



**City of Paso Robles
Library & Recreation Services
805.237.3988**

ADULT SOFTBALL **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

LEAGUE CLASSIFICATIONS:

Men's, Coed and Masters 50+

ROSTER ELIGIBILITY:

Players must turn sixteen (16) years of age during the calendar year to be eligible to participate. Roster must contain a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 18. Players are allowed to play for more than one team as long as the teams are not in the same division. Only a total of four (4) roster addition/deletions will be permitted once a roster has been turned in to registration not to exceed the maximum of 18 players on a team. **A maximum of four roster adds are free.** Managers may not add players. Roster adds must be done in person by the adding player. Roster adds are made at Centennial Park, 600 Nickerson Drive, at the registration desk between the hours of 10 am – 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday or at the fields with prior approval from the Recreation Department.

***** IMPORTANT NOTE:** The deadline for adding players is the third week of league play. After that time their roster is frozen and **NO** players will be added or deleted unless approved by the City of Paso Robles, Department of Library and Recreation Services.

All adds may be checked at any time throughout the league and any discrepancies found may result in forfeiture. Managers are responsible for ensuring that his/her added players have not been illegally added to their team.

Players must be able to show picture identification on the field if a question of eligibility arises. If a questioned player is not able to show picture identification that player may not be allowed to participate. Any participation by an illegal player shall result in game forfeitures at any point in the season. **Additionally any manager using known illegal players will be suspended one game.** All participants on the field must be listed on the official roster.

GAME TIME:

Game times will be scheduled for 6:15 pm, 7:30 pm and 8:45 pm. There is a ten (10) minute grace period for the first game of the night only. For a 7:30 game, a five minute grace period will be granted only with the approval of both team managers. The grace period is part of the 70-minute game time limit. **The umpire's watch is the official time.** Except in the case of a tie, no new inning will begin after one hour and ten (10) minutes. Teams must have eight (8) players on their roster to begin and continue a game. Games will not be postponed or re-scheduled due to conflicts with other leagues. Players participating in more than one league within or outside of the City of Paso Robles should consider the potential conflicts.

FORFEITS:

Forfeits count as 1 and ½ losses in the standings

1st Forfeit = \$20.00 fee payable to the City of Paso Robles before the next game.

2nd Forfeit = \$40.00 fee payable to the City of Paso Robles before the next game.

3rd Forfeit = \$60.00 fee payable to the City of Paso Robles before the next game.

4th Forfeit = Dropped from City of Paso Robles league. ****NO REFUND****

Forfeit fee will be waived if team manager contacts Recreation office by noon of game day.

If a forfeit occurs due to a lack of players, the two teams may have a “practice game” on the field in lieu of a league game. Only registered players may be on the field after a forfeit. If the last game of the night is a forfeit, staff will turn off the lights, lock the facility and leave - there will be no practice game.

Forfeits may be called when:

- A team fails to field eight (8) registered players at game time, or any time during the game.
- If, in the opinion of the officials, a manager does not have control of his team.
- Continued harassment of umpires, scorekeepers, players, coaches or spectators.
- Team and/or spectator violation of park rules and regulations.
- Use of illegal player or players.
- **Players attempting to play while in an intoxicated state.**
- **A team is found to be consuming alcohol and/or drugs during the game.**
- Any other situation which the umpire deems a hazard or is making a travesty of the game.

TIE GAMES:

All tie games will be played out. At the beginning of the 8th inning **OR** the beginning of the second inning after time has expired, if the score is still tied, the international tiebreaker rule will be instituted. The last batter scheduled to bat at the beginning of the inning will be placed on second base at the start of each 1/2 inning until the game is settled. Games delayed one hour or more due to the playing out of tie games will be rescheduled at a later date.

UNIFORMS / EQUIPMENT:

It is recommended that all league teams try to wear matching jerseys and/or full uniforms, if possible (not mandatory). Metal cleats are prohibited. Men's leagues will use a 12" restricted flight ball. Women's leagues will use an 11" restricted flight ball. Coed leagues will use a 12" ball for men and 11" for women. If a bat is in question and the official cannot distinguish its type, the bat will not be allowed. This will be enforced at the Umpire's discretion.

RAIN OUTS:

For rain out information, managers can call the Sports Line at 237-3990 **after 3:00 pm**. The voice message will be updated at 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm. After 5:00 pm, the Umpire at the field will determine if games will be played.

AWARDS:

First place teams for regular season play receive plaques in each division. The playoff champions receive individual awards (t-shirts).

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS:

The best overall record will determine league champions. In case of a tie, the following procedures will be used in order:

1. Head-to-head competition.
2. Head-to-head run differential.
3. If still tied, a single playoff game may be played.

All playoff games will be subject to the 70-minute time limit and run rule. The Championship game is still subject to the run rule but not the time limit.

INSURANCE:

The City of Paso Robles **DOES NOT** carry any insurance to cover individuals getting injured during any league or tournament play. Medical insurance is available on a per team basis through SCMAF. Managers will receive insurance information at the pre-season meeting.

The Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (S.C.M.A.F.) has an Accident Protection Plan insurance available which pays up to \$25,000 of uncovered medical expenses to players on registered teams who are injured during the course of league play. For players who have their own insurance, this may pay any deductible they may have. For uncovered players, it will pay up to \$25,000 of medical bills. Those teams who are interested in this organization and medical coverage can call the Recreation Department for more information. Cost is \$120 per team.

MODIFICATIONS:

The league will be governed by the 2010 ASA Rules and Regulations with the following modifications:

1. In the event of any rule questions, the Paso Robles Softball Organization (PASO) shall have the authority to institute new rules or to change rules, to maintain a continuity of the overall sports program. Their interpretation of the rules shall be final.
2. The Department of Library & Recreation Services with the help of PASO has the right to place teams in a certain division. No team is guaranteed a place in any certain division. There will be no movement of teams after the start of the season unless it is determined by the Department of Library & Recreation Services to be in the best interest of the league.
3. No refunds will be given once league play begins.
4. Teams must have a minimum of eight (8) players to begin and continue a game. Teams must use a catcher at all times. Only those names listed on the official roster are allowed in the dugout. All players, except first and third base coaches, batter, and on-deck batter, must remain in the dugout.
5. During the game no infield is taken after the first inning. Infield is permitted between games, IF TIME PERMITS. No infield is to be taken before the first game of the night. Teams may take the infield, batting practice, or scrimmage another registered team if a game has been forfeited. If the last game of the evening is a forfeit, however, players are not allowed to use the field. Staff will lock up the facility and turn off the lights.
6. **BATTING LINE-UP:** There are three (3) options when submitting a team line-up.

- a. **Ten player line-up:** Only ten names should be submitted to the scorekeeper. All substitutions and changes have to be reported. The re-entry rule will be used.
 - b. **Eleven player line-up** (including extra player): Eleven names can be submitted to the scorekeeper. All eleven will bat. Ten will play defense. Defensive changes do not have to be reported.
 - c. **Continuous batting line-up:** Teams are permitted to insert all of their player's names into a continuous batting line-up. If you do this, you must do it at the start of the game. Once the game starts, you cannot go from a 10 or 11 player line-up to a continuous one. If you are planning on using an entire team batting order and a player has not shown up at game time, you may insert the player into the game, when he/she arrives, at the end of the line-up until the batting order has completed a turn at bat (unless you take an out the first at bat). **If a player then shows up, the player may only be inserted as a substitute (exception: Coed League or if you took an out the first at bat).** The player he substituted for may re-enter the game one time. The substitute may not re-enter. If you are using an entire team line-up, players may enter and re-enter on defense without reporting to the umpire and/or scorekeeper.
 - d. **Coed Leagues:** Coed teams will use an alternating batting order. Defensively teams may have no more than five males in the field. If a coed team plays with less than 10 players at least one outfielder must be female.
7. If a player plays on the field, they must bat unless registered in the line up as DEFO (defensive only) **Note: DEFO cannot be used if team only has eight players.**
 8. Managers must turn in line-up to the Scorekeeper ten (10) minutes prior to the schedule game time. No games will start until line-ups have been turned in.
 9. Master's (Over 50) – force out at second & third if runner is within ten feet of the bag. Teams may play 11 defensive players. 5 run cap until last inning.
 10. An injured player leaving the game without a replacement will only be out the first at bat after the injury.
 11. ****ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** - Any player who, in the opinion of the Umpire, is intoxicated or on drugs will not be allowed to play. **Teams and/or players found with alcohol and/or drugs in the dugout while their game is in progress will forfeit that game and the entire team will be suspended from their next game.**
 12. Coed leagues - a male batter who is walked on four consecutive balls without a strike shall be awarded second base, **female batter has option of taking the base with two outs only.** Base runners advance only if forced to vacate their base.
 13. The following pitching regulations will be followed:

- A. With the plate extension (mat), the strike zone will be 23” wide and 34” long including the plate.
 - B. The mat is used for calling strikes only, so players must touch the regular plate to score.
 - C. The catcher must let the ball land on the plate, plate extension or ground, rather than catching it in flight (for safety purposes).
 - D. The ball does not have to be completely in the strike zone; it may only hit the edges of the plate (black) or mat to be called a strike.
 - E. The ball must arc higher than six (6) feet and must not exceed a height of 12 feet above the ground.
14. Players may lose contact with a base as soon as a pitched ball leaves the pitcher’s hand. No base stealing.
15. **Courtesy runner** - Teams are allowed one (1) per inning. Additional courtesy runners may be used in an inning with opposing manager’s approval.
16. **Home Run Rule:** All Divisions have a 1 UP rule (Team A cannot hit a second HR until Team B hits their first. **If they do it is a single**, runners only advance if forced.)
17. **Run Rule.** If a team is leading by 20 runs after three innings, 15 runs after four innings, or 10 runs after 5 innings the game will be declared over.
18. **PROFANITY:** In an effort to reduce profanity which is offensive to many participants and spectators, the following rules will be enforced:
- A. Any profanity directed toward the Umpire, Scorekeeper, or any players will be subject to immediate ejection (at the Umpire’s discretion).
 - B. No player, coach, or other bench personnel shall use profanity in a casual manner that is not directed at the Umpire, Scorekeeper, opposing players and/or spectators.
 - C. Clothing that includes profane words or symbols will not be allowed.
19. **EJECTED PLAYER** - Depending upon the violation, a player may be suspended for one game or longer. The PASO will determine the suspension time. The manager will be notified in writing the grounds for suspension and suspension time. Any player ejected a total of two (2) times from any City of Paso Robles, Department of Library & Recreation Services sports league will become ineligible to participate in ANY league for the remainder of the season. **An ejected player must leave the premises within two minutes and automatically sit out their next game.** *The ejected player may only be substituted for by a player that was listed as a sub on the game line-up.* A suspended player who plays a game during his/her suspension shall cause his team to forfeit those games.
20. **UMPIRES** - constant harassing of the Umpire and/or Scorekeeper may bring about forfeiture of the game. Sportsmanship shall be observed at all times.

Unsportsmanlike acts are grounds for player ejection, suspension, and/or game forfeitures.

21. **PROTESTS** - Protests shall be considered ONLY when based on the violation or misinterpretation of a playing rule or the use of an ineligible player. Protests will NOT be considered on a decision involving an umpire's judgment. Equipment which does not meet specifications must be removed from the game and shall not be the basis for a protest.
- a. Only the managers of the teams involved in the situation shall have the right to protest.
 - b. Protests shall be made as follows:
 - c. Coaches, Umpires, and Scorekeepers should have on hand a copy of the current year's A.S.A. Rule Book and set of these supplemental rules. After consultation concerning the situation, a ruling is made and the game continues.
 - d. If a protest is still wanted, notification of intent to protest regarding the misinterpretation of a playing rule must be made to the Umpire by the Manager **BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH**. Scorekeepers shall note inning, player at bat, out and all other relevant information. The protesting Team Manager must submit a written protest on the official protest form to the Department of Library & Recreation Services by 4:30pm of the next working day. A \$20 protest fee must be submitted with the completed protest form. The Umpire In Chief (UIC) will review the protest and if upheld, the \$20 fee will be refunded and the game replayed from the point of protest. If denied, the money is forfeited and the game results stand.
22. In the event of any rule questions, the PASO shall have the authority to institute new rules or changes to maintain the continuity of the overall sports program. Their interpretation of the rules shall be final. If any players have questions, problems or complaints regarding the league, it is preferred that they go through the team representative, before contacting the Recreation Manager, Department of Library and Recreation Services or the PASO. To contact the Recreation Manager, Charlotte Gorton, please call 237-3987 or email cgorton@prcity.com

After 5:00 p.m. questions/issues can be directed to:

Charlotte Gorton, 391-0911

Bob Villalobos, 610-7938

Rev. 1/2011