

RIDGELAND



RECREATION & PARKS

2017 Adult Slow-Pitch Softball League Rules and Guidelines

THE GAME

- 🍌 All play shall be governed by the rules of the **Amateur Softball Association**, unless otherwise specified.
- 🍌 **The batter will start his at bat with a 1ball 1 strike count.**
- 🍌 All games will be seven (7) innings and have a one-hour time limit. No new inning will begin after time has expired, except in the case of a tie game. Official time will be kept on the scoreboard, and will begin at the conclusion of the umpires' meeting prior to the game.
- 🍌 **Game time is forfeit time.** Any team which forfeits **2** consecutive games shall be removed from further league play.
- 🍌 Prior to the game, each team captain shall obtain from the scorekeeper an official lineup card. Lineup cards must be completed and the yellow copy turned in to the scorekeeper 10 minutes prior to scheduled game time. Lineup cards must include the **jersey number, first name, and last name of all players**, including all possible substitutes.
- 🍌 Should only one team have their lineup in at ten minutes prior to game time, that team will win the coin toss by default and have their choice of home or visiting team.
- 🍌 Teams may begin the game with only nine (9) players, but must list ten (10) players in the lineup. An out will be recorded for the missing player until and unless that player or a substitute arrives.
- 🍌 In church competition, teams will be allowed to bat all players present at the beginning of the game. All late arrivals will be substitutes.
- 🍌 Teams may use a Pitch Runner; they must be the last out. If there is no outs it will revert back to the last out the Inning before.
- 🍌 **Teams may use an extra hitter (EH).**
- 🍌 If a team begins a game with ten (10) or eleven (11) players, they may finish with as few as nine (9) players due to departure of a player or injury if no substitute is available. Again, an out will be recorded for the missing player(s). At no time may a team continue a game with fewer than nine (9) players. ***Exception:** If a player is ejected from a contest and no substitute is available, the game is forfeited at that point.
- 🍌 A pre-game conference with the umpires will occur prior to each game. This will take place five minutes prior to the first game of the evening, and as soon as reasonably possible for each remaining game of the evening. Umpires will review ground rules, and start the game clock at this time. The original (white copy) of the lineup shall be presented to the umpire at this time, and a copy (pink copy) shall be given to the opposing team's coach.
- 🍌 A ten (10) run rule will be in effect after 5 innings; a fifteen (15) run rule will be in effect after 4 innings, and a twenty (20) run rule will be in effect after 3 innings in all games.
- 🍌 **Home Run Limits: Open League (6), Commercial (3), and Church (3), Once you have reached your limit it WILL BE AN INNING ENDING OUT.**

EQUIPMENT

- 🧤 All bats must comply with 2016 ASA and USSSA regulations.
- 🧤 Each team must provide and hit their own ASA approved **52 core, 300 compression Optic Yellow softball. The ASA logo must be visible on all game balls. Game balls will be sold at the concession stand.**

UNIFORM

- 🧤 All team members must wear matching shirts. Shirts must match in color and color of number. No drawn or taped on numbers allowed.
- 🧤 Metal cleats are NOT allowed.

ROSTERS

- 🧤 **Maximum of 25 players.** Once a player has been dropped from a team, he/she cannot be added to another team if that player has played in at least one game. Deadline to add or delete players to the roster is **two weeks** after your first game.

All Church Rosters must be signed by the Pastor of the Church.

ELIGIBILITY

- 🧤 Players must be at least 18 years of age for Commercial, and 16 years of age for Church League.

OTHER RULES

- 🧤 No **Smoking** or **Tobacco** use allowed in Freedom Ridge Park.
- 🧤 No infield warm-ups for any games. Speed-up rules will be used – three pitches or one minute by each pitcher per inning.
- 🧤 Only eligible players, managers, coaches and one bat boy/girl will be allowed in the dugout. All persons in a team dugout, including bat boys/girls, shall be in team uniform or team colors. Bat boys/girls under the age of sixteen who leave the dugout for any reason to enter the playing field shall do so only after play has been stopped and must wear a helmet.
- 🧤 **Decisions of the umpires will be final.** Protests will not be heard for any reason other than player eligibility.
- 🧤 Teams are to warm up in the designated areas ONLY. This is for your safety, as well as the safety of others.
- 🧤 There will be a 6 home run limit for the Open League, and a 3 home run limit for the Commercial and Church league. Any home runs in excess of the limit shall be an inning ending out.

CONDUCT

Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the players, coaches, managers, or fans **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!**

- 🧤 Any violation serious enough to justify written report of offense signed by game officials or staff members in charge can result in disqualification of players, coaches, or managers for the remainder of the season, forfeiture of the game, or both.
- 🧤 No profanity, fighting, and/or drinking of alcoholic beverages will be allowed at Freedom Ridge Park.
- 🧤 Any player ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike behavior before, during, or after a game must sit out the next game for which they appear.
- 🧤 Any player ejected from a game twice during the season will be eliminated from further league competition.
- 🧤 Any team or player which fails to comply with the requests of league officials or Recreation & Parks staff members may be eliminated from further competition.