



ADULT & CO-REC SLOW PITCH LEAGUES RULES & REGULATIONS

It is the responsibility of each team manager to thoroughly cover all Rules & Regulations with their team members before league play begins.

The following rules shall govern all adult teams and leagues playing under the jurisdiction of the Monterey Recreation Department (MRD).

SECTION I – ROSTERS/PLAYERS

1. Team rosters will consist of a maximum of fourteen (14) active and up to six (6) reserve players. This includes the manager if they play. Players may be added or dropped from rosters through the last week of regular season league play.
2. Any player who has not registered to join a team online must temporarily sign a roster and register to join the team following the game.
3. Players may play on **ONE** Co-Rec teams and **ONE** Men's team only during league and tournament play. Players will be dropped from all other teams other than the one in which they can legally play. Once dropped, their roster spot can become available for another eligible player to occupy. Any player violating this rule will be immediately suspended with all games being forfeited by the team in which the illegal player participated
4. All players in the MRD must be listed on the roster of the team they are playing for. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture of all games played in by the illegal player.
5. Any player playing under an assumed name or AKA is illegal. Any player violating this rule will be immediately suspended for the remainder of the season and all games being forfeited in which the illegal player participated in.
6. Teams can have a maximum of ten (10) but not less than eight (8) players on the field at any one time. A maximum of 14 (14) players may bat in the line-up.
7. **CO-REC Only** A minimum of three (3) female/non-male identifying players must be on the field at all times. A maximum of six (6) male players may be on the field at any one time
8. Players must be 18 years old on the day league play begins.
9. Individuals participating in the activities sponsored by the City of Monterey Recreation do so at their own risk. The MRD cannot be held liable for any personal injury or property loss/damage.

SECTION II – OFFICIALS

1. The City of Monterey Recreation will provide an official umpire and scorekeeper for each scheduled game.
2. Umpires and scorekeepers are representatives of the City of Monterey Recreation, as such they are authorized and required to enforce all applicable rules and regulations without contestation.

SECTION III – GAMES

1. The manager or their designee must give the scorekeeper the team's line-up no later than ten minutes prior to game time. Line-up cards must include the player's first and last names, and be neat and legible. The manager or his/her designee will cooperate in every way with the umpires and scorekeeper in order to start games on time.
2. Any team attempting to deliberately stall the start of a game will be given one warning. If, in the judgment of the umpire, the team continues to stall, the umpire may call the game a forfeit.
3. The manager or their designee is the official representative of the team. As such, they are responsible for the eligibility, conduct, and sportsmanship of all players on the roster.
4. Teams must have at least eight (8) players; with a minimum of 3 female/non-male identifying players, ready to play five (5) minutes after the official start of the game. If games are running late, then players must be ready to play five (5) minutes following the end of the previous game. Failure to

comply with these provisions will result in a forfeited game(s). Should a team forfeit two (2) games, they may be dropped from league play depending upon the circumstances surrounding the forfeiture. Teams with two forfeitures who continue to play will be ineligible for the playoffs.

5. **CO-REC Only** A maximum of five (5) runs may be scored per half inning.
6. A regulation game is seven (7) innings or 50 minutes, whichever comes first.
7. A new inning will not be started if the time has expired. If the clock expires in the middle of an inning, the rest of the inning will be finished, unless the home team is winning. **(MEN'S ONLY)**.
8. If less than 3 minutes remain on the clock at the start of a new inning, the umpire will announce "LAST INNING." The five (5) run rule will be waived for the last inning. **(CO-REC ONLY)**
9. The ten (10) run rule will be in effect after five (5) innings, 4 ½, if the home team is ahead. The losing team may request to continue playing until the 50-minute time limit is reached, if they so choose.
10. If there is a tie at the end of regulation play, the game will continue until a winner is decided or 50 minutes is up. Tie games at the end of the time limit will be recorded as 1/2 win and 1/2 loss for each team.

SECTION IV – CANCELLATIONS

1. Only the City of Monterey Recreation may make changes to the league schedule. Any team that foresees a conflict with their schedule is to notify the City of Monterey Recreation forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start of the game so that the City of Monterey Recreation can notify the scheduled opponent. Failure to notify within the specified time frame will result in a forfeited game.
2. In a suspended game, if less than 5 complete innings have been played, the game will be rescheduled and continue from the point in which it was suspended. If more than 5 complete innings have been played, the score will stand as is and will not be made up.

SECTION V – PROTESTS

Protests based on a judgment call from an umpire WILL NOT be considered. Protests must be based on official Amateur Softball Association (ASA) rules/regulations, or an official ground rule interpretation.

1. Whenever a matter of protest arises during a game, the manager or their designee, must immediately notify the umpire, the opposing manager, and the official scorekeeper of the intent to protest before the next pitch. Formal protests must include the date, time, and location of the game as well as the name of the umpire, scorekeeper, and managers. Protests must refer to a specific citation and be delivered to the City of Monterey Recreation by 12:00 noon the following day.
2. Ineligible player protests must be made before the 3rd out of the bottom of the 3rd inning. Players can be protested after this point only if they enter the game as a substitute. In the case of an ineligible player, the team penalty is a forfeit of the game; the winning team has the option of taking a 7-0 score or the actual score of the game at the time of the forfeit.

SECTION VI – RULES

Official rules for this league are the same as those published in the ASA. ASA rules can be found at www.asasoftball.com. The MRD reserves the right to modify, delete, or otherwise change any rules of the game which the department deems necessary.

1. Smoking is prohibited in all City parks and playgrounds.
2. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all times on City owned facilities. Failure to comply with this provision will result in forfeiture of the game and possible suspension from the league.
3. For the protection of players, metal cleats are not allowed. Players must wear shoes with either rubber cleats or other appropriate non-metallic shoe. Players failing to comply with this provision face possible suspension from further league play.
4. All players, excluding the on deck batter, must remain in the dugout or behind the playing line. Only one coach is permitted in the coach's box.
5. Teams may substitute fielders freely in between innings when using a continuous batting lineup.
6. A catcher must be provided at all times during the course of the game.
7. All base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball makes contact with the batter's bat. Runners failing to do so will be called out.
8. A SAFETY LINE will be placed on the third base side of home plate. This line is for runners only. Runners must cross the line instead of touching home plate. Touching home plate will result in an automatic out.
9. All plays at home plate will be force outs. There will be a line, the point of no return, marked 20'

- between home plate and third base. Once a runner has passed this line, they **MUST** advance to home plate. An automatic out will be called if a runner crosses back over the line towards third base.
10. An overthrown ball into the dead-ball zone will result in all runners being rewarded one additional base (if the ball is thrown from the infield) or two additional bases (if the ball is thrown from the outfield).
 11. A double safety base will be used for first base. The orange portion of the base rests in foul territory. Runners must make every reasonable effort to touch the orange portion of the base. Failure to touch the orange portion of the base may result in an out. The orange portion of first base is not to be used for the fielding team to record an out.
 12. **(CO-REC Divisions Jacks Park Only)** The overrun rule will be in effect. Whenever running two (2) or more bases without hesitation, the runner may run through the last bag they are attempting to reach without being called out. Any hesitation called by the umpire is a judgment call and cannot be contested. Runners wishing to advance to another base after overrunning a base **MUST** return to and tag the base that was overrun. Failure to do so will result in an automatic out.
 13. **(CO-REC Divisions Jacks Park Only)** Sliding or diving into bases is prohibited. Any runner sliding or diving into a base will be automatically called out.
 14. **CO-REC Only** Any walk to a male batter will result in a two base award. If there are two outs, a female/non-male identifying player has the option of walking or batting.
 15. All defensive infielders must play in line or behind the first and third base, and behind the baseline when a player is batting; as to prevent teams from crowding the home plate. Playing in front of these parameters will result in a free base for the batter.
 16. One courtesy runner will be allowed per inning. Any player on the lineup can be used a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner whose turn at bat comes while on base will be recorded as an out.
 17. Pinch runners will be allowed ANY TIME a player becomes injured. The pinch runner will be the last person to bat who is not on base. The injured player is ineligible to play the remainder of the game.
 18. Players not present at game time must be dropped from the line-up. Players not removed from the line-up will be called out each time their turn at bat comes up. Players arriving late may be added to the bottom of the line-up including players not dropped from the original line-up. Players not dropped from the line-up but show up late will still have an automatic out recorded each time their original spot in the batting order comes up.
 19. Pitchers pitch to the opposing team. A minimum of 3' arc to a maximum of 12' arc is required on all pitches. There will be an extension placed over home plate; if the ball touches any portion of the home plate extension or home plate it is considered a strike.
 20. The batting order will consist of a continuous line-up. It is required that there are 3 female/non-male identifying players in your line-up. Each batter will bat an equal amount of times. Batting out of order will result in the batter being called out.
 21. Once 10 batting spots have been filled, players will be allowed to share a batting spot as long as they alternate their at bats.
 22. Each batter will start with a count of one (1) ball and one (1) strike and is allowed to foul the third strike once in an at bat. A second third strike foul will be considered a strike out.
 23. Bunting, chopping, or half swings are prohibited. Any attempt to do so will result in the batter being called out.
 24. Batters may not bat on or directly in front of home plate. Batters doing so will be called out.
 25. All players on the batting line-up must make an attempt to hit. Skipping a batter on the line up will result in an out.
 26. All bats must bear an ASA approved 2000, 2004 or 2014 certification.
 27. Any ball hit over the fence (leftfield to right field) at Jacks Park will be an automatic out with no runs being scored. Balls hit into the 8' extension in left field, and stay inside the field of play, will be homeruns.
 28. Any player ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will automatically be suspended from their next scheduled game and placed on probation for the remainder of the season in progress.
 29. The MRD reserves the right to add or delete any rules of the game which the division deems necessary for the good of the program, before, during, or after the season is over.

SECTION VII – PLAYOFFS/AWARDS

1. Each team will play a minimum of ten (10) games.
2. League games and playoff formats will be determined before league play begins and will be stated on the league schedule.
3. Championship games will play a full 7 innings without a time limit. The 10 run rule will remain in effect for all playoff and championship games.

4. Players on the roster who have not played at least one (1) game; and signed the waiver, will not be eligible for the playoffs.
5. Each Division winner will receive a Sponsor's Award and Individual Awards.
6. In the event a winner is not declared by overall record, the following will be used to decide all ties: 1) Head to head competition during league play; 2) Total runs GIVEN UP during league play; 3) Total runs SCORED during league play; 4) Team run differential. Home team will be determined by the higher seeded team during the playoffs.

SECTION VIII – PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

1. No player shall at any time lay a hand upon, shove, or strike an official. It is a felony to do so. Officials are required to immediately suspend a player from further play and report such player to the MRD Sports Coordinator. Any player violating this rule will be suspended immediately from further play and will be banned for life from further participation in City sponsored sports leagues.
2. No player shall refuse to abide by an official's decision. Any player not abiding by this rule will be immediately suspended from further play and reported to the MRD Sports Coordinator. Suspended players MAY NOT resume play until a disposition has been rendered by the City of Monterey Recreation. Players face a minimum of probation for the remainder of the season and a maximum of a two game suspension in addition to the probationary period.
3. All players and managers are expected to treat officials with dignity and respect. Any inflammatory, degrading, or otherwise offensive remark will result in an immediate removal from the game. Second guessing or questioning an official's decision will not be tolerated. Players and/or managers not abiding by this rule may be placed on probation for the remainder of the season or suspended depending on the severity of the infraction.
4. All players and managers are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship. Offensive body language, profanity, or any other unsportsmanlike conduct will result in an immediate removal from the game. A two game suspension and season long probation may also be issued by the City of Monterey Recreation.
5. At no time will players or managers verbally or physically accost other players, managers or spectators. Any player or manager violating this rule will be suspended immediately and will remain suspended until a disposition has been reached by the MRD.
6. Under no circumstances will any player or manager appear on the field of play while under the influence of alcohol/drugs. The presence of alcohol on one's person will also not be tolerated. Players taking prescription medications that alter one's ability to think and react clearly should not play. Any violation of this rule must be reported to the MRD Sports Coordinator immediately. Players violating this rule will receive a minimum of a two game suspension with season long probation, or a maximum of season long suspension.
7. Any player ejected during a post season game will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the season in progress.

NOTE: 1) Any player being placed on probation for the remainder of the season and reported again for violating the "Code of Conduct" or any other applicable rule will be suspended for the remainder of the season; 2) any player being suspended at the end of the season must complete the suspension at the beginning of the next season the player participates in; 3) any player removed from a game must leave the facility immediately. Failure to do so will result in the suspension for the remainder of the season and forfeiture of the game in progress; 4) Players being placed on suspension will be suspended from ALL City of Monterey Recreation leagues; 5) City Ordinance No. 1722 C, prohibits alcoholic beverages in or on facilities in which the Monterey Recreation and Community Services Division programs are held; 6) Health and Safety Code sec. 104495 prohibits smoking in all City parks and playgrounds.