

**Bethel Athletic Association  
2011 Adult Co-Ed Softball  
Rules & Regulations**

**ARTICLE 1**      **LEAGUE ORGANIZATION**

- Section 1.      The Softball Coordinator and Association Board will be in charge of the league and responsible for the organization and functioning of the league; will decide on all matters and policies pertaining to the league; and shall cooperate in every way to make the softball program successful.
- Section 2.      Each team coach shall be responsible for the conduct of their players and fans for all games and is responsible for handling their team business.
- Section 3.      The Softball Coordinator shall keep all records of teams, players, and business handled by the league as a whole and is responsible for drawing up schedules, rules, and standings.

**ARTICLE 2**      **ELIGIBILITY**

- Section 1.      Rosters containing all players' names must be registered with the Softball Coordinator for BAA. Additionally all team managers must have a copy of their teams rooster at each game. Using players not listed on your rooster that are not declared pick up players will result in a forfeit
- Section 2.      Anyone who has reached his or her 18th birthday is eligible to participate.
- Section 3.      There is a limit of **20 players on the team roster**. Teams may add players up through the first **5 games played**. The players must be registered before they play in their first game.
- Section 4.      Players caught playing under an assumed name and/or a coach playing a player under an assumed name will face the following penalty: **First Offense** – both coach and player must sit out 2 games; **Second Offense** - suspension for remainder of season. All games in which ineligible player played in will result in a forfeit. A player being protested must be done during the game that the player in question is playing in and must be done before the last out of the game. When the protest is taking place the player must present a Photo ID to confirm who they are. No protest fee is necessary.

**ARTICLE 3**      **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT / DISQUALIFICATIONS/SUSPENSIONS/EJECTIONS**

- Section 1.      A player or coach will be disqualified from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct (arguing, throwing equipment, etc.) and must sit out the remainder of that game. If it happens on the last play of the game, you are disqualified from playing your next game. Two disqualifications during the course of a season will result in a player being suspended for the remainder of that season. Disqualified players cannot participate on any team in any division during this time.
- Section 2.      Any player, coach, or official caught using profanity and /or threatening actions toward other players, officials, scorekeepers, coaches, park staff, etc. before, during, or after a game will be suspended for the next 2 games that your team plays. A second offense will result in an indefinite suspension from all BAA sponsored programs. Suspended players cannot participate on any team in any division during this time.
- Section 3.      A player or coach ejected from a game for fighting, threatening, or striking an opposing player, coach, staff member, park employee, officials, or other league personnel will be suspended from the league indefinitely.

Section 4. If a team shows continued unsportsmanlike conduct during the progress of a game, before a game, after a game, or during the season, the game and seasons remaining games will be forfeited to their opponent(s) without a refund.

Section 5. All players, coaches, league personnel must abide by the rules and regulations of BAA during the use of the BAA facilities or face dismissal or suspension by authorized BAA personnel. BAA code of conduct rules are always in affect.

#### **ARTICLE 4**     **PROTEST**

Section 1. All protests will be handled at the site when protest occurs. The coach should notify the home plate umpire before the next pitch is made. The home plate umpire will then stop the game. The umpires and the field supervisor will then discuss the protest and make a ruling based on the league rules. Their decision is final. A \$100.00 protest fee must be submitted and it is refundable if the protest is upheld.

Section 2. A game cannot be protested on an umpire's judgment call. Only rule interpretations will constitute a legal protest.

Section 3. If an umpire fails to allow a coach the opportunity to protest a rule, then the coach should notify the coordinator.

#### **ARTICLE 5**     **PLAYING RULES – Local League Exceptions**

Section 1. The Softball Coordinator may add to and alter existing rules to keep the program goals and objectives attainable.

Section 2. The home team for each game will be required to provide a scorekeeper. The scorekeeper **CANNOT** be a person on the field. If the home team does not have a scorekeeper then the away team may keep the scorebook if needed. If the home team does not provide a scorekeeper and the away team cannot provide one, then the game will be declared a forfeit in favor of the away team. Once a team is designated as the official scorekeeper/team for the game, that team **MUST** complete the game as the scorekeeper. It cannot be passed from team to team based on people leaving due to other commitments. If the team that starts the game as the scorekeeper cannot complete the game as such, the game will be forfeit in favor of the opposing team.

Section 3. The following run lead shall be in effect for all games:  
20 after 3 innings; 15 after 4 innings; 10 after 5 innings

Section 4. **Softball – All softballs must have an ISA, USSSA, NSA, ASA marking and be stamped with COR 44 with a maximum compression of 375.** If a team is caught playing with a non-approved ball there is no penalty other than to correct it at that time. If a team is unable to provide an approved softball for the game then the game will be forfeited at that time. Any approved softball bat that has the ASA BESR certification label affixed to it or a bat that is tested to BPF1.20 is legal. Any bat that is listed as illegal by any softball governing body will not be allowed. **Penalty:** Remove bat from game at the time of occurrence.

Section 5. A batter will have a one and one count when they enter the box. A third strike foul will be a foul ball.

Section 6 Bases paths will be 65'. Pitching distance will be 45'. All pitches must start at the designated mound.



- Section 13. A game will be an official game after four innings has been completed or 3 and ½ innings if the home team is ahead and the game is canceled because of inclement weather. Regular season games suspended before an official game status will be replayed from the beginning.
- Section 14. Teams may practice on a field if a game is declared a forfeit.
- Section 15. Any team or player that withdraws from a game or removes its players from the playing field due to unsportsmanlike behavior will be dismissed from the league and all games canceled that are scheduled. Entry fee will not be refunded.
- Section 16. If a coach has a question over the score, batter, etc. they should approach the umpire with the concern who will then confer with the field supervisor/scorekeeper.
- Section 17. Substitutes must be reported to the plate umpire when they bat.
- When a starting player comes out of the game, they can reenter but must do so in the original batting position.
  - Once a substitute comes out of the game, they cannot reenter at any position in the field or batting lineup.
  - A player must only occupy one spot in the batting order.
- Section 18. Courtesy Runners – A player may have a courtesy runner – the courtesy runner must be the last out made, same gender. A male must replace a male and a female must replace a female for courtesy runners. If a player is on base as a courtesy runner and their time comes up for them to bat, they are out.

**Revised July 29, 2001**