

**City of Orangeburg Parks & Recreation Department
Adult Softball By-Laws**

PLAYING RULES: All games will be governed by the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) rules except where local rules supersede.

PLAYING TIME: Games will be scheduled every hour with NO GRACE PERIOD. Warm ups will be completed before going onto the field. The 10-5 rule will govern games where a team is getting beat by 10 or more runs after the fifth inning. No new inning will begin after 1 hour and 15 minutes of playing times except in the case of a tie. Tournament games will also use the 10-5 rule. At any point after three complete innings, if either team is winning by 20 or more runs, the game shall be called.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY: All players must show proof of residency by the registration deadline set by the Parks & Recreation Department. All Non-City residents are required to pay a thirty-five (\$35) participation fee and City residents must authenticate their residency by the registration deadline in order to be placed on a roster. All male players must be at least 18 years of age and female players must be at least 16 years of age. Any player violating eligibility rules will be suspended from future participation in the league and all games in which he or she participated will be ruled a forfeit.

ROSTERS: It shall be the policy of the City of Orangeburg Parks & Recreation Department to prepare all adult athletic league rosters. Names will be placed on a team roster when a participant pays the out-of-city fee or comes into the office to verify city residence. Coaches will not turn in a team roster. Once the deadline for registration has passed, team rosters will be produced and a copy given to the coach of the team. If a participant's name does not appear on a roster, the team will forfeit the game or games that was participated in by the illegal player.

BATTING ORDERS AND LINE UPS: Line ups are due in writing to the home team scorekeeper by the scheduled game time. If the line ups are not completed prior to game time the late team will be charged with a forfeit. Game time is either the scheduled time or five minutes after the completion of a late running game. Games may be played earlier if opposing coaches agree. Only players, coaches and scorekeeper may sit in the dugout.

EQUIPMENT: Each team must provide a NEW ASA STAMPED RESTRICTED FLIGHT SOFTBALL for each game. If a team fails to provide the proper ball at game time, a forfeit will be declared. NO METAL CLEATS ARE ALLOWED ON ANY BALLFIELD. A player caught wearing metal cleats will be ejected from the game.

FORFEITS: Each team must have a least nine players to start a game. Teams not fielding the required number of players by game time will suffer a forfeit. PLAYERS MUST BE IN THE DUGOUT AREA TO BE COUNTED AND NOT IN THE PARKING LOT.

Any team starting with only nine players cannot use an EP. A team cannot finish a game with less than nine players, injuries included. Less than nine players will result in the game being

declared a forfeit. Any team forfeiting three regular season games will not be eligible for tournament play. Once a forfeit is declared by the umpire the game is over.

PLAYER CONDUCT: Each coach is responsible for his players. Any player or coach ejected from a game must sit out two (2) games before returning to play. If the participant is ejected from two games, he will be suspended from future recreation programs for one (1) year. Only team managers or a designated representative shall discuss game situations with umpires. Profanity, fighting or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated on the playing field or surrounding area. Participants ejected for fighting will be banned from softball for the remainder of the season. Players or coaches ejected must leave the area. Physical contact with officials will constitute ejection from all programs for one (1) year. It will be within the authority of the Field Supervisor, Athletic Supervisor, Superintendent of Recreation and Marketing, Parks and Recreation Director, or any other staff member to enforce situations that may arise covered in this section. Warnings will not be required.

PROTESTS: A protest involving a misinterpretation of a playing rule must be announced prior to the next pitch and according to ASA rules. The protesting team must also submit the protest in writing and a \$25.00 protest fee by 12 o'clock noon the next working day. If the protest is valid, the money will be returned. If the protest is not valid, the fee will be forfeited. The results will be determined by the protest committee. The results will be final.

RAINOUTS: Games called prior to becoming a regulation game will be resumed at the point of termination. Rainouts will be rescheduled, if needed.

POST SEASON PLAY: Single elimination tournament.

TROPHIES: Team trophy awarded to first and second place teams in regular season and tournament play.

NEW RULES: When the batter enters the batters box, the count will be one ball and one strike.

No titanium bats will be allowed in this league. No double, triple, tri-shell, or EST.

Four home run limit per game. All home runs hit after four, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners can advance.

TIE BREAKER: If two or more teams are tied at the end of the regular season, head to head play will determine the winner. If two or more teams are tied after head to head, then margin of score between tied teams will determine the winner. If they are still tied, a playoff game will be held.

SCHEDULING FIELDS FOR PRACTICE: The Parks and Recreation Department must have 24 hours notice to schedule a field for practice. All utility fees must be paid 24 hours in advance of a practice. Failure to pay the fee 24 hours prior to the scheduled practice time will result in the loss of the field for practice use. No practices will be scheduled after the season begins.