

Vilonia Parks & Recreation

2023 Co-Ed Softball Rules

Coaches: It is your responsibility to inform your players of the rules.

1. USSSA rules will govern all play unless stated on this sheet.
2. All games will be 7 innings or 1-hour time limit. The game time will start when the coin toss occurs at home plate. A game may be started before the scheduled time only if both coaches agree. By doing this you agree to start the game.
3. Extra Innings: Will be 1 pitch.
4. Home Run Limit: 1 home run per gender per inning, if exceed it's an out. (Hit Over Fence) Inside the park home run does not count towards limit.
5. Pinch Runners must be same gender, only 1 per inning, and must be done before first pitch of next batter.
6. The Coach must turn in a line-up to the umpire 5 minutes before scheduled game time.
7. A player may play on 1 team! Girls and boys must be 16 by April 30th of the playing season.
8. Men will be required to use a 12" WORTH Gold Dot Extreme or a Dudley zn Thunder. Women may hit any 11" yellow ball with a USSSA or ASA stamp. **TEAMS MUST SUPPLY THEIR OWN LEGAL BALLS. If caught using an illegal ball the batter will automatically be out.**
**The ball rule is in effect for the safety of players on our small fields and to create an even playing field.*
9. All USSSA Slow pitch bats are allowed. If an umpire thinks that an illegal or altered bat has been used, he may pull the bat for further examination by the Program manager. At this point, the bat will be returned to the player or sent off for testing. **If the bat is found to be illegal or altered, the player will be suspended for the remainder of the season and all of next season.**
10. A team playing an ineligible player that is discovered by the director or officials will forfeit all games that individual has played in. The ineligible player will also be suspended, and the team playing the ineligible player will have to forfeit their next game. To protest an ineligible player the coach must do so during the game. All players must have a valid ID present at games.
11. A protest may be made only on a rulebook call! If a protest is to be upheld the affected team must protest the call immediately.
12. Run rule is as follows 15 after 3, 12 after 4 and 10 after 5.
13. Both teams will have the option of using a safety screen for their pitcher. It will be the pitcher's responsibility to move the screen back and forth. The screen has to be placed 2 ft to the left or right and 5 ft in front of the rubber. Any batted ball that comes in contact with the screen will be a dead ball foul. It will count towards your fouls just like a regular foul ball. Any non-batted ball that makes contact with the screen will be a dead ball and players will only advance to the base they were heading to.
14. Pitcher may not use screen for defensive advantage. He or she must either maintain his or her position on the mound or must retreat behind screen.
15. Teams may bat as many players as they want, but they must stay in the same batting order. Batting order cannot contain more than two men batting back-to-back.
16. Teams must have 9 players to start a game. If a player is ejected, the game will continue as long as the team still has 9 or more players. An out will be called each time the ejected player would have batted. If the ejected player was the 9th player, the game will be a forfeit.
17. Any player that would potentially enter the game after it starts regardless if this is after injury or those who will be entering the game late must be on the line up as a sub that is turned in prior to the game.

18. If a player shows up late, add them at the bottom of the lineup. If at the toss of the coin, a team has fewer than 9 players they will be given a 5-minute grace period. That team will be the Guest team and will lose their 1st inning at bat. The Home team will bat upon the arrival of the 9th player.
- 19. Anyone threatening an umpire before, during, or after a game, or place their hands on an umpire in any manner will be suspended for the remainder of the season and the next. Any player that is ejected from a game is automatically suspended for the rest of the season.**
20. No steel spikes are allowed.
21. There will be no rescheduled forfeit games for any reason. If a team can't play a scheduled game then they will have to forfeit that game.
22. Pitchers will pitch to a box behind home plate. If the ball touches any part of **the box or plate**, it's a strike. The pitch can hit the box or plate and still be called a ball due to height and speed. The pitch must have an arch and not exceed 12 feet.
23. A minimum of 4 women must be on the field at all times.
24. If Vilonia PD has to be called to intervene in ANY game throughout the season, both teams will be kicked out of the park and the game will be considered a loss for both teams. Any game where that happens will not be made up. The umpires WILL have authority to remove any player/coach/fan from the ballpark and the Parks & Recreation office will stand by the umpire's decision. Any cursing or threats made will result in expulsion.
25. If you walk a male player, and there is a female player on deck, the female player then has the option to walk immediately or play. If a male player is on deck when the first male player is walked, the on deck player must bat.
26. Batters will be awarded one curtesy foul once they have two strikes.
27. No more than 6 (active or inactive) D or above chips per team in upper league.
-No more than 2 D players allowed on Lower league rosters (One per Gender)
-A,B,C Players are not to be on a lower league roster.
28. You may have up to 16 players on a roster. Deadline to complete your roster is JULY 27th. If you are adding a player to your roster they must sign the release. Get a hold of the Director and the player must sign before the game starts.
29. If a team forfeits, they have to call the Parks and Rec office by 2:00 pm the day of the game. If they do not meet this requirement they will have to pay the team that they were scheduled to play \$25 before their next game.



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POLY CENTER
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Official Slow Pitch Softball



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SUPER

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