



Rock Island Parks & Recreation Department Summer 2011 Softball League Information

Welcome to the 2011 Summer Slow Pitch Softball Program sponsored by the City of Rock Island Park and Recreation Department. This program is provided for your fun and enjoyment. Your cooperation, good sportsmanship, and communication with league staff are important in making this year a success.

League Website: <http://www.rigov.org/citydepartments/parks/sportsinfo.html>
Find us on www.facebook.com under Rock Island Campbell Sports Complex.

League Calendar

December 10 th	Begin Taking League Registrations
March 11 th	Reclassification requests due to Park Office
April 22 nd	League Registration Deadline
April 28 th	Managers' Meeting @ Complex – 6PM
May 3 rd	Weekday leagues begin
May 22 nd	Sunday leagues begin
August 5 th -7 th	ASA C-State Tournament

Section 1: Registration

1. Completed registration form and payment must be submitted to be considered “registered” for a league.
2. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Leagues may fill up before the deadline.
3. Registration fees are due at time of registration.
4. Managers may register their teams by turning in or mailing form and money to Rock Island Parks, 4303 24th St., Rock Island, IL 61201.
5. Managers may also register by calling 309-732-7275 and paying by Visa or Mastercard.

Section 2: Refunds

1. 100% refund if league is cancelled due to lack of teams.
2. 50% before April 1st.
3. 0% after April 1st.
4. Refunds may take up to six (6) weeks to process.

Section 3: Fees

1. Men's Fees are \$485/team. Each team plays 10 weeks of doubleheaders.
2. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday coed fees are \$285/team. Each team plays 10 games.
3. Sunday coed fees are \$385. Each team will play 7 weeks of doubleheaders.
4. Each league will conclude with a single-elimination tournament.
5. Each league will use 1 umpire per game. Thursday men's will use 2 umpires.
6. The Rock Island Park Office will register each team with ASA.

Section 4: Team Rosters

1. Official rosters are due at each team's first day of games. Each team member must provide their first and last name, address, phone number, and signature to be considered a rostered player. If a team plays with a non-rostered player, the game will be declared a forfeit and the player will be suspended for one game.
2. The eligibility of a player must be protested by the opposing team prior to the end of the game. A player's eligibility cannot be questioned after the game is over.
3. Each team roster shall consist of a maximum of 25 players aged 18 and over. 16 & 17 year olds may play with a written permission note submitted to the Complex Manager or Park Office.
4. Players can only play on one team within their league.
5. A team may start a game with 9, 10, or 11 players. The short-handed rule will apply. You must, however, finish with nine players. This conforms to A.S.A. rules.
6. All changes made by a team must be handled by the manager or assistant manager and be made in written form listing team name, player name, address, phone, and city and submitted to the Complex Manager or League Supervisor. A player will not be considered on a roster until the Complex Manager or League Supervisor receives this written notice. Phone calls will not be accepted to make roster changes.
7. Women may not participate in men's leagues, and men may not participate in women's leagues.

Section 5: Laying Schedule

1. Games begin at 6pm and are scheduled every hour thereafter.
2. Game time is forfeit time.
3. Time limit for men's, women's, and church leagues is 1 hour 10 minutes. Time limit for coed is 1 hour.
4. Time will start when the umpire informs the home team to take the field.
5. Games will not be postponed except for weather conditions. The league manager will reschedule postponed games.
6. The international tie-breaking rule will be in effect after the seventh inning, or if the score is tied when the time limit expires.
7. In case of rain, which might question the status of a game, call the Rain Line after 4:00 p.m. at 732-RAIN.
8. Rained-out games will be made up at the end of the season on the regular night. In case of extreme circumstances games may be made up on a different night. All summer league play will be concluded by August 15th.
9. All games will be seven innings in length with 4 ½ official in the event of rain. The game will resume at the point it was terminated if it is not official (except for time limit or run rule).
10. Managers are responsible to call for rescheduling information.
11. All games will be played at the Rock Island Campbell Complex at Andalusia Rd. and 29th St. W.

Section 6: Officials

1. The league manager will have control over the selection of officials.
2. Umpires have the authority to dismiss players and coaches from the playing area in cases of misconduct. Should a player touch an official or umpire, he shall be suspended from play for the next 5 years. This policy is coordinated between Rock Island, Moline, Davenport, and Bettendorf Recreation Departments as part of the Quad City Amateur Athletic Group and the ASA.
3. One umpire system will be in effect for all coed leagues, Tuesday & Wednesday men's leagues, women's leagues, and church leagues.
4. A two umpire system will be used for Thursday men's leagues.
5. Protests must follow ASA requirement. Judgment calls cannot be protested. Protests will be decided on the spot by the league manager and/or umpire.

Section 7: Classification (For Summer Leagues Only):

1. Men's Leagues are not classified, the headings "B" or "C" or "D" are given to guide teams to register and play in the appropriate evening. It is important that you register for the appropriate league night. If your team does not belong because your team is better than the rest or not as talented, it will take away from everyone's enjoyment.
2. Please make an attempt to register in the league night that is appropriate for your team.
3. Coed leagues are recreational.
4. Teams may be split into A & B divisions in some leagues to ensure fairness. The Sports Recreation Manager and Complex Manager will be responsible for creating the divisions.

Section 8: League Rules

1. The Bench
 - a. Only rostered players should be in the dugout. No bat boys/girls.
 - b. Beer and alcohol are not permitted in the dugout or on the field at any time.
2. Pets
 - a. No dogs, cats, birds, snakes, etc... are permitted on the Rock Island Sports Complex premises.
3. Alcoholic Beverages & Smoking
 - a. All alcoholic beverages and smoking products are prohibited from the playing field and in or near the dugout area (bench). Any player or coach detected of drinking alcohol or smoking in the dugouts will be suspended for the remainder of the game in progress.
 - b. Any player or spectator caught bringing alcoholic beverages into the complex will result in a forfeit of that team's first game of the night.
 - c. No alcoholic beverages may be allowed to be brought into the ballpark. **This includes the Parking Lot!**
 - d. **Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited by Rock Island City Ordinances in unauthorized areas. The police will patrol and ticket the parking lot. This is your warning.**
4. Food, Coolers, Drinks
 - a. All food items, coolers, and drinks are prohibited from being brought into the park. Water jugs filled with water are the only acceptable exception. This applies to players and spectators. Our concession stand will be glad to serve your needs.
6. Forfeits
 - a. Failure to have at least 9 players present at diamond at your scheduled game time ready to play. Game time is forfeit time.
 - b. If due to an ejection or injury a team is left with fewer than 8 players.
 - c. All violations in ASA rule book other than above.
7. Ejection, Suspension, Appeal Process
 - a. Game ejections are categorized as 1) Verbal Abuse or 2) Physical Abuse
 - i. Verbal Abuse
Players, managers, coaches and favoring fans may receive suspensions for up to a maximum of five years from the date of the violation for the verbal harassment of game officials, beleaguering of department staff or its representatives or for the use of profanity or any other derogatory remarks detrimental to the operation of the league.
 - ii. Physical Abuse
Players, managers, coaches and favoring fans may receive suspensions for up to a maximum of five years from the date of the violations for physical contact with game officials, department staff or its representatives, other players, fans, coaches or casual observers may receive the same penalties for any damage inflicted on city property, or any other person's personal property.
 - b. Incidents in these categories, where suspensions have been issued, shall be reported to reciprocating agencies, of the Quad Cities Sports Committee and these agencies shall review the person's participation status in their sponsored activities and may impose similar suspensions at that time.
Quad City Sports Committee consist of representatives from:
Bettendorf Parks & Recreation
Davenport Parks & Recreation
Dugout Softball Complex
East Moline Parks & Recreation
Moline Parks & Recreation
Rock Island Parks & Recreation
 - c. Any incident resulting in a person receiving one year or more of suspension shall be reported to the sports governing body (i.e. ASA and State Park & Recreation)

Association), and the person(s) involved shall be subject to any penalties or suspensions levied by these agencies.

d. Appeal Process

i. Any individual has the right to appeal a suspension that exceeds one game. The player(s) will receive written notice of suspension from the Park Office (if suspension exceeds one game) informing them of suspension length and (if requested by player), a date/time when a hearing will be held in order for player(s) to appeal suspension.

If a player(s) does not notify the Park Office, in written form, prior to appeal request deadline, the Park Office will assume the player(s) does not wish to appeal suspension as stated.

e. If a player is ejected, they will only be suspended for the remainder of the game in progress. A player ejected a second time; the player will sit that game and have a 1 game suspension. If a player is ejected 3 times in a season, they will no longer be eligible for play at the Rock Island Sports Complex and will have to have a letter of request to play the following year.

7. Player Eligibility:

a. Players may only play on one Rock Island Parks & Recreation team per league night.

8. Identification:

a. All players should have identification available at all games.

9. Addressing Umpire:

a. Only 1 individual, manager or coach (individual at pre-game conference), not player or players involved in call (except player-coach) may discuss a call with an umpire or league official. Any player delaying a game because of a disagreement is subject to ejection from game. **Do not argue with the umpires!**

10. Pre-game Conference:

a. A designated coach will meet with the umpire(s) at home plate before the game to review ground rules and discuss pertinent game information. This individual will be the only person allowed to address the umpire(s) during the game.

11. Home Team:

a. Will be listed as the second team on the schedule. **For example, 1 vs 2: team 2 is the home team.**

b. Must have their scorekeeper notify umpire of present score after each half inning. **This is the official game book!**

c. Must notify umpire and opponent of all substitutions as they occur.

12. Visiting Team

a. Will occupy first base bench, they will be listed as the first team on the schedule.

b. Must have their own scorekeeper. If your team has a conflict with the umpire(s) or home team score or whatever, please have your team manager address the home plate umpire immediately.

c. Must notify umpire and opponent of all substitutions as they occur.

13. Retrieving Foul Balls/Homeruns:

a. This is a hit your own league. Each team is responsible for retrieving or supplying game balls. This includes foul balls and homeruns.

b. If the ball should bounce over, through or gets stuck in the fence, the defensive player should raise both hands and the umpire will make the appropriate call.

14. Run Rule:

a. **There is a 15 run rule after 3 complete innings or 12 run rule after 5 complete innings.**

15. Homeruns

a. Limits will be set each year prior to registration.

b. Homeruns hit after a team has hit their team limit will be considered outs. No ejections for homeruns hit after team limit.

c. Batters should not round the bases after the umpire has declared the hit a homerun. Batters and all, if any, base runners should return to the dugout.

16. Balls & Strikes:
 - a. Each player will begin with a 1 ball & 1 strike count.
 - b. Courtesy fouls are only applicable to coed leagues.
17. Infield Practice and After an Out:
 - a. Pre-game and between inning infield practice is not allowed.
 - b. No round horn “the bases” after a strike out. For each ball thrown will be a ball for the next batter.
 - c. Pre-game warm-up may be done in the soccer fields or beyond the outfield fences.
 - d. Pre-game warm-ups between the diamonds and in the coach’s box area are prohibited.
 - e. Pitchers are allowed three warm-up pitches at the beginning of the game and after the first inning only one. Each pitch after that will be a ball awarded to the next batter.
 - f. Substitute pitchers are allowed three pitches and one after that.
18. Uniforms:
 - a. Hats, uniforms or matching tops with numbers are not required but encouraged. They are required at Championship Level play, District, Regional, State Tournaments and National Tournaments.
19. Walks:
 - a. (Coed Only) The ball is dead. Any walk to a male batter will result in a two base award. The next batter (a female) will bat. Exception: With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat. Should the female batter-runner pass a male batter-runner when choosing to walk, no out shall be called during this dead ball period.
 - b. (Men Only) Teams may intentionally walk a batter by informing the umpire. The batter will advance to first base.
20. Throwing Bat:
 - a. Any portion of a thrown or released bat, regardless of intent and in the umpires judgment to be with a force to cause injury, whether contact occurs or not, that enters the home plate area behind the front of home plate and within the width of batting boxes and back to end of catcher’s box, shall be ruled: “Dead ball – batter out”, all runners return to last base occupied. Further violations will result in game ejections.
21. Forfeiting Two (2) Games:
 - a. IF a team forfeits 2 games, they will be dropped from the league if deemed in the best interest of the league. If there is another team willing to replace offending team then this replacement team will assume all records of the expelled team. In either case, all records to that point will count.
22. Time Limits:
 - a. 1 hour time limit for coed. 1 hour 10 minutes time limit for men’s, church, and women’s.
 - b. International Tie Breaking Rule used for extra innings games and for games tied at the end of the time limit. (2010 ASA Official Rules of Softball)
23. Phone Calls:
 - a. Phone calls to the residency of league officials will not be accepted. Please make your calls to the Complex 732-2255 or Park Office, 732-7275.
24. Offensive Positions (Coed Only):
 - a. Teams can have as many players as they want as hitters in the line-up. However they must alternate by sex throughout the order except if you have an odd number of players hitting. This exception applies only to female batters, what this means is that when batting with 9 or another odd number of hitters, the first and last hitters in the lineup should be female so they will bat back to back. Teams may never have two male batters bat back to back.
 - b. Player Combinations (hitting)

12 hitters	6 women and 6 men
11 hitters.....	6 women and 5 men
10 hitters.....	5 women and 5 men
9 hitters.....	5 women and 4 men

*4 women and 5 men or 5 women and 6 men – Must alternate girls through lineup.

25. Extra Players (EP's):
- a. Teams may use unlimited extra hitters in batting line-up. Guidelines for EP use are as follows:
 - i. All EP's (Male and female) must be made known prior to the start of the game.
 - ii. EP's may be entered in any spot in batting order, but must bat in a position that will not violate alternating rule, and will remain in those spots the entire game.
 - iii. If an EP is substituted for (or leaves the game for any reason), at any time, either by substitute hitter or runner, he/she may re-enter once. The substitute must be a player who has not been in the game.
 - iv. In the event one of the EP's leaves the game, whatever the reason, and there is no eligible substitutes, then the other EP spot must also leave the batting order and the spots in the batting order will be skipped (no automatic out). The penalty for an EP returning to the game illegally shall be game ejection of EP and manager.
 - v. EP's may enter game on defense for players of same sex.
26. Defensive Positions:
- a. Coed Only: Ten player: (five male and five female) with the following positioning requirements: two males and two females in both the infield and the outfield, and one male and one female as pitcher or catcher.
26. **Short-Handed Rule:**
- a. A game may begin or finish with one less than required to start.
 - b. The vacant position must be listed last in the batting order.
 - c. An out will be taken when the vacant position in the batting order appears.
 - d. (Coed Only) A game may begin or finish with 9 players, but when and if another player arrives (of correct sex missing), that player must be inserted into the line-up at the ninth or tenth batting position (depending on vacant spot by alternating sexes). If a team plays shorthanded with either three in the infield or outfield, at least one of the three must be a female player.
 - e. To Continue a game once started with a full team listed on batting order:
 - i. If a team begins play with the required number of players as listed, that team may continue a game with one less player than is currently in the lineup whenever a player leaves the game for any reason other than ejection. Under no circumstances shall a team be permitted to bat less than nine.
 - f. If playing shorthanded, and a substitute arrives, the substitute must be inserted immediately into the vacant spot. If the substitute to enter for any reason, that player becomes ineligible the remainder of the game.
 - g. If the player leaving the game is a runner or batter, the runner or batter shall be declared out.
 - h. When the player who has left the game is scheduled to bat, an out shall be declared for each turn at bat. An inning or the game can end with an automatic out.
 - i. The player who has left the game cannot return to the lineup. **EXCEPTION:** A player who has left the game under the blood rule (Rule 4, Section 10 B) may return even after missing a turn at bat.
- EFFECT-Section 2 (a-e): Failure to have the required number of eligible players to start or continue a game will result in a forfeiture.
27. Outfield Obstruction-Coed Only:
- a. Outfielders must remain entirely behind outfield line if present until ball is hit (for ALL batters). Should this be violated, the manager of the batting team has the option of 1) taking the results of the play or, 2) awarding the batter first base and advancing other runners if they are forced. No out will be recorded.

28. Conduct:

a. Manager/coach will be responsible for the conduct of each respective team member in or near playing area. Failure to control player and/or own supporting spectators can result in game ejection of player and manager and/or game forfeiture.

29. All teams are allowed one courtesy runner per inning.

30. All rules not covered by the Rock Island Park & Recreation Department will be governed by ASA rules.

The Rock Island Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to exercise any measure deemed appropriate in the interest of preserving the intent of the program, the integrity of the game, and the enjoyment and safety of participants.

Brad Muller – Complex Manager

309-781-5778

golow54@sbcglobal.net