

## **SKSA ADULT SOFTBALL PARK RULES – 2026**

1. **Alcohol is prohibited in both the parking lot and the park.** This is a County regulation and violators will be cited.
2. Coolers, scooters, bicycles, and pets are not permitted in the dugouts, spectator stands, concession stand area or the general area of our playing fields and field complex. Service dogs are permitted but owner must have papers in hand to show it is a certified service dog. Otherwise, it will not be permitted.
3. Warming-up between Fields 6 and 7 is prohibited. Teams wishing to warm-up before a game may do so between any other fields.
4. Physical and/or verbal abuse of any kind will not be tolerated.
5. Please pick up the trash in your dugout before leaving the field. Remember, we are a non-profit organization, and the County does not pick up the trash for us. It is our responsibility to clean up.
6. USA Softball team insurance is available. Visit <https://www.rpsbollinger.com/products-programs/usa-softball/> for more information.
7. Steel cleats or open-toed shoes of any kind will not be allowed on the field.
8. Tie-Break Procedure: (1) Head-to-Head Competition; (2) Run Differential between tying teams (Team that lost by the least number of runs); (3) Coin Flip.
9. League Awards: We give awards for both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places. Winning teams have a choice of 12 Team t-shirts, 12 rings or one dozen softballs for 1<sup>st</sup> place and 12 Team t-shirts, 12 rings or ½ dozen balls for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. (This is based on 8 teams in a division - Less than 8 teams, only 1st place award will be given).
10. No hitting or throwing balls into the field fencing for practice or otherwise. Anyone doing this will be ejected from the ballpark for that day/night and will be asked to leave.
11. All batters begin with a 1-1 count (one ball and one strike). No extra foul allowed.
12. Game time will be 50 minutes or 7 innings, whichever occurs first. The first game will have a 15-minute grace period. However, the game clock will start to run at the scheduled start time. All other games will be started on schedule or they will be forfeited. In the event a game is not finished due to weather or other circumstances, completion of 3-innings or (2-1/2 innings if the home team is ahead) of said game will be considered an official game and the score will stand. Otherwise, if rescheduled for makeup, the game will start all over as a new game and will not be picked up where left off. Drop-Dead rule at 10:00 pm enforced.
13. **Run Rule:**    15 run rule after 3 innings    12 run rule after 4 innings    10 run rule after 5 innings
14. Men in both men and coed play shall hit only USA Softball/ASA approved red-stitched, core.52, 300 compression, 12” balls. Women in coed play shall hit only USA Softball/ASA approved red-stitched, core core.52, 300 compression, 11” balls or they can hit the approved mens 12” ball. Senior balls may be used in Senior play as outlined in rules established for each Senior league or tournament play by SKSA Adult Softball.
15. All approved bats from any Association will be allowed (that includes USA Softball, ASA, NSA and USSSA bats). Any specific banned bat by an Association will not be allowed. A list is posted on our website and at park.
16. A coed team can consist of 5 women and 5 men or 4 women and 6 men.

17. A men's team may begin play with 8 players and must finish the game with at least 8 players. Co-Ed teams must have 8 players to start. A Co-Ed team can start play with 6 men and 2 women and add women as they show up, but in no event can they start play with less than 2 women and coed teams can always have more women than men. If coed team has more men hitting than women, said team must still alternate batting man/woman, man/woman, and rotate the women accordingly. All coed teams must always bat man/woman, man/woman, with no men batting back to back. You can bat more than 10, so long as you bat man/woman, man/woman, with no men batting back to back. An out will occur if two men bat back-to-back. Women may bat back-to-back without an out in between as long as they are batting 3 women. If a team is only batting 2 women, then one out will be taken for that shortage of 1 woman when it is time for a 3<sup>rd</sup> woman to bat. A men's team can also bat more than 10 players. However, if a men's team is only batting 8 players, an out will occur when it is time for the 9<sup>th</sup> player to bat. No out will be taken if a men's team is batting 9 or more players. Any player arriving after the game has started must go to the bottom of the batting order. (If teams have less than above number of players specified above men's and co-ed play, both teams may agree at flip to allow the short team to play. If agreed, the game is official and will count in standings!!!!)
18. Players must remain in the dugout except for a 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach, a 1<sup>st</sup> base coach and 1 on-deck batter. There shall be no bats or other equipment placed outside the dugout during league play.
19. Players must be at least 18 years to play. NO EXCEPTIONS.
20. If a team needs to forfeit, they must notify us by email at [adult.softball@sksa.com](mailto:adult.softball@sksa.com) or by texting Ronney at (346) 803-0082 at least 8 hours before their first game time, as this will allow us to re-arrange the schedule for the night and notify other teams of any game time changes in order to avoid teams showing up not to have a team to play and guaranteeing the teams who show up that they have 2 games to play. If a team fails to notify us that they are not showing up at their scheduled game(s), such forfeiting team is responsible for paying both umpires and the non-forfeiting team gets the win at 7-0. The forfeiting team will be required to pay the umpire fees due for their forfeit(s) and also redeposit any additional funds to retain at least \$40.00 forfeiture fee on deposit with the league at all times. This must be paid prior to their next game to stay in good standing with the league. If at the end of the year, a team has not exhausted their forfeit money, it will be carried over to the following year and that team will not be required to pay a forfeit fee until it has been exhausted. Forfeit deposit is non-refundable.
21. From time to time, due to teams not showing up or forfeiting, the schedule may be adjusted, and your game time may change or the team you are playing may change. This can be done at the SKSA Adult Softball President's discretion and the game will be official. Also, games may be moved up or down in time in the event of forfeits. In that event, teams must get off the field so that these games can be played as directed by the league president or the umpires.
22. Rainout information will only be posted on the "Cypresswood Player Pool" Facebook Page. Please join and have your players join this Facebook group to get rainout information and other updates and information. Rainouts will be made up on your league night if space is permitted. However, if excessive rainouts occur, they may be made up on Saturdays or other days of the week as field availability exist.
23. The balance of league fees is due in full on the first night of each league. Failure to pay your balance in full on the first night results in a \$25.00 LATE CHARGE PER WEEK UNTIL PAID! \$25.00 fee on returned checks. Also, discounts will not apply if league fees are not paid in full by the first night of each league. Please remember that we are a non-profit league and we are volunteers. Therefore, your assistance and cooperation are greatly appreciated.
24. Home Runs: Upper C - 3 homeruns per team per game. D Class - 1 homerun per team per game. E Class - 0 homeruns per team per game. Interleague between C and D Class - 1 homerun per team per game, or 3 per team if agreed upon by both teams at the coin flip. Interleague between D and E Class - 0 homeruns per team per game. ALL OTHERS ARE OUTS. For coed play, woman are allowed (separately from the men) 3 homeruns in Upper C league play, 1 homerun in D Class and 1 homerun in E Class play. You do not have to run around the bases on a homerun hit. Whether the batter runs the bases or not, there are absolutely no appeals on any base runners.

25. Dead Ball Territory: Any ball thrown into the netting above the fence shall be considered dead. All runners will advance (from the time of the throw) two bases. A straight imaginary line is assumed along any open fence line. Any ball thrown past this imaginary line shall be considered dead. All runners will advance (from the time of the throw) one base plus one more base.
26. Umpire complaints should be directed to the Umpire-In-Chief, Geno Ortiz at 713-560-0672 or [eortiz27@me.com](mailto:eortiz27@me.com).
27. In Co-Ed play, an outfield player may not throw a female out running to first base on a hit ball by that female. In the event, a player throws the ball from the outfield to first base when a female has hit that ball and is running to first, the female player is automatically safe and the team who threw the ball will be warned. Upon the second warning of the same act by the same team, the player who threw the ball will be ejected from the game. And so forth if it happens a third, fourth...time.
28. No base stealing.
29. Co-ed Line. The line in the outfield is a coed line. When a female is up to bat, all outfield players must remain behind the line until after the ball is hit.
30. When teams are warming up before a game on the playing field, the players must line up so that when throwing the ball, you are throwing in a direction from either 3<sup>rd</sup> base to 2<sup>nd</sup> base or 1<sup>st</sup> base to 2<sup>nd</sup> base. There will be no warm-up throwing in the direction from home plate to 3<sup>rd</sup> base or home plate to 1<sup>st</sup> base. This will ensure the safety of the umpires and players who are standing at the plate doing the coin toss.
31. For a team who is currently playing a league, the deadline to register for the next league will be by the last night of the current league. To ensure a spot in the next league, a team must meet this deadline and register online at <https://forms.gle/AtztmGkT5Qa4J1VP8>. Otherwise, their spot will be forfeited if not secured by the 6<sup>th</sup> week of play and it will be given to the next team on the waiting list, if any.
32. If a team is scheduled to start a game of play and some of their players are playing a previous game with another team and that game has not been completed, making their players not available at the official start time, and they don't have enough to start the game, then that team will automatically be given "visitor" status in order that the game may be started timely and to prevent games running late, as that team can bat first and put their players at the end of their batting lineup when they enter the game.
33. In Coed play, when a women is batting, all infielders must start in the dirt until the ball is hit. The 4 outfielders must start behind the coed line in the outfield. Defensive teams cannot play a 5-man infield. When a man is batting, defensive teams can play anywhere except a 5-man infield.
34. In regard to the netting on top of the outfield fences, the ball is live off the fence and playable. However, a ball is not considered a catch or an out if an outfield player catches a ball off the fence before it hits the ground—it shall be played as a "live" ball. If a ball is hit into the fence and it becomes stuck or impeded in the fence or falls between the net and fence, it will be ruled an automatic double. All homerun balls must clear over the fence netting.
35. Cell phones, smoking or vaping are not allowed on the field during play. Any player who is using a cell phone, smoking or vaping during play, whether they are an offensive or defensive player, will be warned only once. If it occurs a second time, that player will be ejected for the remainder of the inning, which means if an offensive player, they will be ejected for that inning and called out, and if a defensive player, they will be ejected from the field for that inning and the defensive team will not be allowed to replace that ejected player with a substitute. Players who were ejected can return to play the next inning.
36. In men's play, only one courtesy runner will be allowed per inning. In coed play, only one courtesy runner per gender will be allowed per inning, and only a male can run for a male and only a female can run for a female. However, the pitcher, at the time of instance, can always get a courtesy runner to allow time to put on protective

gear. Teams can agree on more than one courtesy runner if done so at the coin flip. Otherwise, this rule governs and stands.

37. It is the responsibility of each team to keep a scorebook and keep track of the runs they score each inning. It is not the responsibility of the umpire to do this. Each team shall verify the number of runs scored after each bat each inning. If this is not done, then the score will stand as entered by the umpire, unless an official scorebook has been kept and shows otherwise.
38. Flip Flop Rule: An umpire has the right to flip flop a game at his discretion, which means: If the home team is losing by a run rule or if the time left in the game is winding down to end, an umpire can, at the end of a completed inning, make the home team visitors and have them bat again (back-to-back innings). If they do not tie the game, take the lead, or get the score under the run rule, you will have a completed and official ball game. Further, at the end of a completed inning in which there is 5 minutes or less left on the game clock, and the home team is down by 5 runs or more, an umpire can enforce this Flip Flop Rule. If the home team is down by less than 5 runs, the game will be played out and the Flip Flop rule will not be enforced. This is to help games stay on time since we have to be off the fields by 10:10 p.m. per Harris County Park rules.
39. No loud or vulgar music is allowed. Teams may play music in their dugouts so long as it is not loud enough to distract the other team or spectators outside the dugout. Volume should be kept to a minimum so that only players in the dugout with the music can hear it. Teams will be given only one warning for vulgar music or having the music too loud. A second warning means you must turn the music off for the remainder of the game. One warning is all you get.
40. Pitching Floating Rubber Rule: The pitcher is allowed to release the ball from up to 6' behind the rubber as long as at least one foot is within the width of the pitching plate. The pitcher still must present the ball, pause, and pitch. No pump fakes allowed-only once past the hip.
41. 3-Game Round Robins: Limited to 8 teams only, 4 in each bracket. Mens, Coed, Women or Over-40 Brackets, depending on what teams register. 1 Homerun or 3 Homeruns, depending on caliber of teams in each bracket. Deadline to register is on Mondays at 5 p.m., first-come, first-serve. Fee is \$60.00, plus pay umpires cash at each game at start of game. USA Softball/Cypresswood rules apply. Winner in each bracket gets nine (9) softballs.
42. If any player on a team is caught with alcohol or marijuana/drugs in our park and field area, the whole team will be banned for the remainder of the current season, plus one additional season. If this occurs during a tournament, the whole team will be banned for the remainder of the current tournament, plus the next tournament they would be eligible to play in at our park. No refunds will be given for any unplayed games.
43. Payment of league fees are due on the first night of each league. A late fee will apply for any league fees not paid by the first night. However, if a team has not pay the league fee in full by the third week of play, the team will be removed from the current schedule and full payment will be required to register for the next league such team signs up for. No refunds will be given for any partial payments made.
44. If any team is engaging in batting practice before a league game or at any other time, the batter must stand BEHIND home plate on the black mats that have been provided on each field for this use. Please place the mat behind home plate and remove it and put it back in its storage place when done. Any team or players who are caught batting in the batter's box will be banned from our park for a period of 60 days. If a second violation of this nature occurs, said team and players will be banned for one year.
45. Umpires must be paid cash at the coin flip before each game starts.
46. If a team drops after the schedule is done, a \$100.00 fee will be charged in order to cover the costs of having a schedule redone. Such team who dropped will be required to pay said \$100.00 fee before being able to play again in any of our leagues or tournaments.