

**Glynn County Recreation and Parks Department**  
**Adult Softball 2016**  
**Rules and Regulations**

*Mission Statement: "To provide year-round recreational activities, facilities, and services that are fun, safe, and enhance the quality of life for all Glynn County Citizens."*

**2016 Rules**

**Governing Rules**

The Governing Rules will be those of Amateur Softball Association as specified in the current athletic manual of the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association except as amended by the GCRPD local rules. The Glynn County Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right to make all final decisions.

**I. Managers or Teams Representative Responsibility**

- A. The team representative or manager shall be responsible for his/her team's action(s).
- B. The team representative or manager is responsible for distributing and collecting the players' registration cards and collecting the players' individual fees. All fees must be paid at the main office before a player is eligible to play. **No money will be taken at the fields.**
- C. The team representative or manager is responsible for informing all players of all rules and regulations.
- D. The team representative or manager is responsible for keeping the bench clear of all persons not affiliated with the game.
- E. The team representative or manager is responsible for the conduct of the players and must see that they conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.
- F. The team representative or manager is the only person allowed to discuss any calls with the umpires. Any player violating this rule will be subject to ejection from the ball game.
- G. **The Manager or Team Representative shall ensure that all players listed on the line-up card has paid their individual fees prior to the game at the main office and are listed on the official roster of Glynn County. THE FIRST OFFENSE FOR THE USE OF AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT FOR THAT GAME. A SECOND VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN YOUR TEAM BEING REMOVED FROM THE LEAGUE WITH NO REFUND.**

**II. Team Conduct and Responsibility**

- A. Any team, which leaves the field and refuses to play will forfeit all fees and be dropped from the league. Any player/team, which withdraws from the league, will also forfeit fees.
- B. Game time is forfeit time. Grace periods will not be allowed.
- C. If a team forfeits two (2) consecutive games or three (3) games during a season, it will forfeit all fees and be dropped from the league.
- D. Profanity, throwing of equipment or other unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated and will result in automatic ejection, suspension, or disqualification from the league and/or other Recreation Department

activities. *Penalty of ejection:* Ejection results in an automatic minimum of one (1) game suspension. When a player is ejected that player must sit out the next game the team plays. A second ejection by the same player will result in a two (2) game suspension and disqualify that player for any GRPA competition. A third ejection will result in automatic suspension for the **entire team** for the season. When a player is ejected, they **must leave the park immediately** for the remainder of the night. Failure to leave park will result in a team forfeit.

- E. Destruction or damage to Recreation Department property, whether deliberate or accidental, during the commission of an unsportsmanlike act or other actions will make the player liable for any monetary expense incurred in repairing and/ or replacing damaged or destroyed items. The player and his team may not participate in any GCRPD activity until all financial obligations have been cleared.
- F. *Players Fighting:* Any player(s) that engage in a fight will be ejected for the remainder of the season. Any player or players ejected will not receive a refund and will not be able to participate in any other programs until they meet with GCRPD staff.
- G. Any player who so much as touches an umpire or softball official or staff member in anger or threatens to do him bodily harm shall be barred from the program. Such suspension shall be a mandatory for at least one (1) year. Legal action may be taken!
- H. There will be no more than a few minutes between innings. **Teams are not allowed to take infield except for prior to the start of the game.** All team members shall hustle on and off the field between innings so that the game can continue without interruption. Teams dragging behind will get one warning from the umpire. The second time will result in the home plate umpire begin calling balls to the next batter if it is the defensive team dragging behind and strikes will be called if the offensive team is dragging behind. This will be the judgment of the official.

### III. Game

- A regulation game will consist of seven innings. (*Exception:* run rule and time limit.)
- A. No new inning will be started after one hour and five minutes (65 minutes). *GCRPD interpretation:* If any time, even seconds, remains on the game clock when the 3<sup>rd</sup> out in the bottom of an inning is recorded a new inning must be started.
  - B. The run rule will be twenty (20) after three innings, fifteen (15) after four innings, and ten (10) after five innings.
  - C. There will be one ball and one strike count when a batter comes to the plate.
    - (a) There will NOT be one courtesy foul on the third strike.
  - D. We will be using the ASA substitution rule.
    - (a) A team can start either ten or eleven players.
    - (b) The starters and substitutes can re-enter the game at any time in the place in the batting order that he/she was removed from.
  - E. Mandatory like-colored jerseys and factory-type non-duplicating numbers are required by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the season.
    - (a) For teams with more than 1 set of jerseys: Players will not be penalized for arriving with the incorrect jersey on as long as the shirt corresponds either with the team or color and is numbered.
  - F. Batter boxes may or may not be marked. Batters will be called out only if the batter steps on the plate during the swing.

- G. **Except for the Co-Ed league**, a team may start with eight players. The ninth and only the 9<sup>th</sup> batting spot in the batting order WILL count as an out. When the ninth and tenth players arrive they shall be added in the ninth and tenth slot in the batting order.

## IV. Eligibility

All players must fill out a registration card, pay their \$48.00 participation fee, and appear on the team's roster prior to playing their first game. A player must play in (5) five games during the season to be eligible for post-season playoffs. No player will play who has not fulfilled ALL registration requirements set by Glynn County before game time. No monies or registration card will be taken at the field. Teams using illegal players will forfeit the game and the manager will be suspended for their next scheduled game. The second time a team uses an illegal player the team will be suspended for the year with no refund.

**GCRPD will not enter any team into District or State play unless they have paid their team entry fee to the department and submitted a team roster prior to the bracket meeting which is in May of each year. Any team entering a GRPA tournament and then does not play for any reason resulting in a forfeit will pay the forfeit fee of \$250 plus the entry fee as stated in the GRPA State manual. No team member from the forfeited team will be allowed to play in any future GCRPD event until the forfeit fee is paid to the GCRPD. The GCRPD reserves the right to administer this rule in the best interest for Glynn County.**

### Safety Net Rules

1. If a batted ball hits the net dead ball.
2. If a thrown ball hits the net it will be played as a live ball and all runners may advance at their own risk.
3. **The net MUST be in position between the guideline marks on the field at all times.**

### Church League

1. Players must be a member or prospective member of the church and a regular attendant. Prospective member means attending that church twice a month. **Church minister must sign roster prior to the season.**
2. A player must be 15 years of age or above prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> to play in the church league. All players must be 18 years of age prior to Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, a church member, and a regular attendee to be eligible for post-season G.R.P.A. competition.
3. No more than two churches may combine for local league play.
4. There will be a 1 up home run rule. Including the home teams last at bat. Any home run hit resulting in more than one (1) up will be a single.
5. **Courtesy Runners:** Prior to each game, a team will be permitted to select a player that requires a courtesy runner for the game. The player that requires the courtesy runner should be indicated on the line up card prior to the start of the game. The designated courtesy runner should either be a substitute or the player who made the last out.

## Open League

1. Only the batter and the on-deck batter are allowed outside the dugout. All other players are to remain in the dugout.
2. All participants must be 18 prior to Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. A team or player from another county or city may play in our league but must reside, work, or attend school full-time within the boundaries of the county in which they participate to be eligible for G.R.P.A. competition.
4. **Courtesy Runners:** Prior to each game, a team will be permitted to select a player that requires a courtesy runner for the game. The player that requires the courtesy runner should be indicated on the line up card prior to the start of the game. The designated courtesy runner should either be a substitute or the player who made the last out. In the case of an injury during the game, a courtesy runner can be used. This person shall be the player who made the last out.
5. There will be a 1 up home run rule. Including the home teams last at bat. Any home run hit resulting in more than one (1) up will be a single.

## Co-Ed League

1. Each team will start the game with 6 males and 4 females.
  - a. **EXCEPTIONS:** If a team wants to use a male EP then they must add a female to the lineup. IF a female EP is used no male will not have to be added.
  - b. A team may start and play the game with 3 female players and a maximum of 6 males. Teams that have less than 9 starting players will forfeit the game.
2. Batting line-up must alternate between male and female beginning with a male to lead off the first pitch.
3. If a male walks the female will have the choice to take an automatic walk or hit.
4. Males and Females will hit 12" balls.
5. A two hundred foot mark will be in the outfield for all players to stay behind when a female batter is batting. All players must stay behind this line until the ball is hit.
6. Courtesy runner will be a male runner for a male batter/runner and a female runner for a female batter/runner.
7. Home Run Rule will be bid, Low 3 – High 6. Bid before game with umpire.

## V. Equipment

- A. All bats must conform to the approved ASA list, current edition. If a batter has an illegal bat and steps into the batter's box, even before the first pitch to him/her has been made, the batter will be called out and ejected from the game. Remember, each batter has a 1 and 1 count when entering the batter's box, therefore he/she is actively in the game at that point.

- B. Shoes must be in regulation of ASA rules and may not be steel spikes.
- C. All other equipment must comply with ASA rules as well.
- D. All games will begin with two (2) new softballs for all leagues. Once these balls are not usable it will be the responsibility of the team hitting to supply the balls. All balls put into play must have a core of .44 have a compression of 375 and will be used for both teams once put into play. All balls thrown in by any team must be approved by the umpire before putting into play. The umpire shall be able to read if the ball meets the ball standards of .44 core, 375 compression or the ball will be rejected for play.

## VI. Schedules

Once the schedule is printed by the GCRPD, there will be no changes unless the changes must be made due to conflicts in functions **sponsored by the GCRPD.**

**Note: Written requests from church teams to avoid conflicts arising from revivals or other notable church functions must be made to the GCRPD athletic staff prior to schedules being published.**

## VII. Protest

(Follow guidelines according to ASA Rules and Local Procedures)

- A. It is hoped that every effort will be made to resolve problems at the time of the occurrence. Protests are discouraged, but will be considered if properly handled.
- B. Protest must be declared at the time of the possible infraction. Once the game has been started again, no protest will be allowed.
- C. Written Protest will require a \$25.00 fee.
- D. If the protest is upheld the \$25.00 fee will be refunded.
- E. If the protest is found invalid the game score stands as played and the \$25.00 protest will not be refunded.
- F. When a protest is allowed for misinterpretation of a playing rule, the game is replayed from the point at which the incorrect decision was made with the decision corrected.
- G. When a protest for ineligibility is allowed, the game shall be forfeited to the offended team.
- H. In no instances will a protest over a judgment call by an umpire be upheld. Protest lodged after the game has ended will not be upheld.

## VIII. Park Rules

- A. Alcoholic beverages are **not** allowed on Recreation Department property including parking lots. (*GCRPD, Park Use Ordinance; Article I, 2-11-6*)
- B. No pets are allowed in the park. (*GCRPD, Park Use Ordinance; Article I, 2-4-24, 2-4-6*)
- C. GCRPD is **not** responsible for any injuries to players or spectators before, during or after any games. GCRPD is not responsible for theft, fire, vandalism, or damage to cars by softballs or any other means.
- D. **No smoking and No tobacco** products will be allowed on the fields, in the dugouts or behind the dugouts. GCRPD has a designated smoking section and all players and fans must use this area at all times. Players not using the smoking section will be ejected and removed from playing in that game.

E. Please do **not** leave any trash in the dugouts. Please help keep *your* parks clean.