



CO-ED SOFTBALL 2016

INFORMATION PACKET



I. PROGRAM INFORMATION

- A. The 2016 Co-Ed Softball Program will offer three (3) leagues. The program will offer three (3) leagues: **A** (competitive), **B** (semi-competitive), and **C** (recreational). This activity is intended to provide a meaningful physical fitness outlet and an opportunity for individuals to participate in a team atmosphere stressing sportsmanship.
- B. The Co-Ed Softball Program is administered by the Parks and Recreation Department. Our office is located at the Maryville Community Center, 1407 N. Country Club Rd., 562-2923.
- C. One umpire will be provided for each game league and tournament game.
- D. All games will take place at Donaldson Westside Park Sports Complex or Beal Park.
- E. Maryville has a city ordinance that prohibits the use or possession of alcohol in all of the city parks.
- F. Game balls will be provided again this year.
- G. **No individual player fees, as it is already figured into the cost of the team fee. However, players must still register by filling out a waiver form (as in previous years) before participating.**

II. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

- A. Registration will be accepted **from Monday, May 30th through Friday, June 24th, 2016**. Teams will be registered in their assigned league, unless a team requests an exception (in writing), which is approved by the Recreation Supervisor. This request should state the reason for the requested change.
- B. Please list all players, who will be participating on your team, on the team roster.
- C. Special requests for playing nights or times should be made at the time of registration on the registration form. We cannot guarantee the special request will be granted, but we will attempt to meet your needs.

III. CAPTAINS MEETING

The captain's meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 30th, 2016 at 6:00PM** in the Large Meeting Room of the Maryville Community Center, 1407 N. Country Club Rd. Schedules will be distributed at this time. If you or a member of your team is unable to attend the meeting, a schedule may be picked up at the Maryville Community Center on the following day. Schedules will NOT be mailed to captains.

IV. FEES

- A. Team Fee: **\$410.00**
- B. Late Team Registration Fee: **\$435.00**
- C. **No individual player fees, as it is already figured into the cost of the team fee. However, players must still register by filling out a waiver form (as in previous years) before participating.**

V. PLAYER REGISTRATION

- A. **All players must sign their player contract 24 hours before they play in their first game in order to be eligible for league competition.**
- B. **Player fees are neither refundable nor transferable after the first scheduled game of your team.** A two dollar (\$2.00) service charge will be subtracted from all refunds.
- C. Players may be added throughout the season but must be on the team's roster by **Friday, July 29th, 2016**, in order to be eligible for the post-season tournament.

D. Players must be at least **16 years old** in order to participate in the softball program.

E. **Players may play on only one team and only in one league.**

VI. LEAGUE SCHEDULES

A. League schedules will be available at the captain's meeting June 30th. Games are **TENTATIVELY** scheduled to begin the week of July 5, 2016.

VII. RULES OF CONDUCT

A. **Unsportsmanlike conduct, poor attitude, disrespect, vulgarity or profanity will NOT be tolerated at any time. Any manager or player removed from a game, for any reason, must leave the park and will be automatically suspended for a minimum of one game, which will be the next league or tournament game played by his/her team. NOTE: Multiple incidents that lead to suspension by the same player(s) could subject him/her to multiple game suspensions.**

B. **Any manager or player fighting, threatening an official or having contact with an official will be automatically ejected for the remainder of the season, perhaps indefinitely, and will be required to meet with the Recreation Supervisor and Director of Parks and Recreation before participating or attending any other games or activities.**

C. **A game will be forfeited in the event a team fails to respect the umpire's authority or decisions.**

D. **In any discussion on the field with an umpire, only the captain/manager will be allowed to enter the discussion. The manager must maintain complete control of himself and his/her team members at all times.**

E. **We desire the best program possible for all interested persons, and only proper conduct and attitude of the participants can ensure a wholesome program. We expect the cooperation of all those participating in the program and will NOT let it be spoiled by a few.**

F. **FIGHTING=DOUBLE FORFEIT and both teams will be suspended for the remainder of the year.**

G. **Players may not use profanity. The F-Bomb rule-The player will be ejected for that game and the next game scheduled for that team.**

VIII. GAME TIMES

A. Games will start promptly at their scheduled time. Games are scheduled for one (1) hour in length. Game times are 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 PM. Game time is forfeit time. There will be no grace period. Please have your team members present 10-15 minutes prior to game time. This will allow warm-up time and will eliminate forfeits.

B. The umpire will be the timekeeper. No new inning will start after 55 minutes unless the score is tied. If the game is tied, play will continue. This is the same for both league and tournament games.

C. After 3 forfeits, a team will be dropped from the league.

IX. MPR GENERAL RULES

(ASA and summer softball rules will apply unless altered below.)

1. Teams must have at least seven (7) players to start. Teams must play with an equal number of men and women or a greater number of women.

1a. **EXTRA PLAYERS:** In co-ed softball, a team may use the extra player rule, but this will include 12 people in the batting order (an extra female and an extra male). Any ten of the twelve people in the batting order may play in the field and may rotate as often as they like as long as the batting order remains the same. A team must have twelve on-site and ready to play at game time in order to use the extra players.

1b. Once a player is removed, they cannot re-enter the game. No set position is required.

2. Men and women must alternate in the batting order. Two men cannot bat in a row, but two or more women may bat in a row if there are more women than men.

3. There is no requirement for defensive positioning. Men and women do not have to play opposite each other. They can play any position as long as there are an equal or greater number of women on the field.
4. **ANY WALK** to a male batter will result in a **two base award**. The next batter (a female) will bat. **EXCEPTION:** If there are two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.
5. **FORCE LINE** -- between third and home plate. If a player crosses the line, the player must go home -- It is a force out at the plate.
6. **Deliberately crashing into a fielder with the ball-** A runner must be called out if he deliberately crashes into a defensive player holding the ball and waiting to apply a tag or if a defensive player is about to release a thrown ball. In order to prevent a deliberate crash ruling, the runner can slide, jump over the top of the defender holding the ball, go around the defender (if outside the three-foot lane, the runner would be called out), or return to the previous base touched. **NOTE:** If the act is determined to be flagrant, the offender will be ejected. A runner may slide into the fielder.
7. **Rubber cleats may be worn but metal spikes are NOT allowed by any players.**
8. If a team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings (or anytime thereafter) or 10 runs after 5 innings (or anytime thereafter), the game is over.
9. **HOME RUNS:** There will be a limit of home runs per team, 6 for "A" league, 4 for "B" league, and 3 for "C" league. After the limit is hit, any following home runs will be ruled an out.
10. Maryville Parks and Recreation will be providing the game balls this year. The men will hit the 12" ball and the women will hit the 11" ball. Either the first or the third base coach (for the team that is batting) will hold the extra ball and switch them with the pitcher for each appropriate batter.
11. **MPR will follow ASA guidelines for bats in the 2016 season (SEE ALSO ATTACHED ASA NON-APPROVED BAT LIST)**

The official bat in ASA Championship Play must meet all of the requirements of Rule 3, Section 1 and:

1. must bear **either** the ASA 2000 certification mark, the ASA 2004 certification mark, or the ASA 2013 certification mark, as shown below, and must not be listed on an ASA non approved list, **or**



2. must be included on a list of approved bat models published by the ASA National Office; or
 3. must, in the sole opinion and discretion of the umpire, have been manufactured prior to 2000 and if tested, would comply with the ASA bat performance standards then in effect
12. **Game Length:** 7 innings. **NOTE:** No new inning will start after 55 minutes, unless the score is tied. If the game is tied, play will continue. Game times are as follows: 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 PM. Game time is forfeit time. The umpires will be the time keepers. **NOTE: AFTER THREE FORFEITS, A TEAM WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE PROGRAM.**
 13. Any game which has gone 4 complete innings or 3 ½ innings with the home team leading will be considered a complete game. Games suspended due to darkness unless the lights quit operating, rain, etc. (with less than four innings or in the middle of an inning) will be rescheduled as a suspended game, (games will resume from point of suspension).
 14. Alcohol can not be possessed or consumed in any park in Maryville, Missouri (see the *Program Information* section of this information packet, letter F) Smoking will not be allowed on the playing field or in the dugout. Violation of any of these rules will result in ejection from the game and automatic suspension from the next scheduled game.
 15. Designated Hitter (DH) is **NOT** allowed.

16. Retrieving home runs and foul balls: The team that hits a home run, or a foul ball that goes over the fence, is responsible for going and retrieving that ball as soon as it is hit. If no attempt is made to retrieve that ball, a forfeit will be given to the team that hit the home run or the foul ball.
17. Running the bases: If a player hits a home run, that player must run and tag every base with his/her foot. If a player does not run the bases after a home run, that player shall be called out.
18. All Co-ed Softball Slow-Pitch players will enter the batter's box and **start with a one ball and one strike count**, before any pitches have been thrown. One courtesy foul will be available.
19. **FOUL TIP:** Umpires now only need to judge whether a batted ball moves from the bat to the catcher's glove "sharply" and "directly" versus a ball that has a "perceptible" arc. If there is a "perceptible" arc, and the ball is caught by the catcher, the batter will be ruled out. If the ball moves "sharply" or "directly" back to the catcher, the pitch will be ruled a foul ball.
20. **Pitch Height: The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground while not exceeding a height of 10 feet from the ground.**
21. Batters must start with two feet in the batter's box when contact is made, and end with at least one foot in the batter's box.
22. Each team will keep score on the official Parks & Recreation score sheets and check with each other between innings to confirm the score. Teams are encouraged to keep a score book also in case of a discrepancy.
23. Pitchers are allowed 5 warm-up pitches prior to the first inning. After that inning, 2 warm-up pitches will be allowed.

X. CANCELLATIONS

- A. Games will be cancelled when fields are not playable. The decision for field play will be made at 4:00 PM. You may call the MPR office (562-2923) after 4:00 PM. All cancellations will also be announced on KNIM (97.1 FM). **DO NOT CALL KNIM.**
- B. After four (4) innings, (or 3 ½ innings with the home team ahead) a game will be considered a complete game unless it is called in the middle of an inning. Games called due to rain or lightening (with less than four innings or in the middle of an inning) will be rescheduled as a suspended game (games will resume from point of suspension).
- C. We will attempt to reschedule all games which are cancelled due to weather. Rescheduling will be contingent upon the number of available dates.
- D. During the event of inclement weather for a tournament game, **MPR will make a decision to reschedule or resume the game.** The day and time of the rescheduled game will NOT be left up to the discretion of the teams.
- E. **SIGN UP FOR TEXT & EMAIL ALERTS** from Maryville Parks & Recreation! Users will have the option to receive alerts about upcoming sports programs, registrations, cancellations and much more! Users have the option to select which programs they want to be alerted about, such as Adult Softball. To sign up for Text Alerts go to our website at www.maryville.org/mpr (once you're there, click on the Maryville Community Center tab on the left and the link is located under the MCC phone number).

XI. PROTESTS

Only protests involving ineligible players will be allowed. Intent to protest must be made to the umpire before the game ends. In the event of a protest, the Recreation Supervisor will determine the legality of the player(s) within 24 hours. If an illegal player is found in the event of a protest, the team's game will be forfeited and the illegal player (s) will be suspended from further league play.

XII. POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT

Teams in each league will play a single elimination tournament at the end of the regular season. All teams will be eligible for this tournament. The league winners and tournament champions will receive a trophy.