

# Olathe Parks & Recreation

## Adult Softball League Rules

**Coaches and players are responsible for knowing and following the game rules.**

### GENERAL

**USSA Bat stamp rule will now be enforced for the safety of the participants**

1. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on public park property by City ordinance.
2. Recreation Division Staff have the authority to evict players or spectators from the game.
3. In case of inclement weather or wet diamonds, managers and players may call the rain out line, 913-971-6254, after 4:00 P.M. or after 3:00 P.M. on Sundays.

### TEAM ROSTERS

1. Each team roster may contain a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 players
2. **Adult softball leagues are for players 16 and older, under 18 must have parent signature on waiver.**

### RULES PROTESTS

Judgment decisions **are final** and not subject to review. A rule interpretation protest must be made at the time of the incident in question to the field supervisor and umpire. The protest will be ruled on immediately by the field supervisor and the appropriate action taken. No secondary protest will be allowed.

### LEAGUE STANDINGS

Head to head records will be compared when teams finish tied in the won-loss column. If the preceding does not break the tie, the differences between total points scored and total points allowed will be compared. If there is still a tie, a coin flip will determine the winner.

### AWARDS

1st place winners will receive 12 tee-shirts of assorted sizes per team.

### LEAGUE RULES -- USSSA softball rules apply except as amended below.

#### Olathe Adult League Exceptions

1. **Five minutes** past the scheduled **game time** is forfeit time. A team must have **8 players** to start and **8 players** to continue. If a team can not field 8 players, the game is forfeited. **Exception:** A team that is short, may at their option borrow up to 2 players from the same or lower division to complete the line-up
2. A team playing with **less than** the maximum players may add to the bottom of the batting order after the game has started (up to 11 maximum or 12 for coed).

3. Infielders are allowed to throw ground balls before the 1st inning while the pitcher takes his 5 warm up pitches. Thereafter pitchers are allowed one warm-up pitch between innings and infield practice is not allowed.
4. A forfeited game will be recorded as 7 - 0.
5. No courtesy Foul.
6. **No new inning will begin after 60 minutes have elapsed unless the game is tied.** The clock will not stop for any reason. The umpire will keep the official time.
7. If tied after the time limit has expired, the game will continue using "one pitch league rules" until there is a winner. The batter will step to the plate with a full count. With that one pitch the batter will either strikeout, walk or hit the ball. The batter will be allowed one foul ball. The second foul ball will be scored as a strikeout.
8. If after 3 complete innings one team has a 15 run lead, or after 2 1/2 innings the home team has a 15 run lead, the game is complete. If after 5 complete innings one team has a 10 run lead, or after 4 1/2 innings the home team has a 10 run lead, the game is complete.
9. **The city waives the USSSA** identical uniform requirement.
10. If known ahead of time, all forfeits must be reported to the Recreation office, 971-6263, **24 hours** before game time.
11. A team is **responsible** and will be penalized for the **actions** of players and fans. Abusive profanity and fighting will not be tolerated. See the policy on page 4.
12. Children are to remain under the **supervision of a parent** at all times. For their safety, children **will not** be allowed on **the playing field** or in the **warm up** area.
13. Participation of an **ineligible player** (non rostered) will result in the **forfeit** of all softball games in which the ineligible player participated. Each player must bring to the game and be able to produce a photo ID, if their identity is challenged. **See rule 1 for exceptions.**
14. Both teams' scorekeepers will consult with each other to verify the accuracy of the score in between innings and at the end of the game. Each team manager will verify the score and initial the umpire's score card at the end of the game. Score cards that are not initialed, will be considered correct and the score considered final.
15. **Each team shall provide one official USSSA game ball per game (one men & one women ball for Coed). Balls will be available for purchase if needed.**
16. The fitness of the ground for the beginning of the game shall be decided by City of Olathe staff. The fitness of the ground for the continuation of a game shall be decided by the field supervisor. If no field supervisor is present, the umpire will make the decision.
17. Any game rained out after four (4) complete innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead, shall constitute a complete game. Any rained out game that has not completed above said innings shall be rescheduled and be replayed in its entirety. Should a game rainout in the middle of an inning, the score shall revert back to the last completed inning (for a complete game).
18. The runner is out when he is physically assisted while the ball is in play by a coach or another player other than a runner. **Exception:** If the runner is hearing impaired and the umpire has been notified

before the game starts, a coach or another player may touch the deaf runner to gain his attention in order to be able to communicate.

19. 'E' Divisions are not allowed to hit any home runs.
20. All 'D' Divisions are playing the '1 up rule'. Teams are allowed to hit one home run more than the opponent with no maximum home run limit. Any home run hit above the '1 up limit' is an automatic out.
21. It is the responsibility of the managers to discuss and clarify the ground rules with the umpires before each game.
  - i. Any ball that can't be played from within the fenced field of play is out of play.
  - ii. A fair ball that lodges, bounces over or goes thru the fence is a ground rule double.
22. Coed teams may play with a maximum of 5 men (6 men if using additional hitters) and any number of women. Teams may not have 2 men batting consecutively. **Exception:** If a team is playing with more men than women, 2 men must bat consecutively. An out will be recorded each time before the 2nd man bats.
23. All coed leagues and KC Metro Senior leagues will use a scoring plate that is installed 8 feet behind home plate. All plays at home plate for these leagues are force outs and the defender **must not** tag the runner. The defender tags the traditional home plate and the runner touches the scoring home plate. When the strike mat is used, the defender may tag the strike mat instead of the home plate. *If the runner passes the commitment line and is tagged by the defender, the runner is safe and the defender is issued a warning for unsafe play. A second offense results in the defender being ejected from the game.*
24. All coed leagues and KC Metro Senior leagues will use a commitment to scoring line that is marked 20 feet up the third base line from home plate. A base runner that passes this line has committed to attempting to score and may not attempt to go back to third base. A base runner that does not pass the commitment line may attempt to go back to third base.
25. Courtesy runners are allowed for injured players, courtesy runners must be the last recorded out.
26. There is an 11:00 P.M. curfew. Incomplete games are suspended and continued later.

#### SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

Unsportsmanlike behaviors in any sports administered by the City will not be tolerated.

#### DEFINITIONS

The following types of behavior are considered unsportsmanlike and inappropriate and will not be tolerated in sports programs provided by the Olathe Parks & Recreation Department:

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages at city facilities by participants and spectators.
2. Any participant or spectator in an intoxicated condition.
3. Any player that attempts to inflict or threatens physical harm to another person (*player, coach, official, site supervisor, spectator, etc.*). Including but not limited to, throwing equipment at another person, fighting or pushing players, officials, site supervisors, spectators, etc.

#### PROCEDURES

1. The sports official, site supervisor or sports supervisor are authorized to implement the established procedures when they observe unsportsmanlike behaviors.
2. The offending player, coach or spectator will then be notified that they have **one-minute** to remove themselves from the facility.

#### PENALTIES

1. Players, coaches or spectators ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior incur a one game suspension.
2. A player, coach or spectator **not** leaving the facility within one-minute after being ejected will **cause their team to forfeit. Police actions** may result, if warranted.
4. Any player, coach or spectator ejected for a second time during a season will be suspended from participation in an Olathe Parks & Recreation Department sports program for **one full year**. The return to participation must be pre-approved by the Sports Supervisor.
5. In cases of flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct, return to participation may be withheld for an unspecified amount of time by the Sports Supervisor, even after the first incident.

#### APPEALS

Appeals must be made in writing to the Sports Supervisor **within 48 hours**. The Sports Supervisor will chair a committee of league managers to hear all parties involved and determine if the original decision will be upheld or overturned.