

**CITY OF TONAWANDA RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**2017 ADULT SOFTBALL RULES & REGULATIONS revised 2/1/16**

**ROSTER RULES**

- A. Once a player participates in a league game, he/she is considered a member of that team for the remainder of the season. Player additions will be allowed through June 16, 2017.
- B. A player may play on different Tonawanda teams as long as those teams are not in the same league.
- C. Players must play in three league games to be eligible for playoffs.
- D. Players must be at least 16 years of age to be eligible to play in any adult league. So if they turn 16 during the season, they must wait till that time to play.
- E. Each team must pay the umpire \$15 cash before the start of each game.

**PLAYING RULES**

A.S.A. rules apply to all games, unless modified below.

**A. The plate is a strike. (NEW 2015)**

B. The 15-Run Rule is in effect in all games after 5 innings. **IF THE HOME TEAM IS LOSING, THEY MUST HAVE THEIR BATS IN THE BOTTOM OF THE INNING, REGARDLESS OF THE INNING.**

C. There is no grace period. The umpire's time is official.

**D. You are allowed 3 courtesy runners per game. This can be anyone in your lineup. (NEW 2016)**

E. Players removed from a game due to an injury **may not return.**

F. Shorthanded Rule:

A game may begin with seven (7) players. If a team starts shorthanded, an "out" will be recorded each time the 8<sup>th</sup> and or 9<sup>th</sup> vacant slot is scheduled to bat. If a team plays with 9 players, an "out" is **NOT** recorded for the 10<sup>th</sup> spot. Teams playing shorthanded must play with a pitcher and a catcher. If any additional players show up late they **MUST** be placed in the last spot in the batting order.

If a team becomes one player short for any reason, that team may continue to play shorthanded with an out being recorded each time the 8<sup>th</sup> and or 9<sup>th</sup> vacant batting positions are scheduled to bat. If a substitute arrives at the game, he must immediately be inserted into that vacant batting position. You can start with the EP in slow pitch batting 11 players and drop to 10 batters with no penalty being enforced.

Once a player is removed from the game causing a shorthanded situation, this player may not re-enter the game unless it is under the blood rule.

A slo-pitch team may never finish with less than seven (7) players. If for any reason a team becomes shorthanded to that extent, the game is a forfeit.

G. **MENS FRIDAY MODIFIED AND WOMENS TEAMS:** All players present must be listed in the batting order and bat each time in order, whether they play defensively or not. Unlimited defensive substitution. Late players go to the bottom of the batting order.

**H. There is an over the fence Home Run limit of 5 per game. Any HR after that point is considered an out. On Niagara 2, a ball hit in the trees/fence in the air is a home run. **If the ball rolls into the trees and the outfielder attempted a play, the runner is awarded a ground rule double. If the outfielder purposely does not make a play the runner is awarded 3 bases. (NEW 2015)****

I. Stealing is not permitted in any leagues.

J. Illegal/Non-Approved Bats - If a player is found using an illegal bat an out will be called and that player will be ejected from the game. If the bat is used again, the game will be forfeited. This infraction will be reported to the Recreation Department and any further infractions by a particular team may result in removal from the league.

**SEE BACK FOR MORE INFO**

### **TIME LIMITS**

No new inning may begin after 70 minutes of play (this is for all fields and all start times). Umpires will designate official starting times for any subsequent games if need be. Games will be considered complete regardless of inning. (NEW 2016)

### **TIE GAMES**

If a game is tied at the end of seven innings, an extra inning may be played if and only if time permits. Only one additional inning will be played. If still tied, a tie will be recorded in the standings for both teams. (NEW 2016)

There will be one warm-up pitch allowed between innings.

### **FORFEIT POLICY**

A team, which forfeits a game, must pay a \$30.00 reinstatement fee, no later than two business days following the forfeit. A second forfeit results in elimination from the league. Entry fees will not be refunded. **Any and all forfeits will encounter the \$30 fee, regardless of notification. (NEW 2016)**

### **PROTEST POLICY**

Protests must be made in writing to the Recreation Department by 4:00 p.m. of the next business day. A \$20.00 fee must accompany the protest and will be returned if the protest is upheld. The protest must follow the A.S.A. Policy as indicated in the 2016 Rule Book. The umpire must sign the book at the time each team is notified that the game is being played under protest, if the call is protestable. If the protest is upheld, the game will be re-scheduled from the point of the protest.

Ineligible player protests must be submitted to the Recreation Office by 4:00 p.m. of the next business day.

### **CANCELLATIONS, POSTPONEMENTS**

- A. On questionable weather days, team contacts should call the **SPORT INFORMATION LINE at 695-8659 after 5:00 p.m.** for game status.
- B. There are **NO** postponements of scheduled or rescheduled games. Teams may call conflict dates for reschedules in at anytime during the season. There will be a minimum of 5 days notice given for reschedules, except during play-offs. Please remember most communication will be done via email.
- C. If a game is cancelled/rained out prior to the losing team batting in the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, the game will be rescheduled in its entirety. **If a game is called because of the time limit, the game is considered complete, regardless of the inning. (NEW 2016)**

### **GAME REPORTS**

The winning team must call or email results **no later than 48 hours** after the game is complete. If this is not done it will result in a loss for both teams. You must include the date, name of the teams and the score for each. Call 695-8659 or email kohlerpool@tonawandacity.com

For up-to-date standings – Visit us at  
<http://tonawandarecreationsoftball.com/>

### **SUSPENSION / EJECTION / ALCOHOL**

The Recreation Department has a written policy regarding incidents at a game, suspension, etc.

Any player or coach who consumes alcohol in the vicinity of a league game will be ejected from the game. If the player refuses to leave the grounds, the umpire may forfeit the game to the other team. If a spectator becomes unruly, the police will be called.

### **UMPIRES**

Please call Danny Rey at 417-0970 if you have a problem with an umpire or a no-show umpire. If he can send an umpire, teams must wait. Otherwise the teams are responsible for choosing a mutually agreed upon person from the stands to ump the game. Please make sure you pay umpires prior to the game, regardless of if they are scheduled or are filling in.