



**Black Mountain
Recreation & Parks**

Adult Softball Team Manager's Guide

Black Mountain Recreation and Parks Rules and Regulations

***BMRP RULES ARE BASED ON ASA SOFTBALL RULES. ANY INFORMATION NOT FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING RULES SHALL BE FOUND AT WWW.TEAMUSA.ORG**

BMRP Mission Statement

The Black Mountain Recreation and Parks Department, in partnership with our citizens and with respect to our environment, will provide community-based recreation programs, wellness opportunities, facilities, and services to enrich the quality of life in Black Mountain.

Goals and Objectives

The BMRP Adult Softball program is designed to provide an organized athletic event that promotes respect of the game, equal playing terms, fun, healthy competition, and good sportsmanship.

Organization

The Recreation Supervisor and its appointed staff will be in charge of the league and will be responsible for the organization and functionality of the league, will decide on all matter and policies pertaining to the league, and shall cooperate in every way to make the softball program successful.

Each Team Manager will be responsible for handling the team's formal business with BMRP. Each team manager will also be responsible for the attitude and actions of their team.

Weather Policy

The Recreation Supervisor will determine is games will be delayed, postponed or cancelled altogether due to inclement weather or poor field conditions. For game decisions based on weather, please call the office at 828-669-2052. An email will also be sent to each Team Manager regarding game decisions.

Eligibility

- All players must be at least 18 years (before the first game) or older to participate in the league
- All team rosters must be turned in to the scorekeeper or Recreation Supervisor before you play your first regular season game. **If your roster is not turned in, you will forfeit your first game.**
- A player's name and signature must be on the roster to be eligible to participate.
- There is a limit of 20 players on league team rosters.
- A team may add players up to the fifth regular season game.
- Players must play in FIVE regular season games to be eligible for playoffs. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- **Late Players:** Teams starting the game with less than ten players may add late arriving players to the end of the batting order and place them defensively in the field immediately.

Equipment and Uniform

- All teams in the league must have like colored jerseys or shirts.
- No jewelry is allowed during the game
- Metal cleats ARE NOT ALLOWED. Any player wearing metal cleats will be ejected.
- Only ASA approved bats will be allowed.
- No altered bats are allowed. If an umpire or Recreation Supervisor finds a bat that is illegal, the game will be a forfeit. All teams are to make sure bats used are within the accepted guidelines.
- **Softballs used will be 12" .44 COR, 375 COMP.**
 - All balls used during game play will be provided by BMRP.
 - No balls provided by teams will be used during game play.

Code of Conduct

- Team Managers are responsible for their team's attitude and actions as well as their fans.
- No player, manager, or spectator shall physically attack or act as an aggressor towards any person, player, spectator, umpire
 - Officials have the discretion to immediately eject anyone
- A player will be suspended from all sports indefinitely until a final decision is made on the length of suspension

- All players will abide by the officials decision, no exceptions.
- If a player or manager is ejected from the game, that player or manager must leave the field immediately.
- All players and managers will abstain from the use of vulgarity, racial slurs, verbal abuse, threats, or unsportsmanlike conduct while participating in a Black Mountain Recreation and Parks activity.
- No alcohol is allowed at or on the fields.
- Any and all situations not specifically covered in the rulebook shall be acted upon by the Recreation Supervisor, and all decisions are final.

***ASA Official Rules and Regulations govern all league play with the following exceptions:**

Length of Game

- All games will be 7 innings or 1 hour and 10 minutes, whichever comes first.
- A new inning will not start within 5 minutes of the official game time and home team will be allowed last bat, if behind in the score.
- Tie games will be played out.

Forfeit Time/Forfeits

- The clock starts at game time. There is a ten minute grace period before a forfeit is declared.
- If a team is short on players upon the ten minute grace period, they may opt to play a game for fun, but their game will count as a forfeit. Umpires and scorekeepers will not work forfeited games.

Over-Run Rule and Sliding

- Sliding is optional. Runners must avoid the fielders.
- A fielder may not block the base when there is no play.
- If a player goes into second base standing to avoid a double play, the runner at first may be called out at the umpire's discretion.
- Avoid contact at all costs!

Mercy Rule

- Run rule is 15 runs after 6 innings or 20 runs after 5 innings

Eight Run Rule

- Each team is only allowed 8 runs per inning. After the 8 runs, the team must switch to defense. Only 8 runs per inning will be awarded.

Homerun Rule

- Every team is allowed 3 homeruns. After the 3rd homerun, all homeruns thereafter will be considered an out.
 - You do not have to run the bases on a homerun.

Legal Teams

- A team must have 8 players to start and finish a game. The maximum number of players allowed on the field at one time is 10. A team may never have more than 5 men or less than 3 women on the field.

Intentional Walk Rule

- When a male batter receives a base on balls or intentional walk, he will be awarded first and second base. The next female batter will bat.

Courtesy Runner

- The courtesy runner must be the player of the same gender who made the last out. The runner may not receive a courtesy runner if no one of the same gender has been out in the game.

Pitching Regulations

- Opposing teams will pitch. The minimum height for the pitch is 6 feet and the maximum height is 12 feet.
- A foul ball on the third strike is an out.
- Pitcher may pitch from no more than 10 feet behind the pitching rubber, and may not be in front of the pitching rubber

Defensive Positions

- Four outfielders, dispersion of players must include 2 females in the outfield and 2 females playing infield positions (first base, second base, shortstop, or third base). A female must play either catcher or pitcher.
- **Exception:** When 3 females are present, they must be positioned as one outfielder, one catcher/pitcher, and one infielder.

Illegal Rosters and Players

- Players caught playing under an assumed name will be ineligible for the remainder of the season. All games in which the ineligible player played in will result in a forfeit.
- Teams using non-rostered players will forfeit their game. The team manager will receive a minimum of a one game suspension and the team will be on probation for the remainder of the year.
- A repeated violation of this will result in your team being suspended from the league for the remainder of the year. This decision will be final and no refund will be issued.

Player Ejections

- Any player that purposely hits back at the pitcher or is heard threatening the pitcher will be ejected from the game.
- Any player ejected from a game will be scored as an out for every appearance at bat for the remainder of the game.
- Any player or manager who is ejected will be suspended for a minimum of one league game and the player must arrange a conference with the Recreation Supervisor and Director before they will be eligible to resume play.
- A team may continue playing after a player ejection as long as the minimum number of players (8) is met.

Protests

- Protests are allowed only on rule interpretations and player eligibility, not on judgement calls. Protests must be verbally filed with the umpire and scorekeeper before the next pitch and followed by a written

protest. Written protests must be submitted by the end of the next working day and accompanied by a \$25 non-refundable fee. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. The decision of the Recreation Supervisor on all protests will be final.

Season Format

- The season will consist of 12 games.

Playoff Format

- All teams will make the playoffs. The tournament is double elimination.
- The championship playoff game will be seven innings with no times limit. All other games will be timed.