

American Fork Parks & Recreation

Men's Slow Pitch Softball League

Rules & Information—Fall 2021

Fees

1. The registration fee goes toward the cost of running the adult softball program and is an estimate based on balls, umpires, arbitrating fees, supplies, supervisors, league awards, field preparation and lights.
2. Registration for the league includes 14 regular season games (men's) Coed (12) and a postseason double elimination tournament.

Rosters & Players

3. Each player will be required to sign the waiver form himself. **Any false information or fraudulent signatures is cause for the team being disqualified from further play and all fees forfeited.**
4. Each player must have played a minimum of 4 league games in order to be eligible for the post-season tournament. To ensure that players receive credit for playing, team managers must fill out game roster forms with complete names and uniform numbers.

Player Ejection

5. Any player who is ejected from a game for any reason must leave the park before play will be allowed to resume. That player will also be suspended for the game following the ejection and will carry over into post-season play. The following rules indicate some reasons for ejection. Other reasons or ejection are at the discretion of the umpire or the program supervisor.
 - a. Metal cleated shoes are not allowed and any player wearing them will be asked to remove them or face ejection from the game.
 - b. A player will be ejected from a game for abusive or inappropriate behavior, including language, swearing. However, ejection of a player under these circumstances will also cost the team an automatic out at the time of the infraction. If the offending team just received their third out of the inning or is in the field at the time of the ejection the team will start with an automatic out at their next at bat.
 - c. Anyone intentionally throwing a bat will be ejected from the game. This act may be witnessed by the umpire, program supervisor, or scorekeeper and is cause of ejection regardless of where or with what intent the bat was thrown or whether it hit someone. It is simply deemed to be a very dangerous act. Repeat offense could result in suspension from league play.

Teams and Lineups

6. Teams are allowed 10 players on the field defensively and Teams may start and end with as few as 8 players with no penalty. However, fewer than 8 players anytime during a game will result in a forfeit. When starting with fewer than 10, late players will be added to the end of the batting lineup and may assume a position defensively during any dead ball after having officially reported to the scorekeeper. If a team decides to bat 12 players, you must declare your intent at the start of the game.
7. The team's uniforms must consist of the same color shirt or jersey with different 6 inch or larger numbers on the back. (No taped or hand drawn numbers) There will be no trading of uniforms with teammates after the lineup has been turned in. Numbers on the front of the uniform are very helpful, but not required.
8. Courtesy runners... 1 per inning and must be last out...An injured Player can have a courtesy runner, (last out) also...

The Game

9. No child under 16 will be allowed in the dugout or on the field at any time. American Fork City and American Fork Recreation Department are not responsible for the supervision of children at the field. The parent or guardian is responsible to watch children and make sure they do not enter the playing field or the dugout. No one that has not signed the roster/waiver is allowed in the dugout or on the field at any time.
10. Games will be scheduled to start on the hour, 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, and 9:15. The official game clock will start at the scheduled game time or 5 minutes after the previous game's end, whichever is later.
11. Games will be played for 7 innings or 50 minutes, whichever comes first. No new innings will start after 55 minutes. Games can end in a tie.
12. HOME RUNS are "3" and then "1" up...A Home team can win the game on a home run in the bottom of an inning..
13. Forfeit time is game time. However, On the first game of the night the umpire may grant a 10 min grace period. Forfeits will not be tolerated. The first forfeit will result in a warning. The second forfeit will be charged a \$25 reinstatement fee. The third forfeit will result in the team being suspended for the remainder of the year including post-season tournament play and forfeit all registration fees. The team will also be on probation for the next year. A team on probation will be suspended for the season after the first forfeit of the New Year.
14. The game schedule will list the home team first and the visiting team second. League games are played as double-headers as often as possible. Some teams stay on their field while others move.
15. There will be absolutely no warm-ups on the infield prior to the start of the game even if it appears that there is sufficient time to do so. This rule pertains to every game on every diamond.

16. There is a 20-run rule after 3 innings, 15 after 4 innings and 10 run rule in effect after the 5th inning. If teams do anything that is deemed as a deliberate attempt to prolong the game in order to go into the 6th and/or the 7th innings, the game can be called by the program supervisor or the umpire.
17. Coed infielders must start on dirt of the infield when the ball is pitched...

Official Rules and Protests

NSA pitching rule ... A pitch must have a legal arc minimum of 6' from the ground and shall not exceed 10' at its highest point while in the air. Pitching distance is 53' - pitcher must have foot on rubber at the time of the release of the pitch. If a pitcher fakes, or is not in contact with the rubber it will be a dead ball and the pitch will be called a ball. A mat placed behind the plate will be used for the strike zone. Any legally pitched ball within the minimum and maximum height limits that hits the mat will be called a strike.

18. The 2019 Official NSA Slow Pitch Rule Book will be used in all situations that are not specifically covered by the American Fork Men's Slow-Pitch League Rules. Bat must have a BPF of 1.20 or lower and must have an NSA, current stamp clearly readable on the barrel. Any use of a bat that is altered is prohibited. A player caught using an altered bat will be prohibited from this league for 5 years. The umpire has full jurisdiction on the field during actual play. The Program Coordinator/ Supervisor has jurisdiction over the program, facilities, teams, umpires and scorekeepers, but cannot overrule the umpire's judgment call.
19. A protest may be registered with the umpire and official scorekeeper if the team has a difference of opinion on the field with the umpire regarding the application or interpretation of a playing rule. Protests cannot be made on a judgment call. The intent to protest must be made known and recorded immediately after the action in question and before the next pitch is made. The game will continue, under protest, at that point. To be considered further, the protesting team must then submit a written protest to the Recreation office no later than 5:00 pm the next working day following the protested game. The written protest must include the date, time and location of the game, teams and players involved, the name of the official and scorekeeper. Describe the situation, all essential facts and cite the Rule and Section of the Rule from the Official NSA Rule Book or Slow Pitch Softball League Rules on which the protest is based. A \$30 protest fee must accompany the written protest. The fee will be refunded only if the protest is upheld. The protest may result in the protest being found invalid in which case the game stands as played or the protest may be upheld in which case the game will be resumed at the point of protest as a suspended game with the winner yet to be determined.
20. A protest may also be registered because of an ineligible player playing in a game. To be considered, the protesting team must submit a written protest to the Recreation office no later than 5:00 pm the next working day following the game in which the alleged ineligible player played. The written protest must include the date, time and location of the game, teams and players involved, and the name of the Umpire. Cite the Slow Pitch Softball League Rule on which the protest is based. A \$30 protest fee must accompany the written protest. The fee will be refunded only if the protest is upheld. The protest may result in the protest being found invalid in which case the game stands as played or the protest may be upheld in which case the game is forfeited to the protesting team.

Miscellaneous

21. If inclement weather, or anything else, causes the ball fields to become unplayable, the Parks Department will inform the Recreation office that games are to be canceled. If there is a question, the team manager or a representative should call the Recreation office at 763-3080 between 3:00 and 5:00 pm to determine playability. After 5:00 pm teams may call Angie Smith at 318-8602, or Randy at 801-310-5311. Un-playability after 6:00 pm will be determined on site-by-site supervisor. Team representatives should make every effort to contact members of his team with this information. Players should call their team manager or representative and not the numbers listed above.
22. Neither American Fork City nor the Men's Slow Pitch League provides medical and/ or accident insurance for participants in City Recreation programs. Participants are encouraged to have their own insurance that covers themselves and family members. Supplementary team insurance can be obtained from most local insurance carriers.
23. In accordance with Municipal Code 9.14.010, No person shall drink alcohol in a public park. Violation of this is considered a class B misdemeanor and will be reported to the police department.
24. American Fork City has declared Art Dye as a smoke free, Vapor free facility...You must leave the park if you need to do those things.
25. Hitting the pitcher, (line drive), by batting the ball up the center of the field is a dead ball and an out. If the ball was hit with intent, it is an ejection, and the bat will be confiscated and tested. The Umpire can use his own judgment when it comes to intent, but if an individual hits the pitcher a second time. (or after an umpire warning) the player can be ejected from the game. If a pitcher moves out of center, there is no penalty.