



PARKS & RECREATION ATHLETICS DIVISION

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Adult Slow Pitch Softball Leagues By-Laws

1. **LIABILITY:**

The city of Bremerton, including the Parks and Recreation Department, does not provide insurance coverage for League participants, nor accept responsibility for injuries. This release shall be part of each team's roster that lists all participating players.

2. **COACH RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- A) **Ensure player information on the team roster and game line up is correct.**
- B) Promote & demonstrate **SPORTSMANSHIP, INTEGRITY & LEADERSHIP.**
- C) Ensure the team registration and player fees are paid on the required due dates.
- D) Ensure team roster is submitted **PRIOR** to the first scheduled game.
- E) Adhere to the Association and League rules and inform their players with the content. Ignorance of the rules will not be accepted as an excuse for a violation.
- F) Keep address and phone number current with the league director.
- G) Attend scheduled pre-season coach's meeting(s).
- H) Notify team members of any changes to the schedule due to inclement weather.

Note: **Violation to A) will result in a 1 year participation suspension and lifetime ban from coaching.**
Violation(s) to B-H will result in a 1 year probation period. 2nd offense will result in no future coaching opportunities in the softball program.

3. **FEES:**

- A) The **Team Fee** and the **Player Fee** (for each player listed on a team roster) must be paid in full and meet the due date requirements as listed on the appropriate softball league registration form.
- B) If a fee is paid by check and the check is **RETURNED** from the bank as "Non-payable", for any reason, this fee will be considered unpaid.
- C) **REFUND** requests for the Team Fee must be made a minimum of (2) weeks prior to the start of League play. Less than (2) weeks, team fee is non-refundable. Player fees are non-refundable but, may be transferred to another participant on the same team.
- D) **UNPAID FEES** will result in **TEAM & PLAYER FORFEITS/SUSPENSIONS.**

Note: Each member of the team will be held individually liable for an equal portion of the debt and will be suspended until their portion is paid.

4. **BALL REQUIREMENTS:**

- A) Each team **MUST** provide a ball while on offense. It may be new or used. If a team cannot provide a legal ball, the opposing team may choose to share their game ball or accept a forfeit win. If neither team has a legal ball, both teams will forfeit that game.
- B) **SIZE** (per League);
 - 1. 12" ball Men's/Church/Co-ed Leagues (male participants).
 - 2. 11" ball Women's/Co-ed Leagues (female participants).
- C) **LOGO/STAMP:**
 - 1. USSSA (or GSL) logo and stamped Classic M or Classic Plus.
 - 2. USSSA (or GSL) logo and stamped Classic W.
- D) **COLOR: Optic YELLOW** only!

5. **TEAM ROSTER:**

- A) Submit to the Athletics office (1) **WEEK PRIOR** to each team's first scheduled game. All team rosters will be kept on file with the Athletic office for player eligibility purposes and roster modifications (player additions, deletions & transfers).
- B) Must include the following;
 - 1. Coach & all participating players.
 - 2. Team name. Team name listed will be registered with the USSSA State Office.
- C) **Violation(s)** are subject to game forfeiture.

6. **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY & AGE REQUIREMENTS:**

- A) Men's League: Men only 16+
- B) Women's League: Women only 16+
- C) Church League: Men and Women 16+
- D) Player(s) ages 16-17 must sign and submit the USSSA Washington State Slow Pitch Softball Parental/Guardian Waiver Form to the Athletics Office.
- E) Player name must be listed on the appropriate team roster and player fee paid in full.
- F) Player is LIMITED to (1) team per League (example: A player that participates in the Men's League CANNOT play on a Division 1 team and ALSO on a Division 3 team). A player MAY play in multiple leagues (i.e. Co-ed, Church, Men's & PSNS).

7. **MODIFICATIONS TO A TEAM ROSTER:**

- A) **ADDING PLAYER(s):**
 - 1. Allowed prior to the final (2) games of the regular season. Exceptions may be approved if a team roster falls to (10) or less members through injury or work relocation.
 - 2. NO roster changes may be made after the final regular season game for leagues offered that includes an End-of-Season Tournament (i.e. Sunday Mixed League).
- B) **PLAYER TRANSFER:**
Limited to (1) per season.

8. **USE OF INELIGIBLE PLAYER:**

- A) The use of a player, who does not meet the Player Eligibility requirements (see #7), is NOT ALLOWED!
- B) **VIOLATION(S)** are subject to the following **PENALTIES:**
 - 1. **1st Offense**

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|--------|-------------------|
| Player | 1 game SUSPENSION |
| Coach | 1 game SUSPENSION |
| Team | Game FORFEITURE |
 - 2. **2nd Offense**

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| Player | 3 game SUSPENSION |
| Coach | 2 games SUSPENSION |
| Team | Game FORFEITURE; placed on probation & subject to REMOVAL from League play. |

9. **GAME CALLED DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES:**

If a game is stopped for unforeseen circumstances (rain, lightning, field lights not working, etc.),

- A) The umpire on the field will have the authority to call the game.
- B) If less than 4 innings have been played, the ENTIRE game will be rescheduled.
- C) After 4 complete innings (or 4 ½ if the home team is ahead), the game will be considered complete.

10. **UNIFORMS:**

- A) Recommended but NOT required.
- B) **Clothing with socially offensive or vulgar language or obscene gestures will not be allowed and the offender is subject to Ejection.**

11. **PLAYER PARTICIPATION IN MULTIPLE LEAGUES:**

- A) A player may participate in multiple leagues (see letter C for leagues offered) but, is limited to (1) team per league and must meet the Player Eligibility Requirements (see #7 above).
- B) Player **IS** required to pay the PLAYER FEE for each league they participate in.
- C) Leagues offered;
 - 1. **SPRING LEAGUE (May-August);**
 - a) MEN USSSA
 - b) CHURCH USSSA
 - c) PSNS USSSA
 - d) WOMEN USSSA
 - e) SUNDAY MIXED USSSA
 - 2. **FALL LEAGUE (August-September);**
 - a) MEN USSSA
 - b) MIXED (Tuesday/Thursday) USSSA
 - c) MIXED (Sunday) USSSA

12. **RAIN OUT/FIELD PLAYABILITY PROCEDURES:**

- A) Field playability will be determined by 4 pm for weeknight leagues and 3 pm for Sunday leagues.
- B) Team coaches are responsible for calling the Parks Department **Rain Line at 360-473-5700** to check if games have been canceled due to unplayable field conditions.
- D) Once fields have been declared unplayable, whether by the Parks Department or the game umpire, all further games (on the fields announced on the Rain Line) that evening are also cancelled.
- E) Rescheduled Games(s):
 - 1. All games Rained out will be rescheduled.
 - 2. May be scheduled at different times and/or different nights in order to complete the season.
 - 3. **Special requests accepted the first (2 days) after a cancellation.**
 - 4. Once a rescheduled game is posted, any team UNABLE to attend is subject to forfeiture.
 - 5. Information will be posted on the city website at www.ci.bremerton.wa.us; (Go to Quick Links, Athletics and Softball) and at Pendergast Park on the bulletin board located next to field #1.

13. **REPORTING GAME SCORES:**

- A) The **WINNING TEAM** is responsible for reporting the game score and must leave a message on the “**SCORE LINE**” (360-473-5700) no-later-than 11 AM the following morning of a scheduled game. In the case of a tie, either team may call in the score.
- B) **VIOLATION(s):**
 - 1. 1st offense: WARNING from League Director.
 - 2. 2nd offense: FORFEIT LOSS.

14. **ZERO TOLERANCE LEAGUE:**

The following rules apply BEFORE, DURING & AFTER games & ANYWHERE in the vicinity of the Softball program.

- A) **Alcohol Possession, Property Abuse** (i.e. slamming the field entrance/exit gate, throwing a bat against the fence, etc.), **Unsportsmanlike Conduct**, and/or use of **Profane Language** (to include clothing with socially offensive or vulgar language or obscene gestures) will not be allowed and the offender(s) is subject to **EJECTION and/or SUSPENSION**.
- B) Any coach, player, or spectator that is **ABUSIVE** (i.e. verbal/physical threats, excessive use of profanities) toward the Game Official, Parks and Recreation Personnel, or the Opposing Team shall be subject to a period of **INDEFINITE SUSPENSION** at the discretion of the League Director.
- C) A player who engages in a fight is subject to suspension for one calendar year or more.

(By-Laws continued on next page)

15. **EJECTIONS FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT:**

- A) The participant ejected **MUST leave the facility immediately**, or risk forfeiture of the game and further discipline, and also is **subject to suspension** from the team's **next scheduled game**.
- B) Ejection judged "**SEVERE**" (i.e. verbal/physical threats, excessive use of profanities, physical contact with an umpire, etc.) by the League Director will result in a period of **INDEFINITE SUSPENSION**. The offending participant will also be required to meet with the League Director to review the incident before regaining eligibility.
- C) **2 EJECTIONS**, in either the Spring or Fall leagues, will result in **SUSPENSION** for the **REMAINDER OF THE SEASON** for each league that player participates in (i.e. player ejected in Men's Spring League game one night and Church Spring League game the next week IS suspended for the Spring Season). This applies to ALL Bremerton Parks and Recreation Leagues Sponsored Softball Leagues (refer to rule #9 Letter C).

16. **FORFEITED GAME:**

Teams that forfeit games are affecting the enjoyment of opposing teams.

- A) Any team forfeiting two (2) or more games will be dropped from the league with NO refund.
- B) Game forfeiture, may include the following but is not limited to;
 - 1. Unpaid team registration and/or player fees.
 - 2. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - 3. Inability to field a team.
 - 4. Use of non-rostered player(s).
- C) The game score will be 7-0 in favor of the team not at fault unless the run differential is higher for the non-offending team.

17. **STANDINGS TIE-BREAKERS:**

Teams with identical won-loss records at the conclusion of the regular season (tournament results not included) will use the following guidelines, in order of sequence, to break ties in the divisional standings;

- A) Best winning percentage in regular season head-to-head competition.
- B) Best run differential in regular season head-to-head competition.
- C) Share league title.

18. **UMPIRES:**

- A) All Bremerton Parks and Recreation Department sponsored Softball Leagues contract out to the USSSA Kitsap County Umpires Association.
- B) Complaints against an umpire must be lodged in writing to the USSSA KCUA and sent through the Bremerton Parks and Recreation Athletics office.
- C) **UMPIRE NO-SHOW;**
 - 1. If the game umpire is not present 10 minutes prior at the scheduled game start time, call the **USSSA U.I.C. at 360-621-5422** and leave a voice message including field location, field # and game time.
 - 2. Next, both coaches will agree upon a volunteer to umpire the game. If an agreement is reached the game will be considered official and a protest will not be allowed. If an agreement cannot be reached, the game will be rescheduled by the League Director.
 - 3. The home team must notify the Athletic Office with the volunteers name and phone number so that they will be compensated for their service.

19. **LEAGUE DIRECTOR:**

- A) League Director may be reached by contacting the Athletic Office at 360-473-5427 or email @ Scott.Evans@ci.bremerton.wa.us.
- B) Has the authority to make rulings on any matter related to all Bremerton Parks and Recreation sponsored Leagues (see rule #11 letter C).