



Fon du Lac Park District 2008 Summer Softball Rules & Dates

Contained within are the dates and rules pertaining to the 2008 Fon du Lac Park District slow pitch softball season. It is the responsibility of the team manager to convey this information to all persons affiliated with their team. Good luck and we hope you enjoy our summer program.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

February 18: Signups begin for returning teams

February 20: Signups begin for all other teams

April 9: League meeting: 7:00pm at Park District Admin Office
All teams are invited, but only new teams need to attend (all leagues)

April 10: League schedules will be available online and at the Park Office

APRIL 20th ALL LEAGUES BEGIN THIS WEEK

ALL rosters must be submitted BEFORE YOUR FIRST GAME with the correct amount of individual player fees. Please bring rosters and player fees to Fondulac Park Administrative Office at 201 Veterans Dr., anytime before your first game.

Individual Player Fees:

Men's League \$30.00 (resident or non-resident)

Women's League \$30.00 (resident or non-resident)

Co-ed League \$30.00 (resident or non-resident)

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The Fon du Lac Park District Softball Program will consist of the following leagues: Men's, Women's, and Co-ed.
2. The purpose of the program is to provide a wholesome recreational activity.
3. The Coordinator of Sports, League Supervisor, and Softball Commissioners govern the program.

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4. Softball Administration:
Brian Tibbs: Coordinator of Softball
John Moreland: Coordinator of Umpires
5. The Softball program uses the A.S.A. rule book as a guideline. Altered rules are contained within.
6. Managers, coaches, players and bat boys are the only people allowed in the dugout area.
7. There is no forfeit fee.
8. Game balls are provided by the Park District.
9. 12" balls will be used in Men's & Coed leagues and 11" balls in Women's leagues.

SECTION 2: ROSTERS AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. Players must be 18 years old to play in any Men's league or Co-ed league and 18 years old to play in any Women's league.
2. Players and coaches that have high school or college players on their team must check with NCAA, NJCAA, or IHSA eligibility guidelines. Fon du Lac Park District is not responsible for violations. The Park District will also cooperate fully with any information needed from any of the above listed associations or schools.
3. Each player must sign the roster sheet and pay the correct player fee before playing in any game.
 - A player that is added after the roster submitting deadline, must do so before he or she plays. Eligible to play same night that you pay.
 - There is no late fee to add a player.
 - All player additions must be made in person at the Park District Administration Center or to the umpire at time of payment.
4. There is no refunding or transferring of player fees.
5. If a player plays on more than one team, they must pay a fee for each team they play on.
6. **A player may play on only one team per night or diamond**
 - **A player can play on 2 teams the same night as long as it is a different diamond. A player may not play on the same diamond on 2 different teams.**
7. Players can be added up to the final 2 weeks of the regular scheduled season but can not play in tournament Section 9 Rule 5.
8. Team rosters have a minimum of 12. There is no limit to the amount of players that can be on a roster.
9. All rosters and player fees must be submitted to the Park District for a team to be eligible for their first game.
10. Players may switch teams during the season as long as they have proof of consent from their former team manager.

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11. Any false information or false signature on a roster sheet will result in a forfeit.
12. It is the coaches responsibility to turn in a roster. If no roster is turned in this will result in a forfeit.

SECTION 3 : GAMES, SCHEDULES AND TIME LIMIT

1. A league must have at least 6 teams to be held. In the event of less than eight teams in a league, the schedule will be completed by a blind draw.
2. Games will not be rescheduled due to another league conflict. Games will only be cancelled due to unplayable conditions. In the event that a game is underway and the umpire determines the conditions are unplayable, this game will be made up.
3. Games will be rescheduled for a team in a State sanctioned tournament providing they give at least 2 weeks notice to the League Supervisor.
4. Games start at 6:00, 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. on all lighted diamonds (except Sunday leagues).
5. In all Women's league games, everybody must be entered in the batting order. If a person comes late, they must be entered at the bottom of the line-up. There is no automatic out.
6. In all Men's leagues, a team may start with 9 players; however, the 10th spot in the batting order will be an automatic out. Any player that arrives late can play to make 10 players.
7. In the event a team has only 9 players and a player is injured or ejected from the game, which would leave the team with 8 players, they will forfeit the game.
8. There is no designated hitter: teams can bat all players if they wish.

ALSO: There is no courtesy runner for players in any league. The only instance where a courtesy runner can be used is if there is an injury that occurs in the game, the injured player must leave the game. The player that made last out will run. If a team has only 10 people playing and one player is out because of injury, there will be an automatic out in that players place. If a team has 11 or more players batting, then there will be no automatic out and that players place in the lineup will be played straight through.

9. A strike zone mat will be used in all leagues.
10. In all Men's leagues and co-ed leagues, substitutions must be reported to the umpire. In all Women's leagues, there are free substitutions, they do not have to be told to the umpire.
11. The 12 run rule after 5 innings and 20 runs after 3 innings will be used in all leagues.
12. All games have a 1-hour time limit. If the game is not over in the hour time limit, the home team will be allowed to bat in the event they are tied or losing. In the event of a tie, the game will be played until a winner is determined.
13. There will be 2 umpires used in all men's and co-ed league games and 1 umpire in all women's league games. Each team will keep track of their own score and report it to the umpire after each inning.
14. There is no infield practice.
15. Home run limit is 6 for all men's leagues and 3 for all coed leagues per game.

SECTION 4: FORFEITS

1. There is no forfeit fee.
2. A team is suspended from further league play after their third forfeit. A forfeit that takes place after a game starts does not count toward the total amount, unless it involves player eligibility.
3. Failure to meet eligibility rules will result in a forfeit.
4. Failure to adhere to an umpire's decision or warning will result in a forfeit.
5. Game time is forfeit time.
6. An umpire reserves the right to forfeit or double forfeit a game due to a team or teams conduct.
7. If a team does not meet the minimum number of eligible players for a game it will result in a forfeit.

SECTION 5: CONDUCT

1. Any player, coach, spectator, or person associated can be prohibited from further league activity at the discretion of the Softball Administration.
2. It is the team manager's responsibility to control the conduct of the team.
3. Any team, coach, person affiliated with the team that is ejected from a game must sit out one or two games.

SECTION 6: UNIFORMS

1. Matching shirts are recommended. The pants do not have to match, but must be athletic wear. No street clothes, jeans, jams, tank tops, etc. are allowed.
2. There is no uniform requirement in the Women's leagues.
3. Steel spikes are **NOT** allowed in any league.

SECTION 7: PROTESTS

1. No protest will be allowed unless it involves a question or rule interpretation.

Roster/illegal players

- Illegal Players are only enforced by a protest from the other team. This **must** be done by the first pitch of the 3rd inning. Otherwise a roster cannot be protested. Only exception is if a new player enters the game. Protest must be made at that time.
- Umpires need to get names of player protesting and the player that is in question – make notes on score sheet. If a player refuses to give his/her name, then it will be assumed that they are an illegal player.

Teams will be allowed to add players at the diamond. An add-on roster will be available. Please take \$30 check per player added and give to umpire at each diamond. This will take place through the 12th week of games (10th week to be eligible for tournament)

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2. There is a \$30.00 protest fee. If the protest is won, the fee will be refunded.
3. In the event of a protest both team coaches will attend a special meeting.
4. Only the Commissioners will vote on a protest. Any tie will be broken by the League Supervisor.
5. To protest a question of rule interpretation, the protesting must follow A.S.A. guidelines at the time of the event.
6. All protests must be filed within 24 hours of the game being protested. All protests must be filed at the Administration Center and filled out on a Protest Form, citing the Section and Rule Number according to the official rules, along with a \$30.00 deposit.

SECTION 8: AWARDS & STANDINGS

1. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place sponsor trophies will be given in each league to the appropriate teams.
2. All ties will be broken by totalling the amount of runs scored against the teams involved when they played each other.

SECTION 9: POST SEASON TOURNAMENTS

1. The top 3 teams from each Men's and Co-ed will compete in a double- elimination tournament.
 - A. In the event an eligible team cannot participate in the tournament, the next strongest team from *the entire* Men's or Coed program will be selected.
2. All Men's & Co-ed league tournaments will consist of a double elimination format. All Women's league tournaments will consist of a single elimination format.
3. All Women's teams are eligible to participate in the post season tournament. Should they choose to participate in the tournament, they must notify the League Supervisor of their intent.
4. There is no fee to play in any post season tournament.
5. A player must be on a team's roster no later than their **10th regular** scheduled game to be eligible for a post season tournament.
 - A. A person can play on more than one team in the tournament providing they meet eligibility requirements. In the event the teams they play on should meet in the tournament, they must declare which team they choose to play for in that game. They can continue to play for both teams in the tournament, should both teams remain in the tournament.
6. In all double elimination tournaments 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place sponsor trophies will be awarded. In all single elimination tournaments 1st and 2nd place sponsor trophies will be awarded.

SECTION 10: INSURANCE, LIABILITY WAIVER, AND AMBULANCE SERVICE

1. In the event of an injury, there is **no** insurance coverage for any player, spectator, or any person concerned with the game.
2. All players play at their own risk.
3. Any player that asks for ambulance service is responsible for any and all fees.

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4. On the roster sheet is a liability waiver. Each person's signature verifies that they have read and understand the waiver and accept the waiver as part of the program.

5. The team manager, coach, or team representative assumes all duties regarding the signatures and understanding of the liability waiver, which the player has signed. They also assume responsibility for any forged or altered signature.

SECTION 11: INJURIES

1. In the event of an injury and a team has only 10 players, they may finish the game with 9 players if the injured person must leave the game. The injured person's batting position will be considered an automatic out for the remainder of the game and they may not reenter the same game.

2. There is no courtesy runner for players in any league. The only instance where a courtesy runner can be used is if there is an injury that occurs in the game, the injured player must leave the game. The player that made last out will run. If a team has only 10 people playing and one player is out because of injury, there will be an automatic out in that player's place. If a team has 11 or more players batting, then there will be no automatic out and that player's place in the lineup will be played straight through.

3. All players and substitutes may reenter the game once.

SECTION 12: ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

1. Alcohol and drugs are not allowed in the Park District. Anybody found guilty is subject to arrest and a fine.

2. Players, coaches, or spectators under the influence of a chemical will be forced to leave the park or arrested.

SECTION 13: CLASSIFICATION

1. Fon du Lac Park District reserves the move teams to a different league on a yearly basis.

2. Fon du Lac Park District has no authority in the reclassification of players. This is done solely by the A.S.A.

SECTION 14: FIELD RENTAL

1. There will be no field rental

ALL LEAGUES WILL USE A 1 BALL AND 1 STRIKE COUNT TO START. YOU WILL GET ONE FREE FOUL AFTER YOU GET 2 STRIKES. AFTER THAT A FOUL BALL WILL RESULT IN AN OUT.

COED SPECIFIC RULES:

1. Please refer to ASA bat regulations for legal bats. www.softball.org
2. Each team must have 2 females in the infield; 2 females in the outfield; and 1 female in the battery (catcher or pitcher)
3. All players can be entered in the batting order. The batting order cannot change. We will play with 9 players, 4 female and 5 men or 4 men and 5 female. An out will be taken in between when the 2 males or 2 females bat back-to-back. The batting order is every other batter is male then female (or female then male).
4. There are no intentional walks to a male in order to pitch to a female. If a male walks for any reason, he gets 2 bases. If the male walks, **with 2 outs**, the female has the option of walking or batting **after two outs only**.
5. There will be a mark placed halfway down the 3rd base line. Once a runner crosses this they cannot return to 3rd base and the play at home plate becomes a force out.
6. There is always a force out at home. The catcher gets the plate and the runner gets the mat.
7. Cannot end game on a short player rule.
8. There is NO SLIDING into home for any reason. (coed only)