



# RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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## ADULT RECREATIONAL SOFTBALL LEAGUES RULES & REGULATIONS 2019

ALL TEAMS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEN'S & WOMEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUES WILL ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS. ANY VIOLATION OF THESE STATED RULES AND REGULATIONS WILL RESULT IN TEAMS OR SPONSORS BEING SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE OF GAME OR GAMES OR EXPULSION FROM THE LEAGUE, DEPENDING ON THE SEVERITY OF THE VIOLATION, WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT OF THE ENTRY FEE.

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1. **All players, coaches, sponsors, and team affiliates who participate in the Southington Men's and Women's Softball Leagues do so at their own risk, with no liability to the Town of Southington. PLAYERS MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE.**
2. When making lineups in your score book, use first AND last names; failure to do so will jeopardize a decision in case of protest.
3. Players must be Southington residents or bona fide taxpayers who own real property in the Town of Southington. "Real property" refers to a building lot of record, a home or building. (This does NOT include motor vehicles.) Eligible players may also have resided in Southington and graduated from Southington High School or a parochial or vocational high school. **Please note: All players on roster must have year of graduation indicated next to their name.** Each team may have up to three (3) "out-of-towners" on the team. The fee will be \$50.00 per "out-of-towner." Each team may have up to 5 players on a roster who are full-time employees of the team's sponsoring business. A copy of a recent pay stub must accompany the roster when it is turned in. All players must submit a photocopy of their ID (driver's license or other government-issued identification showing name & address), which will be turned in with the team roster.

**\*\*ID PHOTOCOPIES, PAY STUBS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF A SPONSORING BUSINESS WHO ARE PUT ON ROSTER (up to 5), SHS GRAD YEAR (if applicable) AND ALL PLAYERS' ADDRESSES MUST ACCOMPANY OR BE NOTED ON THE ROSTER FORM WHEN SUBMITTED.\*\***

4. **ALL PLAYERS MUST HAVE THEIR PHOTO ID WITH THEM AT EACH GAME IN THE EVENT UMP NEEDS TO COMPARE TO ROSTER.** Failure to have ID will result in player being expelled from game and further review by Director until being allowed to play again. Depending on the situation, further team discipline may be enforced.

5. Teams using ineligible players will be expelled from the league and forfeit the entry fee for the season. TEAM MANAGERS TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVIDING ACCURATE INFORMATION ON SUBMITTED TEAM ROSTERS.
  - a. **No player will play for another team in the Southington Men's or Women's Softball League. Any player who violates Rule #5A will be expelled from the League. Teams who use players from other teams will NOT participate in the playoffs.**  
Exception: "Father/Son Rule" - Any father over 55 yrs. of age playing in another division may be on the roster of his son's team also.
6. Sponsorship for teams entered in the league must have a business in the Town of Southington.  
**Exception:** Any person who lives in Southington and owns a business out of town may sponsor a team, but all players must be eligible (Penalty Rule #3).
7. Physical or verbal abuse of Town officials, umpires, park employees, or other team players will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a suspension of up to five (5) games or expulsion from the league.
8. **Vulgar language by players, coaches, or team affiliates will result in their being ejected immediately. This rule will be strictly enforced by umpires, the Director of Recreation and the Recreation Board.**
9. **EQUIPMENT: ALL BATS MUST BE SINGLE-WALL, ALUMINUM, ONE-PIECE BATS. REFER TO THE APPROVED BAT LIST FOR LEGAL BATS.**
  - a. **BATS MUST HAVE A VALID 2019 STICKER ATTACHED BY THE REC DEPT. TO BE LEGAL FOR PLAY. STICKERS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE RECREATION OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.**
10. **ALTERED BATS ARE PROHIBITED.** Any team using or having altered bats in their possession anywhere in the confines of the playing area will forfeit the season, along with the entry fee.
11. **Game Balls:** The Recreation Dept. will provide all game balls. Team managers must pick up game balls in the Recreation office prior to the start of the season.
  - ❖ **Men's:** Dudley Thunder ZN - 300 lbs., .52 COR
  - ❖ **Women's:** Dudley Thunder SY - 375 lbs., .44 COR
12. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED IN THE PARKS.** This rule will be strictly enforced and suspensions will be at the discretion of the Director of Recreation. Parks will be frequently patrolled by the SPD.
13. **NO SMOKING ALLOWED ON OR NEAR THE PLAYING FIELD PER POLICY OF THE BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSIONERS EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2015.**
14. **No metal spikes allowed!**

15. **Lightning Safety:** If a thunderstorm appears imminent before or during a game an umpire must use his/her good judgment (regardless of whether lightning is seen or thunder heard) to either postpone or suspend the game(s). If a game is suspended due to lightning, the umpire will wait at least 30 minutes prior to possibly resuming activity.
16. **The umpire will decide** if the field is playable due to inclement weather before a game has started and, if necessary, while a game is in progress.
17. When the first game is cancelled due to inclement weather, all games are cancelled. Do not attempt to repair the fields in this case. **All managers must call the Recreation Department softball hotline (860-276-6219) before 4:30 p.m. for an update on cancellations.** If games are not cancelled by 4:30 p.m., every attempt will be made to play the game and the decision will be at the discretion of the umpire.
18. League games **will not be rescheduled** unless they were postponed due to inclement weather or by error. Games will be rescheduled on the next available date. Teams must play on the rescheduled date or take a forfeit.
19. **The winning team must either phone in the score of the game to the Recreation office at 860-276-6289 OR e-mail it to lapreayd@southington.org.** Please identify the teams and score of game.
20. All games, Monday through Friday, will start at their scheduled times: 6:15 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 8:15 p.m. and occasionally 9:15 p.m if needed. Only the 6:15 p.m. game has a grace period of ten (10) minutes to 6:25 p.m. **Teams not fielding at least 9 men or women by 6:25 p.m. will forfeit.**
21. Time limit for all games will be **1 hour and 15 minutes**. No new inning will begin after 1 hour and 15 minutes. Regardless of the inning, the game will be official.
22. Each batter at the plate for the Men's and Women's Leagues will start with a one (1) ball, one (1) strike count. **On a foul ball after two (2) strikes, the batter is OUT, per ASA rules.**
23. **Legal Pitching Arc:** Must reach a height of 6 feet from the ground and not exceed a maximum height of 12 feet.
24. Teams may start the game with only nine (9) players. When the tenth player is present, he/she will enter the game immediately when on defense, or will be placed in the last place in the batting order when the team is on offense. If any team starts with nine (9) players and a player is injured, that team cannot continue the game with eight (8) players. This will result in a forfeit.
  - a. If a team starts a game with nine (9) players, it is NOT an OUT when the 10<sup>th</sup> player would be due up.
  - b. If a team is down to nine (9) players and a player is ejected, then the game is forfeited. Teams cannot play with eight (8) players on the field.

25. Teams may bat twelve (12) players. NOTE: If a player is hurt and cannot be replaced, the 12<sup>th</sup> position in the line-up is an automatic OUT. Teams can go down to 11 players but cannot go down to 10 players; if so, the game is over.
26. **Add/Drop From Roster:** Players will not be permitted to change teams after the season starts and they have played one (1) out, whether on defense or offense. **Teams will have up UNTIL week six (6) to add/drop players from their perspective team's roster.**
27. **MERCY RULES:** Any team that is leading by twelve (12) runs at the completion of 4 ½ innings (home team) or 5 complete innings (visiting team) is declared the winner. Any team leading by fifteen (15) runs at any point after 3 complete innings is declared the winner.
28. Both teams will present a new ball to the umpire before each game. A team that loses or damages a ball must replace the ball immediately. **The team that is batting must retrieve all foul balls hit.**
29. Each team is allowed one (1) time out per inning with a ONE MINUTE time limit.
30. **COURTESY RUNNER:** Any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner may be used once per inning. A courtesy runner will be the last **batted** out or an available substitute.
31. Three (3) home runs allowed per team at Panthorn Park games only. Additional home runs will be declared an out. Home runs must be run out.
32. **PROTEST RULE:** Protests may only involve the interpretation of a playing rule. *Judgment calls CANNOT be protested per ASA rules.*
- 1) Protests must be made to the Director of Recreation in writing along with a \$25.00 fee within 24 hours after the game in question.
  - 2) All protests must be made to the umpire at the time of protest and the umpire must sign the scorebook in accordance with ASA rules.
  - 3) Director of Recreation and head umpire will review the protest. If the protest is upheld, the \$25 fee will be refunded. If the protest is not upheld, team forfeits the fee.
33. **TOLERANCE RULE:**
- a. **1<sup>ST</sup> GAME EJECTION:** Player will be suspended one (1) game. Incident report will be filled out and given to Director of Recreation for review.
  - b. **2<sup>ND</sup> GAME EJECTION:** Possible ten (10) game suspension after review.
  - c. **3<sup>RD</sup> GAME EJECTION:** Expulsion from the League.

## **PLAYOFFS**

- Playoff structure will, most likely, be the top 6 teams in each division qualify. All matchups will be single elimination except for the championship games which will be a best 2 out of 3 series.

**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE PARK BEFORE,  
DURING OR AFTER THE GAME. COMMISSIONERS,  
POLICE & PARK PERSONNEL WILL TAKE NOTICE!!!**



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David A. Lapreay  
Director of Recreation