

# 2019 - City of Cottonwood's Men's Softball Rule Book



Sponsored by  
Parks and Recreation

League play will be governed under the rules set by NSA Softball and supplemented by league specific rules set forth by the City of Cottonwood Parks and Recreation Department. For any rule not covered herein please refer to the standard rule(s) set by NSA that can be found at:  
<https://www.playnsa.com/uploads/2018%20NSA%20Slow%20Pitch%20Rulebook.pdf>

**Goals and Objectives**

- **Have FUN**
  - **Be Respectful**
  - **Encourage Competition**
1. **Leagues** are structured based on registrations and skill level. **Team Registration fees are \$300 per team and teams can register from July 1, to August 23, 2019.** All games will be played at the Riverfront Park Adult Complex with game times scheduled based on team registrations.
  2. **Schedules** will be posted no later than August 29, 2019. Games will be played in round robin format followed by a tournament. Schedules can be found at [https://apm.activecommunities.com/ctwdrecreationcntr/ActiveNet\\_Home?FileName=showleagues.sdi](https://apm.activecommunities.com/ctwdrecreationcntr/ActiveNet_Home?FileName=showleagues.sdi)
  3. **Game ball.**
    1. The game ball will be supplied by the City of Cottonwood Parks and Recreation department and will be a 12” .52 300 core
  4. **Roster**
    1. A general roster will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 20

- i. Players can be added to the roster any time during the game but must be added to the bottom of the lineup
    - ii. Must have at least 7 players to start the game
  2. Rosters are due by the Coaches meeting which will be held on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
    - i. Last day to add player to rosters will be September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
5. **Player Eligibility**
  1. Players must be 18 years or older at the start of the season.
    - i. Exception: Teams are allowed TWO players who are 16 years or older providing they have signed the youth waiver release form
  2. Must be on a signed NSA roster
  3. Players can only play for one team
  4. Only two players per team may be a part of a 2 or 4 year college or high school team, however, they must not be currently involved in sanctioned play
6. **Player Eligibility Protests** can be made at any point during the game.
  - i. Must be made during that game.
  2. Protested player must supply a current photo ID
    - i. If protesting player is not found on roster the team will forfeit that game.
    - ii. Umpire will stop the clock to perform Roster Check.
7. **Practice** Reservations for practices will be accepted starting at 8:00am the day prior to your practice. There will be a \$10.00 charge for any practices under lights

payable by 1:00 PM the day of practice.

8. **Team Expulsion**

1. Any team forfeiting 2 or more straight games or 3 total in ONE season will be eliminated from league play and will forfeit all monies collected for that league season.

9. **General Rules**

1. All bats must meet the requirements for NSA Slow Pitch Softball on PlayNSA.com and not be on the banned bat list.
2. The strike zone will be called, when the ball is pitched at a height no less than 6ft, and a height no greater than 10ft at its crest, if the ball touches ANY part of the black rubber or home plate.
3. Fouls and Strikes - each batter will come to bat with 1 ball and 1 strike count. The batter is out under the following circumstances: A third strike is called, including hitting a 2<sup>nd</sup> foul ball after two strikes. Any combination of three strikes. One foul to waste.
4. NO steel or metal cleats allowed.
5. There is a 55-minute time limit. No inning shall start after 55 minutes of play. New inning will start once third out of previous inning is made. No run limit per inning.
6. Only players, coaches and 1 scorekeeper are allowed in the dugout during the games. No children allowed in dugouts due to liability reasons.
7. **The "Middle" or "Pitchers Alley" will be CLOSED.**

Any ball in the air 8 feet or below (determined by umpire) through the pitchers alley will be a dead ball out.

8. Pitcher must have at least one foot on or in front of the white line 3ft behind pitcher's mound.
9. There is a run rule in effect for all games. Any team ahead by 10 or more runs after 5 complete innings (4 ½ if home team is winning) or 15 or more runs after four complete innings (3 ½ if home team is winning), shall be declared the winner.
10. There will be no infield or outfield practice prior to or during the game. The pitcher is allowed 3 warm-up tosses or 1 minute to assume the pitching position.
11. Smoking is NOT allowed on the field of play or in dugouts. City Ordinance now enforced
12. Players and coaches who are noticeably under the influence of alcohol/drugs prior to the game will be personally ejected solely at the umpire's, Field Supervisor, or the Parks and Recreation Coordinator's discretion. Alcohol is not to be in dugout or on the field of play at any time. Inability to follow rule will result in an automatic team forfeit, repeat offenders will suffer an additional 2 game individual suspension.
13. Physical or verbal abuse of a game official or park employee will not be tolerated and could result in prosecution.

14. A batter will be called out when he contacts a ball fair or foul while his foot is in contact with home plate.
15. A protested game can result when there is a difference of opinion on the field between the protesting team and the umpire regarding the interpretation of game rules. A judgment decision is not a protest-able call and you have no grounds to protest. Protests must be made before 5:00 p.m. the day after play with a check made payable to the City of Cottonwood for \$20.00. The \$20.00 will be refunded if the Director rules in favor of the protest. At the time of the protest on the field, the game will be stopped.
  - i. Protest committee will be made up of League Supervisor, Director, two Umpires not involved in play and one Parks and Recreation Commissioner or other City employee.
16. The ball is dead when the base runner deliberately crashes into a defensive player who is waiting to make a tag. Runner is declared out and also ejected from the game.
17. There will be a 3 over the fence home run limit per team. All homeruns hit over the fence over the 3 per team limit will be an out.

NOTE: The team that hit the homerun or foul ball is responsible for retrieving the hit ball & returning it to the umpire. Refusal to retrieve ball in timely fashion in an effort to waste game time may result in forfeiture of game.

18. Overthrown ball thrown out of play will result in runner reaching 2 bases at the time the ball is thrown. IE ball is thrown out of play before runner gets to first base; runner receives first and second base.
19. Players who engage in fighting will be automatically ejected from the game and player suspensions to follow.

## 10. Unique Rules

1. Any player ejected from a game will receive an additional ONE game Suspension.
  - i. Suspensions will be in effect for ALL leagues. If a player is suspended for TWO Men's Games, that player is also ineligible for the Co-Ed League.
2. **Courtesy Runners:** will be allowed per inning.
  - i. Whoever made the last out shall be designated as the courtesy runner. If not available, the last player to cross home plate shall be used.
  - ii. If the courtesy runner is on base when they are up to bat, another courtesy runner will be allowed to take their place as the courtesy runner following the rules of rule 2i.
3. Teams will be allowed to bat everyone on the official roster.

***The Cottonwood Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to change these rules at any time deemed necessary to improve the league play.***



### **City of Cottonwood Adult Sports League Conduct Code**

**The Code of Conduct will be enforced before, during, and after all league or tournament play. All rules will be strictly enforced.** The term "individual" includes the following: manager, player, or spectator. A team is responsible for the conduct of its individual players or spectators. Misconduct will result in the penalty of an individual and/or team for all City leagues and tournaments. The term "official" includes the following: umpire, scorekeeper, field supervisor, and administrative City staff. When a player signs his/her name to a roster, it will be understood that they have been notified of all City League rules and the Code of Conduct. Players on multiple teams will be suspended for every team they play for during the amount of weeks suspended.

**1. No Individual Shall:** At any time lay a hand upon, shove, or strike an official or individual.

**Minimum Penalty:** Ejected from game and/or playing area with a minimum one month suspension & placed on probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.

**Maximum Penalty:** Banned from the City of Cottonwood Adult Sports programs and assault charges may be filed.

**2. No Individual Shall:** Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent by throwing a ball or any other forceful actions or refusal to abide by an umpire's decision.

**Minimum Penalty:** Warning by official.

**Maximum Penalty:** Ejection from the game and playing area and 4 week suspension & placed on probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.



**3. No Individual Shall:** Use profane, obscene or vulgar language or gestures in any manner, at any time on or off the playing field.

**Minimum Penalty:** Warning by official/league director.

**Maximum Penalty:** Ejected from game and suspended for two weeks & placed on probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.

**4. No Individual Shall:** Be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of the game.

**Minimum Penalty:** Ejected from game and playing area & placed on probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.

**Maximum Penalty:** Banned from City of Cottonwood Adult Sports programs and/or assault charges filed.

**5. No Individual Shall:** Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon or threatening of any official or individual on or off the playing field.

**Minimum Penalty:** Ejection from game (if during league game) and 1 week suspension or 2 following game suspension (if occurring after the league game)

**Maximum Penalty:** Ejection for remainder of Softball Season & probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.

**6. No Individual Shall:** Appear on the field of play at any time in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of drugs which will infringe upon their safety or the safety of others

**Penalty:** Ejection from current game and the following game & placed on probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.

**7. NO ALCOHOL** will be allowed on the playing field or in the dugout at any time. Consuming alcohol in the field or dugout is prohibited by participants of the league while their team's game in progress.

**Penalty:** If caught with alcohol in any capacity during team's game time on field or in dugout, automatic suspension for 2 weeks of softball season, team

forfeiture of current game, and on probation for 1 year for all parks & recreation events.

\*\* Probation means that if an individual is involved in any incident while on probation, however minimal, they may be suspended for the remainder of the season. If after the 4th week, suspension/probation will be carried over to the next season. \*\*

1. **The Coach Shall:** be the only team representative who may, in a reasonable manner, discuss a decision with the officials. Judgment decisions by game officials are not open for discussion.
  
2. **Suspended Player:**
  - a. Suspended player from **league** play has the option of having case heard by sports supervisor and recreation manager to determine length of suspensions longer than 2 games.
  - b. A suspended player, from either game or league, must remove him/herself immediately from the confines of the playing areas as designated by the sports supervisor or official. Suspended players are not to spectate while serving suspension,
  - c. If a suspended player does not remove himself from the confines of the playing area, his team members or the coach is responsible for his removal. Failure to do so will result in his team forfeiting the game.
  - d. Two Minutes shall be allowed for a suspended player(s) to remove him/herself from the playing area. If the time limit is not met, the match shall be forfeited. If the player still refuses to leave the area, police will be notified.
  - e. The sports supervisor or game official may suspend a player from further game play.

**Any enforcement procedures which are not stated herein, may be provided by the sports supervisor as is necessary, to provide for the recreational enjoyment of players, coaches and spectators.**