

## United Sports League

### 2015 Coed Softball Rules

Game times will be as follows with NO grace period.

- Game 1 @ 8:45am
- Game 2 @ 10:15am
- Game 3 @ 11:30am
- Game 4 @ 1:00pm (may be change)



#### 1. Rosters and Personnel

- Rosters: (16) Sixteen players maximum to a team, which must include NO LESS than 3 female. If you would like to hold additional player to the team then you must pay additional fee of **\$50** per player.
- Roster additions and deletions can be made until July 6, 2015. After July 6, all rosters are final. Please send a request to delete or add new players to the roster. (Team Photo will be taken on Week 5 or 6 }
- To be eligible for playoff games; players must be on the roster and participate in a minimum of three regular season games and mandatory attend team photo day. Mitigating Circumstances: Any mid-season or playoff roster moves must be approved by the league commissioner.
- No player can participate on two (2) teams in the same league. **CASE EXCEPTION** if a team needs player to make a game then it will be up to the opponent team to allow you to choose another player from another team.
- The league will be defined as 3 females and a maximum of seven males must be in the field at all times.
- The first batter in the lineup **MUST BE A FEMALE**.
- The batter order must alternate male and female after the first 6 batters. (Unless team does not meet the required roster lineup). Penalty will be enforced

#### 2. On field Rules and Regulations

- Roster-Requirements:** The maximum players on a field are 10. The 10 players on the field must consist of at least 3 females and no more than 7 male on field. Batting Lineup may consist of 11 players coming up to hit. The 11 players are: The 10 players on the and we also have a Extra Hitter (EH). The pitcher may use a Designator Hitter (DH) but only for the same gender ex: Female pitcher may have DH Female hitter or Male pitcher may have a female DH. The DH and EH is not mandatory; these positions are mainly created to provide more playing time for some players. However, if a team is lacking females they may still play the game but will be penalize by :
  - Not enough players on the field.** Remember the maximum male player on the field is 7
  - Batting lineup.** Each female not present the entire team will be penalized with a strike. **Ex Bombers only have 2 females on their lineup for today's game.** The umpire count for the start of the game will be **0-1**. If the team is missing two females then the count will be **0-2**. If three females game is forfeit.
- As stated the maximum number of male allowed on the field is seven. Therefore, if you are missing a woman, that player cannot be replaced by a man in the field or in the line-up. There are no restrictions on when a late arriving female player can enter the game. (Example) A team has played with two females and was penalize with 1 strike, but the next inning a female shows up the umpire will reward a strike back to the team.
- Pinch Hitting:** A team may pinch hit a woman for a woman, a woman for a man or a man for a man at any time. Teams will also be permitted to pinch hit for a woman with a man during the contest provided another roster

eligible woman (who has not previously participated in the game) replaces the pinch hitting male in the next defensive inning. In the event teams start a game with one or two women and the second or third arrive at any point, those arriving may not be used as a defensive replacement for a pinch hitter. Instead they must be placed in the line-up immediately.

- d) **Late Arrivals:** If a team is more than 10minutes late the umpire will start the game and for every 5min the team on the field will receive 2 runs and will move to the next inning. If a team is 15min late the game will be forfeited and the team present will win the game 6-0.
- e) **Defensive Alignment:** Teams can play an official game with a minimum of 8 players. You can add a ninth at any point in the game, but cannot add a tenth player after the completion of the third inning. Teams are required to have a minimum of three women in the field and in the line-up at all times.
- f) **Outfield Positioning:** Outfielders must play at least 45ft. from the edge of the infield and cannot move closer until the ball has been hit by the batter. This rule applies to all outfielder including players designated as the short fielder. Colored discs set up by the umpire prior to the game should mark the 46ft distance.

**Bunting: Bunting is not permitted at any time.**

- a) **Thrown Equipment:** Any player throwing equipment may be thrown out of the game at the umpire's discretion. (Team Fine maybe issue as well)
- b) **Leading off Bases: Upon the release of a pitch,** players may lead off any base at their own discretion with the exception of third. Runners may only break contact with third after the batter has made contact with the pitched ball or the pitched ball has made contact with the catcher's glove. Runners that leave bases too early or have been found leading off of third will be called out.
- c) **No sliding is permitted into any base at any time** (including diving back) In the event of a close play, players must find an alternate route or give themselves up. Runners may not barrel into fielders and must avoid contact when possible however, base runners must be given the baseline right of way and have an opportunity to reach bases unimpeded.
- d) **Pitching:** This is a slow/moderate pitch. The arc of the pitch must be a minimum of 6 feet from the ground to maximum height 10 feet from ground. League Pitches that are thrown too fast or too high will be called a ball at the umpire's discretion. Females may have the option to choose slow pitch but must do so prior to the game.
- e) **Safety Equipment:** Catchers must wear masks. Each team must provide its own mask or borrow one from the other team. Fielders must wear appropriate fielding gloves players must wear cleats or athletic shoes with rubber soles. Metal cleats and baseball bats are prohibited (Softball Bats). The league provides bases.
- f) **Field Conditions:** In the event of rainy or violent weather the league commissioner will decide that day's games will be played. Games will not begin unless the umpire deems the field to be playable. After play begins, decisions on field conditions, lighting conditions and inclement weather are at the umpire's complete discretion. Not teams are to play if there is lightning in the immediate area.
- g) **Official Games:** Games are seven innings long. A game is considered official when the team trailing has completed its at – bat in the fifth inning. In the event a game is suspended, postponed or cancelled, it will be completed or made up at the commissioner's discretion. In the event of low light or darkness, no half innings will be played. That is to say if the visiting team bats in the top of an inning the home team must be allowed to bat in the same lighting conditions, If the visiting team bats in the top of an inning and the lighting becomes such that it is unsafe for the home team to bat in the bottom of inning, any runs scored by the visitors in the top will not count.
- h) **Mercy Rule/ Extra innings:** The ten run rule will be in effect after the losing teams has batted five times or whenever a ten run difference is reached after five innings. Draw will be issue in regular season. There is mercy rule in the playoff 5<sup>th</sup> inning 17runs.
- i) **Strikes:** A ball has to go over the plate to be consider a strike. A batter with two strikes who then fouls off a pitch will be called out.

- j) **Optional Walk Rule:** If at any point in the contest a team walks a male player (Intentionally or not) that is batting before a female player in the line-up, the female player will be given the **opportunity** to take an automatic walk. The female player must be in the on deck area and visible for the opposing team and umpire to see.

#### **4. Ground Rules:**

- Two Forfeits may result in Team dismissal from the league. Please notify the league at least 24hrs prior to the game. (48hrs would be much better)
- Playoff: All higher seed will always be the home team throughout the playoff
- Alcohol or drugs during the or after game are not permitted at any fields. Violators will be expelled from the league without refund.
- Team captains and umpires must meet before the game to clarify the rules and to determine how to handle controversial plays.
- During the game only captains may approach the umpire with a grievance. Team must abide by the umpire's decision. Umpires can remove unruly players from the game, after first issuing one (10 warning to both captains and the player(s) involved.
- Violence: Violence of any kind will not be tolerated,. Anyone who commits a violent act toward opponents, teammates, umpires, league officials or spectators will be banned from the league indefinitely. This adult league is a place for recreation, camaraderie, respect, fitness and fun.
- Foul Language: This is an adult league and its participants are expected to conduct themselves accordingly at the umpire's discretion participants (catches, players and spectators) using foul or abusive language will be ejected from the playing field and area.
- Ejection: Participants who are ejected must leave the playing field immediately, including team dugouts. Failure to comply or continued inappropriate language or actions by the ejected participant may result in a forfeiture of game by the offending team.
- Review: Any player or coach who is ejected from a game will be suspended for an additional game. Players ejected from a second game will be suspended from two additional games. Any player ejected from a third game will come under review by the league's board for further disciplinary action> Any person ejected from four or more games will be suspended for the remainder of the season, including any and all playoff games.
- United Sports League does not provide insurance. **PLAY AT YOUR OWN RISK.** If you need insurance please let us know.
- During the playoff teams will pay the additional umpire fee of \$25 per round. The championship game league will pay for umpire cost.
- All-star Game will be played prior or after Championship game. TBA

Please note: Any team fine will be at least **\$10minum** which hopefully is divided amongst players and all fine is donated to United Sports Youth League or charity organization. Alternate option would be player volunteering to official or help coach at the **United Sports Youth League** ([www.usyl.org](http://www.usyl.org)) function.

**HAVE FUNE; THIS IS A SOCIAL EVENT FOR THE SUMMER WIN OR LOSE**