

2024 ROGERS ADULT SOFTBALL



League Director contact info:

Havana Hanson

- Text or call cell phone: 763.276.8614 [Team managers ONLY]
- Voicemail/office phone: 763.428.0975 [Team managers ONLY]
- Email: hhanson@rogersmn.gov
- **Umpires:** Three Rivers Umpires Association (TRUA)
- Weather Hotline: 763.428.0960 [Can be used by all players]

League Structure:

- Men's leagues are class D/E on Monday nights at NCP
- Game times are 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15pm – double headers back to back when possible and little or no splits
- Start date: May 6, 2024
- End of Season In-House Tournament – Anticipated 8/5 and 8/16
- The league will reserve two weeks for potential weather makeup dates. Any additional cancelations will not be made up
- **Adult league . . . players must be a minimum of 18 years of age or**
 - Out of high school and have a parent waiver and not younger than 17 [ask for handout if needed]
 - Must not be in JO or another organized league

Adult Sport Stay Safe Guidelines – REQUIRED

- HOME team will provide 1 new ball for start of game
 - Team that hits a ball out of play is responsible for putting in another ball (3 MAX)
 - Team hitting ball out of field of play IS responsible for retrieving ball
 - If all 4 balls are out of play, game clock continues until retrieved; NO additional balls can be tossed in
 - Any illegal ball tossed in for play (we used Tattoo, 52 core) and identified, team that put ball into play will have an automatic out whether batting or will be assessed when fielding team (if liable for in-play ball) comes to bat
- Smoking must be done outside of bench area and butts put out entirely and disposed of properly – not on ground.
- Clean-up of bench and spectator area MUST be conducted and disposed of properly upon leaving
- A "strike zone mat" will be placed behind the plate.
 - The strike zone mat will be 26 inches by 18 inches in size.
 - The umpire will take a position not any closer than six (6) feet to the catcher or batter in foul territory in a place to best determine the arc of the pitch and whether it hits the strike zone mat.
 - The catcher will position him/herself no closer than six (6) feet of the batter.

Rosters:

- Roster must be created <https://tournaments.mnsoftball.com/> or a hard-copy can be completed at the field signed by all players, then given back to Havana or at concessions if open. Due at second week of games. **MUST BE LEGIBLE!!**
- Roster must have a signature from the player
- All player information must be filled out accurately. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!** This includes:
 - Name
 - Address
 - City, State
 - Zip Code
 - Birthdate
 - Email
 - Phone Number

Instructions on how to enter rosters online can be found here; <https://www.mnsoftball.com/adultrosterhelp>

Rosters Due 2nd week of games – **FIRM**

- Not received, team forfeits until received and a \$25 late fee assessed
- Roster limit is 20 players and player classification guidelines are in effect
 - **Class D** = May have only three (3) C classified players and no players from C+ above or on USA Softball restricted players' list
 - **Class E** = May have only three (3) D classified players and no players from D+ above or on USA Softball restricted player's list
- Roster checks for illegal players may be conducted by USA Softball and City League Director at any time

Notable USA Softball Rule

All games played using a Time Limit will be considered Regulation Games regardless of the number of innings completed/played.

- We are sanctioned and follow Minnesota USA Softball rules with the exceptions of house rule changes.
[**Note:** House league rules apply **only** for our league and not for tournaments]

Standard Rules:

- Time Limit is 1 hour; **NO new inning starts after 55 minutes**, includes the last game of the night.
- A 10-minute grace period is allowed for 1st game only; however, if grace time is used, the end of game time allowance is still 1 hour from the scheduled start time
- Pitching Distance: 50 feet Base Path: 70 feet
- Run Rule: 20 after 3 / 15 after 4 / 10 after 5
- Umpire is empowered to call a game any time due to darkness, lightening, rain, fire, panic or any other cause that places the patrons or players at harm
- Any player may be substituted or replaced and re-entered, providing players occupy the same batting

position whenever in the line-up

- Everyone can bat if manager chooses; must be made known prior to the start of game
- Forfeit time will be 10 minutes after scheduled game time

House Rules:

These rules ONLY apply to our league and not tournaments. Be sure to read your USA rule book before going to any USA tournament as they have a different pitching area, distance, and homerun rules.

- Although the pitch arc (6-10 foot) is the same as USA rules, the **pitchers may pitch 6' back from the standard pitching distance of 50' for safety purposes**
 - Our fields have a pitching rubber at 46' & 52.5'
- Teams can pull a player from another team to prevent a forfeit; however, managers need to agree on the subs prior to the start of the game.
- **3 balls/2 strike count applies with NO courtesy foul**
- **Home run rule** – no differentiation for home runs allowed based off of class level, minimum of 2 home runs per team/per game
 - We will incorporate the “ladder up/one-up” ruling meaning that once both teams have utilized their 2 home runs, an additional home run will be allowed; until then, home runs beyond 2 will be an out
 - There is NO max ladder ups if both teams have equal home runs
 - Ladder up/one-up rule **goes in effect as soon as both teams have 2 home runs**, including if in bottom of inning (i.e. away team has 2 home runs, home team has 1 but hits 2nd, ladder up rule goes in effect immediately)
 - Ladder up ruling does include the 7th inning
- Home team can hit a home run to tie the game but can't hit a home run to go up by one in the last inning of play.
- **Tie-breakers will only take effect during end of season playoffs**
- **Tie-breaker rule** – at end of time limit and game is tied, the international tie-breaker rule shall be applied:
 - Starting with top of 8th inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team will begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in the respective half-inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number 5 batter is lead-off batter, the number 4 batter in the batting order will be placed on 2nd base.)
 - If a team is in the tie-breaker and shorthanded rule is in effect, an out will not be declared if the absent player is the one who should begin the half innings at 2nd base. Instead, the player whose name precedes the absent player's name in the line-up should be placed on 2nd base.
- **Forfeiture** – teams can pull a player from another team to prevent a forfeit; however, managers need to agree on subs prior to the game.
 - ***If a team has to forfeit, notify Havana as early as possible so she can notify umpires and other teams – text or call cell number!!***
 - No additions allowed after the game starts.

- A team may start and finish a game with 8 players; however, if a player is injured or ejected from the team with 8 players, and if that team does not have an eligible replacement then that team will forfeit the game.

Equipment:

- Each team will receive 1 doz new balls at beginning of season/enough for the season
 - Home team will provide 1 new ball at start of game to umpire
 - ❖ To be returned upon completion of game
 - Teams are responsible for retrieving home run and/or foul balls to ensure umpires have balls for play, clock does not stop if all balls are out of play pending retrieval
 - If wrong core ball or non-certified USA/ASA ball not stamped and is put into play, that team will automatically forfeit the game
- **Bats:** Only USA/ASA approved bats are allowed – bats **MUST** have an USA/ASA stamp on them.
 - **If a player is found using a non-approved bat that player will be ejected from the game**
 - A list of approved bats is available on the USA Softball website - www.slowpitch.mnsoftball.com
 - Team managers are responsible for checking their team's bats prior to game times.
 - Umpires will inspect bats during games if questioned by a team
 - An approved/non-approved bat list will be kept at the field location for reference
- **Metal spikes or screw on cleats are prohibited**

Weather Issues:

Teams will be notified of rainouts as soon as possible via text message and/or email by 5:00pm, otherwise, games may be called at the fields by the umpires. Decisions will be made by the City of Rogers for field playability prior to 5:00pm, at which time I will communicate to team manager's any cancellations and update our weather hotline number.

- **Utilize the weather hotline number 763-428-0960 for updates – *give to team members too***
- It is the *responsibility of the team manager to relay the info to team . . .*
 - Recommend that that there is a player or manager rep at the fields a minimum of 20 minutes prior to game time in case games get called at the field – this allows time to contact other team members
 - If games are called/delayed, **ALL** fields are called/delayed until notified by that night's head ump
 - When possible, I will send out a group message to team manager's contact list regarding game status via cell phone numbers and sometimes via email
 - Be sure I have a good cell # and email address that you check often
 - If you have an assistant mgr you want me to add, let me know
 - Note that neither umpires, nor concession workers are responsible for contacting teams to inform them that games have been cancelled once they are at the field
- **Lightening & Thunder Rule:** Umpires will delay games for at least 30 minutes from the time after the last strike or clap of thunder. If it is visible, they are to delay the game per USA Softball and City of Rogers Fire Chief.
- **High HEAT Index:** We will play all games

Code of Conduct:

- Foul language by a player or manager will not be tolerated. Any member of a team who does not follow this rule will be subject to discipline according to house rules; however, if repetitive offenses occur, penalties will then be per USA Softball rules.
 - There is a **zero tolerance** for profanity and arguing balls and strikes. {Note: Casual profanity may occur incidentally and the umpire has the discretion of the tolerance allowed; however, any profanity directed to a player, fan, or official will result in an ejection. In addition, NO usage of the ***f*** word is allowed! REMEMBER: There are many kids in the area.}
 - If major swearing occurs, it will be called an OUT as follows . . .
 - If on offense and there are 2 outs, you hit a fly ball, batter is 3rd out and the 1st batter next inning is out.
 - If on offense and less than 2 outs, you hit a fly ball, batter is out and the next batter.
 - If on defense, 1st batter up to bat when you go on offense is out
 - If swearing is directed at someone, you will be tossed for the night and the following week
- **Gentleman's Rule: (House Rule)** It is common courtesy to not deliberately try and hit a pitcher up the middle; however, there will be times that this does happen.
 - If the umpire deems that it appears that a player is intentionally trying to hit the pitcher, a warning will be issued and ejection of any repeated occurrences.
- **Ejections:** If ejected from the game, player is done for rest of the night, as well as, the next night of play before being reinstated.
 - They MUST leave the facility/park, as they are not allowed to be in the complex during the rest of the games.
 - Depending on the circumstances, the suspension may be longer
 - If a player is ejected two times during a season, that player will face a year suspension by the league and USA Softball entity
- If a team does not properly control an ejected player, the entire team may face ejection from league play
 - If a player is ejected and the manager has not tried to prevent further disruption by the player, the manager may also be ejected. **(House Rule)** {Note: In state tournament, USA Softball rule applies where automatically the player & manager are ejected.}
 - If team does not have a replacement player to go into the spot of the ejected player in the batting order, an automatic OUT will be called each time that batter would have come to bat.
- A player or manager striking or handling an official or supervisor will be suspended immediately for a minimum of a year.
 - The penalty could be permanent suspension from all Parks and Recreation leagues in Rogers and through USA Softball as such ejections will be reported to the sanction governing body.
- **Alcohol Policy:**
 - *NO drinking until after all youth teams have left complex area.*

- Consumption of **canned** alcoholic beverages **ONLY** is permitted but must be consumed **outside of the dugout benches – this is for spectators too**
 - NO hard liquor allowed
 - Absolutely no underage drinking allowed
 - Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be tolerated and the local police or Hennepin County Sheriff's office will be alerted if this situation arises – this applies to players and spectators.
- **NO DRINKING IS ALLOWED IN PARKING LOTS**
- League participants must remove the trash and recycle upon leaving
- *Consequences for Violation of Policy:*
 - League Director or approved substitute will alert the Rogers Police and/or Hennepin County Sheriff's office for underage or excessive alcoholic drinking and that player may be suspended indefinitely from league play, at the discretion of the League Director.
 - If a player, team or fans of a team bring in unapproved alcoholic beverages, the team manager will be responsible for removing the beverages at the request of the League Director or substitute. If not complied, the team will forfeit and suspensions will occur.
 - Teams that do not remove trash will be subject to a \$25 fine and/or suspension for a night resulting in a forfeit.
- Smoking - No smoking on the benches, must be done outside of bench area, and do not toss butts.

Post-Season State Tournaments:

Visit mnsoftball.com to see tournament calendar and registration information.