

Stoughton Recreation Department Adult Softball Local League Rules

5/5/2017

Roster Rules

1. A team shall field a total of eight legal players to start each game, if eight players are not present at game time, the scorekeeper shall start the game clock and there will be a five minute grace period given. If at the end of the five minute grace period the eighth player is not there a forfeit will be called. Once a team has batted through their starting lineup, no player may be added to the lineup.
2. If a team forfeits two league games, a decision will be made about the future of that team in the league by the Recreation Director.
3. Eligibility: Anyone 15 years or older. Returning teams will have a spot in their previous year's league if they turn in their fees and roster by the deadline. A team will be considered a returning team if they have over half of the previous year's roster on the current roster and are returning to the same league unless a league format has changed for the current year. We will be accepting new teams on two levels: Stoughton Teams and Non-Stoughton Teams. A Stoughton Team may have as many as 5 players that do not live in the Stoughton School District. A Non-Stoughton Team will have 6 or more players outside the school district. Stoughton teams will have first preference as far as getting into the leagues. Non-Stoughton Teams will be selected based on previous years in league and then by earliest registration. "Grandfathering" and working in the city no longer exist as eligibility requirements. Once the deadline has past, teams will be accepted on a first come first served basis as long as the leagues are not full.
4. Players must play in 3 regular season games for each roster that they are on in order to be eligible to participate with that team in the city tournament. Exceptions due to injury etc. will be considered.

Game Rules

Other than these rules, A.S.A. rules will apply.

5. All games are seven innings or 55 minutes, whichever comes first. A new inning will not be started if teams are separated by 15 or more runs and less than 5 minutes are left in the game. The game will be called if the home team is batting and winning the game when the time limit expires. All extra innings will start with the last inning's final out on second base.
6. Two strikes: swinging, fouled, or called, and the batter is out.
7. A rubber mat will be used to determine balls and strikes. The plate and the mat are considered a strike.
8. The batter's box will not contain lines. The umpire will use judgment as to when the batter is in the box.
9. An unlimited arc will be used for all leagues. Minimum 6 feet arc from the ground for all men's leagues.
10. Optional Batting Rule: A team may bat all players providing all are designated at the start of the game. Any of the batters may play in any defensive position at any time. All players are then locked into their batting order at the start of the game.
11. Metal spikes are not allowed.

12. Runners are not required to slide at any base, they are to avoid contact. If the contact is deemed as intentional, the runner will be called out based on the judgment of the umpire. If a sliding act is determined to be flagrant, the offender shall be ejected and the out called. The ball shall be ruled dead, at the time of the flagrant slide.
13. There is no sliding at home plate. A player is automatically out if they slide at home plate.
14. Once the runner advances to the line between 3rd base and home plate it is a force out at home and the runner must go home. On a play at the plate runner must touch the mat, and the catcher must touch the plate on force outs. Runners can be tagged out at plays at home plate. If there is no play at the plate or the runner is trying to avoid contact, the runner may touch either the mat or the plate.
15. Each team is allowed one courtesy runner per inning. The player that made the last out may run for any player. The player that made the 3rd out of the inning is eligible to be the courtesy runner for the next inning.
16. Double first base. On a play at first base the runner must use the orange portion of the base while the fielding player uses the white. On all other plays the runner will use the white base, including returning to the base.
17. In the event of rain, you may call our rainout hotline at 873-6724 or check stoughtonrec.com for determination. Decisions will be held off until after 4:00 PM. If rain comes after 4:00 PM or on weekends, the umpires are to make a ruling if to play or not. If the game is called, another make-up date will be set by the Recreation Department. If at any time there is lightning in the immediate area, the game is to be suspended or delayed. Four innings is considered a complete game. In the event that tornado sirens go off all games will be stopped from that point on and made up at another time.
18. No pitches or fielding between innings shall be allowed or when switching pitchers.
19. Batters who hit homeruns are only required to touch first base. Rounding the bases is optional.
20. If a team has 8 players, the batting team must provide a catcher. The catcher is only there to throw the ball back to the pitcher and does not make any plays in the field.

Misc. Rules

21. Protests on a play must be made before the next pitch. All team protests must then be filed by the end of the next business day. A \$10.00 protest fee must accompany the protest. If decision on protest is ruled in favor of the protesting party, the fee will be returned. You cannot protest a judgment decision. If a protest is upheld, the game will be completed on a make-up day in the final two weeks of the season.
22. Use of an illegal player will result in an automatic forfeit of that game, and the manager of the guilty team is put on probation and the score of the game will be 7-0. Probation can lead to the manager being banned for one year for multiple offenses.
23. All bats must have "Approved Bat" sticker on the bat in order to be used.
24. Players may only use bats provided by their own team. If there is a questionable bat, please contact the Recreation Department. If an illegal bat is found to be used, the team or player using that bat is subject to forfeiting past played games and suspension.
25. The deadline to add players is July 15th. No players may be added after this date.

26. Per City of Stoughton ordinance, there is no drinking of alcohol in city parks unless a permit has been issued. This includes Recreation Department activities taking place in a city park. A team will be subject to immediate forfeiture if found drinking during a game.

27. Standing tiebreakers

Two teams tied:

1. Head to head record
2. Average runs allowed per game (forfeits do not count)
3. Average runs scored per game (forfeits do not count)
4. Coin flip

Three of more teams tied:

1. Average runs allowed per game (forfeits do not count)
2. Average runs scored per game (forfeits do not count)
3. Coin Flip

28. For end of season match-up games and tournament games, the higher seeded team will be the home team.

Friday Self Umpired League Rules

29. Batting team will provide both a home plate and field umpire.

30. Players cannot coach a base and umpire at the same time.

31. Only team managers will dispute calls. They will have a conference away from other players to resolved disputed calls.

32. If a disputed call cannot be resolved between team managers, the field supervisor on duty will make final call.

Makeup Games

- All rained out games will be made up on the second Monday after the originally scheduled date. If that Monday is already filled, the games will be rescheduled for the next available Monday.
- Games that have completed four innings are considered a complete game.
- If a game is rained out with less than four complete innings are played, then the game will restart from the point it was stopped. The lineups used will be used for the partial makeup. Managers will need to make substitutions for any players in the original lineup who are unable to be at the makeup game. Failure to do so will result in an out when the missing player's turn comes up to bat.