

MEN'S & COED SPRING 2019 SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

Destin Adult Softball Program Goals:

Destin Adult Softball League is dedicated to providing a safe environment for a softball program that positively benefits the community's health, wellness, economy, and society, regardless of a player's athletic abilities.

Player/Team Eligibility

All teams must be registered and team fees paid prior to being placed on the schedule. All players must be signed and payed before being allowed to play. Fees can be paid at Destin City Hall (8am-5pm, M-F) or Community Center (8am-9pm, M-F). Players are not considered to be registered participants until they have completed the City's Waiver and have paid their individual player fee. All requests for fee waivers must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Director well in advance of the first game. The Team Captain is responsible for making sure that all individual fees are paid and waivers are signed. Once a team or player plays a complete game, they are considered registered with the league and will not receive a refund. Teams cannot have a scheduled practice under the lights until their team fee is paid.

Players' Roster Eligibility

- Players can only be rostered for **1 team** on each night.
- All players must be registered (signed and paid) prior to playing.**
- *****The cutoff date to register is the second to last week of the regular season.*****
- All players must be at least 17 years old to play.
- Once the player has signed up and played 1 game they are considered rostered and cannot play for another team (unless as a nomad). If a player is released from their team, they need to sit out 1 complete game before playing with a new team. If a team drops out of the league it is up to the league coordinator to decide if those players can be picked up or not.
- Players must have either a name or number on the back of their jersey.

NOMAD Rule

- Each team will be given **2 free Nomad** positions, when needed, during regular season games, this includes COED
- A nomad position can be used as the following: add 1 or 2 players to make 9 or 10 on your roster.
 - A Nomad cannot be picked up after the first pitch
 - A Nomad must be from the same or lower division as you are in. With exception of Division 4 can pick up from Division 3, but not 2 or 1.
 - The game using a nomad is considered an official game.
 - The nomad position **CANNOT** be used during tournament play.
 - If an umpire or staff member finds a team using a nomad during tournament play, the game is considered a forfeit.

Length of Games/Forfeits

- Games are 7 innings or 1 hour and 15 minutes, unless the run rule comes into effect. In case of inclement weather, a game is considered to be a complete game when 4 innings have been completed.
- A new inning **CANNOT** start with less than 5 minutes on the clock. An inning will start if there is 5 minutes or more and will be played to completion.
- If teams are tied in the standings, the winner will be determined by head-to-head competition first, point differential second, and lastly, a coin flip.
- If there is a 12 run differential after 5 innings, the game will be called. If the visiting team has a 16+ point lead after 4 innings, the umpire has the discretion to "flip" the game and keep the home team batting. They are now the visitors.
- There is no mercy rule per inning except in Coed. Coed teams are allowed a maximum of 10 runs per inning, except in final inning, when it is unlimited.

Game Preliminaries

- All USSSA rules apply unless amended below.
 - Pitchers: **There will be a floating rubber with a chalk line.**
 - The pitch arc must be between 4ft and 10ft from the ground.
 - ALL** leagues are allowed 2 Designated Hitter (DH) spots to bat up to 12 players. The DH may be added after the game starts, but only in the first inning and before that spot(s) bats.
 - Coed teams batting order must alternate male/female.
 - Teams may play with 9 players to avoid a forfeit. The 10th player may be added when they arrive.
 - *Coed must have 5 and 4 (opposite genders).
 - **When the 10th spot comes up to bat in Coed, it will be an out. The out will end an inning, but not the game.
 - When starting with **12 players**, a team may drop a player(s) if injured, becomes sick, or an emergency occurs where the player(s) must leave the game, without suffering an out.
 - *Coed must drop to 10 if batting 12, and if batting 10, the 10th spot will revert back to an out.
 - **During tournament play, if a team falls below the minimum required players (9) due to extreme circumstances, upon the league coordinators approval, a team may add 1 additional player to make 9 total.**
 - If a player is ejected and a team cannot fill the ejected player's position with someone (cannot be a nomad) already on the roster, that spot in the line-up will be an out.
- ## Additional Coed Rules
- Coed leagues use the mat pitch rule: if the pitch is the correct arc and hits the plate or mat, it is a strike.
 - There must be at least 2 females in the outfield. If the team has 5 males and 4 females, they are allowed to have 1 female in the outfield
 - Pitcher and catcher must be of the opposite gender
 - If a male batter is walked, then the female has the option to walk or bat (except in extra innings). The male still gets second base.
 - As a safety precaution female batters cannot be thrown out at first base by an outfielder or on a relay from the outfield.

Equipment

Balls:

- ALL leagues use a 12" ball, Stamped: *Classic M*
- Women have the option to hit an 11" ball, Stamped: *Classic W*
- It is up to the pitcher to check for illegal balls. If an illegal ball is used and the pitcher does not report it, then play continues with no consequence. If the pitcher does report it, there will be a warning. The second time will result in the batter being called out. The third time will result in the forfeit of the game.

Bats: No senior bats.

- Tue. bats must have the new USSSA stamp.
- Wed. bats must have a USSSA stamp.
- Men's Recreation: Captains will have the option to use either city provided bats or their own bats.

Cleats: No metal cleats!

- Players will be allowed to change.

Pitching Screens: There will be a screen in front of the pitching rubber. If the batted ball hits the screen it will be considered a foul ball.

--Pitching Screens must stay in contact with the rubber.

Home Run Limit

- Men's Recreational (Tuesday) 6 and a single
- Coed (all divisions) 5 and an out

Highlights of USSSA

- 65 Foot baselines shall be used with a pitcher's distances of 50 feet with a pitching rubber.
- Pitching arc must be between 4 to 10 feet from the ground
- Batter must call time before stepping out of box.
- After pitcher receives ball, he/she has 5 seconds to deliver the pitch.
- Batters come to the plate with 1 ball and 1 strike.
- The batter has an extra foul

Reminders

- Players must pay prior to playing.**
- Absolutely no hitting into any fences
- No infield practice after first inning.
- Injured runners can be replaced with team member making the last out, with **approval of opposing team coach.**
- There will be a maximum of 3 make up games prior to the tournament start date. If a game is cancelled due to uncontrollable circumstances during the regular season then the result will be a **No Contest.**

Player/Team Conduct

- During the coin flip each team will inform the umpire who their captain is. From that point on in the game the captain is the only one to address the umpire about problems, situations, and protest.
- During the game there is only to be 1 on-deck batter, 1 third base coach, and 1 first base coach.
- At the end of the inning the offensive team must make sure that all bats are placed in the dugout before taking the field.
- No** foul language, un-sportsmanlike conduct, **or verbal threats** will be permitted. Umpire, Scorekeeper, or Supervisor, if deemed necessary, can suspend a player from the game or stop the game until order is restored.
- If a player is involved in a fight he/she will be ejected from the league and cannot participate in any Leagues or Tournaments run by the City of Destin Recreation Department for 1 calendar year from the date of the ejection.
- If a player is ejected before, during, or after a game, that player must leave the facility and will not be eligible to play until their suspension is served (minimum of 1 game). If a player is ejected twice in one season they will be suspended from playing in Destin for the rest of that season.
- No alcoholic beverages allowed at the fields or in the parking lots. If a team is found to have alcohol in their dugouts the game will be a forfeit and the team will not be allowed to participate in the end of season tournament. Any player who violates this City Ordinance will be suspended for 1 game. Subsequent violations will result in the team forfeiting from the league.**
- Players who demonstrate behaviors consistent with being under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed to play and may be suspended or ejected from the league.**
- No pets or animals allowed on premises. The game will stop until the animal has been removed.
- Unless coming to the office to pay individual fees, only team Captains are allowed into the Morgan Sports Center office.
- Each team is responsible for **cleaning up their DUGOUTS!!**

Enhancing the Quality of Life!!!



CITY OF DESTIN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Destin Community Center
101 Stahlman Ave
(850)654-5184

City Hall
4200 Indian Bayou Trail
(850)650-1241



Email: ewright@cityofdestin.com

Morgan Sports Center Office is only open during programs!

You can check out schedules and standings on the City of Destin website www.cityofdestin.com.