

Newport Parks and Recreation

Coed League Rules

General League Rules

- 1. Age:** Players must be at least 18 years of age by the first scheduled league game. No exceptions!
- 2. Player/Team Restrictions:** Players are restricted to playing with one team. Rosters are limited to 20 players. There is a limit of fourteen (14) players active per game.
- 3. Eligibility:** A player who is not on the team roster and plays in a game is an ineligible player and may be suspended for at least one game. Any protested game that such player took part in will be an automatic forfeit. A player must have played in at least 4 of the scheduled games to play in the tournament. This will be verified by the scorebook.
- 4. Adds/Drops:** Coaches must always officially add a player or drop a quitting or injured player from the team roster. Failure to do so could result in eligibility problems. Add/drop may be accomplished by calling the Parks and Recreation Office.
- 5. Game Times:** Schedules of games times will be available at the Recreation Center and on the website. If the schedules can reasonably accommodate variations without affecting the overall fairness of the schedule, then it may be altered. Coaches must make a written request for exceptions when they register their team. Once the schedules have been printed, there will be no schedule changes except when both coaches agree to a rescheduled day or time. Any rescheduled games must also have an assigned umpire and be scheduled on a field that has available time.
- 6. Rained-Out Games:** Rained-out games will be rescheduled whenever possible. Game day status of possible rainouts may be obtained by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at 265-7783 after 3:00 p.m.
- 7. Gender-Mix:** There may never be two more men than women on the field, but the number of women is unrestricted. It may be 4-4, 5-4, 5-5, etc. men to women.
- 8. Coaches' Responsibilities:**
 - a.** Coaches will take every measure to ensure that players arrive on time for games, conduct themselves as good sports, and follow all rules and regulations.
 - b. Player Supervision:** A coach is charged with the responsibility of his/her players conduct before, during, and after games. No team member will violate city, state or federal laws. Specifically, alcohol consumption is prohibited on or around the playing field. Alcohol in the dugout or on the playing field will result in immediate forfeiture of the game and suspension of the offending team for 2 games. No player will engage in violence, threats of violence, abusive language, or in any way hinder the playing of the game. Offenders face ejection from the game, fines, and/or league.
 - c. Control of Fans:** A coach/manager is expected to control any spectator who is unruly or distracting when that spectator is involved with the team.
 - d. Meetings:** Coaches or their representatives are expected to attend all league meetings.
 - e. Roster Maintenance:** A coach is responsible for submitting an official league roster and for keeping



it current using the add/drop procedure and for submitting the fees prior to the deadlines. Rosters are due in writing at the Recreation Center prior to the first scheduled game.

9. Team Conduct: A code of conduct applies to all teams and players who participate in the softball programs offered by the City of Newport. By their participation, players imply that they will abide by this code upon registering for the league.

a. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated before, during, or after a game, on the field, off the field, or in the stands. Infractions will result in ejection from a game, suspension for the remainder of the season, or permanent suspension from City-sponsored leagues.

b. The Parks and Recreation Department has the authority to remove any person from City ball fields for drunkenness, obnoxious or threatening behavior, disturbing the peace, or failure to properly supervise their children. Contact with the police department will be made if necessary. No fees will be refunded when a player has been ejected for the remainder of the season.

Coed League Rules

(ASA Rules with the below Newport Rules)

1. 8-Player Rule: A team may start or finish a game with no less than 8 players. No more than 14 players may be batted. Gender mix must be followed.

2. Gender Mix: There may only be one man more than the number of women. Any time there are two consecutive men in the batting order, an out will be declared between them (before the second man bats). There must be at least one man in the game, but there may be 9 women. There may be no more than 2 men in the infield, and no more than 2 men in the outfield) with the following exception, pitcher-catcher must be opposite gender.

3. Late Arrivals: If a team starts the game with less than 14 players and others arrive late, they may be added to the bottom of the batting order and may be substituted anywhere defensively, subject to the rules stated above.

4. Line-up Exchange and Scorebooks: Lineups will be exchanged as soon as possible before game time. Both teams should keep a scorebook. The official scorebook will be kept by a Parks and Recreation staff member. Once games begin, the batting order cannot be changed.

5. Time Limits: No new inning will begin 1 hour and 15 minutes after the start of the game. The score will stand after a complete inning is played and will not be rescheduled. If teams are not ready to play within 5 minutes of the start time, the game will be declared a forfeit with no exceptions and will not be rescheduled.

6. 12-Run Differential Rule: A difference of 12 runs at the bottom of the 5th inning will end the game.

7. Count: Batters come to the plate with a 1-1 count. After 2 strikes, a second foul ball will be an out. If a player hits a disallowed home run after two strikes, they will be out.

8. Home Run Rule: Teams hitting 3 over-the-fence home runs can only hit another after the opposing team hits three. The opposing team may hit four, but then must wait for the other team to hit one before an additional home run will count. An out will be declared if a disallowed home run is hit.

9. Official Ball: ASA approved, Men: 12" .52 COR / 300 compression. Women: 11" .44 COR, 375 compression.



10. Bats: ASA approved.

11. Shoes: No steel cleats.

12. Inning Run Limit: If a team scores 8 runs in an inning, their turn at bat is over. This rule is suspended if the team at bat is trailing by 12 or more runs in the 5th, 6th, or 7th inning.

13. Walk Rule: If a man walks, he advances to 2nd base. If there are 2 outs, the woman following him may choose to walk or hit.

15. Halo Rule: A pitchers box will be marked on the infield around the area of the pitching plate. The "halo" will be an area that will extend two feet on each side of the plate and extend no more than three feet above the pitcher's head (will be umpire's judgment). Any ball that is hit in the air that doesn't touch the ground prior to reaching the front edge of this area will be an automatic "DEAD BALL." DEAD BALL = AUTOMATIC OUT. No runners will be allowed to advance and will be made to return to the last base legally touched prior to the pitch. The pitcher is not protected if the ball is hit outside of the Halo Zone.

16. Home Plate Rule:

Once a runner crosses the Commitment Line between third base and home, they must continue toward home and cannot return to third. The runner must cross the **Safety Line** (marked from home plate to the backstop) instead of touching home plate—**touching home plate results in an automatic out**. All plays at home are **force outs**: if the catcher has the ball and is in contact with home plate before the runner crosses the Safety Line, the runner is out. If the catcher is not on home plate, they may tag the runner out. A runner is considered to have crossed the Safety Line when any part of their body touches the ground on or beyond it.

17. Coed Batter Defense Line – 180-Foot Rule:

To ensure fair play and provide equal opportunity for all participants, the following rule applies when a female player is at bat:

Outfield Positioning Requirement

- All outfielders must remain behind the Coed Batter Defense Line, which is set at 180 feet from home plate, until the ball is hit.
- This rule is enforced only when a female batter is at the plate.
- The Coed Batter Defense Line may be marked using chalk, paint, cones, or other visible field markers.
- If any outfielder crosses the Coed Batter Defense Line before the ball is hit and is involved in the play:
 - The female batter will be awarded first base.
 - Any forced runners will also be awarded the next base.

