

City of Cleveland
Department of Public Works, Division of Recreation

**2022 MEN'S ADULT SOFTBALL MODIFIED GAME RULES
AS OF APRIL 21**

NOTE: *Our League Rules are the standard rules that we are using.*

TIME LIMIT: No new inning may start after **60 minutes**, unless the game is tied. There is a **10-minute Grace Period** for the first games only; however, grace time used is part of the 60-minute time limit. If the team that is short players and needs to use the (10) minute time limit then they lose their 1ST Inning turn at bat. **Curfew:** No inning may start after 10:55 p.m. **THE OFFICIAL SCORER WILL WRITE DOWN THE STARTING TIME ON THE SCORE SHEET. Umpires will announce starting time to coaches, scorer and players before the first pitch.**

PLAYERS: Teams must have 9 players to start, *continue, and finish* a game (the tenth spot is an out). Teams may play with (9) because of injuries or emergencies. Teams **may not** play short-handed because of ejections. Vacant spots in the batting order are outs.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Metal spikes **are not** allowed.
2. Before each game, the scorekeeper will issue game balls; after the game, the umpires give each team a used ball. Scorer gives a copy of the game score sheet to each manager after the game.
3. Each team is responsible for an extra used softball upon request from the umpire
- 3. ALL BATS ARE LEGAL. Umpires have the right to check bats for being altered.**
4. Metal Rods or Donuts are ILLEGAL; only USAS approved warm-up equipment may be used.

THOSE HOME RUN BALLS OVER THE FENCE

The team that hits the home run over the fence will be responsible to bring the softball back to the field and give it to the umpire.

JEWELRY:

1. ALL **eye rings** must be removed—players may not tape over them.
2. Large chains that hang outside the uniform are not permitted.
3. Players **must** remove any jewelry the umpires deem unsafe or detrimental to the game of softball.

COURTESY RUNNER: may be used once per inning. The courtesy runner is the person who made **the last out**. EXCEPTION: If the same batter reaches base more than once an inning, the COURTESY RUNNER may run for that player each time.

DESIGNATED HITTER IN MENS LEAGUE ONLY: (Not Mandatory – Optional)

Team may not use the DH unless they have an EP also in their batting order.

- 1. The DH can only be used when an EP (Extra Player) is in the line-up.**
2. The "DH" **CAN NOT** play in the field at any time.
3. The "DH" and "EP" must be present before the first pitch is thrown to be in the line-up.

STEALING: is legal in **Men's play only**. **USAS Stealing rule is explained on the back side.**

HOME RUN LIMIT is five over the fence home runs per team. Batters and base runners **DO NOT** run the bases; all runners go immediately to their dugout. Excess home runs are OUTS.

RUN SPREAD: 15 RUNS AFTER 3 INNINGS **and/or** 10 RUNS AFTER 5 INNINGS.

EXTRA INNING RUNNER ON SECOND BASE AT START OF THE INNING:

The visiting team will start with a runner on second base which is the last batter from the previous inning in any game that goes into extra time (Beyond time limit) or extra inning (due to a tied score).

PLEASE READ THE BACK SIDE OF THIS DOCUMENT

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Distances: Base Distance is 70 Feet, Pitching distances is 50 feet

THE PITCHER'S ARC IS 4 FEET – 10 FEET

STEALING

Stealing (in Men's Slow Pitch Only) is legal so long as the runners do not leave their bases until the pitched ball reaches the front edge of home plate.

Runners may also advance if (a) the pitcher catches a return throw anywhere other than near the pitching plate or the pitcher fails to catch the return throw, (b) the pitch hits the umpire, (c) the return throw hits the batter or umpire, or (d) a play is made on any runner.

Runners may not advance if (a) the pitch hits the ground before the front edge of home plate, hits the batter, hits home plate, or (b) the runner stops or is clearly not advancing when the catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher in the vicinity of the pitcher's plate and the pitcher catches the ball. (NO DELAYED STEALS)

Runners may steal on legal or illegal pitches.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT will not be tolerated!! For our league to be successful the teams must respect each other and respect the umpires and the scorers; in turn, the umpires and scorers must respect the players and coaches. Any complaints should be in writing to the league administrator at Twells@clevelandohio.gov.

BROOKSIDE PARK GROUND RULE:

The areas down the foul lines at Rose and Elder fields are not completely fenced in. If a batted ball hits in fair territory and then rolls past the 300' arc in foul territory, the umpire will rule it a GROUND RULE DOUBLE.

Any ball a defensive player throws, kicks, or fumbles past the 300' arc, will cause the umpires to award each base runner two bases from the point the infraction occurred.

APPROVED SOFTBALL BATS: - UPDATED ON APRIL 21

ALL BATS ARE LEGAL EXCEPT ALL SENIOR BATS WHICH ARE IDENTIFIED BY EITHER A SENIOR SOFTBALL BAT LOGO OR MARKED "SSUSA".

ALL SENIOR BATS ARE NOT LEGAL.

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QUESTIONS?: Call the league administrator at (216) 664—2346