

# **MT. PROSPECT PARK DISTRICT**

## ***CO-REC SOFTBALL RULES***

1. The ball is out of play when it goes past the fence if it were extended.
2. The pitcher must stand on the pitching mound and present the ball to the batter. The pitcher is allowed to take one step - either direction. After his/her first step, the pitcher's back foot cannot step in front of his/her lead foot.
3. Official softball bats only can be used.
4. No metal spikes are allowed. If a player has metal spikes on they will be ejected from the game without warning. Batter is automatically out and ejected from the game.
4. Any player ejected from a game will be reported to the field supervisor. That player will sit out a minimum of one full game. The Athletic Coordinator can add additional suspension as stated in the Mt. Prospect Park District's Control Ordinance No. 525.
6. On over-throws, the ball is in play unless the ball goes into the dugout or over/past the fence and out of the playing area. If the ball stays in the play area, the runner may advance at his/her own risk.
7. No alcoholic beverages, glass containers or drugs are permitted in any park. Contests will not be played and the game will be forfeited. Teams or players may be barred from further competition or asked to leave the playing area. Manager is responsible for fans of his/her team.
8. Each team must have nine (9) players to start the game. There will be a ten-minute grace period before a game is forfeited; however, there must be five (5) women and four (4) men if there are only nine (9) players.
9. Home team must keep accurate score for both teams. If the score is wrong, the home team will lose the game. Home team keeps the game ball. Balls and scorebooks will be provided by the Park District.
10. Avoid Contact Rule: All players must avoid contact any time there is a play at any base. It is the umpire's judgment, if there is any contact the runner will automatically be out. Any flagrant contact by the runner will result in immediately being ejected from the game.
11. Courtesy runners may be used only with the other teams managers permission. The courtesy runner must be the player that made the last batted out.

12. No intentional chopping or bunting is allowed.
13. The manager and team captain of the team is the only person allowed to question a call made by the umpire. The manager is responsible for his players and spectators actions.
14. All cars and motorcycles must be parked in the street or parking lot. Team managers inform your players of this. Cars parked in the staff parking lot will be towed at the owners expense.
15. After the 2nd strike, if the batter hits a foul ball they are out.
16. In case of rain during the game, 4½ innings is considered an official game.
17. If the previous game ends early, the next game will not start until its scheduled time. If a game runs late, the following game will start immediately.
18. If any team is beating another team by twelve (12) runs after five (5) completed innings, the game is called after the losing team has batted.
19. There are two types of protests:
  - a. Illegal Roster (players) - This protest must be made before the last out of the game. The protest fee for illegal players is \$50.00/player maximum of three (3) players. At the time of the protest the player(s) that are questioned will have ten (10) minutes to produce a picture ID. The head supervisor will be in charge of handling this protest. If a player can not produce a picture ID, it will be assumed that the player in question is an illegal player. Rosters will be out at the fields for all games.
  - b. Rule Interpretation - This protest must be made at the time the incident occurred. If another pitch is thrown and play resumes, no protest could be made. At the time of the protest, the manager of the team making the protest must ask the umpire for play to stop, that he wants to file a protest. The umpire, both managers, scorekeeper and head field supervisor must all be involved in the protest meeting. The scorekeeper must mark clearly in the score book the point of protest. The head supervisor must write out the report stating exactly what rule is in question by the protesting manager. The protesting manager must submit a written protest at the time of the protest. Play will resume at that point. The decision will be made within 24 hours by the athletic staff and team managers will be notified of the decision.

All protest fees must be made at the time of the protest and in cash. Protest fees will be \$50.00 - cash only. These fees must be paid within 15 minutes of the last out of the game. If not paid within this time frame fees will be doubled.

All protest fees are non-refundable. If the word protest is said to the umpire or head supervisor then it is a protest, the fee must be paid. If your team wins the game you still must pay the fee. If you protest a player on the roster, there will not be a refund, win or lose.

20. **PICK-OFF PLAY OR STEALING**

Stealing is permitted on any base (including home) as long as the next base is unoccupied. If either the pitcher or catcher makes a play on the runner the runner can advance to the next base, (a play is considered the ball being thrown). The runner may only advance one base.

21. The Mt. Prospect Park District has the final decision on canceling games. Decisions will be made by 4:00 p.m. the day of the game for weeknights. Any decision after that time will be left up to the field supervisor and umpire at the game. For rain information call (847) **364-2828**.
22. Batter order: alternate man, woman.  
Men - odd numbers, women - even numbers or vice versa.
23. If a male batter is walked, the next female batter has the choice of being intentionally walked.
24. **Suggested Fielding Positions: must be alternating fielding positions-male/female or female/male.**
- a. P - man C - women, 1B - man 2B - women SC - man SS - women  
3B - man LF - women CF - man RF - women.
  - b. P - women C - man 1B - woman 2B - man SC - women SS - man  
3B - women LF - man CF - women RF - man.
  - c. P - man C - women 1B - man 2B - women SS - man 3B - women  
LF - man LC - women RC - man RF - women.
  - d. P - women C - man 1B - woman 2B - man SS - women 3B - man  
LF - women LC - man RC - women RF - man.
- \* Please note any defense alignment may be used as long as the alignment is alternating male/female, etc. The four defense alignments above are only suggestions.
25. Fielding gloves may be worn by female players only.