



**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**2024**

**SOFTBALL RULES, RESPONSIBILITIES, EXPECTATIONS & GUIDELINES**

**SPORTS STAFF**

1. **Tim McCorkle**, Recreation Program Supervisor 505-224-6682
2. **TBA**, League Director – Adult Sports, Umpires/Supervisors
3. **Alyssa, Velasquez**, Field Maintenance Staff Supervisor 505-224-6682
4. **Adrienne Palacio**, Program and Facility Manager 505-224-6682

The Sports Section is located at the Jerry Cline Tennis Center (7205 Constitution N.E. 87110).

**Contact Info**

**Softball League Manager**  
**TBA**

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**Jerry Cline Sports Office**

**Main 224-6682**

**Fax 224-6695**

**Rainouts 768-GAME**

**Twitter @CABQRecreation**

**Website: [www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/recreation/softball](http://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/recreation/softball)**

**Facebook: City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation**

The Sports Section offers three separate softball leagues – Spring, Summer and Fall.

The City of Albuquerque, Sports Section, is sanctioned by The Ramsey Charitable Trust Inc. /USSSA and all teams must be registered with the sanctioning body in order to participate in any City sports activity. The fee is \$50.00 per year and must be mailed in or paid online at <http://www.rctipif.org>. Proof of full payment must be turned in with roster. Registration material will be available at the City Sports Office or accessed online. If you have any questions about the sanction fee call the Sports Office. Every team manager must turn in a USSSA waiver for every participant on the team.

**FYI** – if you change your teams name in the summer/fall from the name you had in the spring/summer, you will have to pay the sanction fee again (even if everything else is the same).

## **REGISTRATION FEES**

**Registration fees are non-refundable.** No refunds will be issued under **any circumstances.**

If your team is unable to participate for any reason the registration fee will be considered a donation to the City of Albuquerque. **Please note that any and all requests for refunds will be denied. There are no exceptions.**

Please make **one check per team for registration.** Individual refunds will not be made.

### **Mandatory USSSA/City League Meeting**

(Spring)	Tues/Wed	Feb 27 or 28, 2024	6:00pm	Jerry Cline Recreation & Tennis Center
(Summer)	Wed/Thurs	April 2 or 3, 2024	6:00pm	Jerry Cline Recreation & Tennis Center
(Fall)	Tues/Wed	September 4 or 5, 2024	6:00pm	Jerry Cline Recreation & Tennis Center

**Managers are responsible to be aware of the rules and regulations/participant code of conduct of the softball league, and insure their players and spectators are aware of the rules and regulations and the participant code of conduct.**

## **PROGRAM PARTICULARS**

**Note:** The COA reserves the right to add, change or take out divisions as deemed necessary. Days of play and divisions are also subject to change.

### **2024 SPRING SOFTBALL**

Registration:	January 22 – February 16	- Eight (8) game season
Season:	March 10 – April 5	- Unlimited roster
Schedule pick-up:	March 8	<b>Double Header League</b>
Entry Fee:	\$495.00 (8 Games)	

### **2024 SUMMER SOFTBALL**

Registration:	February 5 – March 22	- Sixteen (16) game season
Season:	April 14 – September 1	- Same night play
Schedule pick-up:	April 12	- Unlimited roster
Entry Fee:	\$990.00 (16 Games)	

**Summer begins April 14. Games WILL be played on Fathers' Day and the Sunday before and after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July as well as the Friday before Memorial Day and Labor Day. There will be **NO** reschedules for games those days, so plan accordingly. There will be **NO games** on Mothers' Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, July 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> or Labor Day. **NO games** on April 26 for the Gathering of Nations Tournaments.**

### **2024 FALL SOFTBALL**

Registration:	July 8– August 2	- Eight (8) game season
Season:	September 15– October 18	- Unlimited roster
Schedule pick-up:	September 11	<b>Double Header League</b>
Entry Fee:	\$495.00 (8 Games)	

**Fall softball games will not be scheduled on thru 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6 of October for the Whole Enchilada Tournament. There will be games scheduled on that Thursday. There will be no reschedules for games that day, so plan accordingly. No games on Indigenous Peoples Day.**

## **BREAKDOWN OF DIVISIONS 2024**

### **D League**

Fields - Barelas, Vietnam Veterans, Tingley  
Count - 3-2  
Arc - 6 feet to 10 feet  
Homeruns - Limit \*5 \*(Homeruns over the limit will count as an out.)

### **E League**

Fields - All  
Count - 3-2  
Arc - 6 feet to 10 feet  
Homeruns - Limit \*3 \*(Homeruns over the limit will count as an out.)

### **Coed**

Fields - All  
Count - 3-2  
Arc - 6 feet to 10 feet

Martineztown field is offline for 2024.

**Players may drop ONLY one level. Teams can only have 3 upper level players on roster. Any more than 3, the team is bumped up or must remove the additional player(s) from your roster. If you have more than 3 on your roster and play in the lower division, you are playing with illegal player(s) and the manager is subject to a 1 year suspension.**

**C players may not play E - Managers with C level players on their roster for an E team are subject to a minimum 1 year suspension,**

**Managers are responsible for knowing the level of their players before adding them to their roster.**

## **LEAGUE INFORMATION**

### **AWARDS**

Awards will be given for first place league finishers. Once the team manager is notified that their award is in and ready for pickup, the Sports Office will keep such award for one month and if award is not picked up the award will be donated.

### **CHEMICAL TOILETS**

The upkeep of chemical toilets is costing more. We ask for your cooperation in keeping them clean.

Vandalism of the portable toilets will not be tolerated.

## **DIVISION**

A team may register for any division within the league. We ask that you register for the correct league based on your skill level. **NO SAND-BAGGING**. However, to ensure league balance the League Director may move a team up or down within the structure of the league. If moved, a team will enter the new division with a 0-0 record. Division winner will be determined by total wins, head to head, runs scored then runs allowed.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Each manager **must complete** a team roster form and sign the affidavit, provided by the Sports Office. The roster must include the participant's name, participant's signature, phone number and identification number (state issued ID). **ANY TEAM NOT RETURNING THEIR COMPLETED ROSTER AT THE DESIGNATED DEADLINE WILL NOT RECEIVE A PLAYING SCHEDULE. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Player's must be 18 years old to participate.

Teams using suspended participants shall forfeit the game in which such participant took part and be dropped from the league.

Women are allowed to play on a men's team. A maximum of 2 women are allowed.

## **PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT**

The "Participant Code of Conduct" (attached) of the Sports Section, will govern the league. **The Participant Code of Conduct will be in effect for any activity (City or Non-City sponsored and Tournaments) played at City facilities. All participants must sign and turn in the Participant Code of Conduct form in order to participate in the softball league.**

**NOTE: MANAGERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO MAKE THEIR PLAYERS AWARE OF THE "PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT/WAIVER OF LIABILITY."**

## **PARTICIPANT SUSPENSION/PROBATION**

1. Any participant that is on suspension is not allowed to participate in any game as a coach, scorekeeper, spectator, etc., (Any sport – softball, flag football) suspension/probation is for any team, including tournaments.
2. Suspended participants are not allowed at any City Sports run complex.

## **PRACTICE**

Practice is first come first served on fields not lined for games or closed for maintenance.

**If the gate has a lock on it, do not use a key that you have for work or other purposes to open the gate(s) to practice. This includes Barelus fields. If your team is found on a locked field, your key will be confiscated and your team may be removed from the league with no refund.**

## **RAIN OUTS/CANCELLATIONS**

In an effort to better serve you, the City of Albuquerque, Sports Section has a system in place for game rain outs/cancellations. Team managers/participants will have the opportunity to call the City of Albuquerque's, **768-GAME (4263) number** and obtain information pertaining to rain outs, game cancellations, and any other information that will affect league play. Please use this opportunity to get the status of your playing field on your night of play. Rain outs, game cancellations will not be posted until field conditions have been obtained.

We also have a Facebook and Twitter page.  
Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ABQParksRec](http://www.facebook.com/ABQParksRec).  
Twitter page [www.twitter.com/CABQRecreation](http://www.twitter.com/CABQRecreation).

## **ROSTER**

**\*ALL PLAYERS MUST TURN IN A SIGNED CODE OF CONDUCT AND USSSA WAIVER FORM EVERY SEASON (SPRING/SUMMER/FALL)\***

**The manager must be an active participant on the team and be on the official team roster. They must be at the games and be listed on the lineup card. The manager must also be at the pre-game with the umpire. If a manager is unable to attend a game, then the assistant manager will be the “manager” for that game. If for any reason, the assistant manager is unable to attend the manager must designate another player listed on the roster to be the manager for that game. The manager for the game is responsible for the conduct of their team and spectators and to ensure that all rules are followed.**

**Players may drop ONLY one level. Teams can only have 3 upper level players on roster. Any more than 3, the team is bumped up or must remove the additional player(s) from your roster. If you have more than 3 on your roster and play in the lower division, you have an illegal player(s) and the manager is subject to A MINIMUM 1 YEAR suspension.**

**C players may not play E. Managers with C level player on an E team roster is subject to a minimum 1 year suspension.**

**Managers are responsible for knowing the level of their players before adding them to their roster.**

Incomplete, faxed, e-mailed, mailed, rosters will not be accepted. (Only original rosters will be Accepted in person). All roster changes must be made at the Sports Office. The roster form and waiver of liability can be found at [www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/recreation](http://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/recreation).

**No telephone changes will be accepted.** Only managers or assistant managers are allowed to make roster changes. Only the manager may remove their name from the roster. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

In some cases, the League Director may, at the request of a player wishing to be dropped from a roster, negotiate and drop a participant. A participant desiring a release to play with another team must arrange for the manager to drop his/her name from the roster. Roster changes will be accepted through the last scheduled game.

**If roster is not complete and all paperwork turned in, a schedule will not be given out. To be complete the following must be done: (if all of the paperwork isn't turned in together, the paperwork will not be accepted)**

A USSSA waiver for every participant must be turned in with original roster/addition to roster form.

A City of Albuquerque Code of Conduct is to be signed and turned in with the original roster /addition to the roster.

Roster page filled out completely - NO missing information/signatures.

A USSSA waiver and COA Code of Conduct must be filled out for **each season**. HOWEVER, if you play for more than one (1) team, you will need to fill out the forms for each team. Example: You play on a coed and a men's team – you must fill out both forms for both teams.

## **SCHEDULING**

**Special Requests: We do not guarantee any accommodations. You are welcome to put them on the registration form, but the Sports office makes no promises that any will be fulfilled in full or in part.**

Schedules are set; teams unable to make scheduled games will forfeit that game. Games rescheduled due to weather, field conditions, or any other reason beyond our control will be posted on [www.play.cabq.gov](http://www.play.cabq.gov). It is your responsibility to check this website for any game changes, reschedules etc.

***Rescheduled rainouts/cancellation of games will be played any night of the week including, Saturday and Sunday, be ready to play.***

## **PRE-GAME INFORMATION**

### **DOGS**

1. Dogs are not allowed in the dugouts at any time.
2. Dogs are not allowed on the softball fields at any time.
3. Dogs must be kept on a leash and accompanied by a Person able to control the Animal at all Times.  
[9-2-2-4 –A1 – Leash Law](#)
4. Owners must clean up and properly dispose of waste left by their dog(s).

### **DUGOUTS**

Children are not allowed in dugouts. All players/participants must stay inside the dugout during the game. Only uniform players and an official scorekeeper are allowed in dugouts during games. **Dogs are not allowed in the dugout.**

**Players/participants that leave the dugout during the game may be ejected from the game.**

### **FIVE MINUTE (5) GRACE PERIOD**

There will be a grace period for the weekday 6:30 game only. No Sunday grace period. All subsequent game times will not have a grace period and will be forfeited. However, if you can field a team at your scheduled game time, officials will not wait for specific participants. Clock starts at scheduled game time. A forfeit will be called if a team fails to appear on the field, or being on the field, refuses to begin the game for which it had been scheduled at the time the game was assigned.

Scheduled Time of Play:

Slow-Pitch: Monday through Friday - 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 PM  
Sunday Coed - 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 PM

## **FORFEITS**

If a team fails to appear on the field with the appropriate number of players the game will be forfeited. All slow-pitch games must start with at least nine (9) participants, and finish with no less than nine (9) participants. At fields where a forfeit has occurred, teams may scrimmage after signing a waiver, releasing the City of any liability.

Teams are expected to comply with the Field Supervisor's request to clear the field. A twenty-five (\$25.00) forfeit fee must be paid before the forfeiting team's next scheduled game. Fees will be waived if the forfeiting team's manager or assistant manager calls the City Sports Office no later than 3:00PM on the day of the scheduled game.

### **Forfeits, which incur a \$25.00 fee, are:**

1. Failure to present a new ball at pre-game. (home team should have at least three (3) game balls.)
2. Failure to have the required number of participants at game time.
3. Failure to have equipment.

### **Forfeits, which incur a \$50.00 fee, are:**

1. Teams who have a no-show (no participants present at game time.)
2. Use of illegal/unregistered participants.

A team forfeiting two (2) consecutive games or a total of three (3) games may be dropped from the league. If a team does not pay the forfeit fee before the next scheduled game, that team will be dropped from the league.

## **GLASS CONTAINERS**

City Ordinance prohibits the use of glass container in all City parks.

[10-1-1-4 -C](#)

## **JEWELRY**

For safety prevention, jewelry **will not** be worn during a game. Players with jewelry will be called out at the plate. Earrings, eyebrow rings and nose rings can be taped, but it is best if they are removed, in case the tape falls off.

## **LEAGUE BATS**

For approved bats go to the USSSA web site. [ussa.com/slowpitch/slowpitch-licensed-softball-bat-ball-manufacturers](http://ussa.com/slowpitch/slowpitch-licensed-softball-bat-ball-manufacturers)

**The use of shaved or altered bats is strictly prohibited. Anyone suspected or caught using a shaved bat will be immediately suspended and must appear before the Sports Advisory Board.**

**If an Umpire or Site Supervisor suspects a bat is shaved or altered in any way, they may confiscate the bat for testing. The bat will be returned after testing is done and the results are received by the COA Sports office.**

## **ASA BATS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED**

### **LINE UP CARDS**

Teams must submit line-up cards (provided by the City) at pre-game with the umpire prior to the scheduled game time. Line-up cards must have the participant's, number and name (first and last). Any participant not there at game time will be added as a sub. Failure to comply with full name and number may result in a forfeit. The umpire may forfeit the game if there is unwarranted delay in providing a line up for batting order purposes.

The player that is present at the pre-game is the designated manager for that game. They must be listed on the lineup card and be on the roster as a player (not just as the manager). They are responsible for their team's behavior and actions during the game. Any issues with the team, players or fans, the game manager will be held accountable. If it is different than the manager listed on the roster form, both may be called in front of the Sports Advisory Board.

### **MUSIC/SOUND EFFECTS**

The playing of music/sound effects during a game in the dugout or spectator area is not allowed.

### **PARK RULES**

Teams must clean up after themselves in the dugouts after each game

Spectators are expected to clean up their trash in and around the stands after each game

No playing ball while maintenance is in progress

Stay off fields when lined

Stay off fields when wet

Do not hit balls or bats against fence

### **SMOKING/ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

All participants are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages/smoking, during any game, either on or off the field area. Participants consuming alcoholic beverages/smoking during the game will be immediately ejected. Participants observed to be partaking in alcohol beverages by an official or field supervisor before a game will not be allowed to participate in the game. Alcoholic beverages/smoking in the general area of the playing field is not allowed by any participant or spectator. This includes the bleacher area and dugouts. "Smoking" or "smoke" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookah, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or in any form. "Smoking" or "smoke" also includes the use of an electronic smoking device which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking. This prohibition applies to all member of the public.

As per City Ordinance alcoholic beverages are **not** allowed at the following facilities:

**Tingley, Martineztown, Vietnam Veterans (during school hours)**



## **STANDINGS**

Standings will be available at [www.play.cabq.gov](http://www.play.cabq.gov). Standings will not be given over the phone. Once standings are completed, two weeks will be given for any disputes, after that period standing will be final and awards will be given.

## **UNIFORMS**

All participants on a team must properly wear uniforms that are SIMILAR. Sleeves or straps of the uniform top may be adjusted, with or without tie-ups.

**Numbers:** An Arabic **whole number** (0-99). The number must be permanently affixed, legal size; at least six inches high must be worn and clearly visible on the back of all uniform shirts. Numbers on the hip, arm, or shoulder will not be accepted. Participants wearing taped, painted or magic marker numbers will be considered out of uniform. Duplicate numbers may not be worn.

Triple digit numbers may not be worn.

Illegal/not permitted numbers: **00, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09** - these are **NOT** whole numbers

- ▶ Metal cleats prohibited for all slow pitch teams.
- ▶ Ball caps, if worn they must be worn properly.
- ▶ Order your uniforms early so that you have them by the start of the season. Teams that don't have their uniforms in on time may get a one (1) game exception. You must come into the Sports Office to get the paperwork.

**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
ADULT LEAGUE RULES/POLICIES AND PROCEDURES  
(USSSA RULES IN EFFECT)**

Softball games will be governed by a 2024 softball affiliate unless superseded by this document and where smaller fields, walls, dimensions, or clearances exist at City facilities. Then such circumstances will supersede all.

Please visit [https://usssa.com/docs/2021/SP\\_RuleBook\\_21.pdf](https://usssa.com/docs/2021/SP_RuleBook_21.pdf) for all other rules.

## **BALL**

**All teams must use a United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) ball/COR.40**

**Teams must supply a new ball for each game.  
In coed you can use one new and one used.**

**Men's Classic M – Women's Classic W**

**NO PRO M , Pro W or Stadium M balls allowed**

Women's slow-pitch must use an 11" ball – COR.44 **Max compression 400**

Men's fast-pitch - COR.40, **Max compression 325**

Coed will use both a men's and women's balls. Men will hit the 12-inch ball and the women will hit the 11-inch ball.

Teams must "shag" all homeruns and foul balls that they hit.

**ASA balls will not be allowed.**

### **BASE DISTANCE**

All softball leagues will use the base distance:

Women's	65 Feet
Men's	65 Feet
Coed	65 Feet

### **BATTING**

Batters must stay in the batter's box when making contact with the bat to the ball from the pitch.

### **BATTING ORDER**

A team may have an unlimited batting order.

Coed batting order must alternate genders. It will be issued as an out if gender cannot alternate. (See PLAYERS section below)

### **COURTESY RUNNER**

Any participant in the batting order may replace any runner at any time when time is called. Allow one (1) courtesy runner per inning. If the courtesy runner is due up to bat he/she will be called out. The runner will be removed from the base and a second courtesy runner cannot be substituted. The courtesy runner called out does not lose his/her turn at bat. This out could end the inning. You can replace an injured courtesy runner but he/she will not be allowed to play for that game. A courtesy runner must be announced before the next legal pitch. In coed allow one courtesy runner per gender, per inning. Courtesy runner must be listed on the official line-up card. Courtesy runner must be in team uniform.

### **FENCES**

Due to the maintenance problems, we request that you **DO NOT** hit balls against fences. **(NO PEPPER)** Do not climb or scale the chain link fences.

### **HOME RUN RULE**

If a team hits more than their allowed number of homeruns in a game, the additional homeruns will be counted as outs. (See Home Run limits above, in 'Division Breakdown' section)

## LOS ALTOS

### **Los Altos Rules & Expectations**

No sunflower seeds or shelled snacks

No pets allowed in dugout or on field

1. Dogs must be kept on a leash and accompanied by a Person able to control the Animal at all Times.

[9-2-2-4 –A1 – Leash Law](#)

2. Owners must clean up and properly dispose of waste left by their dog(s).

No Alcohol in dug outs or stands

NO children in dugouts

No music in the dugout, stands or surrounding area during games

No glass containers

[Ordinance 43-1982 11-2-4](#)

No metal cleats or spiked shoes

No weapons

**No smoking, vaping or tobacco/cannabis etc.**

[AI NO: 4-9](#)

Teams must clean up after themselves in the dugouts after each game

Spectators are expected to clean up their trash in and around the stands after each game

No playing ball while maintenance is in progress

Stay off fields when lined

Stay off fields when wet

Do not hit balls or bats against fence

Do not climb, damage or remove landscaping including but not limited to

Trees

Rocks

Plants/Shrubbery

Grass

[Ordinance 10-1-1-3](#)

No Garden Center or Pool Parking allowed

Any violations of the above may result in immediate removal from park.

## **PITCHERS:**

It is recommended that all pitchers wear protective gear. Players must provide their own gear.

## **PITCHING**

AT THE BEGINNING of a game or when a pitcher relieves another pitcher, not more than one minute may be used to deliver not more than TWO PRACTICE PITCHES to the catcher or some other teammate. Between all other innings, only one practice pitch will be permitted.

### **Legal delivery**

The pitcher must have one foot in contact with the pitching rubber in all divisions. The pitcher may pitch from the pitching plate or from the pitching area, an area the width of the plate and up to six (6) feet behind the pitcher's plate in all divisions

Preliminary to pitching, the pitcher shall take a position with his/her pivot foot firmly on the ground and in contact with the pitching plate or pitching area. The pivot foot must be in contact with the pitcher's plate or pitching area when the pitched ball is released.

After assuming the pitching position on the pitcher's plate or in the pitching area (as allowed in 6.3.A), the pitcher must present the ball in FRONT OF HIS BODY (for at least one second) in either one or both hands before starting the delivery motions. Note: All pitching rules that apply to the pitcher's actions before and during the release of the pitch along with the restrictions on height, speed, etc. shall remain the same.

After the pitcher presents the ball, he may make any windup or arm motions desired, either in front of his body, above his head or behind his back, including stops and pauses in these motions.

The ball must be pitched in a definite underhanded motion at slow speed.

The pitched ball must arc at least 3 feet after leaving the pitcher's hand and before it passes any part of home plate.

The pitched ball shall not rise higher than 10 feet above the ground.

The pitched ball must be released within 5 seconds from the time the pitcher has the ball and the batter has taken his position in the batter's box. From this point, the umpire shall not give a call or signal for "time" unless something unusual occurs.

Pitcher must face home plate on delivery of pitch.

## **PLAYERS**

All slow-pitch games must start with at least nine (9) participants, and finish with no less than NINE (9) participants. However, an out shall be declared when the 10<sup>th</sup> position in the lineup is absent when scheduled to bat.

Managers can add the 10<sup>th</sup> participant at the end of the lineup upon arrival. If a participant is injured he/she can be scratched out of the lineup and each player after will move up in the batting order. If a

participant is ejected and there are no substitutes every time that batter appears in the lineup, he/she will be declared an out.

In coed a minimum of NINE (9) must start a game and finish with no less than NINE (9) players. In the event a team starts with nine (9) there must always be five (5) female players in the lineup and a female bats first in the case of (9) players only. Teams starting with ten (10) players must also have 5 males and 5 females in the lineup. An out shall be declared for the ninth and/or tenth position in the lineup when that position is scheduled to bat. A ninth or tenth player may be added in the ninth and/or tenth position of the line up at any time before the end of the game. Male and female players must alternate in the batting order. Teams must have two males and two females in both the infield and the outfield and one male and one female as pitcher and catcher. Teams cannot have more males than females in the lineup. When a male batter receives a base on balls or intentional walk, he will be awarded first and second base with the next female batter having the option to walk or bat.

**Players may drop ONLY one level. Teams can only have 3 upper level players on roster. Any more than 3, the team is bumped up or must remove the additional player(s) from your roster. If you have more than 3 on your roster and play in the lower division, you are playing with illegal players and the manager is subject to a minimum 1 year suspension.**

**C players may not play E. Managers with C level players on an E team roster are subject to a minimum 1 year suspension,**

**Managers using illegal players may appear before the Sports Advisory Board (SAB) (or the League Director will enforce the rule) and will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) year for using ineligible player(s).**

**The ineligible player may also be required to appear before the SAB.**

All Softball Leagues can bat an unlimited roster.

## **PROTEST**

Two types of protest may be requested.

1. A protest based on the misinterpretation of a playing rule shall be filed by the manager/captain immediately, and before the next legal/illegal pitch is made to the batter. Should a manager/captain decide after play has resumed, or after the game is over, that he/she wished to protest, the protest will be denied. Field Supervisors will have the final decision on all protest.
2. A legal protest must include:
  - a. The date, time, and place of the game.
  - b. The decision and/or condition surrounding the cause for the protest.
  - c. All essential facts involved in the matter of the protest.
3. A protest based on the use of an illegal/unregistered participant. To do so the manager must protest after such participant is entered into the game and prior to such participant completing his/her second time a bat. Upon proper protest the umpire will have participant produce a pictured ID (i.e.: driver's license, school ID, etc.) and game will resume. The umpire will note the protest and inform the Sports Office the following workday. If the questioned player is not on the roster, the game will be forfeited. Failure to present a pictured ID card at the field, during a protest, will result in a forfeit.

## **PENALTY:**

1. Manager(s) may be suspended for one calendar year and must appear before the Advisory Board, if using suspended/unregistered participants. Managers using suspended/unregistered participants will automatically forfeit game at point of detection.
2. All other forfeit rules apply.

## **RUN RULE**

Slow-Pitch Softball (Men – Women – Coed) will use the ten (10) run rule after five complete innings or any inning thereafter.

## **SCORE CARD**

The card should be signed at the end of the game to ensure accurate reporting of scores. Neither the score, nor the standings will be changed if the score card is not signed at the end of the game.

***Make sure you verify the score before you sign the card. Once it's signed, it's official***

## **SCORING**

On a fair fly ball hit over the fence for a home run, the batter and all base runners are credited with a score. The batter and any runner on base do not need to advance and touch the bases. They should go directly to the dugout area. This would eliminate any base running appeals and speed the game up.

## **TIME LIMIT**

Slow-Pitch games shall be fifty-five (55 minutes), or seven innings whichever occurs first. The inning in progress will be completed. If the home team is ahead, the bottom part of that inning will not be played. Time clocks starts after pregame meeting with Team Managers and Umpire.

In case of a tie game at the end of the time limit, or at the end of seven (7) innings whichever occurs first, one extra inning will be played, if teams are tied after the extra inning, it will remain a tie game. The last completed batter must start at second base. A courtesy runner may only be inserted only after the runner on second base has advanced to third base. A courtesy runner must be announced before the next legal pitch.

If teams are still tied at the end of the extra inning, game will be declared a tie.

A game called by the umpire or field supervisor shall be regulation if five or more complete innings have been played.

There will be no infield practice in any softball game, including between innings.

- ▶ HOME TEAM WILL BE DESIGNATED ON THE SCHEDULE.
- ▶ HOME TEAM WILL OCCUPY THE THIRD BASE DUGOUT.

▶ HOME TEAM WILL KEEP THE OFFICIAL SCORE. FAILURE TO HAVE A COMPETENT SCOREKEEPER MAY RESULT IN FORFEITURE OF THE GAME. THE VISITING TEAM HAS THE OPTION OF KEEPING SCORE AND BECOMING HOME TEAM, IF THE HOME TEAM DOESN'T HAVE A COMPETENT SCORE KEEPER.

## **UMPIRES**

Umpires assigned will have the power to banish any manager, participant, or sponsor from the participant's bench or field for misconduct, delay of the game, or any other reason deemed necessary for the good of the game. The umpire's decision shall be final, except those regarding misinterpretation of the playing rules.

All umpires assigned will submit a written report to the Sports Office within twenty-four (24) hours after the game in which an ejection/banishment has occurred. The reports will focus on the team and participant conduct. Any participant causing a forfeit is suspended for a minimum of (2) two games. Any participant banished from the game by the umpire shall be required to leave **(OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF SOUND)** and shall not be allowed to remain in the stands or vicinity of the playing field or direct remarks toward the umpire during the remainder of the game.

**Any participant who is ejected from a game will automatically be suspended from his/her team's next scheduled game. They may be suspended further if they are required to go in front of the Sports Advisory Board.**

Any participant who is banished and does not leave the playing area may cause the game to be forfeited.

Any player causing their team to forfeit will at minimum will be suspended for 3 games. Player(s) may be required to go in front of the Sports Advisory Board. If player goes in front of the Board, they are suspended until their appearance and a decision is handed down by the board.

**When a participant is ejected and your team doesn't have a substitute for the ejected participant that position will be an out every time the ejected participant is up to bat.**

A participant is able to participate on more than one team, as long as he/she plays on teams that are within the same division/league.

**NOTE:** Once a participant has established themselves on a league, he/she **cannot** move to a different league.

**Suspension:** Violation of this rule may result in a one-year suspension from league play.

## **SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD**

1. Made up of participants, managers, and officials.
2. To stay generally informed of the league and of the administration.
3. To make necessary changes.
4. To hand down disciplinary action on participants and managers misconduct as called for by the Participant Code of Conduct.
5. The Sports Advisory Board is always looking for interested individuals who would like to serve on the board.
6. The Advisory Board meets once a month during the months of March – October.

7. If you must appear before the Advisory Board, you will be scheduled for the next available time slot. This may be up to several months from your incident, as the Board's agenda can fill up quickly depending on the number of incidents.

### **APPEALS PROCEDURE FOR ADVISORY BOARD DECISIONS**

Request for appeal must be filed in the Parks and Recreation Department, Sports within five (5) days of notification of the Advisory Board decision. The aggrieved party shall provide written justification for his/her request for an appeal of the Advisory Board decision. Aggrieved party shall also be notified that the appeal will be heard only with enough evidence/testimony not presented during the original Advisory Board Hearing the may have made a difference in the outcome.





# PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT

Softball

Team Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Division(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Night(s) of Play \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE  
PRINT**

The City Sports Program has adopted the following “Participant Code of Conduct” to complement the City of Albuquerque player handbook and sanctioning body rules. These rules of conduct will be strictly enforced during the coming season. It is the manager’s responsibility to ensure all his/her participants and spectators know and adhere to these rules. Sports Advisory Board meets once a month February through November. If you are required to appear before the board, you will be scheduled for the next available opening. This could be several months depending on the case load. You will be suspended until you go in front of the board and a decision has been made regarding time served or continued suspension from City leagues and fields. The Sports Advisory Board has the prerogative of modifying any Participant Code of Conduct rule, and/or penalty, when deemed appropriate.

1. **NO PARTICIPANT SHALL:** At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike or threaten an official. Officials are required to immediately suspend participant from further play, and report such participant to the League Director.
2. **NO PARTICIPANT SHALL:** Refuse to abide by official’s decisions. Officials are required to immediately suspend participant from further play, and report such participant to the League Director.
3. **NO PARTICIPANT SHALL:** Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official’s decision. Only one representative, who must be designated at pre-game, shall be allowed to have any verbal contact with the officials.
4. **NO PARTICIPANT SHALL:** Be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics (in the play of game) against the body, or person, of an opposing participant. Officials are required to report such participant to the League Director.
5. **NO PARTICIPANT SHALL:** Be guilty of physical attack as an aggressor upon any participant, official, field supervisor or spectator. Officials are required to immediately suspend participant from further play and report such participant to the League Director.
6. **NO PARTICIPANT SHALL:** Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any participant, official, field supervisor or spectator. Officials are required to immediately suspend participant from further participation and report such participant to the League Director.
7. Participants are prohibited from the use of alcoholic beverages, or smoking, in the immediate vicinity of the scheduled playing area. Participants, who in the opinion of the umpire appear intoxicated, shall be ejected from the game.
8. Any participant being placed on probation, and reported again for violation of the Code of Conduct, will be given a minimum penalty of suspension for the remainder of the probation period.
9. Any participant removed from a game must leave the recreation facility (**OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF SOUND**) immediately. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the game and suspension for the participant.
10. Throwing of the bat is prohibited.
11. Participant may be held liable for damages caused by negligence.
12. Teams are responsible for the conduct of their spectators. Failure to control disruptive spectators may result in forfeiture of the game to the opposing team.
13. **No glass containers are allowed at City facilities. All beverages brought to City facilities must be in plastic containers or aluminum cans. Failure to do so will result in corrective action.**
14. The rules set forth herein govern the conduct of all Participants before, during and after the game.

By signing this code of conduct, I understand that by violating the code of conduct, rules in City of Albuquerque handbook, or sanctioning body rules, I will be prohibited from play or spectating at City fields until I go in front of the Sports Advisory Board and have been notified in writing of time served or continued suspension from City Leagues/fields.

Participant Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_