



Recreation Services Adult Softball League Rules

Mailing: 1232 Washington St.
Calistoga, CA 94515
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Calistoga, CA 94515

Co-Ed Softball League Rules

All Participants in the City of Calistoga adult softball leagues are responsible for knowledge of, and adherence to, the following information. The Calistoga Recreation Services softball leagues are designed to strengthen community image, as well as promote health and wellness to the citizens of Calistoga. The sole purpose of the Calistoga softball league is to provide a safe, fun, recreational league.

General League Information

Cost of the League- Activity Fee is \$450.00. \$100.00 refundable deposit is added to this fee and will be returned as long as rules and regulations are met. There is a \$50.00 fee for forfeited games that will be deducted from this deposit.

Refunds –

Activity Fee: All payments for league participation are final. No refunds will be given to individuals or teams after registering for league play.

Deposit: \$100 deposit will be refunded at end of season if no games are forfeited, or forfeit rules are followed. Please see-**Forfeitures** for more information.

Playing Field – All games will be played at Logvy Park. Logvy Park is located at 1745 Washington Street.

Drug and Alcohol Policy – Players are not allowed to play under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Officials have the authority to remove any player or fan who is consuming or under the influence of alcohol. Suspension and/or forfeiture of game may result from violation. Per Calistoga's Municipal Code 12.24.040, Tobacco use is prohibited at city parks and recreation facilities, as well as the parking lots and spaces attached to public parks.

Player Eligibility

Age- All players must be at least 18 years of age. An illegal player in a game or games will cause his/her team to forfeit that game and all previous games in which that player participated. Players must be prepared to show ID when requested to do so by the umpire.

Only players who have signed their team's roster, kept on file, will be considered eligible to play. If a non-signed player participates, the team the player is on will forfeit the game automatically. **It is the responsibility of the player and manager to know who has signed the roster.**

Players dropped from one roster cannot join the roster of another team without written approval of both managers.

Any players currently named on a college baseball and/or college softball roster are eligible to participate in any league, however must remember this is a recreation level league and not collegiate, so please play accordingly.

Team Rosters

No team shall be accepted as a member of a league until the required fees have been paid and a fully completed roster has been submitted, along with a team application form and team manager's agreement. This roster must include player signatures, addresses, phone numbers and zip codes.

Players are not considered legally rostered until they have printed and signed their names on the official roster and included liability waiver that covers City of Calistoga and its employees.

Teams must start the game with minimum to a maximum of ten players, which at least half must be female. No team will be allowed to start a game with less than eight (8) players

Players may be added and/or deleted until the end of Week 2 of the season. Added players will be eligible only after approval by the Recreation Manager and the proper forms are submitted. No more than 25 players on any team. Team rosters will be kept at Calistoga Recreation Services Office.

Roster Limits: Min. 12 Players – Max. 25 Players

Hardship Rule - Hardship is defined as four (4) rostered men and four (4) rostered women or less. Teams may add players at any time during the season if they are under hardship, with prior approval from Calistoga Recreation Services staff. Additional players must fill out all necessary paperwork before playing.

Schedules

League schedules will be emailed out once at the start of the season to the team managers. Calistoga Recreation Services will work to get as many games scheduled as possible, but due to the number of teams registered, weather, and other recreation programming, we cannot guarantee a specific number of games.

The Calistoga Recreation Services will work with each team's individual needs as best as possible before the start of the season. Once the season starts rescheduling games can be requested, but not guaranteed.

Playoffs – Playoff games extending beyond the regular scheduled season will be based off of player conduct throughout the season and scheduling availability. Calistoga Recreation Services will notify you regarding the status of playoffs as we move closer to the end of the season.

Rain-out Procedure - Calistoga Recreation Staff will call you by 3:00PM on game day to let you know that your game has been cancelled. If you do not hear from Recreation

Staff, your game is still scheduled to be played. We will try to reschedule rained out games, but there is no guarantee of a makeup.

Forfeitures:

Teams forfeiting games will be required to pay \$50.00 for each forfeit before they will be allowed to participate in the next league game. Any team forfeiting more than two games may be subject to being dropped from the league and may forfeit all rights to participate in the rest of the season.

A forfeit will be called, and the team's deposit will be deducted if:

- If a manager does not have control of his/her team – determined by officials.
- If there is continued delay of the game after the official has called 'play ball.'
- If there is any harassment of officials, scorekeepers, players, managers, or spectators.
- If there are team and/or spectator violations of park rules and regulations.
- If illegal players are used.
- If use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco occurs before and/or during the game by players/at the park.
- If a team is given a second warning during a game about using illegal bats.
- If a team fails to field the minimum of 8 players (4 males/4 females) players at the designated scheduled time. A 10-minute grace period is given at the beginning of each game. Any time used for the grace period will be taken off the total game time. The team without the minimum number of will have a deduction from their deposit **if** both teams **do not** agree to play a scrimmage. If scrimmage is played, opposing team with minimum number of players will automatically win. If both teams do not have enough players, no win will be awarded to either team.

A forfeit will be called, but the team's deposit will NOT be deducted if:

- If the team notifies Calistoga Recreation Services at least 24 hours before the start of your game, a forfeit fee will not be charged. Contact Emily, Recreation Coordinator, at egouveia@ci.calistoga.ca.us or 707-942-2772.
- If a team fails to field the minimum of 8 players (4 males/4 females) at the designated scheduled time. A 10-minute grace period is given at the beginning of each game. If the team does not have a minimum of 8 players (4 males/4 females) at the designated time, **but** both teams agree to play a scrimmage, no deduction will be made from the security deposit. If scrimmage is played, opposing team with minimum number of players will automatically win. If both teams do not have enough players, no win will be awarded to either team.

Uniforms and Equipment

- Metal cleats are not allowed in slow-pitch softball.
- Uniforms are not required, but encouraged, and must be appropriate.
- An official 12-inch ball shall be used.

Bat Policy

Only bats that bear a Calistoga Recreation Adult Softball League approval sticker or are on the Calistoga Recreation Services Adult Softball League legal bat list are allowed.

No two piece (bats with sleeves), titanium, composite, double walled bats are allowed in Calistoga Recreation Services Adult Softball Leagues. If an illegal bat is used during play, the batter will be ruled out and runners (if any) will return to original base. Any team that is deemed using an illegal bat will be recorded on the "Violation List." **First offense:** Batter is out, runners (if any) return to original base. **Second offense:** Game will be forfeited by team, and recorded as a 1.5 loss in the standings.

Officials

The umpires are in charge of the game and their decisions are FINAL; whether in agreement or not. Team Managers agree to support and influence good sportsmanship, high moral standards and are responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators. This includes, but is not limited to, unsportsmanlike disagreements with officials or insubordinate acts against Calistoga Recreation staff members. Calistoga Recreation Services and its officials reserve the right and WILL expel anyone (this includes managers, players, spectators) who are in violation of the rules and regulations set by the program for the health, safety, and welfare of all participants. Anyone, including managers, players and spectators, who argue with or are disrespectful of the decisions of the umpires or Calistoga Recreation staff members, will be asked to leave.

Scorekeepers

Calistoga Recreation Services staff members will keep official score book for league games. Lineups with full names are to be handed to scorekeeper at least 5 minutes prior to game time.

Substitutions

Players who show up late to a game will be added to the bottom of the batting order. No free substitutions allowed in the batting order. Free substitutions are allowed defensively.

Play Regulations

Game time – Game time begins at the scheduled time, or after the 10 minute grace period has finished. If teams are unable to field the minimum players required at the time scheduled for the game to start, it will be a forfeit. If a preceding game runs past the scheduled start time of the next game, a five (5) minute warm up period will be given following the final out of the preceding game. This will be the new game time and forfeit time.

Time of play – All regular season games and playoffs will have a time limit of 1 hour and 10 minutes, or seven (7) innings, whichever comes first. No new inning will begin after 1:05 if the visiting team is behind by seven runs or more. If an inning is in progress at the end of time limit, the inning shall be completed.

Gender Requirements – Teams must have a minimum of 8 players at least half should be female to begin and finish a game. If at any time a team drops below the minimum number of players, that game will result in a forfeit and be deemed a loss in the standings.

Pitch Rule – Pitches must be thrown underhand and reach a height between 6-12ft. Four consecutive pitches to a male batter, called a ball by the umpire, without a strike call during the at-bat, will result in the automatic awarding of second base to that male batter. All batters will start with a count of 0-0.

Outfield Rule – All outfielders must have both feet on the grass when the ball is hit. All but one outfield players must stay behind two orange cones which are set 180 ft from home plate.

Courtesy Runner – Teams will be allowed **one** courtesy runner per inning (1 total, either male or female) will be allowed. If an injured player is removed from the game, a courtesy runner will be use, but will not affect courtesy runner per inning rule. The courtesy runner must be the last out recorded of the same gender.

Double First Base – Unless rounding the base to continue to 2nd, runners must tag the orange side of the base. Defensive players must tag the white portion of the base to get an out. This is to avoid collisions at first base.

Sliding - Players must slide directly into the base or away from the defensive player. Sliding away from the base into a defensive player is an automatic out: two outs if this occurs on a double play attempt. If the act is flagrant in the umpire's judgment, they will be ejected from the game. **Sliding is only allowed at second and third base.**

Home Plate Line – For scoring purposes, a chalk line will extend from home plate back to the backstop. All runners must cross and make contact with the ground on any portion of the line or cross the home baseline, in order to score. The line acts similarly to the double first base rule and are to avoid collisions at home plate. **The catcher must have a foot on home plate at the time the ball is caught and before the runner crosses the line in order to get an out.**

Extra Innings –If a game is tied either after a full seven innings or the time limit has expired, one full normal inning will be played. If at the end of that extra inning a tie still exists, the following tie breaker will be in effect.

Tie Breaker Rule - Offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who was the last legal batter of the previous inning being placed at second base. Ex. number five batter is to lead off; number four in the batting order will be placed at second base. No substitute running can be used for this person. Tied games will be played under the tie breaker rule until the tie is broken.

Mercy Rule – A game may end any time after five (5) innings, when a team is behind by fifteen (15) runs and has completed its turn at bat. For tie-breaking purposes, any game ended by the mercy rule will be considered a 15-run differential regardless of final score. If both teams agree to continue playing, play will continue until allotted time ends.

Player Conduct

Violation of the above rules or poor player conduct including any unusual tactics, physical altercations, profanity, or derogatory remarks by a player or manager will result in ejection from the game and/or field. Ejected players must leave the field/park within one (1) minute or his/her team automatically forfeits the game.

Poor conduct may also result in the player being suspended for the rest of the game and the next scheduled game. If the officials must suspend a player for poor conduct twice, that player will be suspended for the rest of the season. All calls related to player conduct will be based on the discretion of the officials.

All grievances shall be communicated to Calistoga Recreation Services staff by the team manager.

Umpires and Calistoga Recreation Services staff have the final call. Any disagreements can be filed in writing and will be reviewed by city staff.

Protests

Calistoga does not recognize protests regarding judgment calls by the officials. Only roster irregularities and rule interpretations are subject to protest. All protests must be submitted to Calistoga Recreation Services no later than 4:30 p.m. the following day. Protest forms must be filled out clearly and completely (the scorekeeper will have this form available). A 25.00 CASH fee must be paid at the time the protest is filled. If the protest is upheld, the fee shall be returned.

Accident Reports and Injuries

In case of an injury, immediately notify the scorekeeper and umpire. Calistoga Recreation Services staff must fill out a completed accident report for all injuries and accidents.

Please remember this is a recreational league. We want everyone involved to have fun and play smart!

Calistoga Recreation Services Contact Information:

Rachel Melick- Recreation Manager

rmelick@ci.calistoga.ca.us

707-942-2844 (office)

707-975-6138 (cell)

Emily Gouveia- Recreation Coordinator

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