

Greenville Recreation Department



Greenville Area
Recreation & Community Center

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2023 Fall League Rules



 **Rainout Line**

(616) 794-8800

View on-line or use the free app!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Team Registration Requirement:

1. Managers must submit their Team Registration, Sponsor Fee and a Team Roster with at least 9 players, prior to the registration deadline. The team registration and sponsor fee may be submitted online or at the Recreation Office prior to the deadline. Each team will select their preferred night/division of play at the time of registration.
2. Once the teams have been reviewed and approved by the Softball Advisory Board, the individual player registration will open on July 17, 2023.
3. No sponsor refunds will be issued once the league schedules have been finalized.

B. Eligibility Review: The Softball Advisory Board will review rosters to ensure each team meets the eligibility requirements. **Each team will be evaluated on a TEAM basis.** The Softball Advisory Board will review all rosters to ensure the team belongs in the league they are registering. The Board has the authority to dismiss any team not meeting requirements. **Players will not be formally labeled as upper or lower players – the team will be evaluated as a WHOLE!**

C. Player Registration Requirements:

1. **ONLINE REGISTRATION: A Team Password is required** to register online. The password is determined by the team manager/sponsor at the time of team registration. *The Recreation Office Staff does not have access to the team password.* Players may pay their players registration fee using a Visa or Mastercard and sign the liability waiver on our website at www.greenvillemi.org/garcc. Online player registrations must be submitted prior to play.
2. Player registration begins July 17, 2023. Player fees for each member of the roster (\$20.00 resident, \$30.00 non-resident) are due to the Recreation Department prior to play. Players may register online, in-person or by phone, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. *Player registrations will NOT be available nor accepted at the fields by the supervisor or officials on duty, no exceptions!*
3. **Unlimited roster changes are permitted until August 11, 2023. Thereafter, teams may add up to 3 men (COED: unlimited women, up to a max roster of 20 players); additions must be made and registered prior to the last league game. Additions are under the following conditions:**
 - a. The players must meet the eligibility requirements for the league.
 - b. The player must register at the Greenville Recreation Office or online paying the corresponding player fee and signing the liability waiver prior to play.
 - c. Late registered players are eligible to compete immediately following registration however the player will remain a *Probationary Player* pending eligibility approval by the Softball Advisory Board. It can take up to 7 days for review by the Advisory Board. The Greenville Recreation Department will notify the player and the team manager if any player *fails* to meet the eligibility requirements for the league. Refunds will not be issued if a player fails to meet the eligibility requirements after they have played in a game.

Once a team reaches the 3 player/maximum late registration capacity, the roster will be FROZEN and no exceptions will be made.

4. A maximum of 20 players can be registered on a roster throughout the season. Once a team has registered 20 players, no more players may be added. **Teams may not drop a player to add an alternative player.**
5. Players must be at least 15 years of age or older.
6. **All registrations will be “frozen”, and no players may be added or deleted from a team roster after the team’s last LEAGUE GAME.**

D. A player may not play on more than one team each night in the Greenville Recreation Softball League.

E. Players may be released/dropped from a team roster and added to another, only after the manager of the

team that is releasing the player has been informed.

- F. Once play starts, a player may transfer only once. Once a player has been released from a team after play has begun, he/she is no longer eligible to play again with that team during the current season.
- G. Disputes Over Players: In any dispute over rights to players, the team to whose roster a player's name was first affixed with his consent shall initially be considered to have title to said player. In any eligibility protest or other dispute over a player's request to change teams in compliance with these rules, the player's preference shall be given primary consideration. A manager shall not unreasonably refuse to release a player and must be notified by the player of his desire to be released to another team. The Director or Recreation will decide such cases.
- H. The player will have to pay an additional player fee when switching teams after the season begins.
- I. If a player drops from the league before the first game of the season, they will be refunded the appropriate player fee. **Once the season begins, there will be no refunds or transfer of player fees. Players must meet all of the eligibility guidelines as specified; failure to follow the above procedures may result in forfeit of all games the ineligible player participated, or conflict occurred.** It is the responsibility of the manager to determine that all players on the team meet league eligibility requirements. Players found not meeting eligibility requirements will be considered illegal and the team will forfeit those games played with an illegal player.

II. ILLEGAL PLAYER

- A. An illegal player is a player who is not on the roster of the team they participate, is not registered and on a roster with the Recreation Department, has not signed the Waiver and Release of Liability and Indemnification Form of the team they participate, or someone who has not paid the player fee to the Recreation Department and plays in a league game.
- B. Due to liability concerns, any use of illegal players is prohibited! If an illegal player is identified that player will be ejected from the game and will not be permitted to play, no exceptions! The league and/or tournament representatives are permitted to discontinue play if they determine necessary.
- C. Any team found using an illegal player will forfeit the game(s) in which the illegal player participated.
- D. If a team knowingly uses an illegal player in excess of one night, the team may be dropped from the Greenville Recreation League for the remainder of the year. Player/sponsor fees will not be returned, and players from that team may not be able to participate on any other team for the corresponding sport for the duration of the year.

III. LEAGUE FORMAT

- A. Length of Game: *There will be a 1-hour time limit for all league and tournament games, except the championship game(s).* There is no time limit during the championship game(s). The official game time begins at the first pitch. The umpire will stop the clock for all umpire time-outs; otherwise, the clock will remain running. The scoreboard will be set at 55 minutes. No inning will begin after the time has expired. If the score is tied at the time limit, the game will be continued into extra innings until a winner is determined. If extra innings are necessary, the inning will begin with a 1 and 1 count, 1 out with a runner at second; the runner must be the last recorded out from the previous inning. A complete inning must be executed for a winner to be determined.
- B. Mercy Rule: 20 runs after 4 complete innings, 15 runs after 5 complete innings or 10 runs after 6 complete innings. The mercy rule will be in effect in championship games.
- C. The umpires have the discretion to terminate play if they feel the forfeit policy or length of game policy is being violated or manipulated.

IV. PLAYER CONDUCT

- A. **Players ejected from a game must fulfill the appropriate game suspension as indicated below and they must pay a \$10 SUSPENSION FEE to the Greenville Recreation Department before eligibility will be reinstated. The suspension fee must be paid at the Greenville Recreation Department during normal business hours.**
- B. If a player is thrown out of the end of the season tournament that player will not be allowed to play in the rest of the tournament and will also sit out for the first two games of the next year. The player will be sitting games for the same league they were thrown out of; if they are not playing in the same league, the two-game sit will apply to any league they do play in.
- C. All players are expected to conduct themselves in an adult, sportsmanlike manner. Unsportsmanlike tactics, such as disrespect or gesturing in such a manner as to indicate resentment toward an official or another player, profanity, etc. will NOT be tolerated.
1. *1st offense/ejection* - will not be allowed to finish the game and may not participate in the team's next 2 full league games and the player must pay the \$10 suspension fee before eligibility will be reinstated.
 2. *2nd offense/ejection* - will not be allowed to finish the game and may not participate in the team's next four regularly scheduled games and the player must pay the \$10 suspension fee before eligibility will be reinstated.
 3. *3rd offense/ejection* - may receive a suspension from the league for one (1) year from the time of the offense.
- D. **PROFANITY RULE:** Alan Davis Park and the Greenville Recreation Department offer family-friendly facilities and programs. **The rule on the use of profanity is quite simple; if any curse word is loud enough to be heard OFF the field, the player is subject to ejection! That means ANY profanity, regardless of if it is directed at someone else, or if it is to yourself out of frustration.** A curse word is a curse word! The toddler sitting in the bleachers cannot differentiate the meaning behind the intention of a 'bad word', nor should they have to. **NO WARNINGS WILL BE ISSUED – THIS IS YOUR WARNING!**
- E. **MUSIC RULE:** playing of music will be permitted as long as the right is not abused. The music and volume must be agreeable to both teams and may not interfere with the umpire's ability to communicate effectively with the players and must meet the noise ordinance set forth by the City of Greenville. The music must be appropriate and free from profanity and explicit content. The umpires and league supervisor has the right to restrict playing of music if they deem it as inappropriate or interfering to the game in any way.
- F. The supervisor reserves the right to eject and/or suspend anyone who violates the player conduct rules including, but not limited to, players and spectators.
- G. If there is a close play at any base other than first base, the offensive player must avoid contact; not doing so will result in an out. The offensive player may not hurdle the defensive player, doing so will result in an out. This rule is in effect for the safety of all players. If any player is believed to intentionally run over a fielder at any base or home plate, that player will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) full year from the time of the offense. The offense is at the umpire's discretion.
- H. If a player is ejected from the game, each rotation of the lineup will be an out in the ejected player's position.
- I. **EXCEPTION:** Penalty for physical contact with an official (pushing or striking) shall result in an automatic indefinite suspension of no less than one (1) year suspension from the league from the time of the offense as well as a citation for a civil infraction. If players or managers are involved in a fight before, during, or after the game, the involved parties will be suspended indefinitely for no less than one (1) year from the time of the offense. Legal action may also be taken into consideration.
- J. All offenses will be reviewed by the Director of Recreation. If warranted, suspension/sanctions may be less or more severe. All decisions made by the Recreation Director are final.
- K. **If someone is ejected from the game, the site supervisor may request him or her to leave the park.**

If so determined, the game will be stopped until the ejected player leaves. If the player does not leave in a timely manner, the game will be forfeited by the players'/spectators team. This is a judgment call to be made by the umpire or supervisor.

V. BATTING

- A. All teams have three line-up options to choose from prior to the start of each game. A team may not switch to a different line up options after the line up has been turned in to the umpire.
1. 10 Player line up
 2. Extra Player line up
 3. Rocket Rule:
 - a. All players present will be listed in the batting order and cannot be taken out of the batting order except for injury.
 - b. If a player's name is listed in the line-up at the start of the game, and does not play, it is considered an out each time the absent player is to bat.
 - c. Games will NOT be postponed for late arriving players under any circumstance. Late arriving players may be added to the bottom of the line up any time throughout the game.
 - d. Free defensive substitutions are allowed, but all players must maintain the same batting order throughout the game.
 - e. If any player (offensive or defensive) gets injured and elects to leave the game, they cannot re-enter the game. The injured player who is scheduled to bat will be skipped over in the batting line up without penalty. If the player chooses to leave the game after resuming play following an injury, the penalty will be an out each turn at bat.

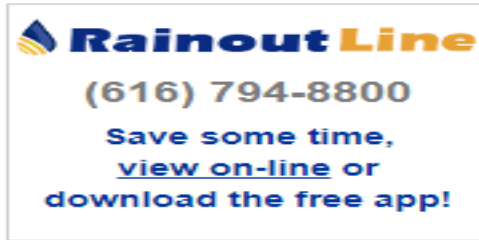
VI. GAME TIME

- A. Start Time: **ALL GAMES START ON TIME; THERE WILL BE NO GRACE PERIOD. The umpires do not have the authorization to make any exceptions to this rule so DO NOT ASK!** The umpire will write the official start time of the game on the top of the score sheet each game. During tournament play, teams must be present and prepared to play at the conclusion of the previous game. The game time on the schedule is approximate; game times may vary dependent on the previous game(s).
- B. Number of players: A team may start a game with no less than seven players (**COED: See additional rules in back of booklet**). If at any time, a team has less than seven players, that team will forfeit the game to the opponent.
- C. **All managers are required to turn in a completed lineup cards to the umpire and the opposing manager five minutes prior to game start time. If the game is delayed due to a prior game, the officials are permitted to make an exception however, under no circumstance may a lineup card be turned in after the start of the game. Failure to turn in a lineup card prior to game time may result in a forfeit.** Umpires turn in line-up slips to the office for registration verification; please print full names legibly.
- D. Players are expected to move on and off the field quickly between innings. Failure to do so will result in one warning from the umpires, additional occurrences may result in an automatic ball or strike.

VII. RAINOUTS, SUSPENDED PLAY & FORFEITS

- A. Rainouts: The Recreation Director, league supervisor, or umpires will have jurisdiction in deciding whether or not the game should be called on account of rain, wet or unsafe conditions.
1. To better serve our customers, we have implemented a new cancelation notification service. Optimally, we encourage you to download the Rainout Line App (available on Apple & Android) to receive push notifications. Once downloaded, search GARCC and select which program/activity you would like

cancellation notifications; you may also register to receive notifications by email or text. If you prefer to sign up online, visit <http://rl5.us/2u\u08jr4> . You can find links on our website.



2. All games are to be played as scheduled, unless otherwise designated by the league designee. If postponements are necessary, the Recreation Director will designate the make-up game time and date for the postponed game(s).
 3. If the first game is canceled, all subsequent games will automatically be canceled.
 4. Depending on the weather conditions and forecast, games may be temporarily suspended rather than canceled. Onsite decisions to temporarily suspend or postpone play will be made by the onsite league supervisor. Team managers must confirm play status with the supervisor prior to departure.
- B. Suspended Play: In the event a game must be suspended or postponed after the game has started, the following rules apply in the make-up game:
1. Games will resume play at the exact point of the suspension (inning, score, time, outs).
 2. Teams must use the same line up cards; however, additional legally rostered players are permitted to play in the make-up game. Additional players must replace any absent players in the line-up first; all additional players may be added to the bottom of the line-up.
 3. In the event players cannot make the rescheduled game and additional players are not available to substitute in the line up, the player will be skipped over in the batting line-up without penalty.
 4. (In the event of inclement weather only) games will be considered final if 4 innings have been completed.
 5. It is both team managers responsibility to report and confirm game status to the umpire prior to departure; in the event there is a discrepancy between the teams, the home team's scorebook will be the official reference.
- C. Forfeit: If a team forfeits more than one game without properly notifying the Recreation Department, the team may be dismissed from the league. Fees will NOT be returned as a result. All following games scheduled will result in victories for the opposing team.

VIII. LIABILITY

- A. Each player must sign an Official Greenville Recreation Department Roster and Liability Waiver prior to the play. The forms may be submitted to the Greenville Recreation Department Office by email, mail or may be submitted online using our online player registration at www.greenvillemi.org/garcc.
- B. The City of Greenville, the Recreation Department, the Recreation Director, nor the league supervisor, umpires, city employees, or volunteers are responsible or liable for injuries sustained while playing in or watching a Greenville Recreation Softball League game. Neither the City, nor team managers carry any hospitalization and/or medical insurance on the ball players. By playing in the softball league and signing the league roster & waiver, the players in their own right and whose name appears on the team roster, waive any claim or action against the City of Greenville, Recreation Department, Recreation Director, League Supervisor, team managers, umpires, volunteers and sponsors which might arise from the conditions of the playing field, playing equipment, or from injuries acquired on or off the field in the Softball League.
- C. By simply being present at the Alan G Davis Softball Park or playing in the softball league, that person acknowledges the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk they may be exposed to,

or infected by COVID-19 by attending the GARCC program and/or using a GARCC or City (City) public facility, and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. Upon participation in the softball league or attendance to park, that user releases, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless GARCC and the City, their employees, agents, officers, and representatives, of and from any claims, including all liabilities, actions, suits, damages, costs or expenses of any kind (including medical expenses) arising out of or relating to use of the facilities, equipment or participation in the programs hereto, whether in law or in equity.

D. Ball fields and the use, thereof, are under the jurisdiction of the Greenville Recreation Department.

IX. EQUIPMENT

- A. Shoes: METAL SPIKED SHOES ARE NOT PERMITTED. Anyone found wearing metal spikes will be ejected from the game.
- B. NEW Ball: Each team will supply 2 new or used league-approved balls at the start of the game. Each team should mark their ball. Balls will be returned to the team manager's at the conclusion of each game. Teams may use ANY BRAND BALL but it must meet ALL of the criteria listed below. All balls MUST bear one of the following ASA certification marks as seen below. If the certification mark and ball markings are not CLEARLY legible, the ball will NOT be permitted for game play. Should the umpire find the balls unsatisfactory, they will ask the team for another ball.
1. Official Ball – Co-Ed League: Men will hit using the men's ball listed below and women hit using an ASA-approved 11', 44 COR, 375 Compression, optic yellow ball with a synthetic, leather, or alternate cover (GreenDot).
 2. Official Ball – Men's League: ASA approved 12", 52 COR, 300 Compression, optic yellow ball with a synthetic, leather, or alternate cover.



C. BAT COMPRESSION TESTING NO LONGER REQUIRED

3. **All bats must meet ASA certification requirements, may NOT be listed on the ASA Banned Bat List.** If a batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat or is discovered using an illegal bat immediately after getting on base and prior to the next pitch, a dead ball will be called, the batter will be called out, the bat will be confiscated until the end of the game and reported to the Softball Supervisor. Subsequent violations by that player will result in player suspension. If a team receives more than three illegal bat violations during the season, the **team** will be suspended for two games.
2. If a previous batter has used the same illegal bat, the current batter only is out.
3. Anyone can protest a bat. Bats protests must be accompanied with the \$25 protest fee and will be returned if the appeal is upheld. The game will be suspended on an official's time out in the event of a mid-game bat protest until proper testing may be performed.
4. The umpire and supervisor can request a bat compression test at anytime. In the event of a serious bat related injury the bat used will be tested by the supervisor.

X. ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & VAPING

A. **NO ALCOHOL WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE BENCH AREA OR ON THE PLAYING FIELD.** In the

interest of safety, umpires and/or supervisors have the right to remove players, managers, or fans from the game and/or park if deemed necessary. The game will be suspended until individual(s) are gone from the premises.

B. Smoking and vaping are prohibited on the fields at all times.

XI. PROTESTS

A. League Play Protest:

1. **Notification of intent to protest must be made by the team manager. The manager must register his intent to protest immediately, before the next live ball, by notifying the umpire that he will finish the game under protest and make a record of the fact in the official scorebook.**
2. Formal protests under these rules or established rules of softball must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Office not later than 5:00pm the next business day following the protested game.
3. A \$25.00 protest fee must accompany the formal protest to be considered. The protest fee will be returned if the protest is upheld.

B. Tournament Play Protest: When a formal protest arises during a city playoff or tournament game under circumstances which require an immediate decision, the umpire shall stop the game and present the protest to the Supervisor, Director, or designee. The \$25.00 protest fee must be provided in cash or check; returned if upheld. A decision will be made on the spot and the game will then resume. The protest may be presented and discussed orally.

C. Protests on ineligible players must be filed before the last out of the game.

D. Decision: Protests and decisions will be determined by the Recreation Director and are final.

E. Judgment Calls: Protests will not be considered on decisions made by umpires when it is in case of judgment.

F. Complaints about Umpires: Persons may make complaints about umpires to the Recreation Director, 616-754-9163. Complainants are asked to obtain the name of the umpire and be as specific as possible about the alleged deficiencies of the umpire. The City of Greenville strictly forbids any misconduct, physical, or verbal abuse toward an official. Leave the responsibility of training and complaints about the umpires to the Supervisor and/or Director of Recreation.

XII. GENERAL RULES AND MANAGER INFORMATION

A. All players, team managers/coaches, spectators, staff, and volunteers are expected to adhere to the *Softball League Rules* at all times. Failure to comply with the rules may result in ejection from the league and/or park. The GARCC Director, Adult Softball League Supervisor or designee has the right to eject anyone they believe is in violation of these rules and guidelines or if their actions are a health or safety risk to others.

B. ALL TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FIRST AID OF THEIR PLAYERS. The Recreation Department, League Supervisor and umpires will not be responsible for providing First Aid. A player, coach or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on his uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is left to the umpire's judgment. The umpire shall:

1. Stop the game on an officials' time out and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game.
2. Immediately call a coach, trainer, or other authorized person to the injured player.
3. Apply the rules of the game regarding substitution, short-handed player, and re-entry if necessary.

C. Pitching Rule:

1. NEW 2019: due to the increased concern of injury to the pitchers, we have opted to use a pitching

zone rather than a pitching rubber. The pitcher may deliver the pitch **anywhere within the pitching zone however, both feet must remain within the boundaries of the pitching zone. All players, including the pitchers, are expected to avoid stepping on the chalked pitching zone lines so they remain visible throughout play.**

2. Each pitch should be between the heights of 6 and 12 feet at the peak.
 3. The ball must hit the pitching mat/carpet to be considered a strike. **If the ball does not hit a portion of the carpet or hits any portion of the home plate, including the black trim of the plate, it will be considered a ball.**
 4. The pitcher shall always attempt to pitch the ball in the strike zone.
 5. The pitcher shall deliver the ball toward home plate on the first forward swing of the pitching arm past the hip with an underhand motion. The palm of the pitcher's hand may be over or under the ball.
- D. **Double Bag:** Whenever a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white portion and the batter-runner the orange portion. The batter-runner must use the orange portion on the first attempt at first base; however, should he reach and go beyond first base, the runner may return to the white portion.
- E. **Home Run Rule:** MEN -- 2 + 1-up homerun rule for all leagues; WOMEN – Unlimited home runs. In the last inning, the home team can't go past the away team on home runs.
1. After the limit has been reached, each homerun following will be considered an out. A home run is considered a ball hit over the fence.
 2. A ball that is considered "assisted" over the fence will be a 4-bag award.
- I. **Obstruction:** Runners are entitled to advance without liability to be put out when a fielder not in possession of the ball, not in the act of fielding a batted ball, or not about to receive a thrown ball, impedes the progress of a runner or batted-runner that is legally running bases. Fielders are not allowed to block a base or home plate without the ball. Obstruction will be ruled if the fielder blocks the base without the ball.
- J. **Starting Count:** A **1 and 1 count (NO grace foul)** will be in effect for the entire game for all leagues.
- K. **Courtesy Runner Rule:** One courtesy runner will be allowed PER INNING unless the player is injured. The injury must be as a result of that day's game(s). **The injured player cannot reenter the game as a defensive player.** The injured player who is scheduled to bat will be skipped over in the batting line up without penalty. The courtesy runner in either situation may be any player from the team's roster, on the line-up card or a substitute and must be entered prior to the first pitch to the next batter. If in the first inning with no outs, any player may serve as the courtesy runner. *Co-Ed League:* One male and one female runner will be allowed per inning. The courtesy runner may be any player from the team's roster (a male player may not serve as a courtesy runner for a female batter and vice versa).
- L. **Scorebook:** The home team is the official scorekeeper for each game. The home team must keep accurate game statistics for both teams including score, inning, batting line-up, and outs. The home team is listed second on the league schedule.
- M. **Standings and schedules:** All standings and schedules of the league will be posted online at our website at www.greenvillemi.org/garcc and on the Alan G. Davis Park billboard. Team managers are responsible for verifying the accuracy and reporting any mistakes to the league director.
- F. **Managers:** Manager's are responsible for controlling the actions of their players; not doing so may result in suspension or forfeiture. Team managers must ensure players are following all Covid-19 related preventative measures included herein and may be held accountable for the actions of their players/spectators.

XIII. AWARDS AND TIE BREAKER

- A. Tie Breaker: The tie breaker for the leagues will be handled as follows:
1. If two or more teams are tied at the conclusion of league play, it will be handled in the following order:

- a. Win/Loss record against teams tied
- b. Total runs scored against the teams tied
- c. Total runs scored during the season
- d. Total runs scored against during the season
- e. As determined by the Recreation Director

B. Awards:

1. The awards will be as follows in the 2023 season:

SEASON

1st – T-shirts

2nd – T-shirts (if more than 6 teams)

TOURNAMENT

1st – Koozies

XIV CO-ED ADDITIONS

A. 7-3 Co-Ed League:

1. Number of players on the field: Maximum number of players in the field is 10, including at least 3 women. Defensive positioning shall be one female in the outfield, one female in the infield, and one female pitching or catching (not both). Minimum number of players in the field/starting line-up is 7 (4 men & 3 women). There is no maximum number of women allowed on the field/in your lineup. No more than 7 men are allowed on the field at one time.
2. Number of Players in the Batting Order/Line-up: In order to encourage maximum participation, teams may bat more than ten players. Regardless of how many people you choose to bat, you must bat 3 women in the first 10 spots and no more than 3 men can bat in a row. In situations where additional players wish to bat, the line-up must come as close to a 7 to 3 ratio as possible, even if some women need to bat twice in the rotation. Men CANNOT bat twice in the lineup to achieve a 7 to 3 ratio if a team plays with more women than men. (Example and details below.)

Men in Batting Order	Number of Women Required In Batting Order
4	3
5	3
6	3
7	3
8	4 (one woman bat twice if necessary)
9	5 (two women bat twice if necessary)
10	6 (three women bat twice if necessary)
11	7 (four women bat twice if necessary)
12	8 (five women bat twice if necessary)

B. Co-Ed Rec League:

1. Number of player on the field: A defensive team shall consist of ten (10) players, with a maximum of five (5) men and five (5) female in the game defensively at all times. Minimum number of players in the field/starting lineup is seven (3 men & 4 women). Teams can play with 5 men and 4 women. You can play more women than men. If you only have 3 women, it will be a forfeit. Male-Female positioning must be divided as equally as possible between the infield and outfield positions; you may have three

(3) infielders, three (3) outfielders, 1 pitcher and 1 catcher. (If you are playing with seven (7) players, you may play either the infield or outfield short a player, but you may not switch between batters; you must play that configuration for the duration of the inning.) At least 1 female must be in the pitcher or catcher position, (the pitcher and catcher combinations do not count toward the infield position requirements). All outfielders, including the rover, must be behind the encroachment line.

2. **Batting order 'The Weave':** **The batting must alternate male-female**, etc... The females would have their own rotating batting order and the males would have theirs. For example, if all female batters have batted, and there were more male players yet to bat, the female batting order would continue by starting at the beginning again. Example: F1-M1-F2-M2-F3-M3-F4-M4-F1-M5-F2-M6...
3. **An encroachment line (200 ft) will be used for female batters in the outfield for Rec Co-Ed League only.** **If an outfielder encroaches in front of this line before the batter hits a pitched ball, the umpire will signal a delayed dead ball, at the conclusion of the play, the batter will receive a double or the result of the play, whichever is more beneficial to the offensive team.**

C. **General Co-Ed Rules for BOTH Divisions:**

1. **Walking a male batter:** When a male batter is walked, that player is awarded second base and the female player **MUST** bat. **EXCEPTION:** If a male batter is walked in front of a female batter with two outs, the female batter has the option of taking an automatic walk or batting. In either case, the male batter is automatically awarded second base. If this occurs, the male batter is not required to touch first base before progressing to second base.
2. Teams may choose to have all players hit the men's ball rather than alternate between the men's and women's balls however, the umpire must be notified prior to the start of the game and may not change for the duration of the game.
3. **Courtesy Runner:** One male and one female runner will be allowed per inning. The courtesy runner may be any player from the team's roster (a male player may not serve as a courtesy runner for a female batter and vice versa). A male outfielder may **NOT** throw a female batter/runner out at first.
4. **Home Run Rule:** MEN -- 2 + 1-up homerun rule for all leagues; WOMEN – Unlimited home runs.
 - a. After the limit has been reached, each homerun following will be considered an out. A homerun is considered a ball hit over the fence.
 - b. A ball that is considered "assisted" over the fence will be a 4-bag award.

5. Unlimited roster changes are permitted until August 11, 2023. Thereafter, teams may add up to 3 men (COED: unlimited women, up to a max roster of 20 players); additions must be made and registered prior to the last league game. (See additional registration rules on page 1)