

**LOUDOUN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
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ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES - RULES AND REGULATIONS

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Softball Rules

1.00 Administrative Regulations and Information

1.01 The following Adult Softball Leagues shall be played in accordance with the Official Slow Pitch Softball Rules as adopted by the Amateur Softball Association (ASA), except where amended by special league rules.

- a. Women's Leagues
- b. Men's Leagues
- c. Coed Leagues
- d. Church Leagues
- e. Men's Master's Over-45
- f. Wooden Bat

1.02 Qualification for participation in Adult Softball Leagues is based on the following criteria:

- a. Submission of a timely filed team application, with E-Mail Address of Team Captain
- b. Submission of a timely filed roster, signed by a designated team manager, which documents full legal name (no nicknames), signature, address, zip code, and telephone number for each player.
- c. Submission of the entry fee and non-resident fees payable to County of Loudoun on or before the established deadline date. Partial fees will not be accepted.

1.03 All rosters, roster changes, protests, or any other paperwork affecting the administration of this league will not be considered official unless PRCS is notified in writing on the designated form. Papers sent by mail should be verified by telephone.

1.04 Tournament Play. At the conclusion of regular season play, leagues will have post-season tournaments scheduled. (See the General Information sheet of the specific league for details).

1.05 Any question or situation not included in these rules or official interpretation thereof, shall be referred to the League Commissioner for final disposition.

2.00 Coaches/Managers

2.01 The coach, manager, or his/her designee shall be the team representative.

2.02 The team representative shall be responsible for the following:

- a. Attending all league meetings.
- b. Informing team members of the outcome of league meetings or protest review.
- c. Attending the annual softball rules clinic. Teams not represented at the annual rules clinic may not submit protests on game situations or rules interpretations.
- d. Knowing the league rules and informing team members as to their interpretation.
- e. Distributing league materials to team members.
- f. Controlling the language and conduct of his/her players and spectators.
- g. Acting as liaison to the League Office.
- h. Fees, rosters, protest's and any other league paperwork required by the League Office and the timely submission.

3.00 Umpires

3.01 Umpires shall be members of an approved association holding a current contract with PRCS.

3.02 Umpires shall be assigned to games by the umpire's association commissioner.

3.03 Umpires shall be paid from entry fees held in trust by PRCS.

3.04 If an umpire(s) fails to appear games must be played. If no umpire appears by the scheduled start time both managers must agree to appoint an umpire, or agree to play under some other remedy, and must make a notation of this agreement in each team's scorebook. If an umpire arrives after the start of a game, any prior arrangement made between the coaches will cease and the umpire will take over, and the game will continue at the point of the umpire's arrival. Possible remedies include, but are not limited to, one of the following:

- a. Select someone who is not a rostered player of either team.
- b. The catcher of the defensive team makes ball, strike, fair and foul calls; base coaches of the offensive team makes out or safe calls at each base.
- c. Some other remedy as mutually agreed upon by both managers.
- d. Facility attendants are not allowed to umpire a game.

3.05 At unlighted fields the fitness of the grounds for a game shall be decided solely by the plate umpire. At lighted fields the fitness of the grounds for a game shall be decided by the plate umpire and the facility attendant. Failure to abide by the umpire's or facility attendant's decision shall result in disciplinary action by the League Commissioner. The intent of this rule is to prevent injury to players and protect fields from inappropriate usage.

3.06 The plate umpire shall keep the official time of the game.

3.07 Umpires shall inspect all bats prior to the first game of a doubleheader.

4.00 Entry Fees

4.01 The entry fee shall be an established amount to cover league expenses, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Umpires (where applicable).
- b. Registration and user fees.
- c. Awards. (all trophies and awards must be picked up no later than 30 days after the championship game)
- d. Administrative overhead (supervision, maintenance, lights, etc.).

4.02 The entry fee will be announced each year at the organizational meeting and must be paid on or before the deadline date established by the League Office.

4.03 No entry fees will be accepted at the captain's meeting.

4.04 A team roster and application must accompany each team's entry fee in order to be considered for a league.

4.05 For each non-county resident on the roster an additional \$29.00 fee will be assessed to the entry fee.

5.00 Player Eligibility

5.01 A player must be eighteen (18) years of age or out of high school prior to the opening game of the season. Exception: Church League minimum age is sixteen (16) by opening game.

5.02 Men & Women may participate on multiple COED teams so long as the teams aren't able to play each other in regular season and/or tournament games. (Scheduling conflicts due to playing on multiple teams will not be considered when scheduling games or make-ups)

5.03 Current Roster "Tuesday B" players are limited to playing in any division below B. Listed below are the restrictions by league. Any team playing in a "C" division (Men & Coed) may not roster more than two (2) current Tuesday B Players. Any team playing in a "D" division (Men & Coed) may not roster more than one (1) current

Tuesday B Player. Any team playing in an "E" division (Men & Coed) may not roster any current Tuesday B player. If a team plays with an illegal number of "Tuesday B Players" they will forfeit all games in which the limit was exceeded, the captain will be suspended the teams next two (2 games), and the player will be suspended for his Tuesday B teams next two games.

5.04 All men's leagues are restricted for men only, and women's leagues restricted for females only.

EXCEPTION: Church Leagues may play women but must play by the men's league rules.

5.05 Any player suspended or barred from participation in these leagues by PRCS is ineligible to participate on any team in any league under the Loudoun County jurisdiction until the suspension is lifted. Suspended players must take the initiative to contact the League Office to apply for reinstatement of eligibility. (Participation includes coaching as well as playing).

5.06 A team playing an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit all games in which this player participated. Participation is defined as playing, coaching, or serving as a player-coach.

5.07 Any player using an assumed name shall be permanently barred from these leagues.

6.00 Team Rosters

6.01 Team roster, application form, entry fee, proof of residency, and non-resident fees must be submitted to the League Office by the entry deadline each year. Rosters must be typed or printed on the roster form provided by the League Office in original form. Rosters must list the full legal name (no nicknames), signature, address, zip code, jersey number, and either a home or work telephone number for each player, manager or coach. Incomplete rosters and duplicated copies will not be accepted. Teams failing to comply will not be considered for the league. Team rosters must be available at all games along with player identification. If you are requested by PRCS officials to show your roster, or ID and do not or can not comply, the game or games for that night will become forfeits.

6.03 All roster changes, (i.e., additions, deletions, etc.), must be made in writing on a separate change of roster form and filed with the League Office prior to that player's participation in league games. Added players must sign the change of roster form. A team roster may be changed by team managers or coaches only.

6.04 Roster changes will be allowed up to a team's eleventh game played. A request for an emergency roster change after the deadline will be adjudged by the League Commissioner, whose decision will be final. Once rosters are finalized a copy from the county will be distributed to each team and must be on hand at all remaining regular season and playoff games.

6.05 A player who is dropped from a team may not be reinstated to that same team during the same season. That player may not be added to a team within the same division during that season.

6.06 A "returning team" is defined as a team having played the previous season, which, for the current season, is comprised of 33% of the previous season's rostered players. (Team does not have to play under the same team or sponsor's name).

6.07 If it is determined that a team roster is falsified the team representative shall be suspended from participation in the Loudoun County Adult Softball League for the remainder of the season plus one additional year.

6.08 Each roster will be limited to a maximum of 25 players. Exception: Church Leagues will have an unlimited roster.

6.09 Playoff eligibility will be as follows:

- a. Spring/summer leagues - All players on the final roster as of the changes deadline.
- b. Fall leagues - All players on the final roster as of the changes deadline
- c. Church leagues - All players on the final roster as of the changes deadline

6.10 During the playoffs all rosters will be checked prior to each game by the umpire. Each team captain must have the original printed roster provided by the League Commissioner along with each player's identification card upon

the umpire's request before the game starts. If a team does not have the printed roster provided by the League Commissioner they will forfeit the game. In addition if a player does not have proper picture ID upon request prior to the game they cannot participate in the game. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the player and captain to have a late arriving players ID checked before entering the field. A player who is late can only enter the field once the umpire has checked their ID at the end of each half inning; IDs will not be checked during play.

6.11 At the discretion of the League Commissioner, the top three (3) teams in each division at the end of the season may be moved up to the next higher division the next season played. The bottom two (2) teams may be moved to the next lower division.

7.00 Uniforms and Equipment

7.01 Uniforms are recommended for teams in all leagues but not required. Uniforms will consist of same or like-colored jersey with minimal six-inch number on the back. Caps are optional. Handkerchiefs cannot be worn around the neck or head.

7.02 For safety and injury prevention, casts, jewelry, or any other item deemed dangerous by the umpire may not be worn during the game. Players wearing glasses must have shatterproof lenses or eyeglass protectors. It is the responsibility of each player to comply.

7.03 Men's, Men's Master's over-45, Church and Coed (male batters only) Leagues: Any(white or optic yellow). ASA approved twelve (12) inch COR .52 with a maximum compression of 300lbs. or less ball must be used league play. Women's and Coed (female batters only) Leagues: Any approved eleven (11) inch COR .44 ball with a compression of 375lbs. or less shall be recognized for league play. The Wooden Bat league may use any COR .44 or .47 ball.

THE BALL MUST HAVE AN ASA LOGO BALL CAN NOT BE ON THE BANNED BALL LIST NO THUNDER ADVANCED

- a) **If a team runs out of .52 core/300 compression balls, then the game will result in a 7-0 forfeit.**
- b) **In the case a team does not have the correct equipment to play (ASA bat, ASA .52 core balls, fielding gloves etc.), the team will be required to forfeit.**
- c) **It is the pitchers responsibility to check each ball before the pitch. If an illegal ball is pitched and hit, the play will stand as recorded.**

7.04 *Each team is to furnish a new ball and a playable ball acceptable to the umpire prior to the game. Teams have the option of exchanging their balls with opponents prior to the game or hitting their own this is to be decided prior to the game.* The team at bat furnishes the ball thereafter in instances involving lost balls e.g. foul balls, home runs, etc.

7.05 Acceptable bats must not be banned by the Amateur Softball Association in Championship League Play (referred to as the banned bat list) and must be approved by the Amateur Softball Association (referred to the approved bat list) in order to be used in all Loudoun County PRCS Softball Leagues. When in doubt, consult the Commissioner.

7.06 Metal spikes shall not be worn by any player, manager, or coach. Penalty: Ejection from the game.

8.00 Forfeiture

***8.01** If the required number of players (8) has not been met by the scheduled starting time, the team having the required number shall win by forfeit. A possible exception to this rule may be if Team "A" has more players then the required number of players, and Team "B" does not, Team "A" MAY LEND team "B" no more two (2) players. (Team "A" determines who they will lend), In order to get the game started. When Team "B" players show up, the loaned players will return to team "A". It will be Team "A" decision to either lend the players to Team "B", or win by Forfeit. This determination, must be made before the start of each game. If both teams fail to have the required number of players, the game shall be declared a double forfeit and will not be rescheduled.

8.02 A team forfeiting four league games because of failure to have the required number of players will be dropped from further participation until their case is reviewed. All games will stand and no part of the franchise fee will be

returned.

8.03 Using an ineligible player shall result in forfeiture (see Rule 5.00).

8.04 If no one from a team is in the playing area at game (exception the 6:30 PM teams have a five minute grace period as stated in rule 12.03). They must have representation by 6:35PM) time the umpire will call a forfeit for the first game of the doubleheader. If after 20 minutes there is still no one from that team in the playing area the umpire will call a forfeit for the second game. If a team has one player they have until their next schedule time (the second game of their doubleheader) to get enough players to the field provided they have at least one at the field.

8.05 If a team forfeits the first game the other team (the team not forfeiting) is automatically the home team the second game.

9.00 Protests

9.01 Under official softball rules, decisions involving an umpire's judgment may not be protested. If a ruling is believed to conflict with the official softball rules or these league rules, a manager may protest the game by notifying the home plate umpire who will note the time of the protest in the official scorebook. Notification of intent to protest must be made immediately before the next pitch. A written protest must then be submitted to the League Office postmarked within 48 hours after the game is played. A \$50.00 fee must accompany each protest. If the appeal is granted, the fee will be returned. A postage meter machine tape will not be accepted as a postmark.

Each protest must contain the following information:

- a. Date, time, and place of the game.
- b. Names of officials and scorekeepers.
- b. The rule and section of the official rules or local rules under which the protest is made.
- c. The decision and conditions surrounding the making of the protest.
- d. All essential facts involved in the matter protested.

What the expected outcome of the protest should be. (What is the protestor expecting to happen.)

9.02 Protest for ineligible players during the playoffs must be made by the team captain to the home plate umpire before the start of the game/before the players first at bat. The captain must make the umpire aware of which player(s) are in question, and the umpire will be required to check the opposing teams "official roster distributed from the county", and the player(s) in question identification card. If the player is found to be ineligible or does not have an identification card, then he/she will be ineligible to play in any games that night. If the player reduces the teams line-up below the minimum numbers of players required, the team will be required to forfeit. If the team does not have a copy of the "official roster distributed by the county" at the request of the umpire or league administrator, the team will be required to forfeit their playoff game.

9.03 Protests will be reviewed by the league commissioner and any one he request to assist him. The league commissioner's decision will direct whether the protest will be denied, or whether the game will be replayed from the point of the protest, or will be forfeited. The decision of the league commissioner is final.

9.04 If any of the procedures for protest are not followed, the protest will not be accepted.

10.00 Cancellation/Postponement of Games

10.01 The League Commissioner shall have the authority to set, change, or reschedule date, time, and location of all games. Games may be rescheduled for any available day. Make up games most likely will be Monday through Friday. Please be advised of this, and maintain Flexibility in your schedules to accommodate this rule. **GAMES WILL NOT BE RESCHEDULED FOR PLAYERS HAVING CONFLICTS WITH OTHER TEAMS, LEAGUES, OR SCHEDULES.** While we apologize for any inconvenience, this rule stands. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

10.02 Games will not be postponed for any reason other than injury, inclement weather, or unfit playing conditions of the field, in which case games will be postponed by the League Office, the Facility Attendant, or the Officials before the game starts, or by the Officials after the games is in progress. A game in progress suspended for

inclement weather or other cause, before a regulation five innings, (4-1/2 if the home team is ahead) have been played, is subject to a thirty (30) minute delay. After 30 minutes the game may be "called" and shall be rescheduled and replayed in its entirety (Exception: In Tournament play, games will be rescheduled and resumed at the exact point that play was suspended). If the first or subsequent game of a playing cycle is officially postponed due to unfit playing conditions, then the remaining games scheduled for that field are also postponed. (Exception: If a game is postponed due to lightning, subsequent games of the playing cycle may be played if the umpire determines that the threat of lightning and/or rain has passed). In this instance the thirty (30) minute delay will not take affect.

Recorded cancellation information may be obtained by calling 703-777-0456.

10.03 Dates and facilities designated by the League Office for regular season, postponed, playoff and tournament games must be met by all teams or a forfeit will result. Notification of makeup dates for postponed games will be made as soon as possible. After such notification, the responsibility of the League Office has ended.

11.00 Code of Conduct for Players and Others

11.01 Coaches, manager, and players shall not:

- a. At any time attempt or commit to laying a hand upon, shove, strike, or otherwise physical attack upon any official, facility supervisor, player, or spectator. Penalty: Ban from all Loudoun County PRCS activities.
- b. At any time verbally assault an official, facility supervisor, player, or spectator. Penalty: Minimum two game suspension, as determined by the Commissioner.
- c. Bait or be guilty of objectionable demonstrations of dissent at an official's decision, or refuse to abide by an official's decision. Penalty: Warning by official and/or ejection from the game for the player.
- d. Use unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of the game against the body or person of an opposing player. Penalty: Ejection from the game and suspension from the league until his / her case has been reviewed by the League Commissioner.
- e. Disobey or attempt to circumvent league rules and regulations or the intent thereof. Penalty: Suspension for the remainder of the season.
- f. Use profanity. At the umpire's discretion, if a player is using improper or excessive profanity the player will be ejected from the game.

11.02 No person or persons shall possess and/or partake in alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, **or tobacco products** of any kind while participating either as a team member or spectator at programs administered by PRCS:

- a. First offense: Player shall be suspended for the team's next ten (10) games. Player will also be ineligible for any other Loudoun County league games during the suspension. Should the suspension be imposed with less than ten (10) games remaining in the season, the suspension will carry over to any post season tournament, and/or the next sport league in which the suspended player is enrolled.
- b. Second offense, and each offense thereafter: Suspension will double in number of games suspended (i.e., second offense-twenty (20) games, third offense-forty (40) games, etc.).
- c. Spectators will be asked to leave the facilities, and/or prosecuted.
- d. In all cases, player/spectator is subject to prosecution.
- e. Note that tobacco may be used areas other than "play areas" (softball fields, soccer fields, playgrounds, etc.). An acceptable location to use tobacco is a parking lot.

11.03 Any coach or manager who uses an ineligible player shall be automatically suspended from the next two games his/her team plays and will be placed on probationary status for a period of one calendar year.

11.04 Any coach, manager, or player who is placed on probationary status and is reported again for violating the "Code of Conduct" or league rules will be given a minimum penalty of suspension for the remainder of the season.

11.05 If a player, manager, or coach is ejected from a game, he/she must leave the park or facility in a timely manner and may not return for any other games played that night. **Any ejected player must sit out at a minimum their next set of games (Example – If a player gets ejected in a Monday league, but also play in a league prior to their next Monday game, they would sit out the next night they play.** If the suspended person does not leave the park or facility in a timely manner, or is guilty of a second offense during the suspension, he/she will be subject

to additional disciplinary action as directed by the League Commissioner.

11.06 If a player, manager, or coach is ejected from two games their suspension will run through the remainder of the season. If a team has three (3) ejections by players, managers or coaches then that team will be suspended from participating for the remainder of the season.

11.07 All sections of rule **11.00**, Code of Conduct for Players and Others, are not subject to protest or review.

11.08 Proceeding to follow an umpire after a game in a confrontational manner to the umpire's room, to the parking lot, to his car, or out of a park/softball complex will result in a suspension of:

1st Offense – 4 Weeks

2nd Offense – 7 Weeks

3rd Offense – A 1 year suspension from all Loudoun County PRCS adult sports leagues. If a third offense is to occur you must apply in writing to be reinstated to compete in any Loudoun County Adult Sports league after your suspension has been served. Suspended participants are prohibited from coming to any site while the Loudoun County Adult Softball League is occurring. Violations at the end of the season will be assessed at the start of the new season.

12.00 Playing Rules

12.01 A team must have the required number of players present to start or continue a game. Requirements are:

a. Minimum of eight (8) players to start or continue a game.

b. If eight (8) players are present in the team area, these eight must start.

c. Additional players, up to ten (10), may be added to the end of the lineup at any time during the game without penalty. NOTE: Players listed in the starting lineup and not available at game time may be substituted for and re-entered under the reentry rule (Loudoun County interpretation: This does not apply when less than ten (10) players are present in the team area).

12.02 The first game of the playing cycle shall start at the scheduled game time unless the grace period is invoked. For second, third and fourth games of the playing cycle, teams are required to report to the umpire ready to play at the scheduled game time. Failure to have the required number of players (8) at "scheduled game time" shall result in forfeiture.

12.03 A 5-minute grace period from the scheduled starting time shall be permitted in order to assemble the required number of players for the 6:30 p.m. games, only. No grace period for remaining games, and any grace period used shall be included in the time limit. Example: If the 5-minute grace period is used and the game starts at 6:35, the game will end at 7:30. **If an umpire arrives late for the early games, the game will have a one-hour time limit from the time the game was scheduled. If the umpire arrives late for the late set the games will have a one-hour time limit for the point at which the 7:30 game ended. (Example: Game ends 7:37PM. The 8:30PM game shall end at 8:37PM.)** NOTE – There is no 5-minute grace period for umpires the first game.

* NOTE – The 5-minute grace period is given at all fields for first game only, to include 6:45 starts.

12.04 All games have a one-hour time limit in accordance with rule 12.05. Exception: Time limits for championship and 'if' games during post-season tournaments will be extended to 90 minutes if needed. If any game runs late the following game(s) will receive a 60 minute time limit regardless of start time. The only exception would be if the lights are required to be turned off prior to the end of the final game of the evening.. (Example: A game starts at 7:33PM because a prior game ran long, that game shall end at 8:33PM with the next game starting immediately after. The next game shall receive its full 60 minutes ending it at 9:33PM and the following game would end at 10:33PM provide they do not end early or late.)

12.05 Exception: Incomplete innings must be played in full unless the home team is winning after the visiting team bats or if inclement weather ends the game.

12.06 Full or half innings terminate immediately as the third out is made. New innings begin immediately as the third out of the previous inning is made.

12.07 The following rules will be enforced in order to speed up play:

- a. No infield or outfield warm-up after the 1st inning.
- b. After the first inning a pitcher will be allowed one warm up pitch.
- c. All batters who hit a home-run shall walk directly off the field. Base runners shall also walk off and do not need to touch the next base.

12.08 Extra Player (EP) - applies to all adult leagues:

- a. An extra player, referred to as an EP, may be used by any team, provided it is made known prior to the start of the game and his/her name is indicated on the lineup sheet or score sheet.
- b. The EP may enter the game on the defense for any player in the lineup. Both players remain in the game and bat their original position in the batting order. The insertion of the EP, on defense, for another player in the lineup, may occur as often as desired, with as many eligible players as desired.
- c. The EP may be substituted for at any time, either by a pinch runner or pinch-hitter, who then becomes the EP. The substitute must be a player who has not yet been in the game.
- d. If the EP is used in coed, all twelve (12) must bat and any ten (10) (five male and five female) can play defense. Defensive positions may be changed as long as the coed defensive positioning ratio is maintained. The batting order must remain the same.
- d. The EP may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided players occupy the same batting positions whenever in the lineup.
- e. All leagues may bat up to 12 batters using 2 EP's.

12.09 Should a lineup be reduced because of injury, and a replacement is not available, that position vacated in the order will be an "out" only **ONCE** in the spot of the missing player(s) the next time through the batting order. The injured player becomes ineligible to re-enter the line-up for the remainder of the game. If an eligible replacement is available, that player must bat in the vacated position.

COED- If the injured player results in a male following a male in the batting order, then each time the spot comes up in the order an "out" will be recorded.

12.10 A game in progress suspended for an injury on the field and/or resulting in calling an ambulance, preventing from the game continuing; then the official score will revert back to the last inning played, **ONLY** if the game has reached the regulation of 5 innings (4-1/2 innings if the home team is winning). If the injury occurs before the completion of the regulation 5 innings (4-1/2 innings if the home team is winning) then the game will be postponed and rescheduled for a later date.

12.11 All leagues will use a 3 ball / 2 strike count with one courtesy foul ball allowed after 1 strike. The second foul ball after 1 strike will be an out. The umpire will call a 1 / 1 count when the batter comes up to the plate. Again, a batter gets either 3 balls or 2 strikes (as opposed to 4 balls & 3 strikes as in Baseball).

12.12 **Run Ahead Rule: 20 runs after three innings, 15 runs after four innings, and 10 runs after 5 innings.**

12.13 The winning team is required to report the score of the game to the League Office during the next business day. If the game is tied, both teams must report the score. **Scores must be reported within two days of your game. Scores that have not been received by 3PM of your next scheduled game will be considered a double forfeit. Teams that report they won, without providing a score, will receive a score of 1-0 for that game.**

12.14 *Teams, in all leagues, will be allowed five (5) over the fence home runs per game, per team.* Once a team reaches their limit, there will be an automatic out.

12.15 Coed league special rules:

- a. Teams shall be required to have a minimum of four (4) men and four (4) women in the lineup at all times. If a team plays with nine (9) players, five (5) males and four (4) females, the vacant slot in the batting order will be recorded as an 'out' each time that slot comes up in the batting order, however a team may play with five (5) females and four (4) males without penalty. If the EP is used a team must either hit Six (6) men and six (6) women **OR** five (5) men and six (6) women. A team may not hit six (6) males and only five (5) females without penalty.
- b. The offensive batting order may begin with either sex, but thereafter the sexes shall alternate unless a team has more females than males.
- c. Substitutions shall be on a same sex basis.
- d. ***Their is no requirement to where men and women play in the field in COED.***

e. A lineup may contain more females than males. If so females may follow females in the batting order. However males may never follow males in the batting order (except when playing down and taking the "out"). If the game does begin with more females than males the team may later add male player(s) between the first two consecutive female players in the lineup.

12.16 Church league special rules:

- a. All players must be affiliated with the church for which they play, and the roster must be signed by the Pastor.
- b. To be "affiliated" each player must attend two (2) church functions per month
- c. All church leagues will be allowed to use two (2) extra batters in the batting order.

12.17 When duel bags are being used at first base the ASA rule will be enforced.

12.18 Courtesy runner rule. One courtesy runner is allowed per half inning. **Any player (on your 25 player Loudoun County Roster)** may be the courtesy runner. The courtesy runner may only enter a game during dead ball periods. If the courtesy runner's turn at bat occurs while they are on base, an out will be declared and they will be removed from the base to bat. **In COED play, male courtesy runners can only be used for male runners and female courtesy runners can only be used for female runners.**

12.19 Stealing is not permitted in any divisions.

12.20 *The pitcher can pitch up to five feet directly behind the pitching rubber . The pitching arc shall be 6 to 12 feet. All ASA pitching requirements must still be met.*

12.21 **Strike Zone Mat:**

Strike Zone with mat: A rectangle 17" x 34" which includes the plate and the plate extension (mat). Any legally pitched ball not swung at that lands on any part of the plate or mat will be ruled a strike. Strike Zone mat to the V of the plate is 24 inches plus the extra 1 1/2 inches on the sides to the bottom of the plate. The plate is 8 1/2 inches thus making the total zone 34 inches.

13.00 Playoffs

13.01 At the conclusion of the regular season, the best eight (8) teams are eligible for the playoffs, unless otherwise noted by the League Commissioner. Exception: Teams in divisions that are subdivided by East, West, North, and/or South will advance only if they fit in any of the following scenarios:

Scenario 1: Friday COED C-West has six (6) teams and Friday COED C-East has six (6) teams. The top four teams in both West and East divisions of Friday COED C will advance.

Scenario 2: Wednesday Men's C-West has seven (7) teams and Wednesday Men's C-East has seven (7) teams. Four teams in both West and East divisions of Wednesday Men's C will advance.

The purpose of this rule is to clarify the playoff system. The Commissioner retains the right to establish a playoff bracket not spelled out in this rule.

13.01 Tournament seeding and regular season standings are determined by the following:

- a. winning percentage
- b. head-to-head results
- c. least runs allowed
- d. total runs scored
- e. total wins
- f. coin flip

13.02 During the playoffs all rosters will be checked prior to each game by the umpire. Each team captain must have the original printed roster provided by the League Commissioner along with each player's identification card upon the umpire's request before the game starts. If a team does not have the printed roster provided by the League Commissioner they will forfeit the game. In addition if a player does not have proper picture ID upon request prior to the game they cannot participate in the game. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the player and captain to have a late arriving players ID checked before entering the field. A player who is late can only enter the field once the

umpire has checked their ID at the end of each half inning; IDs will not be checked during play.

14.0 Corporate/Social COED Special Rules

14.01 Teams can field a maximum of 10 players. If a team fields the maximum 10, the ratio of male to female players must be no more than 7 male players and no fewer than 3 female players.

14.02 Teams can bat up to 12 batters in the starting line-up. The ratio of male batters to female batters must be 2 to 1 (the exceptions are noted below). This means that a team can bat 8 men and 4 women. You can bat a maximum of 8 women in the lineup.

14.03 Defensive teams are permitted to field seven (7) men and three (3) women.

14.04 When a team plays less than four (4) female batters, the line-up cannot have more than two male batters in a row, EXCEPT for when the line-up turns over. See highlighted line-up examples below:

<u>Line-up Option #1</u>		<u>Line-up Option #2</u>	
1. Male	6. FEMALE	1. Male	6. Male
2. Male	7. Male	2. FEMALE	7. Male
3. FEMALE	8. Male	3. Male	8. FEMALE
4. Male	9. FEMALE	4. Male	9. Male
5. Male	10. Male	5. FEMALE	10. Male

14.05 If a team cannot field ten players, they are permitted to play with as few as 8 players. The minimum number of women players is two. If a team has only two women, they are only allowed to field 8 players (6 men/2 women) and must take an automatic out.

14.06 Males will hit the 12 inch .52/300 ball, and females will hit the 11 inch .44/375 balls.

14.07 If a male is walked with a female on deck, the male will automatically advance to second base. If a male is walked with a female on deck and 2 outs, the male will automatically advance to second base and the female will have the option to hit or walk to first base.

15.00 Addendum

15.01 Umpires

- Umpires will notify the county off **ALL** ejections within a 24 hour time period.
- Umpires shall notify the county facility attendants of any actions that threaten them bodily harm immediately.
- The county will track team umpire complaints that are provided in writing (to include emails) and turn them over to the umpire association within a 7 day period.
- The county has the right to request an umpire no longer work certain level games or games in general based on performance or after receiving a legitimate complaint.