

Oxford Park Commission  
2017 Adult Softball



General Rules for All Leagues

1. ASA Rules will govern all play unless otherwise noted
2. Game duration is 1 hour.
  - a. All the games will continue using Tie-Breaker Rule until a winner is determined.
  - b. If there is time left on the scoreboard clock when the last out of an inning is made, the next inning has begun, and will be played.
  - c. Tactics employed to deliberately hasten or delay a game may cause a team to forfeit.
3. Game clock will be started:
  - a. At scheduled game time.
  - b. If previous game is running late, as soon as the previous teams have cleared the field and the umpires are ready.
4. Line-ups are due five (5) minutes before your scheduled start time.
  - a. No exceptions.
  - b. If games are running late, your line-up is still due.
  - c. All substitutions and line-up changes must go through the plate umpire.
  - d. No one can be added to the line-up after the game has started unless approved by the Captain of the opposing team.
  - e. If it is found that you have added a player to the line-up after the game has started that was not approved by the opposing captain, you will be assessed a forfeit.
  - f. All those on the line-up must be on your roster.
5. **Rosters**
  - I. a. Rosters are to be completed and kept current by the captain to the league director account. The roster that the league director has is the "official roster."
    - b. Assumption of Risk and Release forms must be filled out prior to a player playing.
    - c. Rosters will freeze at 5:00pm on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Players may not be added or removed after this date for the remainder of the season, including the postseason.
    - d. A maximum of **25** players will be allowed on the each team's roster.
  - II. a. It is the responsibility of the team captain to insure that the players on the lineup are on the official team roster.
    - b. If a team chooses to question an opposing player's status on the team and the player is deemed by the umpire not to be on the official roster, the team in question will forfeit that game due to having an illegal player.
  - III. a. "D" League teams may include a limit of two (2) players also listed on an OPC "C" League team.
    - b. Players are classified within the OPC league for the current season only.

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6. Teams are advised to wear shirts with permanently affixed numbers. Names and/or numbers are to be reported to game officials when player checks in.
7. The following types of shoes **cannot** be worn in any league:
  - a. Metal cleats of any kind.
  - b. Shoes with detachable cleats that screw on.
8. The captain is responsible for knowing all rules and for informing his/her players of the rules. The captain is also responsible for the actions of all personnel (players and fans) related to his/her team.
9. The captain is the official team representative unless another team member is designated before the game. Only the captain, or his designee, will communicate with the umpires regarding any questions of the game.
10. All players, coaches, and bench personnel must adhere to the OPC Rules of Conduct.
11. Only players, coaches, captains, and team scorekeepers are allowed in the dugouts. NO CHILDREN.
12. All players must remain inside the dugout unless he/she is actively involved in the game.
13. The batter will begin their at bat with a count of 1 ball and 1 strike.
14. If a batter fouls off a pitch that is the third strike the batter is called out (ASA Rule 7.4.E).
15. Run Ahead Rule: 30 after 2, 20 after 3, 15 after 4, & 10 after 5.
16. Bats must comply with all ASA rules regarding bats. A list of banned bats can be found at <http://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-usa-softball/certified-usa-softball-equipment>. If a bat is found to be illegal, it will be removed from field of play and will available at the score keeper's table at the end of the game.
17. OPC will be providing balls for games this year. Teams will not be allowed to play with their own softball. Ball sizes are as follows:
  - a. Men- 12 inch ball; .52 COR; 300 Compression
  - b. Women- 11inch ball; .44 COR; 375 Compression
18. No Drinking Alcoholic Beverages or Smoking during the games or on the premises.
19. No Pets allowed at FNC Park.

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**Bat Markings:**

Official ASA Certification Mark



**SHORTHANDED GAMES & FORFEITS**

1. GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME.
2. A team can start play with a minimum of 8 players (All players must be on the roster).
  - a. Less than 8 players at game time will result in a forfeit.
  - b. Only one out will be taken.
  - c. CO-ED specific: A MINIMUM OF 8 PLAYERS (4 MALES AND 4 FEMALES). ANY LESS WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT.
    - i. IF 9 PLAYERS ARE IN THE LINEUP (4 FEMALES, 5 MALES OR VICE VERSA) AN OUT WILL BE TAKEN AT EITHER THE 9 OR 10 SLOT, DEPENDING ON THE GENDER OF THE ABSENT PLAYER.
    - ii. IN THE EVENT A TEAM IS SHORT WITH EITHER 2 OR 3 PLAYERS IN THE INFIELD (EXCLUDING PITCHER AND CATCHER) OR 2 OR 3 IN THE OUTFIELD, AT LEAST ONE MUST BE MALE AND AT LEAST ONE MUST BE FEMALE.
3. If a player is playing in several leagues, and his/her team's games overlap, games WILL NOT be held up for that player. He/she can enter the game later, provided; he/she is on your roster and line-up.

**PROTESTS**

1. There are 2 types of Protests
  - a. Misinterpretation of a playing rule
  - b. Illegal Player
2. The captain of the protesting team must inform the umpire immediately of the protest. The umpire will note the protest to the opposing manager and scorekeeper, and then notify OPC staff.
3. OPC staff will make a decision regarding the protest. The game will then continue.
4. Protest of a misinterpretation of a playing rule:
  - a. Must be made before the next pitch or play, before all infielders have left fair territory, or (last play of game) before the umpires have left the field.
  - b. If upheld, the decision will be corrected and the game will continue.

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5. Illegal Player
  - a. Must be made while in the game and before the umpires leave the field.
  - b. If upheld, the game will be forfeited.

RAIN-OUTS

1. Rainouts are inevitable; therefore rainout days will be worked into the schedule. These nights may include nights that your league does not normally play and /or including Saturday mornings.
2. Rainout info will be posted on the OPC website ([www.oxfordparkcommission.com](http://www.oxfordparkcommission.com)) and the OPC Facebook and twitter @oxfordparksrec page by 4:30 p.m. However, some rainouts will be game time decisions, and teams need to be prepared for such. As soon as games are cancelled, an announcement will be emailed to the captain's email on file, website, and facebook and twitter page.

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## LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES

### MEN'S LEAGUE

1. Stealing will be allowed. Runners cannot leave the base until the ball reaches the front edge of home plate.
  - a. If the ball hits the batter, home plate, or the ground in front of home plate, the ball is dead and runners cannot advance.
  - b. If no play is being made when the pitcher has the ball in the infield, the ball is dead.

### CO-ED LEAGUE

1. Stealing is not allowed.
2. Teams must have at least eight (8) team members-4:4 ratio men: women to start.
3. In order to bat an E.P. (extra player), teams must have at least 6 girls and 6 guys.
4. Guys will hit the 12" ball; girls will hit the 11" inch ball.
5. Batting order must alternate genders.
6. 2 guys and 2 girls must be positioned in the infield and outfield, and the pitcher and catcher must be of opposite sex.

### Home Run Limits

- Men's Class "C" and Co-Ed Class "C"
  - Home run limit is 4 home runs per game.
  - Any over-the-fence homerun after the league limit will be an out, the ball is dead, & runners may not advance with the following exceptions.
- Men's Class "D" and Co-Ed Class "D"
  - Home run limit is 2 home runs per game.
  - Any over-the-fence homerun after the league limit will be an out, the ball is dead, & runners may not advance with the following exceptions.

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OPC RULES OF CONDUCT FOR ALL SPORTS

- 1) Foul language and/or verbal harassment of any official, player, observer, or OPC employee will not be tolerated. Foul language is defined as any obscene, vulgar, or insulting language and/or language deemed inappropriate by community standards. This definition also includes any foul, obscene, or vulgar gestures. Harassment is any conduct including, but not limited to, abusive language, tormenting of participants, racial slurs or remarks, and the baiting of individuals.
  - A) First Offense – Ejection from game plus a one game suspension of the next game (make-up or regularly scheduled).
  - B) Second Offense – Expulsion from the league in which the incident occurred.
  - C) Third Offense – Banishment from all OPC activities for one (1) year from date of incident.
  - D) Fourth Offense – Banishment from all OPC activities indefinitely.

If an offense occurs within one (1) year of a first or second offense, it will be considered the next offense. Any offense after the third offense will be considered a fourth offense.

- 2) Fighting will not be tolerated in any situation. A fight is a hostile encounter between individuals that results in physical contact of any kind. Punches do not have to be thrown for a fight to occur. Also, if punches are thrown, but contact is not made, the incident will be ruled a fight. Police will be called for any fight.
  - A) First Offense – Expulsion from the league in which the incident occurred and banishment from all OPC activities for one (1) year from the date of the incident.
  - B) Second Offense – Banishment from all OPC activities indefinitely. Also, a trespassing order will be filed against you. If you are caught on any OPC property, you will be arrested.
  - C) Any subsequent offense will be considered the next offense.
- 3) The use of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs on park property is prohibited. Any one caught using alcohol or drugs will not be allowed to participate in any OPC sponsored event. Violators can/will be prosecuted according to city/state laws.
- 4) Smoking is not allowed in city parks. Individuals smoking will be asked to put out the cigarette/pipe/cigar. Failure to do so will result in expulsion from the facility.
- 5) If a player or team is determined to be a continuous disciplinary problem, action may be taken which could result in expulsion from the league with no reimbursement of registration fees or expulsion from all OPC activities.

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6) Dogs are not allowed at FNC Park. Please communicate this to players and fans.

The Oxford Park Commission reserves the right to change and/or modify these rules at anytime in order to ensure the safety and quality of its leagues. The OPC also reserves the right to review each offense and take such disciplinary action as it deems fit based on the circumstances of the offense.