

Slow Pitch Rules

Marshall Parks & Recreation

2019



EACH TEAM CAPTAIN / COACH HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL TEAM MEMBERS ARE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

League Management

a. The league is coordinated by the City of Marshall Park and Recreation Department.

b. Staff Contacts: Chad Unterreiner, Park & Recreation Director, 660-886-7128

Debra Johnson, Recreation Programmer, 660-886-7128

MPR Office: 660-886-7128, 1538 E Vest, Marshall, MO 65340

c. Facebook. Follow Marshall Park & Recreation on Facebook and be the first to learn about events, park developments, and programs.

Game Cancellation Information

a. Cancellations due to bad weather and/or unplayable fields will be announced at 3:00pm when possible, via Marshall Park & Recreation Facebook Page and a text message to the captains. Please do not call the Office.

b. An official game will be called after the completion of five innings (4.5 completed innings if the Home team is ahead).

c. Games not considered regulation shall be resumed from the exact point where they were stopped.

d. In instances where games have gone beyond five completed innings but teams have not had equal number of at-bats, the game reverts to the previous inning score.

e. Home Team score book pages from all suspended games must be signed by the home plate umpire before leaving the Ball Park.

League Divisions

a. Men's

b Coed

Ball Park Rules

a. ALCOHOLIC & SMOKING - WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN ANY OF THE BALL FIELDS IN THE PARK. Park Staff and Marshall Police Officers in accordance with Marshall City Ordinance #4137, Sec. 204A, will enforce this. NO WARNINGS. Infraction of this rule will result in removal from league play.

b. Litter – After each game, teams are responsible for cleaning the refuse out of their dug-out.

League Awards

- a. Shirts will be awarded to tournament champions. (maximum 18 shirts).

Eligibility, Rosters & Protests

- a. Age: Players must be 16 years of age or older by the start of the season in order to be eligible to participate. If 16 or 17 years of age must have a written, signed permission slip to play. The permission slip must be turned into the Parks and Recreation Administration Office before the player is eligible.
- b. Roster/Waiver: All players must sign and complete the roster/waiver for their team prior to playing. The roster size is unlimited. Players may be added to the roster at any time during the regular season; roster's will freeze upon the start of a team's last regular season game. Rosters will be kept at the field. Please find the League Supervisor or ask an umpire if your team needs to add a player to the roster. Players must only play on one team. They cannot be signed up on multiple rosters.
- c. Protests: Protests may only be made if an ineligible player participates. Protests must be made within 24 hours of the game in question. The game will be forfeited if a team plays with an ineligible player. Teams are encouraged to communicate any eligibility concerns to the umpire prior to the game starting. i. Umpires, Supervisors and Captains of the game in question can issue a protest. ii. Teams that are using an illegal player will forfeit the game and the illegal player will be suspended for their following league game in that division.

Uniforms & Equipment

- a. Uniforms: All teams are asked to wear uniform shirts with the team name and/or player's name with a number. Numbers should be indicated on the starting lineup sheet. Teams in all leagues are encouraged to have like-colored shirts with numbers.
- b. Shoes: Softball shoes with rubber cleats or athletic shoes are required for all players. Open-toed shoes, boots, or metal spikes (including metal tipped spikes) will not be allowed.
- c. Jewelry: Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during the game. Medic alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn, the medic alert bracelet/necklace must be an athletic brand or must be taped to the body so the medic alert information remains visible.
- d. Casts/Braces: Plaster or other hard substance casts may not be worn during the game (even if wrapped). Any exposed metal on leg/arm braces must be covered by soft material and taped.
- e. Softballs: Each team must furnish their own balls to hit. For Coed and Men's leagues only ASA tournament approved optic yellow, 12 inch red-stitched balls with a core of .52 and a compression rating of .300 are acceptable.

Schedules

- a. Games will be played at 6:00, 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00pm on Sunday and Monday nights at Lyons Field 4.
- c. Games will not be rescheduled unless due to bad weather or scheduling error if a time slot is available.
- d. Forfeit Policy: Team captains are encouraged to call the Marshall Parks & Rec Office by 5:00pm if his/her team will not be at a game, so the opposing team can be notified. By calling ahead.

Scorecards & Standings

- a. Scorecards will be completed by the Home Plate Umpire and initialed by each team captain at the conclusion of each game. Be sure to check the scores before signing.
- b. Standings can be viewed on the Marshal Park and Recreation Office.

Playing Rules For All Leagues - Games will be played by ASA rules except when in conflict with one of the following league rules.

Game Time & Required Number of Players

- a. All games will start promptly at the time scheduled. Play may begin with eight players. If a team does not field eight players at the scheduled starting time, that team shall forfeit the game.
- b. Absent players will be considered an “out” in the batting order.
- c. If playing shorthanded and a substitute arrives, the substitute may be inserted immediately into the vacant spot. In coed, if another player of the correct gender arrives, that player must be inserted into the line-up in the vacant spot by alternating genders.
- d. Any team losing a player during the game, due to injury, ejection, or any other reason, may continue to play provided the team still has eight players available. An “out” will still count for any vacant position in the batting order. Teams are encouraged to have more than 10 players at a game.

Scorebook

- a. The home team will provide the official scorebook unless they do not have enough personnel to keep the book. In that instance, the home plate umpire will designate someone to keep the official scorebook. Time Limit & Ties a. A game will consist of seven innings, time permitting.
- b. If a game is tied after seven innings, the International Tie-Breaker Rule applies. The player preceding the player in the lineup who is scheduled to bat first in the inning will start the inning on second base.
- c. Games can NOT end in a tie due to time limit.

Time Limit

- a. A one hour time limit will apply for games. No new inning may begin one hour after the first pitch. If the time limit expires during extra innings the game will be completed.

At Bat Rules

- a. Batter starts with a 1/1 count.
- b. Third strike foul is an automatic out. No courtesy foul.

Run Rule

- a. In all leagues, 15 run rule after 3 innings is in effect, and 10 run rule after 5 innings is in effect; all league games shall be terminated and considered a complete game.

Home Run Rule

- a. The home run limit rule will be used. There is a maximum of 6 home runs per game. After 6 home runs have been used all others will be ruled an out.

Extra Players

- a. Teams have the option of up to 14 players batting and any 10 may play in the field.

Sportsmanship

- a. Fair play and sportsmanship are foremost concerns in Marshall Park and Recreation Department Adult League Sports. The success of the league is largely based on how much fun the league is. Please keep the games in perspective and act maturely.
- b. Each team captain / coach is the spokesperson and is responsible for the conduct of his team before, during, and after all games.
- c. Any player ejected from a game will automatically be suspended for the next scheduled game. Multiple incidents in a season can result in suspension for the entire season.
- d. Harassment of any kind (physical or verbal) is prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action including immediate removal, permanent suspension and termination of privileges.
- e. Un-Sportsmanlike Out: The umpire has the authority to assess one out against the offending team for excessive protests, profanity towards an umpire, arguments, complaints or behavior not appropriate in a recreation sports setting. Such conduct exhibited by a player or coach can be penalized as an "out". All outs will be assessed against the offending team during their turn at bat.
- g. Profanity Rule: If a player uses loud profane language, one formal warning will be issued to the team. A second use of loud profane language will result in one out to the offending team.

Legal Pitch

- a. The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc of at least six feet from the ground. The pitched ball must not reach a height of more than ten feet at its highest point from the ground. The pitcher must take a position with both feet firmly on the ground and with one or both feet within the 'pitcher's box' and come set presenting the ball in glove or in hand. This is the proper pitching position prior to the delivery of the pitch. Note: The pitcher's box is defined as 24 inches in width and 6' long. The pitcher's box is a rectangle starting with the 24" X 4" pitching plate at 50 feet and extending directly behind that pitching plate a distance of 6 feet.

Coed League Specific Rules

- a. Each team shall consist of ten players, five men and five women. A team may play with eight or nine players. There will be an automatic out anytime two players of the same gender bat in a row. A team can bat up to 14 players, but must be equal number of men and women.
- b. If a team fields only eight or nine players, the ratio of men/women does not have to be even but no more than five of either gender can play at one time.
- c. The coed defensive positions shall consist of no more than two males and two females in the outfield, two males and two females in the infield, and one male and one female in the pitcher-catcher positions.
- d. Due to the high risk of injury, teams are encouraged to use caution in the selection of your pitcher. e. The batting order for coed shall alternate male/female.
- f. With less than two outs, if a male batter walks, he will be awarded second base. The female batter following will bat. If there are two outs, the female can choose to bat or go to first base.
- g. Outfielders must remain behind a mowed/chalked line in the outfield until the ball is hit. The line will be 200 feet from home plate. Violation of this rule will result in a delay dead ball. The batters then will be awarded first base, or the result of the play.
- h. If extra players (EPs) are used, all twelve must bat and any five males and five females may play defense. Defensive positions may be changed as long as the two male/two female ratio is used. The batting order must remain the same throughout the game.

Tournament Rules Rosters and Game Play

- a. Only players on a team's roster that have played at least one game are eligible to play in the tournament.
- b. Rosters will freeze upon the start of a team's last regular season game.
- c. Time limit rules will be used for tournament games.
- f. All league rules will apply for tournament games, unless stated differently above.