

# OREM RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACCELERATED SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

## RULES OF PLAY

The league will be governed by the official rules as set forth in the USA Softball rule book with the exceptions noted herein.

1. **ROSTERS** - It is the responsibility of each coach to submit **a copy of the official USA Softball roster to the league director or the field supervisor before the season begins (or at the first game)**. Each player must be registered with USA Softball to participate in this league or they will not be permitted to play. You may add a player to your roster throughout the season by registering that player to your official team (using [www.registerUSASoftball](http://www.registerUSASoftball)) or by using the Utah USA Softball add-on procedure, but they must be registered with USA Softball in order to keep the league, umpires, and the players insured. If you add a player to your roster, be sure to submit an updated copy of your roster to the league director or field supervisor. Additionally, players can only play on ONE team per division (12U, 14U, 16/18U are different divisions). Once tournament begins, roster changes will NOT be allowed. If your team is caught using illegal players, the game will be ruled a forfeit.

Coaches, please keep in mind that the purpose of the add-on/pickup rule is to fill spots when your regular players are not available, not to use in place of your regular players. While it may be difficult to regulate, we will trust the coaches to use additional players as intended. This league is for the benefit of the participants. Camps, vacations, etc. usually affect most teams so coaches and players, do what you can to plan ahead.

2. Sportsmanship is a must, and it needs to start with the coaches. Please review the Players/Coaches Code of Conduct, included with these rules. Coaches are also responsible for players and spectators, so please remind them to be good sports as well.

3. Coaches have the option to bat the usual nine (9) players or they may choose to bat all players present.

4. The batting team may score a maximum of six (6) runs per inning, even if the hit that produced the sixth run also produced a seventh run. If six runs score before there are three outs, the batting team takes the field and the defensive team comes to bat. **NOTE: Home team will get their last bat - even if they can't win (as long as there is time on the clock).**

5. **UNIFORMS** - Players must wear a jersey with a number. No duplicate numbers please.

6. **RUN AHEAD RULE** - A game will be called if one team is ahead 15 runs after three innings or 1 hour; or 8 runs after four innings. Complete innings must be played unless the home team scores the run ahead limit while at bat or time expires.

7. **GAME TIME LIMITS** - No new inning will be started after 1 hour and 15 minutes. Games are scheduled for one hour and 30 minutes. (A new inning begins with the last out of the previous inning.) Forfeit time is scheduled game time. **League games can end in a tie.**

8. No Metal cleats allowed on the pitching mats.

9. **RAIN OUT/LIGHTNING RULE:**

❖ **Less than 3 complete innings have been played:**

The game will be resumed at the exact point (as close as possible) where the game was stopped.

❖ **At least three complete innings have been played:**

If the home team is ahead they will be the winners. If the game is tied, the game will be considered complete as league games can end in a tie (exception: tournament games will be finished to determine a winner).

10. **TEAM STANDINGS** – Standings will be computed on a win-loss system. The team with the highest win-loss percentage at the end of league play will be the Champion. \*\*Regular season games with no umpire will not be factored into the final standings. If there is a tie for a place, the tie will be broken by: (1) results of head-to-head competition, (2) run differential between the tied teams in their head-to-head competition, (3) coin toss.

11. An official team is composed of 9 players. A team may play with as few as eight (8) players with no designated outs. A minimum of seven (7) players will be permitted but there will be one (1) designated out. As players arrive, they may be inserted into the lineup.

12. **EJECTIONS** - If an ejection occurs, the offender must leave the ball park quickly (one minute) “Out of Sight, Out of Sound.” The offending coach/player/spectator must sit out the next game as well.

13. **PROTESTS** - Due to the recreational aspects of the league, protests are discouraged and should be the exception rather than the rule.

A. Protests shall **not** be considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire.

B. Protests involving the misinterpretation of a playing rule; failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule on a given situation; and failure to impose the correct penalty for a given violation shall be considered. The following must be followed:

1. Notification of intent to protest must be made to the supervisor, plate umpire, scorekeeper, and opposing team captain, by the manager before the next pitch.
2. If a league question arises on the field and a decision needs to be made at that time, BOTH team coaches and the field supervisor must meet and come to a decision. When the decision has been made by all three, that decision will stand and not be protestable.
3. During tournament play, all protests will be decided on the field by the supervisor. All tournament game protests must be made to the supervisor, plate umpire, scorekeeper, and opposing team captain before the game officially ends. After the game has officially ended, no protest will be considered.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Officials and supervisors can make mistakes on league rules. This is why protests are considered. These incorrect decisions made do not change a rule. It is the responsibility of each coach/manager to have knowledge of the rules and to take responsibility for his or her team's adherence to all aforementioned policies as well as the team's conduct. Each coach/manager is also expected to know the Orem Recreation Code of Conduct.

## City of Orem Recreation Department CODE OF CONDUCT

The City of Orem Recreation Department has established a Code of Conduct which applies to all persons participating in any way in any Orem City Recreation Department programs or facilities. All participants, volunteers, coaches, patrons, and spectators are expected to know, promote, and adhere to the following standards of conduct.

### General:

1. Promote and encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for players, coaches, officials, participants, and employees.
2. Treat everyone with respect, regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, disability, or skill level. Putting down or demoralizing others is not acceptable.
3. Adhere strictly to the rules of the game/facility (including official's or employee's decisions) and do not attempt to change or manipulate those rules in order to win or for personal benefit.
4. No smoking, drinking, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be allowed in the facilities or on playing fields.
5. Abuse or harassment of players, volunteers, coaches, officials, spectators, or employees in any form will not be tolerated. Bullying is a form of harassment which is also prohibited.
6. Foul, abusive, profane, or vulgar language is prohibited and will not be tolerated.
7. Fighting is prohibited. Fighting includes physical (hitting, pushing, touching, "getting in the face of") or verbal (threatening, making fun of, calling names, cursing, arguing).
8. Remember that youth programs are for the kids [to learn fundamentals, techniques, sportsmanship, teamwork, and have fun]; they are not for adults! Therefore, **all** kids deserve a right to fairness at all times.
9. Conduct yourself in a manner that would be an example and a role model to youth under your direction or in the vicinity.
10. Coaches agree to support and work with assigned team throughout the designated season, and agree to hold regular practices (at least once a week) and show up to scheduled games.
11. Any equipment issued does not become personal property and all equipment must be returned in good condition to the City at determined time.
12. Promote team work, physical conditioning and teaching skills appropriate to the sport. Do not teach, encourage, or allow rough or dirty tactics of play.

Anyone who does not comply with this policy, or who conducts himself or herself in any unbecoming manner, will be subject to disciplinary action including (but not limited to) verbal or written warning, being asked to vacate the premises, suspension, or expulsion from the program, class, facility, or field and associated privileges will be terminated without refund. Financial restitution may be required when appropriate. Criminal violations will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.