

MIAMISBURG PARKS AND RECREATION 2023 Adult Softball Manager's Handbook

WWW.PLAYMIAMISBURG.COM
937-866-8999

2023 MANAGER'S HANDBOOK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Subject</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
General League information	3
Balls & Equipment	4
Roster and Eligibility	4
League Schedule	5
Forfeits	5
Home Run, Pitching, Run Rules, Time Limits	6
1 and 1 Count	6
Tie Game	6
Conduct	7
Game Results	7
Tournaments, Tie Breakers, and Awards	8
Protests	8
Rain-Out Procedure	9
Refunds	9
Umpire Review	9
CO-ED	10
Contact Information	11

CITY OF MIAMISBURG PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



ADULT SOFTBALL RULES AND BY-LAWS 2023

SECTION I

A. Rules and By-Laws:

- a. The 2023 WSL rulebook governs league play in the Miamisburg Adult Softball Program, except as amended by these By-Laws. The final decision on rules interpretation not covered in this book will be at the discretion of the League Director.

B. WSL Sanctioning:

- a. Entry fee into the Miamisburg Parks and Recreation softball leagues includes WSL sanctioning. The league office will handle the sanctioning of all teams with local representatives from the WSL

C. Alcohol Statement:

- a. All games will be played on City of Miamisburg property at Rice Field. All rules and regulations pertaining to the City of Miamisburg shall be observed. There is absolutely no alcohol allowed on the premise during adult softball activities. This includes but is not limited to: playing field, dugout, spectator area, and parking lots.
- b. Individuals found to be abusing this rule will be approached by league staff or team managers.
- c. Failure to comply with this rule could result in a team's forfeiture of that night's game.

D. Age Requirements:

- a. Players must be 18 years old to participate in Miamisburg Adult Softball Leagues
- b. Age for church league participation is 18 years old with no exceptions.

E. Balls:

- a. The League Director will supply 1 new game ball for all league games.
- b. Men and Coed leagues will use a 12-inch ball.
- c. The ball to be used is a 52/300 ratio.
- d. The preferred ball of the Miamisburg Adult Softball Leagues is the MacGregor X100 Poly Graphite Ball with Leather cover – Item #1377377
 - i. If that ball is unavailable, the league office will supply another ball of similar composition.

F. Equipment:

- a. Players may use any bat that meets all the following criteria:
 - i. Maximum of 2 ¼ inch barrel diameter
 - ii. 34" long
 - iii. 24-30 ounce in weight
 - iv. 220 minimum compression rating
 - v. BPF of 1.20
- b. Metal cleats are **not** allowed in league or tournament play.
- c. The handles of all bats must have safety grips of cork, tape or composition material
- d. Warm-up aides may be used with the exclusion of donuts
- e. Jerseys with numbers are suggested but **not** required.

G. Team Roster and Player Eligibility:

- a. Initial team rosters must be turned in prior to a team playing its first game.
 - i. Rosters can be turned in at the field or by emailing the roster form to the League Director
 - ii. Failure to turn in a roster by the time of a team's first scheduled league game will result in that team's forfeiture of the contest.
- b. A player may not participate in a game unless his/her name has been **officially** entered on the teams' League Roster or Add/Drop form (**see attachment 1**). The League Roster must be turned into the League Director or his representative prior to your first game in league play.
 - i. Teams are limited to 20 players on their roster and add/drop forms at one time. A playing manager is included in the 20-member maximum. Changes to the team roster can be made by submitting an Add/Drop form to the League Director or representative prior to the new player(s) participating in their first game.
- c. New players may be added to your roster until a team has played half of its scheduled league games.
 - i. At the halfway point of the season, a team's roster is considered final, and only the players on that final roster are eligible for the team's postseason tournament.
 - ii. The eligibility of players will be handled as a protest and will result in forfeit of the game and suspension of the offending player if a player is ruled ineligible. A repeat offense by the same player or team will result

in his/her suspension for the remainder of the season, including post-season tournaments.

- d. Teams may use substitute players throughout the regular season portion of league play to field a team for 1 night.
 - i. Substitute players are defined as individuals that already play for the Miamisburg Adult Softball Leagues whether on the same or a different night.
 - ii. Teams needing substitute players need to field at least 6 players from their team's approved league roster.

H. League Schedule:

- a. The Spring season shall consist of 10 scheduled regular season games with a single elimination post-season tournament to follow.
 - i. If a team has results from 8 of the scheduled regular season games, there will be no pro-rated refunds issued.
- b. The Fall season shall consist of 8 scheduled regular season games with a single elimination post-season tournament to follow.
 - i. If a team has results from 7 of the scheduled regular season games, there will be no pro-rated refunds issued.

I. Forfeits:

- a. **Game time is forfeit time for all games.** Games may begin with and end with eight players unless a team starts with an EP (extra player) in which case a team must finish with at least nine players. A late-arriving player may enter the game immediately and will bat 9th in the batting order. Any fewer than eight players (nine if a team starts with an EP) before or during the game will result in a forfeit. A team can continue play if a team becomes shorthanded due to a player ejection. An out is declared when the vacated spot is due to bat. Teams cannot play with 7 players. A forfeit is declared.
- b. A forfeit will be declared when a team uses a player(s) not officially listed on the team roster and a protest of eligibility has been lodged. Teams have 24 hours to protest the use of an illegal player in league play but must protest the illegal player in tournament play before the umpire leaves the diamond when the game is over.
- c. When a team plays short-handed, an out is declared when the absent player is due to bat.
- d. **Please notify Darren Miller at darren.miller@cityofmiamisburg.com if forfeits are known in advance of the game so that teams and umpires can be notified.**
 - i. Forfeits will be recorded as a 7-0 result.

J. Home Run Rule

- a. For all leagues, each team may designate one (1) player to be the home run hitter. That player may hit a home run each time they come to the plate regardless of the home run count in the game.
 - i. The home run hitter must be declared at the pre-game manager meeting with the umpire.

- ii. The home run hitter's home runs do not count towards the team's home run count.
 - iii. If the home run hitter is walked during their turn at bat, that team will be allowed one (1) free home run during that time through the order until the home run hitter returns to bat.
 - iv. If the home run hitter leaves the game for any reason, the team forfeits their ability to have a home run hitter.
- b. All Coed Leagues will be 1 and progressive.
- c. All Men's Leagues will be allowed 2 home runs and then progressive.
- d. Church Leagues will be allowed 2 home runs and then progressive.
 - i. **Home team can hit the go-ahead home run in the bottom of the last inning.**

K. Pitching:

- a. A Legal pitch shall be a pitch that reaches an arc of 6-10 feet in the estimation of the umpire.
 - i. If the umpire deems the pitch illegal, the batter may still put the ball in play
 - ii. If the umpire deems the pitch illegal, the pitch will be declared a ball unless the batter puts the ball in play.
- b. There is to be no pitch faking.
- c. Pitchers may choose to pitch in a pitching area up to 5 feet straight behind the pitching rubber.

L. 1 and 1 Count:

- a. All league and tournament games will utilize the "1 and 1 count".
 - i. Explanation - Each batter begins his or her turn at bat with a 1 strike and 1 ball count with an extra foul ball.
 - ii. Exception – Men's leagues will play with a straight 1 and 1 count without an extra foul. A foul ball when there are 2 strikes will result in the batter being out.

M. Run Rule:

- a. All League and all tournament games are governed by a 20-run rule limit after 3 innings, 15-run rule limit after 4 innings and a 10-run rule limit after 5 innings (or 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead) have been played.

N. Tie Games:

- a. If a game is tied after seven innings, the one pitch rule will be used to finish out the game. A runner will be placed at second. The runner will be the last out of the previous inning.

O. Time Limit:

- a. After 55 minutes, according to the umpire's timer, no new inning will start.
 - i. The umpire shall declare the official game time start.
- b. There will be no time limit or one pitch rule for tournament championship games. However, there will still be a runner placed on second base in extra innings of tournament games.
 - i. Time limits will still be in place for all other tournament games.

P. Conduct on the Field

- a. Any player, coach, manager or other team participant who strikes, attempt to strike, or threaten an umpire, or intentionally injures or attempts to injure an opponent will be **immediately ejected** and **suspended** from further play in the City of Miamisburg softball program for a period to be determined by a Disciplinary Panel. The City reserves the right to immediately suspend any team or team member until a disciplinary hearing is held. All suspensions are reported to the WSL District Director and the WSL State Representatives.
- b. All ejections shall require the offending participant(s) to immediately leave the park and be disqualified from that league for the next game played.
- c. If a disciplinary hearing is necessary, the League Director will form a disciplinary panel and schedule a hearing. The individual accused of committing the infraction will be told the date, time, and location for the hearing.
- d. After the disciplinary hearing, the League Director will notify the person involved of the results of the hearing. A letter will also be sent to the individual informing of the results. The participant may file an appeal with the Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department by presenting a letter stating their reasons for the appeal within seven (7) calendar days after the disciplinary hearing. Any penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Panel will remain in effect throughout the appeal process.
- e. Anyone identified with a team shall be held jointly and severally responsible for proper conduct of the team on the field, including the playing area and adjacent city park property and their relations with other teams, umpires and city employees. Failure to comply with these requirements shall cause such person or persons to forfeit the privilege of conducting or participating in softball leagues in the City of Miamisburg, Parks and Recreation Department program.
- f. A player who throws a bat, ball or other object in anger will be ejected from the game by the umpire.
- g. Any bat flip where the bat goes higher than the shoulder shall result in an immediate ejection.
- h. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on or near the ball diamonds, including the parking lots, by participants (managers, coaches, players, spectators, etc.) in City league or tournament games. Violators will be subject to suspension or forfeit of a team's current game.

Q. Game Results:

- a. The results will be documented by the league director, site coordinator, or umpire on duty on the results board next to the fields.
- b. Either team can also update these results on TeamSnap immediately following a game. If a result looks incorrect, please notify the League Director.

R. League Tournament:

- a. The final standings of the regular season schedule will determine the seeding for the post-season league tourney.
- b. Summer-single elimination tournament for all teams in each league.
- c. Fall-single elimination tournament for all teams in each league

N. Tie Breakers for Final League Standings

- a. Head-to-head results.
- b. Winning Percentage vs top 4 teams in league
- c. Overall Run Differential
- d. Head-to-Head Matchup Run Differential
- e. Coin Toss – Coin toss will only be used if all other tiebreakers are tied

O. Trophies & Awards

- a. League Play is for tournament seeding and a half-off registration for your team's next participation in Miamisburg Adult Softball Leagues
- b. Tournament Play:
 - i. **Summer** – A championship t-shirt will be awarded to everyone on the final roster.
 - ii. **Fall** - A championship t-shirt will be awarded to everyone on the final roster.
 - iii. There are no team trophies awarded.

P. Protests

- a. **League Play** - Protests will be accepted in league play provided:
 - i. The umpire and opposing manager is notified before the next legal pitch.
 - ii. The protest involves a rule interpretation, ground rule, or player eligibility.
 - iii. A **written** protest is turned into the League Director at the Parks and Recreation Office by 5:00 PM the following business day.
 - iv. A \$100.00 protest fee is paid at the Parks and Recreation Office at time of filing. The fee will be refunded, if the protest is upheld.
- b. **Tournament Play:** Protests will be handled in tournament play in the following manner:
 - i. If a protest arises, the manager of the protesting team must immediately notify the umpire and opposing manager, before the next pitch, that the game is being protested. The umpire will notify the Tournament Director or his representative who will decide the issue before the game proceeds.
 - ii. A protest of eligibility cannot be made after a game has ended. It is the manager's responsibility to check his opponent's eligibility list before the game. The game has ended when the umpire leaves the diamond.
 - iii. If an ineligible player is discovered participating, that and all remaining games will be forfeited by the offending team.

Q. Inclement weather

- a. Rainout Line is available on the Play Miamisburg App, at PLAYMIAMISBURG.COM or by downloading the Rainout Line App (search for “Miamisburg Parks and Recreation” on the Rainout Line App). Every effort will be made to make up games postponed due to inclement weather; however, the League Director has the authority to modify the league schedule if an excessive number of games are postponed due to inclement weather. Rainouts will be automatically added to the end of season or on nights to play doubleheaders. Schedules will be posted at Rice Field and are available for viewing on TeamSnap. **Managers are responsible** for checking these schedules for any changes or rescheduled make-up games.

R. Refunds

- a. No refund of league fees will be made if the request is within two weeks of the start of league play except under unusual circumstances, as determined by the League Director.

S. Umpire Complaints

- a. **All participants are warned against aggressive confrontation with umpires.** If a team manager is not satisfied with the performance of an umpire, complete an Umpire Report Form and submit to the League Director. You will receive a prompt response to your concern.

SECTION II CO-ED RULES

A. Co-Ed Team Player Guidelines

- a. All teams must always field a minimum of 4 females.
- b. A team may only have 2 more males than females in the batting order.
- c. If a team does not have 4 females at the start of the game, the game shall be declared a forfeit.
- d. If a team is unable to have 4 females in the batting order or defensive alignment for any reason after the game has started, that team shall only be able to have 2 more males than females in all batting and defensive fielding scenarios.

B. Defensive Positioning

- a. Each team must have always at least four (4) female players in the defensive alignment.
- b. Player position is at the discretion of the team manager.
- c. There are to be no more than 10 defensive players at any one time.
- d. All outfielders must be in the outfield grass when the ball is hit
- e. If a team is unable to put 4 females in the defensive alignment after the game has started, only 2 more males than females shall be allowed in the defensive alignment.

C. Batting Order:

- a. The batting order for Co-Ed teams must be an alternating male/female sequence until all females have batted. Once all females have batted, the remaining 2 male players may be stacked.
- b. If this sequence is broken during the game, it will be penalized as a batting-out-of-order situation.

D. Batting:

- a. If a male player is walked with 2 outs, he will be awarded 2 bases.
 - i. The subsequent female player may have the option to be automatically walked or bat as usual.

2023 MANAGER'S HANDBOOK

Important Phone Numbers

NAME

NUMBER

Miamisburg Parks and Recreation
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

(937) 866-8999

Darren Miller – League Director
darren.miller@cityofmiamisburg.com

(937) 847-6418

Rice Field Site Coordinator

(937) 477-6712

Rainout Line Hotline

(937) 400-2004

Rain Out Hot-Line available for field and game status at the following locations:

-PlayMiamisburg App

-www.playmiamisburg.com

-Rainout Line Hotline – 937-400-2004

-Rainout Line App (search for Miamisburg Parks and Recreation)