

# MARION PARKS AND RECREATION

## MEN'S & COED SOFTBALL

### 2018 RULES

#### RULE #1 - REGISTRATION AND ROSTERS

A. Registration must take place in person at the Marion Parks and Recreation Department. No registration will be accepted after the registration deadline.

B. To register, a team roster (20 maximum) and money must be submitted at the time of registration. All names must have complete addresses.

C. The registration fee **MUST** be paid by May 4<sup>th</sup> 2018. Fees may be paid by cash in the exact amount or by no more than two checks. **NOTE: NO REFUNDS ON PLAYER FEES UNLESS THE WHOLE TEAM DROPS OUT OF THE LEAGUE PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE DATE.**

**\*\*\*\*\*NO PAY, NO PLAY (unfair to teams that pay on time)\*\*\*\*\***

D. \$50 forfeit fee **MUST** be paid **separately** by deadline to be eligible to play.

E. All roster changes/additions must be made by June 29, 2018.

#### RULE #2 - ELIGIBILITY

A. No player can play on more than two teams in the Marion Parks League.

**Example:** You can play on a Men's & Coed League, but you can't play on two (2) Men's Leagues. **No player will be allowed to transfer to another team in the same season.**

**\*\*\*\*Once a player plays or shows up in the OFFICIAL book as being in lineup, he/she is locked on that team (this is protestable)\*\*\*\***

#### B. AGE REQUIREMENTS

**Men's & Coed:** 16 years or older by May 14th, 2018

C. A team discovered (via protest) to have an ineligible player on its roster will forfeit **ALL GAMES** played to that point, regardless if the person (s) in question played or not. All players must provide adequate identification if so requested by the Softball Commissioner. **THE OFFICIAL AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (ASA) RULES GOVERN UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED BELOW.**

### **RULE #3 - POSTPONEMENTS**

A. All games must be played as scheduled unless postponed due to inclement weather or wet diamonds. Postponed games will be played as rescheduled by the Softball Commissioner. This includes tournament games. Teams will be expected to make up games on the dates set or forfeit the game.

B. If there is reasonable doubt as to whether the field is playable on the day of the game, the manager should assume the game will be played and the final decision will be made at game time by the umpire. If managers are concerned about weather or field conditions, they can call **765-662-9931** between 3:00-4:00pm. For cancellations & updates go to [www.cityofmarion.in.gov](http://www.cityofmarion.in.gov) "Softball" tab, and local radio stations 106.9 WXXC & 1400 WBAT.

C. Make-up games will not be rescheduled once the dates and times are posted unless notified by the commissioner.

### **RULE #4 – PLAYERS – ASA Rule #4 Section 1**

A TEAM SHALL CONSIST OF:

**Men's Slow-Pitch** - Minimum of 8 or maximum of 10 players (11 players with an extra player).

**CO-ED** - Minimum of 8 players (4 males, 4 females) or a maximum of 10 players (5 males, 5 females) - 12 players with extra players. **NOTE: If using 9 or 11 players an out will be recorded in the 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> spot.**

1. (Men's Slow Pitch and Co-Ed) Teams must start and finish with the same amount of players. Teams that start with a minimum number of players may add players (up to 10, added at the end of line up) during the

game as long as the team hasn't batted through the order. Once the team adds a player to their starting line-up they must complete the game with that number of players **unless injury prevents**. **Example:** Slow Pitch team started with 9 players. In the second inning, the 10<sup>th</sup> player arrives and was inserted into the line-up. At the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, this player is injured and cannot play. The team does not have a substitute.

**RULING:** The team would take an out in that player spot.

2. A team may bat everyone but the above rule applies. Only ten (10) allowed playing defense. **Example:** Team bats all players on the bench, player gets injured. Since there are no substitutes an out will be recorded in that spot. If player gets ejected the game is a forfeit since there is no substitute available. \* Coed may bat everyone but an out is recorded if there isn't an even amount of male and females in line-up.

## **RULE #5 - EXTRA PLAYER**

Please read ASA Rule 4, Section 4

## **RULE #6 - PROTEST**

A. All protests must be submitted to the Marion Parks and Recreation Department, in writing, 24 hours after completion of the game. Said protest must be accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00 and must give all facts involved in protest. The \$50.00 will be refunded in cases where the protest is upheld. Protest forms are available from the commissioner.

**B. No protest will be allowed unless the umpire is notified at the point that the game is being played under protest.**

**\*\*IF PLAYER ELIGIBILITY IS BEING PROTESTED, THE UMPIRE AND/OR THE COMMISSIONER (OR ACTING SUPERVISOR) MUST BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO THE LAST OUT OF THE GAME BEING PLAYED\*\*\***

C. All protests will be decided by the Softball Commissioner and/OR The Commissioners Board.

D. The player that is under protest must show photo identification.

E. Protest will not be allowed for judgment calls OR ejections made by the umpire, only rule discrepancies, so don't waste your money.

## **RULE #7 - GAME**

### **A. TIME LIMIT**

Men's Slow-Pitch: The time limit is one (1) hour.

Co-ed: The time limit is one (1) hour.

**\* Forfeit time is five (5) minutes after scheduled game time or previous game is concluded. Game line-up due 15 minutes prior to scheduled game time. (GAME CLOCK WILL BE STARTED AT UMPIRE'S OR COMMISSIONER'S DISCRETION)**

**No new inning shall start after the time has expired unless the game is tied. A new inning is considered started as soon as the last out is made in the bottom of the inning. A modified tie breaker shall be in effect after time has expired and the score is tied. (For example: each batter starts with a full count with a free foul ball, runner is at second base, this runner is the last batter in the inning. If 3<sup>rd</sup> batter is up, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> batter starts at 2<sup>nd</sup> base)**

### **B. RUN RULE: ASA Rule #5 Section 9**

A game shall be called if after three (3) innings home team is ahead by 20 or more runs, if after four (4) innings home team is ahead by 15 runs, five (5) innings if home team is ahead by 10 runs.

### **C. HOME RUN CLASSIFICATIONS**

A limit of over-the-fence home runs will be used in all Men's and Co-Ed Slow-Pitch divisions. All balls hit over the fence in a game by a team in excess of the limitations will be ruled on as shown:

-- **Men's:** Three (3); Excess Rule - Out

-- **Co-Ed:** One (1); Excess Rule - Out

## **D. PITCHING DISTANCE**

Pitching distance for all slow-pitch leagues is 50'.

## **E. CO-ED RULES**

Batting order for Co-Ed shall be alternating sexes. Co-Ed defensive positioning shall include two (2) males and two (2) females in the outfield, two (2) males and two (2) females in the infield, one (1) male and one (1) female in the pitcher - catcher positions. Once determining positions, the players must be stationed on fair ground, except the catcher. On any walk to a male batter with 2 outs (intentional or not) the next batter, a female, has a choice of walking or hitting, up until the first pitch.

## **F. BATS**

**-ASA/NSA may be used EXCEPT for the following conditions:**

**1) If an UPPER Division team is playing a LOWER division team, the LOWER division team decides if NSA bats will be used (before first pitch)**

**2) Lower division (if both teams agree, NSA bats may be used)**

**-Bats will be subject to occasional checks by umpire or Commissioner (or acting supervisor)**

**3) COED GAMES (ASA)**

**\*\*\*If a bat is used and found to be ALTERED according to manufacturer standards (shaved, rolled etc) the owner of the bat (or team if no one claims to be the owner) will be expelled from the league for a minimum of 2yrs. A report to ASA/NSA/USSSA will be filed in accordance with that associations by-laws. THIS IS A FEDERAL CRIME, so if an injury occurs you can be subject to criminal charges as well.**

**\*\*\*If an ILLEGAL (Cracked, dented, wobbles or on ASA banned bat list) bat is used, the player that used it will be ejected and suspended for no less than 5 games (Commissioner and Board will decide if more games are necessary)**

**MAKE SURE YOUR BAT(S) IS LEGAL IN ASA and/or NSA, if you are not sure ask! Bat List for both associations is available on line.**

## **RULE #8 - MISC. RULES**

A. When a defensive player has the ball and the runner, in the umpire's judgment, deliberately crashes into the defensive player, the runner is to be declared out. (If the act is determined to be flagrant, the offender shall be ejected.) Co-Ed will also be suspended for two (2) games.

B. If in the judgment of the umpire a runner is obstructed while advancing or returning to a base by a fielder who neither has the ball or is attempting to field a batted ball, or a fielder without the ball fakes a tag, the umpire shall award the obstructed runner and each other runner affected by the obstruction, the bases they would have reached in his judgment, had there been no obstruction. If the umpire feels that there is no justification, a defensive player making a fake tag could be removed from the game. This is a delayed dead ball and play continues until umpire calls time.

C. If a player has been ejected and the team does not have a replacement, the game is a forfeit.

**D. Metal Cleats and FOOTBALL type cleats will not be allowed in any league. ; If found to be worn that player will need to change shoes or be substituted; if no substitute is available an out will be recorded in that spot.**

E. Players caught digging in the batters box will receive an automatic strike. Players are required to step into the batter's box without digging into the ground. **(This rule applies with umpire's discretion). THIS IS YOUR WARNING!**

F. Softballs will be provided by Marion Parks and Recreation.

G. If a tie occurs at the end of the season, a one (1) game playoff will occur.

**H. Batter will start with 1 ball and 1 strike count. (NO COURTESY FOUL)**

## **RULE #9 - OFFICIALS AND UMPIRES**

A. Umpires chosen by the Commissioner shall be in full authority of the games.

B. Scorekeeper will be provided by Marion Parks and Recreation.

## **RULE #10 - CONDUCT OF PLAYERS**

A. A player guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct in connection with any game or decision can be suspended from the league for the balance of the season or any part thereof depending on the severity of the violation. **Zero Tolerance**

B. A player guilty of attacking another player or an official before, during or after a game because of a decision made by the official or a play by the player shall be suspended from all Marion Parks and Recreation activities until the board and the commissioner agree the player may return. **Zero Tolerance**

C. A player who is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct or foul language will also be suspended from his/her teams for the **next** two (2) games. **Zero Tolerance**

D. Any player ejected three (3) times in the same season shall be suspended from the Softball program for the remainder of the year in all leagues. **Zero Tolerance**

E. Abusing equipment or facilities in excitement or disgust may result in the player being suspended for two (2) games. **Zero Tolerance**

F. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on the playing fields or dugout. Any player seen drinking during a game will be suspended for two (2) games. **Zero Tolerance**

G. Smoking is strictly prohibited on the playing field. **Zero Tolerance**

H. Only team players and coaches allowed in dugout. **Zero Tolerance**

I. No children allowed in dugouts. **Zero Tolerance**

J. Only the team captain or coach is allowed to address the umpires and/or the commissioner to question a ruling. **Zero Tolerance**

K. Judgment calls (Balls and strikes, out and safe) made by umpire will stand. **Zero Tolerance**

## **RULE #11 - ADDITION OF PLAYERS**

A. Teams may only add new players up to June 29, 2018. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**  
**(20 players allowed on roster MAX)**

B. When adding someone to the roster that a person must make changes at the Ball Diamond before a game in front of the commissioner. If the player plays before signing the roster the team will have to forfeit the game.

**MOST OF ALL....HAVE FUN!!!!**



**CITY** *of* **MARION**