

CFC CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Rules & Regulations

Fields:

All games will be played at the Christian Family Centre on either Field 2 or 3.

- 1800 U.S. 223 Adrian MI 49221

Specifications:

- 65' bases
- 50' pitching
- 275-300' fencing

Equipment:

- Teams provide their own equipment (Must be ASA/ /single wall/softball regulation)
NO composite bats
- League provides balls (12in ball / 52 Core 300 Compression)

Rules and Format:

- Each game shall begin with a prayer (**home** team shall lead prayer)
- To be eligible to play, each player must attend, on a regular basis, his or her respective church.
 - Regular basis: 3+ services a month
- Teams are encouraged to share a devotion before or after game (recommended 5 minutes).
 - Team may lead devotions for both competing teams.
- Minimum age shall be at coaches/team managers discretion, 16+ recommended.
- Players may only be registered to 1 team.
- There shall be no smoking, alcoholic beverage, or profane language used during the game. Any players who violate the above code of conduct will be asked to leave the game.
- League Tournament will be held on July 31st (weather dependent)
- Seeding for the tournament will be assigned by the record in the regular season. Best record will be seeded as the #1 seed and so forth down to the last seed.
- Regular season play will consist of mat play (softball pitch that strikes the mat with a 6' to 10' arc is a strike).
- Teams will self-manage strike/ball counts (no ump provided)

- 6 inning/60-minute games
- Teams will play 2 games/ scheduled day (may wait up to 60 minutes between games).
- Teams must bring own bats & gloves (Must be ASA approved). Balls provided.
- No metal cleats
- 3HR limit, any HR the 3rd HR results in a single
- No intentional bunting
- Unlimited Arc pitching; 6' minimum pitch height nothing higher than 10'
- Plate Mat used for ball/strike calls
- **3 Ball/2 Strike count** Start with a 1-1 count
- Mercy Rule: 15 up after 3, **up 12 after 4**, 10 after 5

In Game Rules

- ~~Runners coming into score must not touch home plate; There will be no “physical” plays at the plate. Instead, there is a line extended from home plate perpendicular to the 3rd base line. The catcher (or any field player) must secure the ball and touch home plate prior to the runner crossing this line for the runner to be called out. This will make it a force out rather than a tag out and eliminates sliding and/or collisions at the plate. No sliding at home base.~~
- ONE courtesy foul ball per batter. After that, a ball will be considered an out.
- A batter running to first must touch the outside bag if there is a play at first (a throw to first). If the runner plans to run to 2nd, with no play at 1st, they may use the inside bag (**2 BAGS**)
- If there is a play at 1st, the 1st baseman must use the inside bag. If they use the outside bag, whether intentional or not, interference is called, and the runner is safe.
- No “leading off” while on base (must touch the base until contact is made by the batter)
- No stealing bases.
- Leaving the base early on contact (fair ball only) results in that baserunner being out; Dead ball will be called, and the pitch will be replayed, unless it is the 3rd out of that inning.
- Leaving the base on a swing and miss does not result in an out
- Outfield co-ed lines

Team Roster

- 12-person min roster size
- 10 players max on the field
- Minimum 8 players (will not allow a team to play with 7 or fewer)
 - If team of 7 shows up, opposing team may offer enough players to field a team
- Teams must maintain a minimum of 2 females on the field (required).

Line up and Game Time

- Teams can field 10 players (4 females required), 9 players (3 females required), or 8 players (2 females required)
- Females can play any position in the field (no infield/outfield requirements)
- Everyone on the roster *should* bat in a recurring batting order.
- Game time is forfeit time; If your team is not on the field/in dugout by the scheduled start time, it will be a forfeit. This will only apply to ORIGINAL scheduled game times. If start times are altered for any reason (fast pace, slow pace, weather, etc.) there will be leniency.

Substitutions

- You may enter and exit field play multiple times throughout the game (please limit these field substitutions to between innings)
- A team that falls below 8 players at any point in the game, the game is over & results in a forfeit
- No field playing time rules; Not everyone on your roster for a given game must play in the field
- Batting order must begin by alternating gender (if applicable) until one gender runs out (guy, girl, guy, girl).

- After a batter swings, making contact or not, if the bat is thrown (intentional or unintentional) BOTH teams receive a warning. Any further throws of the bat result in an out, even if it is the player's first offense.
- Games can be called and finalized after 4 complete innings due to weather, but only if the teams had an equal number of innings at bat
- A player may be ejected by Sports Manager due to behavior, comments, or other similar reasons. Each ejection can pertain to either just that game, that day, or the whole league. This will be determined by the severity of the incident. The ejected player will not be asked to leave the premises unless necessary. This player's spot in the batting order remains open, resulting in automatic outs.

Roster Rules:

- Minimum of 8 total players, including at least 2 females. Must play at least 2 girls in the field, but they can play anywhere.
- Players may only be registered on 1 team.

Unique safety rules for 2021:

- Masks will not be required for league/tournament play.
- Players must sign a release of liability waiver that holds The Centre harmless if they suffer an injury or contract COVID-19 while on the premises of the League or Tournament.
- Players are encouraged, but not required, to wear batting gloves.
- Do not share other equipment, unless necessary.