



## **2023 Waconia Parks & Recreation Men's Doubleheader Softball Rules**

### **Eligibility Rules:**

- USA Softball eligibility rules will govern all play of the Waconia Parks and Recreation Softball Leagues unless they are modified by Waconia's "Local League Rules."
- All players must be age 18 or older as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
- All rosters must be turned into League Coordinator on/before June 21, 2023. Non-compliance may result in forfeiture of games. Players not entered on the roster will be ineligible to compete in games and will subject their team to forfeiture.
- No uniforms are required for local league play; however, if your team wishes to advance to state or regional play, uniforms of like color with numbers on the back will be required.

### **Playing Rules**

- Managers are requested to carry their official team roster with them at all times during league play. Roster must be completed and turned into League Coordinator by date above.
- Each team is requested to keep a scorebook, which will be provided by League Coordinator. Home team will be designated as the official scorebook, but BOTH teams must keep score and have a score book with them each week.
- A.D. Starr Tattoo 52/300 synthetic softballs will be provided. Each team will be designated 24 balls. Each team is to provide one ball each per game. For the last game and playoffs, please use a used ball. Any team needing additional balls will be required to pay for each additional box.
- Home and Away will be determined on the schedule. Each team may begin and play with a minimum of 8 players.
- Teams may bat all rostered players that show up for the game. Players do not have to play in the field if there are more than 10 players. There is a free substitution for any player going in or out of the field at any time; however, the batting order must remain the same. Once a starting player is taken out of the batting order, he/she may re-enter the game once, provided such player occupies the same batting position.
- Substitute may be used by a player currently rostered on another team for Regular Season game. Will only be permitted to fill an 8 player roster. No Substitute for Playoff Games.
- Any player late to a game will be put at the bottom of the batting order.

- Any player can be a courtesy runner. If the courtesy runner is on base when it is his at bat, it is an out. One courtesy runner per inning.
- All pitchers must be touching the rubber as they begin their pitching motion.
- A new inning may NOT be started after 50 minutes of play.
- League play and tournament play will use the 3 ball / 2 strike rules with NO courtesy foul.
- Each team is limited to 4 home runs per game. Any additional home runs will be considered an out.
- Metal spikes are not permitted. Anyone wearing metal spikes will be ejected from the game.
- Pitching distance is 50' and base distance is 65' for league play.
- If a team is ahead by 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings, or 10 runs after five complete innings of play, the game shall be considered final.
- In case of ties at the end of the season, the team, or teams with the greatest number of victories against other teams involved in the tie will be used to break the tie. Next, the team's records against other individual teams in the league, starting with the first-place team, would be compared until a winner is determined. In a three or more-way tie (in cases where there is no clear winner in head-to-head competition); ties will be broken by comparing all team's records against other individual teams until a winner is determined and then restarting the process with the remaining teams.
- Teams are asked to pick up their dugout area after completion of game. All trash or cans should be thrown in correct trash/recycling bins.
- Children are not allowed in the dugout area at any point before, during, or after a game. Children who attend games must stay behind dugout area fencing for their safety.

### **Game Postponements**

- When weather conditions make that week's games doubtful for play, League Coordinator will notify all team managers with an email and/or phone call by 5pm. Notification will also be posted on the Waconia Ice Arena Adult Leagues page. [www.waconiaicearena.com/copy-of-programs](http://www.waconiaicearena.com/copy-of-programs). Team managers are responsible for relaying message to their rostered players.
- When playing conditions become questionable after games have started, games may be called off the playing field by umpiring crew or League Coordinator. The game shall be considered a complete game and will not be continued after 4 innings of play or if the home team is leading after 3 ½ innings of play. Games which are not considered completed will be rescheduled and restarted as a new game at a later date.
- If an official umpire fails to show up for game, team managers should mutually agree on an umpire and play that evening's game.
- If a game has been postponed, it will be rescheduled. That game will likely be made up after the last scheduled week of the season. If nearing the end of the season, games may be rescheduled for another evening in order to finish league or tournament play in a timely manner.

- In case of a weather emergency while games are being played, emergency shelter can be taken inside at the Waconia Ice Arena.

### **Team/Player Conduct**

- Abusing officials, League Coordinator, or League Director will not be tolerated. There is a line between normal banter and asking for interpretations/clarifications vs. verbal abuse. Players must be aware of this and err on the side of caution.
- Any player ejected from a game will receive a minimum of a one (1) game suspension. The League Director, League Coordinator, and the official of the game in question will review all game ejections to determine if further action should be taken. Players and team managers will be notified via email regarding any altercations and course of action taken. Repeated offenses during a season will result in suspension for the remainder of the season and possible lifetime ban.
- Physical altercations will result in immediate suspension from league play for the individuals that were involved, as determined by the League Coordinator. Verbal confrontations will be reviewed, and appropriate disciplinary action will be issued on an incident-by-incident basis. Emails will be sent regarding any altercations and course of action taken to document an incident.
- Umpires have authority to remove or ban player from the game and the park should the situation warrant it.
- No smoking on playing field or inside dugout area. If need to smoke, please do so outside ball field area in parking lot.
- Team manager will represent and be responsible for all actions of the team before, during, and after any game.