

## Evergreen Park & Recreation District Adult Softball Rules

EPRD adult softball leagues are non-sanctioned and are governed by USSSA Rules with the modifications listed below. *Revised Jan 2018*

### Team Rosters

1. Team roster size is unlimited. Players may be added through the 5<sup>th</sup> regular season game. All players must sign the roster form before playing.
2. Players must be 18 years of age to participate in EPRD adult leagues. Exception: Players ages 15-17 must have a parent signature on roster.
3. Players may play on more than one night, but may only play for one team per league. Players must sign the roster for each team they are playing with.
4. Teams are required to wear like-colored shirts/jerseys. Numbers are strongly recommended.

### Game Rules

1. A team must have a minimum of 8 players to begin and finish the game. A team with only 8 players will automatically be the visiting team. If a team does not have 8 players, a 10 minute grace period (with game clock running) will be given. After 10 minutes, if the team doesn't have enough players a forfeit will result.
2. The umpire will keep the official score. Home team will be determined by coin flip. Each team should keep their own scorebook. Teams may bat as many players as they choose. Players arriving after the game has begun may be added to the end of the batting order. If a player can't continue for any reason except ejection, an out will not be recorded in that player's spot. An out will be recorded in an ejected player's spot.
3. Each at-bat begins with a 1-1 count. A batter with two strikes will be allowed one courtesy foul. Any subsequent foul will be considered a third strike and the batter will be called out.
4. Games are scheduled for 60 minutes. A new inning may not begin after 55 minutes. The home plate umpire will have the official game clock.
5. The game will end according to the following run rules:
  - 15 or more runs after 4 innings
  - 10 or more runs after 5 innings
6. Rules for extra inning games:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> extra inning- each half inning will begin with the last out from the previous inning on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. Play will then begin as normal.
  - Subsequent extra innings- each half inning begins with the last out from the previous inning on 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
7. Home Run limits per team per game
  - Men's Comp: 3
  - Women's: 2
  - Men's Rec: 2
  - Congregational: 2
  - Coed: 2

*Exception for game at Buchanan South: 1 per team*

Any home run over the limit will be an out.
8. A defensive player may not block any base or interfere with any runner without possession of the ball.

## Equipment

1. Only bats on the USSSA list are legal for play
2. All players must have on closed-toed shoes in order to participate in game play.
3. Metal cleats are prohibited.
4. Exposed jewelry, including earrings, lip rings, eyebrow rings, etc., is not allowed. The umpire will ask any player wearing jewelry to remove said jewelry before participating. A second offense will result in the player being called out. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry.

## Protests

1. A protest may be filed in the case of an illegal player or the misapplication of a rule. Protests are not allowed on judgment calls.
2. When protesting a game, the following steps must be followed:
  - Notify the plate umpire at the time of the protest making sure the score, inning, outs, players on base, batter, and the count are recorded.
  - Submit a letter of protest and non-refundable \$25 protest fee to the league coordinator within 24 hours of the incident.
3. EPRD staff will rule on all protests in a timely manner.
4. The umpire has the authority to disallow any illegal player from participating.

## Congregation/Coed League Rules

1. Each team must have 5 females in the batting order and on the field on defense to play.
  - Batting order must alternate male/female.
  - At least two females must play an infield position on defense.
  - A team can play with less than 5 females in the following situations:
    - 4 female / 5 male / 9 total
    - 4 female / 4 male / 8 total
    - Game can't begin with less than 4 females
    - The batting spot for the 5<sup>th</sup> female will be an out
2. Teams can bat as many players as they choose, but the batting order must alternate between male and female batters.
3. 5 run per inning scoring limit except for the last inning as determined by the umpires.
4. All four outfielders must remain behind the 175' line until the ball is hit for all batters. A violation will result in a delayed dead ball and the offense may take the result of the play or the batter is awarded first base.
5. An extended scoring line will be marked extending out from the back of the right-handed batters box. Runners trying to score must pass the extended line before the fielding team is in possession of the ball while touching home plate. Catchers can either tag the runner or step on the plate with the ball once the runner is past the commitment line between home and third base. **Runners do not need to touch home plate, just pass the scoring line.**

## Scheduling

1. Schedules and standings are available at [www.teamsideline.com/evergreenrecreation](http://www.teamsideline.com/evergreenrecreation) . All games are at Buchanan Park or Henika Field (formerly Buffalo Park).
2. Games will not be rescheduled except for weather/field conditions.
3. The EPRD weather line will be updated daily by 4:30 pm on days when weather is a factor. **To reach the weather line, call 720-880-1291.** If the weather line has not been updated, assume all games are on as scheduled and any cancelation will need to be made by the umpire(s).
4. Games will be rescheduled according to field availability. Games may be rescheduled on a different day than the usual day your league plays.

5. If a game begins and is suspended due to weather, play will resume from the exact point where it was stopped, assuming the game has not met the requirements to be considered a complete game.
6. The team manager is responsible for notifying their team of any rescheduled games.

### **Awards**

1. League champions will receive individual awards such as t-shirts or team credit for the following season.
2. Tie-breakers for playoff seeding:
  - Any no show forfeit will cause a team to lose all tie-breakers.
  - Head-to-head record.
  - Head-to-head run differential.
  - Total run differential.
  - Fewest total runs allowed.
  - Coin flip.

### **Player Conduct**

1. Good sportsmanship is expected at all times.
2. Only team managers may approach the umpire with questions.
3. All players are expected to help maintain a family-friendly atmosphere. Prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to:
  - Shoving, striking, or threatening a league official, umpire, player, or fan.
  - Refusal to abide by the umpire's and/or league official's decision
  - Use of foul or abusive language or gestures
  - Unnecessary physical play during the game
  - Alcohol or drug use on EPRD property, or participating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
4. Any player ejected from a game must leave the property immediately.
5. Following any ejection, EPRD staff will decide if further disciplinary action is warranted.

### **Team Manager Expectations**

1. Team Managers are responsible for the following:
  - Making sure each player understands the league rules.
  - Having their team present and ready to play at game time. If your team is unable to play, please inform EPRD staff as soon as possible.
  - Maintain control of their team members' and spectators' behavior throughout the game.
  - Enforcing player suspensions as required.

