

GARDEN CITY DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
2019 SPRING SOFTBALL LEAGUE
RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The official ASA Slow Pitch Rules will govern all league play, except that a team may start a game with eight players rather than ten as stated in the rules.
2. Eligibility of team and team members is based on the following: This league is open to teams comprised of current residents of Garden City, employees of the Incorporated Village of Garden City, and any employees of businesses within the Incorporated Village of Garden City.
3. **Cancellation** – If a team cancels they must notify the Department of Recreation and Parks coordinator by 2:30pm the day of the game. Any cancellations later than 2:30pm will result in forfeit and possible fee for umpire.
4. Players may appear on only one roster, and may only play for that team. Any player appearing on more than one roster will be suspended from league play for the remainder of the season. It is the captain's responsibility to ensure that players appear only on one roster. If a team is found to be using a double roster player, that team will be suspended from league play for the remainder of the season. Players must play in a minimum of four games to be eligible for the play-offs.
5. All games will be 7 innings and will start on time as indicated on the schedule, with a 15 minute forfeit time. After a game has become official, (4 1/2 or 5 innings), and if one team is leading by 12 or more runs, they will be declared the winners at that time by the umpire.
6. Tied games will continue until completed, however, no new inning may start after 9:20 or 10:50 p.m. Games that end in ties or games that are not played due to inclement weather will only be rescheduled if needed to determine league standings for playoff positions. If the schedule does not permit these games to be replayed, the standing will be determined on a percentage basis using win/loss record.
7. **INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Whenever possible, determination of cancellations will be made by 3:45 p.m. and captains will be notified by 4 p.m. Otherwise, the decision on playing conditions will be made by the umpire at the field. You can also call Community Park after 4 p.m. at 483-2525.
8. Managers must write starting lineups in the official scorebook before each game and must notify the umpire whenever substitutions are made. Each team, while at bat, will be responsible for keeping the score in the book and for recovering foul balls. **Winning manager must call or email in the score of the game within 24 hours of play.**

9. **SCHEDULE and PLAYOFFS:** The Spring season will consist of 8 games for each team plus playoffs for the eligible teams. The playoff format will be determined each season by the Department of Recreation and Parks.
10. **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT:** All cases involving both individual and team unsportsmanlike conduct are completely up to the discretion of the umpire. Penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct can vary:
 - a. The player or players involved shall be ejected for the ball game.
 - b. The game may be forfeited.
 - c. The team or player may be suspended or expelled for the league. In these cases, the umpire's decision will be reviewed by the Recreation Department.
11. **PROTESTS:** All protests must be made in writing and submitted within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game to the Recreation and Parks Office. The umpire and opposing team must be notified immediately of the intention to protest the game **BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH IS MADE. PROTESTS BASED UPON JUDGEMENT CALLS WILL BE DISALLOWED.** Protests may only be made on mis-interpretation of a rule. All written protest regarding an ineligible/illegal player must be accompanied by the official scorebook.
12. **FORFEITS:** Any team that forfeits two games will be eliminated from the league. All previous games will be eliminated from league standings.
13. **UNIFORMS:** All teams must be in uniform by the third week of the season. Uniforms may consist merely of identical colored shirts.
14. **PETE ROSE RULE - SLIDING:** The runner is out when a defensive player has the ball and the runner remains upright and crashes into the defensive player. If the act is determined to be flagrant the offender shall be ejected. An errant throw drawing the defender into the path of the runner is not interference
15. **THE FAKE TAG RULE:** Any play unnecessarily forcing a runner to slide in to a base when he does not have possession of the ball shall be charged with an obstruction. The umpire shall award the runner an additional base. The player and manager will be issued a warning, and the next time it happens, the player deceiving the runner will be ejected from the game.
16. For safety reasons, no batter may use a donut or a lead bat while warming up.
17. The "Clincher" is the official softball for the league and will be supplied by the Department of Recreation and Parks. Teams must supply their own bats. Umpires are responsible for determining if a bat is legal for play.
18. **PITCHING:** At their highest point, all pitches must be a minimum of 6 feet to a maximum of 12 feet from the ground to the top of their arc.
19. **HITTERS:** Teams may use a designated eligible hitter, but he must be in the lineup at the beginning of the game. Once you decide that you want an eligible hitter, he must stay in the game in that batting spot or be substituted for by a player who is

not in the game. Therefore, 11 men will be batting throughout the game. The eligible hitter may exchange positions with a fielder, but they must keep their original spots in the batting order.

20. GENERAL RULES:

- a. Do not drive your cars down to the field.
- b. NO ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED IN VILLAGE PARKS. Teams found drinking will be subject to Village Summonses, and to possible expulsion for the league.
- c. The Department of Recreation and Parks will supply the field, bases, umpires, game balls, and awards to the winning teams.
- d. Wearing a Mask is recommended for the catching position.
- e. If the official umpire does not show up for the game, the game should still be played using an umpire agreeable to both teams.
- f. No metal spikes allowed, and their use will be considered UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT and subject to the rules pertaining to the same.

21. All league participants acknowledge that there are certain inherent risks of injury in playing softball. The risks include, but are not limited to batting, fielding, pitching, catching, running, sliding, and all other aspects of the game. All bases used in this league are anchored in the ground and are meant to be used as reference points only.

22. These rules may be amended or supplemented during the season as deemed necessary by the Department of Recreation and Parks.

***DATES YOUR TEAM IS UNAVAILABLE TO PLAY MUST BE GIVEN TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
BY Wednesday, March 27.***