

BALTIMORE CITY RECREATION & PARKS

COED SOFTBALL RULES SUMMARY



GAME BALLS

- Each team is responsible for providing a game ball at the beginning of each game.
- The team that loses the ball shall furnish a new ball as needed.
- Game balls must be 12", yellow, with a **.52 COR/300 compression**, as provided by the league.
- Coed teams **may** substitute an 11" ball of the same specifications when a female is batting. A base coach of the hitting team shall have an 11" ball ready to throw in to avoid delay.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS TO START

- Teams must have eight (8) players (at least two of which must be women) to start.
- Teams may give players to an opponent or allow players from other teams to substitute; however, it must be determined prior to the game whether the game will be counted as a forfeit or an official game.

DEFENSE

- Maximum number of defensive players is ten (10).
- No more than **seven (7) men** may play defense at one time in a coed league; if a team has less than the minimum of **three (3) women**, they still cannot have more than seven men in the field and must play with less than ten (10) (i.e., 7 men/2 women).
- Teams are allowed unlimited defensive substitutions.

BATTING ORDER

- There is no maximum number of players in the batting order.
- Teams must stay in their original batting order. If a player arrives late, he or she shall be added to the bottom of the order.

GENDER BATTING ROTATION

- No more than three men may bat consecutively.
- Every woman must bat before the lineup starts over.
- No man may bat twice before a woman bats once.
- If a team has less than 2 women, an out will be recorded every time the 3rd woman should bat.

COURTESY RUNNERS

- Any player on the roster may be used as a courtesy runner.
- Teams may use one (1) courtesy runner per inning.
- In coed courtesy runners must be of the same gender.
- A courtesy runner whose turn at bat comes while on base:
 - The player who the courtesy runner is running for will be called out.
 - The courtesy runner will be removed from the base and take their turn at bat.
 - A second courtesy runner or a substitute is not permitted at this time.
- A courtesy runner may not run for an existing courtesy runner except for an injury.

COED AUTOMATIC WALKS

- Any time a male batter walks immediately prior to a female batter, the male batter advances to second base regardless of the number of outs or runners on base.
- **Less than two outs** – the female batter after a walked male batter shall bat as scheduled.
- **Two outs** – the female batter after a walked male batter has the **option** to walk or bat as scheduled.

RUN LIMITS (REGULAR SEASON AND PLAYOFFS)

- Nine (9) run limit per inning except in the final inning.