DEALING WITH AN EJECTION.

23. COURTESY RUNNERS ARE ALLOWED IF BOTH TEAMS AGREE. THE LAST PERSON OUT IS THE RUNNER. COURTESY RUNNERS ARE MEANT FOR HURT PLAYERS ONLY. IF BATTER ADVANCES BEYOND 1<sup>ST</sup> BASE,

NO RUNNER IS ALLOWED. (A WALKED BATTER IS THE ONLY EXCEPTION). A MALE COURTESY RUNNER MUST RUN FOR A MALE AND A FEMALE COURTESY RUNNER MUST RUN FOR A FEMALE.

24. BATS MUST HAVE AN ASA/USA OR USSSA CERTIFIED STAMP. BATTER MUST HAVE STAMP VISIBLE WHILE APPROACHING HOME PLATE.
- A. ANY PLAYER THAT ENTERS THE BATTER'S BOX WITH A NON-CERTIFIED OR AN ALTERED BAT, BATTER IS OUT AND IS DISQUALIFIED FROM THE GAME. A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER MAY BE USED (SEE RULE 22).
  - B. IF IT IS FOUND THAT THE PLAYER USED A NON-CERTIFIED OR ALTERED BAT AFTER BATTING AND BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH, THE BATTER IS OUT AND DISQUALIFIED. A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER MAY BE USED (SEE RULE 22). **ALL OUTS WILL STAND.** ALL OTHER RUNNERS RETURN TO THE BASE OCCUPIED AT THE TIME OF THE PITCH.
  - C. NO WOODEN BATS ARE ALLOWED
  - D. NO SENIOR BATS ARE ALLOWED
25. ONLY BATTER, ON DECK BATTER, IN-THE-HOLE BATTER, 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> BASE COACHES MAY BE OUT OF THE DUGOUT. ALL OTHER PLAYERS ON BATTING TEAM MUST STAY IN DUGOUT. AFTER ONE WARNING, BATTER AT PLATE WILL BE CALLED OUT.
26. PITCHER'S FOOT MUST BE TOUCHING RUBBER PITCHING MOUND WHEN BALL IS RELEASED UNLESS PITCHER IS BEHIND THE MOUND.
27. SOFTBALLS:  
WEBER COUNTY ISSUED SOFTBALLS MUST BE USED.  
MENS: 12" BALLS  
WOMENS: 11" BALLS  
COED: MEN MUST BAT 12", WOMEN MAY CHOOSE, AS A TEAM, TO USE 11" OR 12" WHEN THEY ARE AT BAT FOR THE DURATION OF THE GAME (SWITCH BACK TO 12" FOR MALE BATTER).
28. MUSIC:  
BOOM BOXES ARE NOT ALLOWED, ONLY SMALL HAND HELD DEVICES ARE ACCEPTABLE. ANY MUSIC THAT IS PLAYING INSIDE A TEAMS DUGOUT (OR IN SURROUNDING AREA), THE VOLUME AND CONTENT NEEDS TO BE SUCH THAT IT IS NOT DISTURBING YOUR OPPONENT, THE GAME, EMPLOYEES, SPECTATORS, A DUGOUT, TEAM OR GAME FROM ANOTHER FIELD. IF MUSIC IS TOO LOUD OR CONTAINS VULGAR LANGUAGE OR CONTENT, THE NIGHT SUPERVISOR OR UMPIRE WILL GIVE YOU ONE WARNING TO TURN IT DOWN OR CHANGE THE MUSIC SELECTION. IF A SECOND OFFENSE OCCURS, YOUR TEAM MUST TURN OFF ALL MUSIC FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE GAME. NO EXCEPTIONS. IF YOUR TEAM VIOLATES THIS RULE NUMEROUS TIMES, YOU WON'T BE ALLOWED TO PLAY ANY MUSIC FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON, INCLUDING TOURNAMENT. **MUSIC WITH VULGAR LANGUAGE OR THAT CONTAINS VULGAR CONTENT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. THIS IS A FAMILY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL.**
29. IN THE EVENT OF A TIE IN THE STANDINGS IN LEAGUE PLAY:  
BETWEEN TWO TEAMS: WHICHEVER TEAM WON IN HEAD-TO-HEAD (WHEN TWO TEAMS PLAYED ONE ANOTHER) WILL BE DECLARED THE WINNER.  
BETWEEN THREE OR MORE TEAMS: IN THE EVENT OF A THREE-WAY-TIE (TEAM 1 BEAT TEAM 2, TEAM 2 BEAT TEAM 3 AND TEAM 3 BEAT TEAM 1) AND A WINNER CANNOT BE DECLARED BY HEAD-TO-HEAD, WHICHEVER TEAM HAS THE HIGHEST POINT PERCENTAGE (POINTS FOR/AGAINST) WILL BE DECLARED THE WINNER. ONLY THE GAMES INVOLVING THE TIED TEAMS WILL BE COUNTED IN PERCENTAGE (NOT THE ENTIRE SEASON PERCENTAGE).

**\*NO SMOKING OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING E-CIGARETTES,  
OTHER THAN IN DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS.**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT THE WEBER COUNTY RECREATION OFFICE AT 399-8230. A FIELD STATUS RECORDING CAN BE REACHED AT 801-399-8226 ON INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS AFTER 3:00 P.M.