

WALTHAM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

314 Totten Pond Road, Waltham, MA 02451
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COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Rules and Regulations

ELIGIBILITY

1. Company Teams: Any team housed in Waltham may enter a team, provided all team members are employees of the sponsoring company.
2. Waltham Teams: Waltham residents may enter as a team, provided all team members can prove residency.
3. Spousal Players: A maximum of two spousal players per team will be allowed.

ROSTERS

1. All rosters must carry a minimum of fourteen players. At least four women must be listed on a roster.
2. Roster Changes: New players can be added to a team's roster by submitting a Change of Roster Form to the Parks and Recreation Office. Changes can be made only before a team has completed 50% of its games.

ENTRY FEE

1. A \$150. Entry Fee must be submitted with a team's roster. Checks should be made payable to the City of Waltham.

EQUIPMENT

1. The Waltham Recreation Department shall supply to each team two aluminum bats, an appropriate number of softballs, and a scorebook.
2. Bats remain the property of the City of Waltham and should be returned to the Recreation Department at the completion of the season.
3. Team uniforms are optional.

SCHEDULING

1. All games will be played at Veteran Field on Forest Street.
 - a. Games will be played Monday through Thursday evenings.
 - b. One game will be played each night, at 6:00 p.m.
 - c. Games postponed by the Recreation Department due to weather conditions will be rescheduled at the completion of the playing schedule, or on Friday evenings when necessary.
2. **All games must be played on the date and time scheduled, unless rescheduled due to weather conditions.** In the event a team is unable to field the appropriate number of players, a loss by forfeit must be accepted. Games rescheduled by anyone other than Recreation Staff will be considered losses for both teams.

TIME LIMITS

1. All games played in full will consist of seven innings.

WAITING PERIOD

1. A ten-minute waiting period will be allowed for a team to field an appropriate number of players.
2. Any team that cannot field an appropriate number of players after the ten-minute waiting period will accept a loss by forfeit.

MERCY RULE

1. In the event that one team is winning by 15 or more runs at the completion of the fifth inning, the losing team has the option of ending the game.

RAINOUTS

1. The Recreation Staff will make decisions on cancellations due to rain or poor playing conditions at 4:00 p.m.
2. Team managers are responsible for calling the Parks and Recreation Office between 4:00 and 4:30 p.m. to see if games have been cancelled.
3. Make-ups for cancelled games will be at the completion of the playing schedule or on Friday evenings when necessary.

REPORTING SCORES

1. A representative of the winning team must report the final game score to the Recreation Department on the next consecutive business day following a game. Scores can be reported by e-mail (

HOME TEAM

1. A Home Team for each game will be listed first on the playing schedule.
2. The Home Team will occupy the player's bench closest to first base.
3. The Home Team will bat in the last half of each inning.
4. It will be the responsibility of the Home Team to provide softballs for each game.

GAME RULES

1. A team shall consist of ten players.
2. A team must have the designated number of players to start or to continue a game.
3. There must be at least three women on the defensive field.
4. While at bat, each team will designate one player to be the Designated Pitcher. The Designated Pitcher will pitch to his own team members, but will not act as an infielder.
5. The Designated Pitcher will pitch a maximum of four balls to each batter. No balls or strikes will be called. Any batter who does not hit within the four allowed pitches will be considered out.
6. A Designated Pitcher will remain in the batting line-up. During the Pitcher's turn at bat and while on base, a Substitute Pitcher will be assigned.
7. A team consists of ten players. All ten bat, all ten field. Given that the pitcher is a member of the team at bat, it follows that there will be eleven players on the defensive field. The team on the field has the option of playing their tenth player in any position they choose. Since the pitcher is non-fielding, the defensive team is allowed to play their tenth player as an extra infielder.

8. Team managers are responsible for providing opposing team managers with a batting order list prior to the start of a game, and notifying the opposing team manager of any substitutions. Team managers should keep all Batting Order Forms until the end of the season.
9. At least three women must be included in the top ten batters. It will be the responsibility of the team manager to assign batting order. Any variation of male/female batting order will be allowed.
10. Substitutions can be made whenever the ball is dead.
11. Open substitution will be allowed, provided at least three women remain on the defensive field.
12. A ball must be pitched underhand at slow speed.
13. Base stealing or advancing is not permitted. Baserunners must keep contact with their base, and may leave it only when a pitched ball is hit.
14. No bunts will be allowed.
15. Any ball that hits the pitcher will be considered a dead ball and will be repitched.
16. Players are asked to avoid physical contact with other players while on the field.
17. Tie games will be allowed.
18. Any game suspended due to weather or light conditions after the completion of the fourth inning will be considered complete.
19. Any game suspended due to weather or light conditions prior to the completion of the fourth inning will be rescheduled and will resume play at the point of interruption.

FORFEITURE CLAUSE

1. Any team that forfeits three games in a season will be dropped from the league for all remaining games. This team will also be ineligible to play the following year.

DISPUTES

1. The Waltham Recreation Department reserves the right to rule on all disputes in a manner it sees fair and fitting.