



ADULT SOFTBALL ~ RULES AND REGULATIONS

- All league rules are governed and interpreted by the League Director and/or game officials.
- Play will be governed by official USA Slow Pitch Rules and City of Peoria League Rules.
 - General rules of play not outlined here can be found in the current USA Guide and Playing Rules.
- The Peoria Community Services Department reserves the right to modify/change, add, or delete any rules or regulations during the season.
 - If changes are made, all team captains affected will be notified.
- **NO OPEN CONTAINERS OF ALCOHOL WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE TEAM DUGOUT.**
 - If an open container of alcohol appears in a team's dugout at any point during a game, the team will forfeit that game ~ **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- **THERE IS NO SMOKING ALLOWED IN THE TEAM DUGOUT OR ON THE FIELD OF PLAY.**
- In the event of inclement weather canceling games during the season, the City of Peoria will only re-schedule one week of canceled games. Additional cancellations due to weather will not be re-scheduled.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

REGULATION 1: TEAM ROSTERS

1. All teams must read the rules, review PowerPoint and submit pre-season captain's meeting quiz in order for team to be eligible to play
2. Rosters must be inserted into QuickScores before your teams first game. Rosters do not have to be final at this point but there must be a roster. If there is no rosters online then you will forfeit until rosters have been inserted into QuickScores. People who participate in play must have their name on the online roster and a signature on the waiver (in person at the field).
3. Players must be at least 18 years old prior to the start of the season.
4. A team must have a minimum of ten (10) players and a maximum of twenty five (25) players on its roster to start the season.
5. The captain must be listed on the roster if he/she intends to play in ANY games.
6. All team rosters will be managed by the team captain via *QuickScores*.
7. All players must sign and agree to their teams Liability Waiver, Code of Conduct and Alcohol policy prior to playing a game with their team.
8. Players may not be on more than one roster on a given league night.
 - A. Using players from teams playing before or after your game on a given night constitutes use of an illegal player and will result in a forfeit of your game.
9. **Rosters will freeze following the 10th game, at midnight. All finalized rosters must be completed in QuickScores.**
 - A. **After the freeze date, if any individual listed on the QuickScores roster, does not sign the in person waiver by the 14th game then they will NOT be eligible to play for the tournament. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
10. Mandatory roster checks will be performed prior to every tournament game.
11. ID checks may be performed at any point in time.

REGULATION 2: ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. A team captain may request an eligibility check of any player during a game. An official will make a stoppage of time and the request must be made known to the sports staff.
2. Eligibility requests **MUST** be made **prior** to the players second (2nd) at bat.
3. A player is illegal/ineligible if:
 - A. The player does not have a valid ID in possession (on bench),
 - B. The player's name does not appear on the roster,
 - C. The player's signature does not appear on the waiver,
 - D. The player does not meet the age requirements, or
 - E. The player appears on more than one roster on the same league night.
4. Peoria Sports Staff reserves the right to check player eligibility at any time without protest.

PENALTY:

The illegal/ineligible player is automatically ejected from the game and the team using the illegal/ineligible player forfeits the game. The team will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season. A second ejection for the same player during the season **may** result in a suspension for the remainder of the season. A team using an illegal/ineligible player for a second time during the same season may be removed from the league. All decisions made by the Peoria Sports Staff on site will be final. Protests cannot be made for the use of an illegal player.

REGULATION 3: PARTICIPANT CONDUCT/EJECTIONS

1. The Peoria Sports Staff and/or the game official have the authority to issue a forfeit to any game, eject players, captains or fans **WITHOUT WARNING** from the game for any conduct deemed unbecoming or detrimental to the game.
2. **ALL CAPTAINS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF ANY PLAYERS, ASSISTANTS, OR FANS IN ATTENDANCE.**
3. The players' **Code of Conduct** is strictly enforced and will govern incidents and occurrences.
 - A. Players' **Code of Conduct** can be found at the end of these rules.
4. A player that has been ejected from a game, for any reason, will also receive a minimum one week suspension. **THIS SUSPENSION WILL INCLUDE ALL CITY OF PEORIA LEAGUE PLAY.**
 - A. If a player is suspended, the City of Peoria will provide a return date for that player. The suspended player is not eligible to play in ANY LEAGUE until the date of return.
5. Players that have been ejected must exit the facility and grounds immediately. Players are not allowed onto the facility until the completion of their suspension.
6. If a player is ejected during tournament play, they will be suspended for the remainder of the tournament.
7. All conduct matters will be presented to the league coordinator for further consideration.



REGULATION 4: LEAGUESTANDINGS

1. Standings will be available through the QuickScores website and will be updated weekly.
2. All teams will be seeded for the tournament, based on their regular season winning percentage. In the event of identical winning percentages, the following tie breaker system will be in effect:
 - A. 1st tie breaker..... Forfeits
 - B. 2nd tie breaker..... Head-to-Head Run Differential
 - C. 3rd tie breaker. Total Runs Against
 - D. 4th tie breaker..... Total Run Differential
 - E. 5th tie breaker. Coin Flip

REGULATION 5: FORFEIT TIME

1. Game time is forfeit time.
 - A. A five (5) minute grace period will be allowed only for the first game on field only to avoid forfeit.
 - B. A team that forfeits two (2) nights during league play may be dropped from the league.
2. Umpires will keep the official gametime.
3. A game is seven (7) innings in length or 50 minutes.
 - A. No new inning will start after 50 minutes, including the playoffs.
4. A team must have a minimum of eight players to start and complete a game.
 - A. Four (4) men and four (4) women in Coed.

REGULATION 6: SCORE KEEPING

1. The home team is responsible for keeping the official score unless it is agreed to be kept by the visiting team.
 - A. It is recommended that all teams keep score and confer with the other team throughout the game.
2. All players must be listed on the score sheet (first and last names)
3. Both the visitors and home team captains are required to sign the score sheet after game for verification of correct scores being reported.

REGULATION 7: PROTESTS

1. During League Play:
 - A. All protests/complaints shall be made by a team captain.
 - B. Only misinterpretations of the rules may be protested.
 - i. Official's judgment decisions cannot be protested.
 - C. The team captain must call time and bring the protest to the game official. The game official and the Peoria Sports Site Lead will document the official protest on the score sheet and inform the League Coordinator of the protest in the nightly game report.
 - i. A notation must be made on the official score sheet about the protest.
 - i. Circle the at bat when the protest occurred.
 - D. The team captain will be responsible for communicating directly with the League Director to instigate the protest.
 - i. The protest must be submitted in writing to the Peoria Sports Complex-Admin Building (16101 N 83rd Ave, Peoria, AZ 85382) by noon the following business day. All written protests shall be submitted via email to Olivia.Skousen@peoriaaz.gov.
 - i. All protests will require a payment of \$25. If the protest is upheld, the \$25 will be refunded. If the protest is denied, the fee will go to the league fund.
 - E. All protest decisions made by the Peoria Sports Staff are final.
2. During Tournament Play:
 - A. All protest will be resolved immediately by the Peoria Sports Staff and the game Official before play resumes.

REGULATION 8: COMMUNICATION/GAME CANCELLATIONS

1. **The Peoria Community Services Department reserves the right to adjust league format during the season.**
 - A. Unavoidable game cancellations due to rain, irrigation, and other factors will be rescheduled by the league coordinator, unless unable due to prior facility conflicts. In the event that games are cancelled, pro-rated refunds may be given.
 - B. Make-up games may be played on a night different than that of your league.
 - C. Decisions on rain-out games can be obtained after 4:00pm by phoning the rain-out information hotline at 623-773-7575.
2. **It is the responsibility of each captain to maintain regular communication with the League Coordinator for newsletters, flyers, rescheduling of games, tournament brackets, rulings, and standings.**
3. Adult Softball Coordinator is Olivia Skousen; Olivia.Skousen@peoriaaz.gov or (623)773-7027.

REGULATION 9: LEAGUE FORMAT & AWARDS

1. **Teams will play 14 regular season games (7 double headers) followed by a single-elimination post season tournament.**
 - A. Tournament seeding will be based on final league standings.
2. League & Tournament Champions will have the option of receiving the award credit that will be applied to the account which registered the team or to receive a monetary refund to the person whom registered the team. \$50 (league winners) \$100 (Tournament A) \$50 (Tournament B)



REGULATION 10: CITY OF PEORIA MOVE UP/DOWN RULES

1. **The City of Peoria reserves the right to move teams up/down prior or during the season. Criteria for this will be based upon the following:**
 - A. League/Tournament winner from previous year
 - B. Score differential amongst games
 - C. Forfeit of games

League administration reserves the right to modify this rule based on league size and availability

REGULATION 11: ALCOHOL

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages during a league or tournament game is strictly prohibited.
2. No rostered player (regardless of playing status) may drink alcohol during or in between games.
3. No open containers of alcohol will be permitted in the team dugout.
4. **Violations of this regulation will result in player ejection and forfeit of the game by the team.**
 - A. For more information, please see the alcohol policy at the end of the rules.

PLAYING RULES

RULE 1: EQUIPMENT AND FIELD

1. The City of Peoria reserves the right to withhold or withdraw approval of any equipment which significantly changes the character of the game, affects the safety of participants or spectators, or renders a player's performance more a product of his/her equipment than individual skill.
2. **Game balls will be provided by the league. The size of the ball will be:**
 - A. Men's League - 12 inch; Women's League - 11 inch
 - B. Coed Leagues - 12 inch and 11 inch
3. Base distance for all leagues will be 70 feet.
4. There will be no infield practice in between or before games.
5. Soft toss against fences is prohibited.
6. **Only players, coaches and staff are allowed in the dugouts.**
 - A. Children are not allowed in dugouts or on the field of play. Game will be delayed and clock will continue to run until children have left the dugout.
7. All players other than the batter and on-deck batter must be in the dugout.
8. Any player that deliberately throws a bat may be ejected from the game. In the case of an accidental bat throwing the umpire will issue a warning.
9. Metal Cleats are not allowed during play.
10. Music will be allowed in the dugout as long as the volume is reasonable and music is not vulgar
 - A. If opposing team objects to music, team captains must inform umpire and umpire will require music to be turned off
 - B. All Music rules are subject to change by umpire

RULE 2: END OF GAMES

1. During the regular season, all games that end in a tie will remain a tie.
2. During tournament play all games will be played out until the game has ended with a winner. (No international tie breaker rules apply).
3. **Run Rule: All games will be called at the conclusion of:**
 - A. 5innings (or 4½ if the home team) is ahead by 10 runs.
 - B. 4innings (or 3½ if the home team) is ahead by 15 runs.
 - C. 3innings (or 2½ if the home team) is ahead by 20 runs.

RULE 3: PITCHING

1. The pitcher must come to a complete stop in the pitching area before delivering the pitch to the plate.
2. The pitch must be delivered with perceptible arc and reach a minimum of six (6) feet and a maximum of ten (10) feet from the ground.
3. The pitcher's plate will be placed at 53 feet.
4. The pitching area is a box bordered by the front edge of the pitching rubber extending back six (6) feet and three (3) feet wide centered on the pitching rubber.
5. **Any batted ball that passes in a vertical plane through the pitching area, but no more than 2 feet above the pitcher's head, is considered a dead ball with the batter declared out and runners return to the last occupied base.**
 - A. This rule only applies when the ball travels through the pitcher's box: in the air, not on the ground.
 - B. This rule applies whether the pitcher touches the ball or not and is still in effect if the pitcher leaves the pitching area.

RULE 4: BATS

1. **The penalty for using an illegal bat are as follows:**
 - A. First Offense by Player:
 - I. Automatic Out
 - II. Captain ejected for night.
 - III. Player ejected for night plus automatic two-week suspension.
 - B. Second Offense by Player:
 - I. Automatic Out
 - II. Captain ejected for night.
 - III. Player ejected for night plus remainder of season.
 - C. Third Offense by Team



- I. Captain Ejected for Remainder of the Season.
2. **All bats must be ASA Softball Approved for specified leagues.**
 - A. ASA stamped bats may NOT appear on ASA Bat List.
 - I. The approved bat lists are available online at <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-usa-softball/certified-usa-softball-equipment>.
3. **All bats, even if ASA stamped/approved, must test in the approved range using the Barrel Compression Test Machine (BSTM), which is supplied by City of Peoria Sports.**
 - A. BSTM will be available before all games for players to test their equipment.
 - B. If a bat fails the BSTM before the game has begun, no penalty will be administered.
 - I. The bat should be removed from the Complex to assure it is not used.
4. **If a player is hit by a batted ball, the bat will be immediately tested using the BSTM.**
5. **Team captain's carry the burden of appealing an illegal bat to the umpire.**
 - A. Umpires or League Directors reserve the right to check a bat at any time during the game.
6. **Bat Check**
 - A. If a bat is checked prior to the game and passes the compression test, then falls out of compression during the game, the bat will be removed from play for the remainder of the night and no disciplinary action will occur for the user of the bat or the team captain.
 - B. If a bat is not checked prior to the game and the bat fails a compression test during the game, the penalties for an illegal bat will be enforced.

RULE 5: BATTING

1. **All batters will begin each at bat with a one ball and one strike count.**
 - A. One waste foul is allowed (first foul with 2 strikes is the "waste"; the second foul is an out).
2. **Batting Position:**
 - A. The batter shall assume a one ball, one strike count upon entering the batters box.
 - B. The batter must take the batter's position in the batter's box within 10 seconds after being directed to do so by the umpire.
 - I. Effect:
 1. The ball is dead.
 2. A strike on the batter
**No Pitch has to be thrown
 - C. The batter shall not step directly in front of the catcher to the other batter's box while the pitcher is in position to pitch, or anytime thereafter prior to the release of the pitch
 - I. Effect:
 1. The ball is dead
 2. The batter is out
 3. Runners may not advance
 - D. After the ball is live, the batter may not step out of the batter's box to stop play unless time has been granted by the umpire.
 - I. Effect:
 1. All play shall continue
 2. the pitch will be judged a ball or strike
3. **Batting Order/Line-Up (Men's and Women's Division)**
 - A. Teams must have a minimum of eight (8) players to start and complete a game.
 - B. Line-up must be filled out and submitted to the scorekeeper prior to the game.
 - I. Any player arriving late to the game is added to the bottom of the line-up.
 - C. If a player leaves a game due to injury and does not return, his/her spot can be taken by a bench substitute.
 - I. If a substitute is not available, the vacant position in the line-up will be counted as an out the first time then all subsequent batters will move up in the line-up.
 - II. There is no additional penalty.
 - D. If a player is ejected and a substitute is not available, that position in the line-up is an automatic out each time it appears throughout the game.
 - E. Teams may bat 12 players (10 position players plus 2 extra hitters (EH)).
4. **Batting Order/Line-Up (Coed Division)**
 - A. Teams must have a minimum of eight (8) players to start and complete a game.
 - I. This must include a minimum of 4 women.
 - B. Line-up must be filled out and submitted to the scorekeeper prior to the start of the game.
 - I. Any player arriving late to the game is added to the bottom of the line-up.
 - C. The Extra Player (EP) rule will be in effect. The "EP" rule allows a team up to 14 players. If used, all 14 must bat and any 10 (five male and five female), may play defense. Defensive positions may be changed as long as the coed positioning is followed. The batting order must remain the same throughout the game (ASA Rule 4.4.E.).
 - I. Extra hitters 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 score sheet.
 - D. The line-up will be continuous, alternating order male, female or female, male throughout the entire game.
 - I. Male players are listed on the top half of the score sheet and female players are listed on the bottom half.
 - E. If a player leaves a game due to injury and does not return, his/her spot can be taken by a bench substitute.
 - I. If a substitute is not available, the vacant position in the line-up will be counted as an out the first time then all subsequent batters will move up in the line-up.
 - II. There is no additional penalty.
 - F. If a player is ejected and a substitute is not available, that position in the line-up is an automatic out each time it appears throughout the game.
5. **All substitutions must be reported to the umpire to acknowledge a player legally entering the game.**
 - A. Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, provided the players occupy the same batting positions.



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- B. The original player and the substitute cannot be in the line-up at the same time.
- 6. **All courtesy runners must be the last out recorded OR the player furthest away on the batting order.**
- 7. **The courtesy runner must be inserted before the first pitch to the very next batter immediately after the player being run for has reached base.**
 - A. In the event there are no outs in the first inning, the courtesy runner will be the last person in the batting order.
 - B. Men's and Women's teams may use one (1) courtesy runner per inning.
- 8. **Home Run Rule: A limit of over the fence home runs will be implemented. Home runs limits are:**
Rio Vista Park Leagues: **1+ home run** (*Both teams start with 1 home run allowed. If both teams reach this limit, each team will receive an additional home run*).

RULE 6: COED MODIFICATIONS

- 1. **When playing defense, the following maximum ratios must be kept.**
 - A. The catcher and the pitcher must be opposite sex,
 - B. There is a maximum of two men and two women in the infield, and
 - C. There is a maximum of two men and two women in the outfield.
- 2. **If playing with nine (9) players:**
 - A. You may play defense (infield) with either 5 men/4 women OR 5 women/4 men. You are not allowed to play with 6/4 on defense.
 - B. The ratio of men to women on defense when playing with 9 players is as follows:
 - i. Infield: 2 Men / 1 Woman OR 1 Man / 2 Women
 - ii. Outfield: 2 Men / 1 Woman OR 1 Man / 2 Women
- 3. **On a walk to a male hitter, intentional or not, he is automatically awarded second base.**
 - A. With less than two (2) outs the upcoming female hitter must hit (no exceptions).
 - B. When there are two (2) outs the female hitter has the option of hitting or taking a base on balls.
- 4. **Coed teams may use two (2) courtesy runners per inning, one male and one female**
 - A. A male runs for a male and a female runs for a female

ADULT SPORTS ~ CODE OF CONDUCT / SPORTSMANSHIP AGREEMENT

ALL RULES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. THE TERM "INDIVIDUAL" INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING: CAPTAIN, PLAYER, OR SPECTATOR. A TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF ITS INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS. MISCONDUCT MAY RESULT IN PENALIZING AN INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM FROM ALL CITY OF PEORIA LEAGUES AND TOURNAMENTS. THE TERM "OFFICIAL" INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING: UMPIRE, LEAGUE DIRECTOR, OR CITY STAFF. THE TEAM CAPTAIN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT ALL OF THEIR PLAYERS HAVE SIGNED THE TEAM WAIVER PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN ANY GAMES.

No Individual Shall:

- At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike or threaten an official or individual.**
Minimum Penalty.....Removed from league play for (1) calendar year and placed on (2) year probation.
Maximum Penalty.....Banned from the City of Peoria Sports Programs and assault charges filed.
- Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent by throwing gloves, balls, bats - or any other forceful actions.**
Minimum Penalty.....Warning by official.
Maximum PenaltyEjection from game and playing field and a (1) game suspension..
- Be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in the play of the game.**
Minimum Penalty.....Ejected from game and playing area and (1) gamesuspension.
Maximum Penalty.....Banned from the City of Peoria Sports Programs and assault charges filed.
- Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any official or individual on or off the field of play.**
Minimum Penalty.....Ejected from the game and playing area, (2) game suspension and probation for the season.
Maximum Penalty.....Suspension for one full year and placed on probation for (6) months after reinstatement.
- Use profane, obscene or vulgar language in any manner at any time on or off the playing field/court.**
Minimum Penalty.....Warning by league official or umpire.
Maximum Penalty.....Ejection from game, (2) game suspension and probation for the season.
- Appear on the field in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of any type of drug that will infringe on the player's safety or the safety of others.**
Minimum Penalty.....Ejection from game and probation for the remainder of the season.
Maximum Penalty.....Banned from the City of Peoria Sports Program.
- Drink alcoholic beverages during a scheduled game, OR have an open container of alcohol in the dugout.**
Minimum Penalty.....Warning by official.
Maximum Penalty..... Team forfeits game and placed on probation for the remainder of season.
- Be guilty of any demonstration of unsportsmanlike conduct.**
Minimum Penalty.....Warning by official
Maximum Penalty.....Banned from the City of Peoria Sports Programs.

NOTE: Players or captains who are on probation when another incident occurs can have their penalty increased to the maximum. If a player or captain is suspended from play and is found to be playing on another team, the penalty can be extended beyond the original time limit. The severity of the infraction will determine the penalty. Penalties can fall between the minimum and maximum. City staff, Recreation Coordinator and/or the Recreation Supervisor will determine the penalty within a reasonable amount of time.

ADULT SPORTS ~ ALCOHOL POLICY / AGREEMENT

The City of Peoria has strict policies governing the consumption and possession of alcohol in the Rio Vista/Pioneer Park complex and staff has gone to every reasonable measure to ensure these policies are communicated to each of you.

Policy dictates the following:

No affiliated team member (player, non-player or coach) may possess or consume alcoholic beverages from the **START OF THEIR FIRST GAME OF THE DAY TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE FINAL GAME TO BE PLAYED THAT DAY**. This includes the time between games.

- No alcoholic beverage of any sort may be brought into Rio Vista/Pioneer Park Complex
- Staff reserves the right to inspect coolers, bags, cups, or any other container which may be used to conceal or contain alcohol.
- No alcoholic beverages purchased within the fenced area of the softball complex may be removed from that fenced in area.

Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the parking area or any non-picnic area of the park. A picnic area is defined by a permanent shade structure and seating area. The picnic area inside the softball complex is excluded from this guideline.

The penalty for inappropriate alcoholic consumption varies with incident from game forfeiture to team expulsion and all degrees between. The City of Peoria owns and enforces the liquor license to Rio Vista Community Park and assumes all liability for actions affiliated with the consumption of alcohol on the premises. Therefore, the enforcement of these guidelines can no longer be constrained.

From this point forward all coolers and potential alcohol storage items will be inspected by staff aggressively to enforce park guidelines. If players and/or teams are found guilty of ignoring the guidelines there will no longer be a warning period and penalties will be acted. Players bringing cans or bottles containing alcohol into the softball complex will be ejected immediately and considered for expulsion from the program.

While we are certain some of you will find enforcement of the guidelines objectionable, the fact remains that these policies have always existed and we have trusted the players in our program to comply accordingly. Regrettably, the actions of some players have created liability issues for the city and staff will perform its due diligence to protect the integrity of our program and the city's best interests.



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