



Adult Softball League Rules 2023

The Beaver Creek Adult Softball League is recreational in nature, and it is the sincere hope of the staff of the Division of Parks, Recreation and Culture that each player will enjoy their games at Rotary Park. These rules are given to each team to answer many questions and to provide guidance throughout the season. Please read them carefully and make sure all team members are aware of the rules.

1. Game times are 6:10pm and 7:20pm on Mondays, Wednesdays Thursdays, and Fridays. On Tuesdays, games will begin at 6:10pm, 7:20pm, 8:30pm, and 9:40pm. Game time is forfeit time. Games are 65 minutes each.
 - a. If the previous game runs past the start time, the next game will be allowed to play a full 65 minutes. Umpires should adjust their time accordingly. The last inning cannot begin after 65 minutes from the start of the game if there is a scheduled game that follows on the diamond. If there is no scheduled game afterward on the diamond, then the game should be completed. The lights at Rotary Park must be turned off by 11:00 pm.
 - b. Managers are requested to quickly leave the field and dugouts at the end of the game.
2. Game Schedule. A double round robin will be played. Each team plays 14 games. Games begin on May 15, 2023 and play continues for 14 weeks; **games will not be played on Memorial Day, July 4th or 5th, and Labor Day.**
 - a. Game schedules are posted at beavercreekoh.myrec.com/info/team/ one week prior to the league.
3. There are a maximum of eight (8) teams in each league.
 - a. Scores and standings in the league will be updated weekly on beavercreekoh.myrec.com/info/team/
4. If there is a discrepancy in the standings, the manager should contact the office immediately at 937-427-5514 or parks@beavercreekohio.gov
 - a. In the event that two (2) teams tie for first or second place, the following procedure will determine the league winner:
 - i. Winner of the game(s) played between the tied teams (head to head)
 - ii. Fewest total runs allowed in the games played by each of the two tied teams (head to head).
 - b. If three (3) or more teams are tied:
 - i. Compare the win/loss record between the three teams playing against each other. I.e. teams A, B, and C are tied. Compare games AvB, BvC, and AvC (and reverse)
 - ii. If the three teams are still tied, fewest total runs allowed in the games played between the three teams in question.
 - iii. If two teams are still tied, refer to 4a (ties between two teams).
 - c. Forfeits are scored at 7-0

- d. A team sponsor trophy will be given to the first and second place teams in each league. Individual T-shirts will be given to all players on the first place team in each league. Awards will be given at the final game of each league.
5. **WSL Rules:** The official WSL Rule Book governs all aspects of play, except as indicated in these local rules.
(https://softball.playwsl.com/rulebooks/6/pdf/WSL_2021_Rulebook_V8_14_Mar_2021_rev.pdf)
 - a. **Men's Play:** Rule 11
 - b. **Women's Play:** Rule 12
 - c. **Mixed (co-ed) Play:** Rule 13 of the Official WSL Rule Book governs all aspects of MIXED play, except as indicated in these local rules.
6. Tied Game. When a game is tied at the end of seven innings or a full inning after 55 minutes, the international tiebreaker rule will be used.
 - a. One Out
 - b. Last batter at second base (coed – same gender)
 - c. Regular
7. Home Team is listed last on game schedules and scorecards.
8. Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players and team spectators. The manager shall inform the players of these rules. Only the manager may question the umpire concerning the interpretation of a rule.
 - a. If the manager status changes for any reason or if the manager's telephone number, cell phone carrier, or email address changes, please contact the City with this information so that we may contact the manager of each team as needed and be alerted of rainouts (937-427-5514). This is also the information used to contact the team for next year.
 - b. All teams must designate an assistant manager on the player roster in case the designated manager is unavailable and we need to contact the team.
9. **Park Rules:** Beaver Creek City, Beaver Creek Township and Greene County ordinances and laws regarding the use of parks shall be in effect. Players can be suspended from play for violation of these laws.
 - a. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Umpires and City staff are authorized to eject anyone from the park. Players can be suspended from play in our leagues.
 - b. Speed limit in Rotary Park is 15 MPH.
 - c. Park in designated parking areas and not on the grass. When the parking lots are full and vehicles are parked on the grass, they should be perpendicular to the roadway, close to the edge, and parked so as not to damage the grass.
10. **Players:** WSL Rules will govern all aspects of player's rules.
 - a. Players must be over the age of 18 to play in the City of Beaver Creek softball league.
 - b. **Men's or Women's teams** may field only nine (9) players at the start of the game with no penalty. If a team fails to field the specified number of players, they must forfeit the game. If a player is injured during a game and the number of players drop to eight and the team has no

substitute for that player, an out will be declared when their position comes up in the lineup. If a player is ejected from play and the number of players drops below nine, the game will be forfeited.

- c. Under no circumstances may a female play on a men's team.
 - d. **Co-ed teams** may field only (9) players at the start of the game with no penalty. They must field a minimum of five females at all times. A co-ed team may choose to play more females than five but may never drop below the minimum. (Must have at least 4 males playing). If a team fails to field the specified players, they must forfeit the game. Co-ed teams must bat an alternating line up of males and females until all males have been used then additional females may bat consecutively. At no time may two males bat consecutively. The continuous batting rule (see rule 38) allows for two or more female players to bat consecutively but at no time shall male players be allowed to bat consecutively. If a co-ed team starts a game with no more than 10 players they must finish the game with the same number of players.
 - e. A player who is injured and leaves the game in co-ed play will be declared out if their position in the lineup comes up and no substitute has filled their position.
 - f. If a player is ejected from co-ed play and has no substitute to take his or her place and the lineup drops below nine (9) players, the game will result in a forfeit.
11. **Roster:** At no time can the total number of names on the roster exceed thirty (30) including dropped players. All roster additions, changes and contracts must be submitted to the field supervisor PRIOR to the player participation.
- a. All team rosters must be turned in before the first pitch. Umpires will not begin your game until rosters are in the hands of our league supervisor. The time clock will begin at game time.
 - b. Rosters can be turned in ahead of time to the Parks Office at 789 Orchard Lane between Monday through Friday from 8am - 5pm OR during "practice weeks"
 - c. The league supervisor will accept additions to the original roster - there are no more contract cards.
 - d. Rosters are provided at the manager's meeting and completed rosters are kept at the field for players to sign up after the roster is turned in. Players will sign and date the list. The number of players cannot exceed 30 total.
 - e. All signatures must be legible.
 - f. Managers are reminded to ask players to read before signing. A player must personally sign the roster before playing in any game.
12. **Change Teams:** A player is permitted to play on only one team per league. A player's contract (or roster) must be signed by the player and manager and filed with the City of Beavercreek Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture Office. A player may not switch teams in the same league if his or her name has appeared in the scorebook. Players will not be permitted to change teams unless BOTH managers sign a Player Release Form.
13. **Unofficial Player:** Any player playing on a team without being on the official roster will be suspended from the league for the remainder of the season. Any game(s) played by an unofficial player will be forfeited.
- a. All players must be able to provide proper photo identification if questioned by the umpire or Field Supervisor. Any questionable player

will be asked to sign the scorebook for proper identification of signature.

- b. Team rosters will be available at the field for the umpires and Field Supervisor to review. If a question arises about a player's eligibility, the umpire and Field Supervisor should be contacted. This information should be noted by the umpire on the scorecard during the game but researched afterward with the Field Supervisor. If this is not done, the Recreation Program Supervisor and/or the District Director of WSL will determine player eligibility through the protest procedure.
- c. Do not allow unofficial players!

14. **Ejected Player:** A player who is ejected from a game will not be able to participate in the City of Beavercreek Adult Softball leagues for a period of seven days. This means if you are ejected on a Monday night, you will not be able to play another game in Beavercreek until Tuesday the following week. A player or manager who has been ejected from two (2) games during the season will be suspended from participation for the remainder of the season. If three (3) team members are ejected during a game, that team will forfeit that game.

- a. Umpires will indicate on official score sheets that ejected players were removed from the game
- b. The field supervisor will keep a list of those players ejected and when they are eligible to return to play. If an ejected player is caught playing during his/her suspension, they will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

15. **Forfeit:** Teams involved in a forfeit must be off the field ten (10) minutes before the next game. If a team wins by forfeit, the manager and umpire must sign the scorecard.

- a. If you know you cannot play a game and must forfeit, call the Parks & Recreation Office at 937-427-5514. We will contact the other team and umpire so they do not make a wasted trip to Rotary Park.
- b. Forfeited games will not be rescheduled.

16. **Equipment:** Teams must furnish their own bats, gloves and uniforms. No uniform is required, but players should look neat. Hats may be worn backwards. Shoes must be worn at all times, no open toed shoes or sandals.

17. **Game balls:** The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department will furnish one (1) new ball and one (1) used ball to each team for each game. Balls should be returned to the league supervisor.

- a. Men's leagues will use 12" balls
- b. Co-Ed leagues: 1 12" ball and 1 11" ball will be provided. 11" balls are to be used to pitch to female players. It is the responsibility of the 3rd base coach to switch balls in and out between batters. Female batters can choose to hit whichever size ball she chooses.
- c. **Women's Leagues: 1 12" ball and 1 11" ball will be provided. It is the responsibility of the 3rd base coach to switch balls in and out between batters. Batters can choose to hit whichever size ball she chooses.**
- d. It is the batting team's responsibility to retrieve foul balls and put them back into play.

18. **Spikes:** Metal spikes are not permitted

19. **Batter's Box:** "Digging" in the batter's box is prohibited. A warning will be given to players scratching in the batter's box. The umpire may call the batter out if the scratching continues. Please do not scratch or dig.
20. Warm up practices and throwing of balls should be conducted in a safe manner off the infield, so as not to endanger spectators or other players. Players failing to comply with this rule may be suspended from the league. Warm up away from parked vehicles.
 - a. More than one warm up pitch during the game causes delay and is prohibited. If you waste valuable playing time warming up, your game may be called because of time.
 - b. Do not hit softballs directly into fences during warm up.
21. Two forfeits during the same round of play without a 24-hour notice will justify suspension of the team from the league. Notice of forfeit must be given to the Office of Parks, Recreation & Culture. Forfeit of make-up games on make-up weekend will also be counted.
22. **Sanction:** All teams must be World Sports League (WSL) sanctioned. This is included in your league fees.
 - a. If already sanctioned through another league or for tournaments, the exact team name must remain the same. A player roster must be completed for the City of Beavercreek.
 - b. When sanctioned, each team receives one WSL rulebook and scorebook. It is good for the year. Additional scorebooks can be purchased at most sporting goods stores at the team's expense.
 - c. Only one sanctioning per team is needed, even if the teams play in multiple leagues, but only if the players on all teams are the same.
23. **Rain outs:** In case of cancellation because of bad weather, the decision will be made by 3:30pm. It is the intention of the City of Beavercreek to try to make up all games. However, if games cannot be made up, no refund or discount will be given.
 - a. Managers *only* will receive text alerts from MyRec for information on rain outs. **Be sure to provide a cell phone number and carrier to receive text alerts.**
 - b. Make-up games will be scheduled during the season as possible, and will take place at the end of the 14-week regular season.
 - c. Makeup games will be rescheduled on beavercreekoh.myrec.com/info/team/
 - d. A team who does not show for the make-up will lose by forfeit. Out of courtesy, please contact our office if you cannot make it (937-427-5514).
24. **Rain during game:** In cases of rain, or inclement weather, the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department shall determine start of games by 3:30pm. After 3:30pm, games will be played at the umpires' discretion concerning rain, safety and lightning.
 - a. Games are considered completed after four (4) innings (3½ innings if home team leads)
 - b. Any game called due to rain, darkness, time or lightning will be replayed from the start.

25. **Run Rule:** If a team is trailing by twenty (20) runs at the end of three (3) full innings, fifteen (15) runs at the end of four (4) full innings, or twelve (12) runs at the end of five (5) full innings, the game will be discontinued and the leading team shall be declared the winner. Runs earned prior to the run-rule being declared will count toward tie-breakers.
26. **Home Runs:** Home run rules differ by league category. Home runs are classified as those being hit in fair territory over the outfield fence on a fly.
- For all teams at Rotary Park, home runs must be progressive. This means, your team can hit a home run and your team is not allowed to hit another until your opponent hits one.
 - Neither team can ever be more than one home run ahead of their opponent. If a home run is hit and is not of the progressive nature, it will result in an out.
27. **Designated Runner Rule:** A permanently disabled player must bat for themselves, but may use a designated runner. The starting point of designated runner will be at the umpire's discretion.
- The team roster, contract and line-up must state that the player is disabled and will be using a designated runner.
 - The umpire and opposing team must be informed of the designated runner before the start of the game by the manager.
 - In games where a team is playing with a minimum number of players, the player who made the most recent out will be the designated runner.
28. **Substitute Runner:** One substitute runner per gender per inning is allowed. The runner can be any current player on the roster not already on a base at the time a runner is needed.
- Both managers must agree to the use of a substitute runner
 - Once agreed to, the substitute runner rule would be in effect for both teams where condition a. is met.
 - A substitute runner can only run for the same person during the same inning (i.e. no designated courtesy runner for the whole team)
 - This is a runner in addition to the optional substitute runner for the pitcher. (see page 6 of WSL rules re: Courtesy Runner)
29. **A Protest Committee** has been appointed. The protest fee will be \$100.00, which will be refunded only if protest is upheld.
- Protests must be presented in writing with the fee to the Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Culture within 48 hours of the protested event, not later than 2 business days later, by close of business. Checks must be made payable to the City of Beavercreek.
 - All protests of rule infractions (not judgment calls) must be made to the umpire and scorekeeper before the next pitch and indicated on the scorecard.
 - A protest can be made only within the league. A protest cannot be lodged on behalf of another team or league.
30. **Behavior of players** and spectators is the responsibility of the team manager.
- Vandalism will not be tolerated. Officers will be summoned by park staff for all instances of vandalism and when unsupervised children can be considered in danger.
 - Parents are responsible for their child's actions.
 - Physical and verbal abuse of umpires, other teams, spectators, or staff will not be tolerated. If team members wish to argue every call, every

play and belittle other players, then that team belongs in another league in another park. Rotary Park is a family environment, and these games are recreational and should be fun. Players will be ejected for the use of physical or verbal abuse. Players can be suspended for the remainder of the season.

- d. Violence of any kind will cause the individual to be suspended for the remainder of the season. This information will be sent throughout the region. Many, if not all, agencies will honor this suspension and would not allow this individual or team to play at their facility.
- e. Spectator rage is increasing. This is inappropriate behavior and could cause the game to be forfeited. It is the manager's responsibility to control his or her fans.

31. The **bat** standard for World Softball League (WSL) sanctioned games for all non-wooden bats is a clearly visible marking of a BPF of 1.20 or less. If an umpire suspects that a batter is using an altered bat then the batter will be declared out. Any individual that uses an altered bat will be suspended for 2 years.

32. The **Flip-Flop Rule** is in effect for all games in all leagues.

33. Teams have the option of using a Continuous Batting Order.

- a. All players must be listed in the scorebook and bat in that order; the umpire and opposing team must be told how many players will be in the batting order.
- b. No restrictions on defense – free substitution. Example: A player may play first base for 2 innings, rest for an inning and then play the rest of the game at third. However, the player must bat according to official line up.
- c. A team cannot drop below the declared number of batters during the game. For each player below the number declared at the beginning of the game (or the maximum number batted during a game if a team add players after the game starts), a team will be forced to take an out. If the decrease is the result of an ejection, the team must have a replacement or the game is a forfeit. Example: if a team starts the game and declares that they will be batting 14 batters, and one player has to leave early, that players spot in the lineup will be an out each time it is due at the plate for the remainder of the game. If the player had been ejected and the team did not have a replacement, the game would be a forfeit and the opposing team would be awarded the win.
- d. If a player arrives late to the game, they are added to the bottom of the batting order.

34. **Concussion Rule:** A player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems), shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play that day until cleared in writing by an appropriate health care professional.

35. All **music** shall be turned **OFF** once games have started. If the music is not turned off, the team will have one out to start the inning. If the music continues, the umpire can forfeit the game.

36. No one other than adult players are allowed in the dugouts (players, managers, coaches and scorekeepers).

37. There will not be any “Free Fouls”.