



CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

MEN'S CODE OF CONDUCT - SOFTBALL

Good sportsmanship is a priority in all Mountlake Terrace Recreation and Parks Department athletic programs. Respect for players, coaches, officials, staff and spectators are necessary for fair play in a recreational setting.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- A.** The code of conduct applies to all participants including players, coaches, managers and sponsors involved in any Mountlake Terrace Recreation and Parks Department sponsored or co-sponsored leagues and tournaments.
- B.** The code applies to conduct before, during and after all league and/or tournament games.
- C.** Participants will be held liable for any damages caused by willful, destructive conduct.
- D.** It is the responsibility of each team manager and/or coach to ensure that ALL players know and adhere to the rules and regulations.
- E.** Officials and/or staff may suspend play at any time during a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct.
- F.** No refunds will be given to players or teams suspended from further league play.

ENFORCEMENT

- A.** The Athletic Supervisor and/or Athletic Programmer has the authority to impose the penalties listed in the Code of Conduct.
- B.** Penalized participants may formally appeal the decision with a written appeal made within five (5) days of the incident.
- C.** Suspended games include playoffs and following seasons.

VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

- A. Striking or Threatening an Official-** No player shall bump, shove, strike, touch in a threatening manner or threaten bodily harm to any official (before, during or after the game).

Penalty: Player is suspended from further league play for the remainder of the season or longer depending upon the severity of the incident. (police department and/or USSSA may be notified).

B. Unsportsmanlike Conduct- Verbal abuse, profanity, arguing, irrational behavior, etc directed toward officials, recreation staff, players or fans is defined as unsportsmanlike conduct (before, during or after the game). Coaches are responsible for their team's actions.

Penalty: Players/Coaches that are ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior will be suspended a minimum of 2 games or more, depending upon the severity of the incident.

Players/Coaches that are ejected from the game must leave the park and the surrounding area of the playing field. Player (s) refusing to abide will be suspended from present and possible future leagues and loss of game.

Any harassment of the officials by anyone may lead to forfeiture of the game and expulsion from further league competition.

C. Physical Confrontations- Fighting, shoving, etc between opposing players or teammates.

Penalty: Player is immediately ejected from game and suspended for remainder of season or more depending upon the severity of the incident.*

D. Alcohol/Drugs- No participant shall be in possession of, or consume an alcoholic beverage or illegal substance, or appear intoxicated in/on a city or school facility. Smoking is also prohibited the fields.

Penalty: Player is immediately ejected from game and suspended for the next two scheduled games. *

Coaches and team members are responsible for their spectators actions. Teams drinking at the field will be given a warning. Teams caught a second time will be expelled from the league with no refund and not allowed to return the following season. The umpire reserves the right to eject any player(s)/coach (es) found under the influence of alcohol, etc.

REPEATED CODE VIOLATIONS – Individual players and teams that have repeated code of conduct violations will be suspended from further Mountlake Terrace league play.

* Any player suspended during the last game of the season will sit out the first two (2) games of his/her next season.

**CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE
RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT
Men's SLO-PITCH SOFTBALL RULES**

ROSTERS:

1. Each team must submit an official roster before the start of their first league game. Rosters can be submitted at the Recreation Pavilion.
2. 20 players maximum on a roster. No players under 18 allowed.
3. Players may be added or deleted to/from the roster up to the 3rd week of the season. A 24 hour notice must be given to the League Director in order for that player to become eligible. No hardship cases.
4. Players must be able to prove their identity at any time to the officials or representatives of the Mountlake Terrace Recreation and Parks Department. Failure to comply will result in games forfeiture until identity is proven.
5. Player (s) may participate in only one division and appear on only one roster. (Exception: players from the men's league may participate in the Co-Rec. League.)

PRE-GAME RULES:

1. No batting practice allowed on the football field due to the safety of track users.
2. Managers should have a set of rules on them at all times.
3. One umpire will work each game. If no umpire is present, the game may be played if someone is available and agreed upon by both managers. It is encouraged that games be played if at all possible due to lack of field time for rescheduling.
4. Home team is listed first on the schedule and is responsible for keeping the official scorebook.
5. All games will start on time. A 5-minute grace period will be allowed for first game of the evening only. If a grace period is used, that time will be deducted from the time limit. Game time will be forfeit time for all other games. If playing a double-header and you forfeit the first game you have 30 minutes from the first original game time for your players to show up. If no one shows then both games are forfeits.

LINE-UP RULES:

1. Teams may begin a game with 9 players. The 10th player can be added at any time during the game. If a team starts with 9 players the 10th spot will be an automatic out. If a team for any reason drops below 9 players the game is declared a forfeit regardless of the score.
2. If a team starts a game with 10 and loses a player due to ejection or injury, the game will continue and when the player's spot in the batting order comes up it will be a dead ball out. If a team for any reason drops below 9 players, the game is a forfeit.
3. If a team is batting 10 players or more (all available players with no subs) and an

injury occurs while on offense, the person who made the last out prior to the injury will then become the designated runner. Once a player leaves because of an injury he may not re-enter in that game and an out will be called each time the vacated spot comes up to bat. If substitute players are available team(s) may substitute for the injured player per USSSA rules.

4. Additional hitters (batting more than 10 players). At the option of the manager, team(s) may bat more than 10 players. Teams wanting to bat more than 10 players must inform the opposing team's manager and the umpire prior to the start of the game regarding this option.
5. A team that chooses to bat more than 10 players has unlimited defensive substitutions.

RAIN/CANCELLATIONS:

1. Managers should call the Pavilion, (425) 776-9173 x4, after 4:00 p.m.
2. Rainout make up games may be scheduled any day of the week (Sun-Sat).

PLAYOFFS:

1. Players must have played in at least three regular season games to be eligible for playoffs.
2. Top teams with the best records in each division make playoffs. Teams with identical records are decided first by head to head competition. If teams are still tied, then run differential between teams involved determines who makes playoffs.
3. Playoff games may be held on weekends if necessary.

LEAGUE RULES:

1. USSSA (United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association) rules will be followed excluding those exceptions listed in the Mountlake Terrace Rules. The home team must supply the first back-up ball. The back-up ball shall be a restricted flight ball (.40 core only/325 MAX). The back-up ball shall alternate between home and visitor thereafter. The home team will also receive the game ball.
2. Time Limit: (No new inning shall begin after 1 hour, 5 minutes. Any inning begun must be completed). Four (4) complete innings will be considered a complete game. Games which take the maximum time allotment but complete less than four (4) innings will also be considered a complete game. The umpires watch is official. Umpires will terminate games at time limits.
3. Games that end in a tie will be recorded as such. If games are called due to darkness or time limit, scores shall revert back to the last completed inning. This rule is in effect only when there isn't time to complete a full inning.
4. **COURTESY RUNNER:** Each team can have one courtesy runner and only players with permanent disabilities are eligible for a courtesy runner. The courtesy runner may start from first once the batter reaches first base. Managers must inform the opposing manager and umpire of the courtesy runner situation prior to the start of the game. The courtesy runner will be the person who made the last out.

5. HOME RUN RULES:

3 Home Runs / Team / Game (ALL DIVISIONS)

All others will be considered dead ball outs.

6. Bat Restrictions: NO BAT SHALL EXCEED 1.20 BPF
7. NO METAL CLEATS ALLOWED
8. Run Rule: If after 5 complete innings, a team is trailing by **12 runs or more**, the game shall be declared completed.
9. Play will cease at 11:00 p.m.
10. All injuries should be reported to the Recreation Office so that a report can be made of the incident.
11. The winning team is responsible for reporting the score to the League Director immediately following the game. Call 640-3101, or email jbetz@ci.mlt.wa.us.
Failure to report scores within 48 hours will result in a loss for both teams.
12. The League Director reserves the sole right to change playing days and league divisions. **Players should make themselves available Sunday through Friday, especially for playoffs.**

FORFEITURES:

1. A team that forfeits 4 games in the same season may become ineligible for playoffs, and/or not allowed to return the following season.
2. There shall be no postponement of games. Any team that foresees a conflict with their schedule should notify the Recreation Office within 48 hours in advance of game time and will be credited with a loss and not a forfeit. **Playing in another league or tournament will not be considered sufficient reason to reschedule a game, except for state tournaments.**

PROTESTS:

1. Whenever a matter of protest arises during a game, the captain or manager of the protesting team shall immediately, before the next pitch is made, notify the opposing manager and the umpire. This procedure is stated in the USSSA Rule book so protests will be denied if this procedure is not followed. In order to be legal, a written "Intent to Protest" must be followed up by the "Official Protest" at the Recreation Pavilion by 5:00 p.m. on the day following the protest game, accompanied by a \$25.00 protest fee, which is forfeited if the protest is denied and refunded if the protest is upheld.
2. An official protest should include the date, time, and place of the game; the name of the umpire, the rule and section of the Official Rules under which the protest is made; the decision and conditions surrounding the making of the decisions; and all the essential facts involved in the matter protested.
3. Protests should be based on interpretation of rules only.
4. Protests will be decided by the League Director. The League Director may convene a board of managers at any time to consider league problems as he feels necessary.

GOVERNING BODY:

The League Director has the authority to administer to the league any decisions that he/she deems necessary for the well being of the league. Any rules not covered here will be according to USSSA rules.

INSURANCE:

Persons participating in activities sponsored by the Mountlake Terrace Recreation and Parks Department are not covered in any way for personal liability and property damage. **Players are competing at their own risk; any physical or property damage caused by players is the responsibility of the player that caused it, inadvertently or willfully. Do not trespass on private property to retrieve softballs.**

The City of Mountlake Terrace Recreation & Parks Department complies with the State of Washington's "Fair Play in Community Sports Act" (Chapter 467, 2009 Laws, effective date July 26, 2009) that prohibits discrimination against any person in a community athletics program on the basis of sex. Any questions or comments please contact Jeff Betz at the Recreation & Parks Department, 5303 228th St. SW, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043, (425) 640-3101, jbetz@ci.mlt.wa.us, or fax at 425-775-2365. The complete Non-Discrimination Policy is also available as approved by the City Council.