

CITY OF GULFPORT – SOFTBALL RULES

All games will be played in accordance with the current A.S.A. Softball Rule Book except as modified herein:

1. **ROSTER** – Each manager is responsible for the team roster.
 - a. Number of Players – Each team will be permitted 20 players, including manager.
 - b. Official Roster Requirements – Each team is required to submit a signed team roster prior to the first game.
 - c. Roster Changes – **ONLY MANAGERS** may add new players to the roster. No players may be added to the roster after the 3rd game. New players must come to the Recreation Division and sign the original roster after manager's request.
 - d. Players can only play for one team. Players can only switch rosters prior to the first game of the season with both manager's approval.

2. **PROTEST PROCEDURE** - The team manager is the only player that may protest a game to the **umpire first**, may it be the eligibility of a player or rule protest. The protest must then be presented to the scorekeeper with a \$30 check payable to the City of Gulfport. If the protest is not upheld, the check will not be returned.

NOTE: PROTESTS CONCERNING THE UMPIRE'S JUDGEMENT IN CALLING PLAYS IS NOT ALLOWED!

3. **PLAYER CONDUCT/SUSPENSIONS** – Team discipline is the manager's responsibility. A player who is ejected from a game by the umpire is automatically suspended from play for the next two (2) games in which he/she plays. Any player who plays while under suspension will be eliminated from play for the remainder of the season and the team will forfeit each game the suspended player played in.

4. **GAME PROCEDURES/STARTING TIMES/LINEUPS** – All games must start on time. **GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME!** Line-ups are required to the scorer 10 minutes before game time. **IF YOU KNOW YOUR TEAM WILL BE FORFEITING PLEASE CALL BEFORE 5PM ON GAMEDAY.**
 - a. Official Ball – Home team will be responsible for supplying two (2) game balls, and the visiting team will be responsible for one (1) game ball each game.
 - b. Number of Players – A team must have nine (9) players to start a game and nine (9) players to finish a game otherwise it is a forfeit. Players arriving after the line-up is given to the scorer must be listed behind the players in the original line-up and cannot bat until their spot is reached in the order. A late arrival may not take the field defensively after a pitch has been thrown in that half inning.
 - c. Extra Hitter (EH) – Extra hitters may be used in this league.
 - d. Two Home Run Rule – Only 2 home runs allowed per team per game.
 - e. 1 – 1 count – Batters start out with a 1 ball /1 strike count and a courtesy foul.
 - f. There will be a 15 run rule after 4 innings and 10 run rule after 5 innings. There is a 1-hour time limit. Texas tiebreaker rule will be in effect for extra inning games. The player that made the last out the previous inning will start on second base.

5. **GROUND RULES** – Ground rules will be gone over each game with the umpires and the managers of each team. This is the time to bring up any questions you may have. (Ex.- Dead ball area by dugouts).
6. **POSSESSION OR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL ON CITY PROPERTY IS PROHIBITED!**
Violation of this City Ordinance (73-14) may result in Suspensions/Forfeits of individuals or teams. **THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED THIS SEASON-NO ALCOHOL ON CITY PROPERTY.**
7. **RAINOUTS** – Rainouts will be called by 3pm the day of the game. The umpires and/or field official will call rainouts during games. Rainout hotline phone number is 893-1105 and will be updated by 3:30pm the day of game.
8. League games may be postponed or cancelled due to any FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association) games.
9. Minimum age of any participant is 18 years.
10. No metal spikes are allowed in this league.
11. Fighting, foul language, verbal abuse, or throwing of the bat will not be tolerated and may result in suspension/forfeit of team or players.
12. **FORFEITS** will result in a loss for the forfeiting team with a score of 0-7. Opposing team will be awarded a win with a score of 7-0. Two forfeits with NO call by a team may result in suspension of league play for that team .
13. If you have questions, please contact Joe (scorekeeper) at the field or call John at the Rec. @ 893-1079.

Gulfport Recreation Center
5730 Shore Blvd. South
Gulfport, FL 33707