

City of Snellville Parks and Recreation
ADULT SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS
www.snellville.org

I. League Organization

- A) The governing body of this league is City of Snellville Parks and Recreation (SPRD).
- B) **ASA slow pitch rules** govern league play except when **superseded by the following rules** and regulations. SPRD reserves the right to rule on anything not covered in the ASA rulebook.
- C) The league shall consist of the following divisions: Men's Open - Equalizer (Tuesday nights), Coed Open – Equalizer (Thursday nights), Coed Open - Equalizer (Friday nights).
- D) SPRD recognizes the manager listed as having sole authority on team decisions including SPRD league play, GRPA District Tournaments, and GRPA State Tournaments. The manager’s authority supersedes any concerns from sponsors and team players.
- E) Each team will be responsible for checking the website or Rain Line for rain out and make-up game information. The website will be updated every Monday for schedules and results. Please check weekly to make sure the schedule has not changed.
- www.snellville.org -> Departments -> Parks and Recreation -> Schedules and Results
Rain Line #: 770-985-3592
- F) **League Coordinator:** **Jillian Bouchard**
jbouchard@snellville.org

II. Game Rules

- A) ASA rules apply ONLY superseded by the following rules when necessary
- B) Games will start at the scheduled time.
 - 1) A ten (10) minute grace period is allowed only on the first game of the night. The grace period is considered as part of game time. However if a team has eight (8) players, the game will start immediately or as soon as the eighth (8th) player arrives. Grace period time counts as game time.
 - 2) All players are expected to hustle on and off the field at all times, for the sake of speeding up the game. The pitcher shall have three (3) warm-up pitches and the inning will start.
 - 3) The one hour game time will be displayed on the scoreboard. If the scoreboard timer is not working, then it will be monitored by a SPRD employee. The game clock will start immediately following the pre-game instruction meeting at home plate between the umpires and team coaches.
 - 4) Teams will not be allowed to swap game times or days with other teams. No exceptions will be made.
 - 5) Infield practice will be allowed only if it will not cause a delay in the scheduled starting time.

6) Line-ups should be turned into the scorekeeper 10 minutes prior to the start of each game. Continued violation will result in disciplinary action from probation to suspension.

C) Courtesy Runner

CO-ED:

- 1) There is only one (1) courtesy runner allowed per gender per inning
- 2) Must be the same gender as the runner that is being replaced
- 3) Does NOT have to be the last batted out
- 4) If the current batter is on base as a courtesy runner, that batter is an automatic out

MEN'S:

- 1) Two (2) courtesy runners are allowed per inning
- 2) Does NOT have to be the last batted out
- 3) If the current batter is on base as a courtesy runner, the batter is an automatic out

D) If required regulation innings have not been played, SPRD will reschedule the game at the earliest possible date. (Any rescheduled game will resume from the exact point that the game was delayed or postponed). SPRD will do everything possible to reschedule games in a timely manner but there is a chance that some games may need to be canceled.

E) There will be a 10-run rule in effect for all games after five (5) innings or 4 1/2 if home team is ahead by ten runs, 12-run rule after 4 innings and 15-run rule after 3 innings.

F) Some rainout games will be rescheduled on Saturdays and/or Sundays.

G) RAINOUT PHONE NUMBER: (770) 985-3592

H) A minimum of two (2) umpires will be assigned to every game. A game will be played if only one official is present.

I) In case of league standing ties, winners will be determined by:

- 1) Head to head competition (margin of victory)
- 2) Margin of victory against highest place team. If you have any questions concerning this rule, call the athletic office at (770) 985-3533.

J) The team batting is responsible for balls hit outside of playing area.

K) Any protested game or game suspended for any reason, that shall be replayed at a later date, will begin at the point the game was suspended or at the point of protest. NO GAME SHALL BE STARTED OVER.

L) The home team will be determined by the schedule.

M) Co-Ed Leagues ONLY:

1) There will be a 200 foot line in the outfield that the outfielders must remain behind while a female is at bat. The penalty for outfielders being over the line will be that all base runners will advance one base, and the batter will be awarded first base.

2) A team must have a minimum of 4 women.

- A team playing with 4 women, MUST play with only 6 men. (Batting 10)
- A team playing with 5 women, may play with 6 or 7 men. (Batting 11 or 12)
- The lineup MUST NOT HAVE 3 males batting back to back.
- There must be at least 4 women in the field at all times.

3) If a team does not start the game with extra player(s), he/she may not be added once the game has started.

4) If a female is removed from the game for any reason and the team is left with less than 4 women, the following options are available:

a) Replace the outgoing female with a female substitute

b) Receive one out for the removed female for each scheduled turn at bat.

5) **Fielding Regulations:**

a) A team must have one male and one female in the pitcher/catcher combo.

b) At least 1 female must be playing in the infield (this does NOT include the pitcher/catcher combo.)

c) At least 1 female must be playing in the outfield.

NOTE: Male players are permitted to play side-by-side in the field.

d) The 4th required female may play infield (1st, 2nd, SS, 3rd) or outfield.

N) The score of a forfeited game shall be seven to zero (7- 0) in favor of the team not at fault.

O) A player is considered participating in the ball game when the first legal pitch is thrown. This does not include warm up pitches.

P) **Equalizer Rule** – A team cannot at anytime be ahead in homeruns by more than one. The first team to hit a homerun over the outfield fence cannot hit another one until the opposing team hits a homerun to tie or one more to go ahead by one run – any homerun hit in excess is an out. The home team can hit all available homeruns in the seventh inning to tie or go ahead. The equalizer rule still applies if extra innings must be played.

Q) When a female batter is up, all infielders must start in the infield dirt. Once the pitch crosses the plate, the infielder may move back into grass.

III. Eligibility

A) Players must be 18 years of age prior to September 1st of the current year to be eligible for SPRD league and to participate in G.R.P.A. District and State Tournaments.

B) Each team must have a roster posted with the league coordinator prior to your first game of the season.

C) Players not on roster are not eligible to play. Rosters must be turned in prior to each team's first scheduled game or all players on that team are illegal.

D) A player can be listed on more than one team's roster in each division (Men's, Co-ed, etc.). However, a player cannot be listed on more than one team's roster per league. Example: A player cannot be listed on two rosters for Men's Tuesday Nights, but can be listed on one roster for Men's Tuesday Nights and Co-ed Friday Nights. If a team is short players and wishes to pick up players that are not listed on the team's roster to avoid forfeit, they will be allowed if the opposing manager agrees and signs off on the score sheet. If the opposing manager does not agree, the game will be ruled a forfeit. NO TEAM CAN PICK UP EXTRA HITTERS.

D1) A pickup player cannot pitch. He/She must play any other position.

E) New players may be added to team roster prior to the fifth (5) scheduled game. After the fifth game, all rosters are frozen.

F) A manager wishing to add or release a player must adhere to the following procedures:

1) Email an official request to the Park Facility Coordinator

a) List players full name, address and phone number.

b) Have new player find Park Facility Coordinator at the next game so that he/she can verify information and sign roster

c) PLAYERS CAN ONLY BE ADDED UP UNTIL THE 5TH GAME. The roster is locked from there on out.

G) Players on the roster MUST play in at least 3 regular season games in order to be eligible to play in playoff games.

a) During playoffs, an opposing team can ask SPRD staff to check roster on site for the player in question. If he/she is on the roster and the opposing team believes that they have NOT played in at least 3 games, the opposing team can submit a request to protest plus a \$100 fee. The Park Facility Coordinator, on the following business day, will research the matter and come to a conclusion. If the opposing team is correct and that player has NOT played in at least 3 games, the game in question will be an automatic forfeit to the violating team.

H) Player may change teams only one (1) time.

I) Church Division:

1) A church team is composed of members from one church. Church outreach programs are not eligible for the church division. All church rosters must be turned into the league office two weeks prior to the start of the season. Rosters will be sent to the church office for verification of membership. Exception: If several small churches would like to participate but cannot field a team due to shortage of participants, a letter from each church's minister can be sent to league office for approval.

IV. Conduct

A) Each team is responsible for the conduct of its players and spectators. A team may be reprimanded, put on probation, suspended or face expulsion for any unsportsmanlike conduct by player(s), coach(s), or spectators. SPRD reserves the right to deny eligibility for GRPA competitions for poor conduct/sportsmanship.

B) NO SMOKING on the field or in dugouts. Disciplinary action will result in probation to suspension. Please smoke in designated areas.

C) Profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, and verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be a minimum of a 3 game suspension.

D) Any player, spectator, or manager at the request of any official or league coordinator, must leave the "premises". Failure to do so may result in suspension and forfeiture.

E) No participant may touch an umpire or league official in anger, or threaten to do him bodily harm. Disciplinary action will result in expulsion.

F) A minimum penalty for any player expelled from a game because of unsportsmanlike or rowdy

conduct will be suspension for the next 3 league games in which his/her team plays, including playoff and tournament games.

- 1) On a player's second offense, the player is suspended for the season in which his team plays.
 - 2) Third offenses shall result in automatic expulsion from the program for a calendar year.
- G) The manager is the only person authorized to discuss rule interpretation with the umpire.
- H) Alcoholic beverages and intoxicants are prohibited. Disciplinary action will result in reprimand to expulsion.
- I) SPRD reserves the right to suspend any or all players, coaches and managers for unbecoming conduct either before, during or after a game.

V. Uniforms and Equipment

- A) **ALL bats must be approved by ASA.** A current list of all ASA legal and illegal bats can be found at asasoftball.com.
- B) We strongly recommend all team players wear shirts similar in color.
- C) **Players are REQUIRED to have a non-duplicating number on front or back of each shirt.** Each number must be visible by the umpires and scorekeeper. Jersey numbers must be permanently attached (no taped numbers – markers or ink are acceptable). Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate removal from the game.
- D) **IMPORTANT:** All teams participating in GRPA District and State Tournaments are required to wear shirts similar in color with non-duplicating numbers on front or back (no ink or taped numbers). **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- E) Athletic type shoes are mandatory. No metal cleats.

VI. Protest

- A) Protest shall not be allowed on any judgment call.
- B) If a protest concerning misinterpretation of playing rules is to be made, it must be made following the designated procedure:
- 1) Manager calls time out and notifies the official and scorer. Protest must be made at point of infraction and prior to the next pitch (legal or illegal).
 - 2) Submit a written protest with the required protest fee of \$100.00 per protest to the SPRD league coordinator within 24 hours (excluding weekends).
 - 3) Each protest must outline the events as they transpired and must cite specific rules, sections and sub-sections to bear out the protest.
- C) If a protest on rule misinterpretation is made on the last play of the game, it must be made to the umpire before he/she leaves the playing field.
- D) When a protest is upheld, the protest fee will be returned. If the protest is not upheld, the protest fee will be forfeited.

- E) SPRD reserves the right to forfeit games when it discovers the use of ineligible players. This may be done with or without the benefit of a protest.

VII. Balls

- A) ASA approved yellow softball, .52/300, 12".
- B) Each team must furnish one new 12 inch ball per game. Teams must hit first available ball, there is no rule stating a team will hit their own balls.