

Lumpkin County Parks and Recreation Department



1. GOVERNING AUTHORITY
 - a) The governing authority of this league shall be the Lumpkin County Parks and Recreation Department (LCPR).
 - b) Final decisions concerning the operation of this league shall be made by the Lumpkin County Parks and Recreation Department Administration.
- 2) ENTRY INTO LEAGUE
 - a) Entry fee must be paid with cash, check or money order made payable to LCPR, or credit card (MasterCard or Visa).
 - b) All teams must pay full entry fee and turn in a completed registration form by entry deadline.
 - c) There will be no refunds unless LCPR cancels league.
- 3) ELIGIBILITY
 - a) Age: All participants must be 16 years of age prior to January 1, current year.
 - b) Open League Requirements: Leagues are open to anyone that meets the age requirements.
 - c) Church League Requirements: Church team rosters must meet requirements of pastor of church.
*NOTE: Players eligible for more than one church must choose, prior to the start of the season, only one team to play with for the entire season and post season.
 - d) LCPR may, at its own discretion, investigate any team or individual without a corresponding protest.
- 4) THE SEASON
 - a) The season will consist of a minimum 10 game schedule for each team.
 - b) Forfeits:
 - i) Three (3) forfeits per team during the season will result in an automatic suspension of the team and its players for the remainder of that season.
 - ii) Once a team forfeits a game and the opposing team has been contacted with the notification of the forfeit and resulting win, the forfeit stands. NO EXCEPTIONS. In the event that a previously forfeited game is cancelled due to inclement weather, the forfeit stands and the opposing team receives the win.
 - c) There will be no change in the original schedule unless deemed necessary by the recreation department.
 - d) Rainout games and playoffs will be scheduled according to day and field availability and not according to specific days of the week the league played on during the season.
 - e) If a team is unable to be present for a rescheduled game; and therefore, forfeits the game, and said rescheduled game is rained-out, the forfeit will stand.
 - f) At the conclusion of the regular season, if there is a tie in the league standings, the tiebreak will be as follows:
 - i) Head-to-head record during the regular season
 - ii) Championship game
- 5) THE GAME
 - a) Play will be governed by A.S.A. rules and regulations except where Lumpkin County League Rules apply.
 - b) A pitching box consisting of the area from the front of the pitchers plate, 50 feet from home plate, and extending back 6 feet perpendicular to the pitchers plate shall be used. One foot must remain in contact with the plate/box when the pitch is released with an underhand motion.
 - c) The pitch arc will be 6 to 12 feet as measured from the ground.
 - d) Bases will be 65 feet.
 - e) Stealing is prohibited.
 - f) Each batter will start with a 1 ball/1strike count.
 - g) THE OFFICIAL BALL: The batting team must provide the balls they will hit with at least 2 new balls per game. Balls must meet all of the following conditions:
 - i) .44
 - ii) 3 7 5 maximum compression c. 12 inch
 - h) THE OFFICIAL BAT: Must be a softball bat.
 - i) B a t restrictions apply; see ASA Non-approved Bat List at www.asasoftball.com.

- i) OFFICIAL GAME TIME AND LIMITS:
 - i) Each game will be played with a one (1) hour time limit. Official time is determined by head official. No new inning can begin after the time limit has expired. The ONLY exception is that a tie game will continue until a winner is decided.
 - ii) An official game constitutes seven complete innings or one (1) hour time limit. In the event of inclement weather, lighting failure, etc., five (5) complete innings will constitute an official game.
 - iii) A game that fails to go five (5) innings or one (1) hour shall be treated as a suspended game and will resume later at the exact point stopped. Games that do not complete one (1) inning shall be treated as no game and will be restarted later.
- j) There will not be a grace period. At game time, both teams must be on the field and ready to play; if not, the team(s) will forfeit.
- k) A team must have at least nine (9) players on the field and in uniform in order to begin a game. For COED, 4 of those players must be female. Teams will not have to take an out in the 10th spot in the order. If the 10th player comes in late, he/she may enter the game upon notification of the umpire and bat in the 10th spot of his/her team's batting order.
- l) UNIFORM RULE: Teams are required to wear jerseys of alike color with a manufactured, permanently affixed number on front or back (preferred). ALIKE COLOR refers to the base color of the jersey. The park staff shall make any decision regarding the legality of a jersey. This rule may not be used to protest a game. If a team needs to borrow a pull-over jersey, there will be a limit of (1) per team.
- m) Shoes are mandatory. Rubber cleats or tennis shoes only. No steel cleats.
- n) RUN RULE: A game will be considered completed if a team has the following leads: 20 runs after three (3) complete innings, 15 runs after four (4) complete innings, or 12 after five (5) complete innings. Teams may use a courtesy runner provided the park staff and/or the umpires are notified before the game and approve the request. (A pre-game approved courtesy runner may not advance past 1st base. Any batter/runner that advances past 1st base must remain as a runner.) If a player becomes injured during the game, a courtesy runner may be used provided the umpires AND the opposing team approve the request.
- o) A team that begins with 10 or 11 players may finish the game as long as they have 9 legal players participating. The team will receive outs in those spots unless it is due to an injury.
- p) LEAGUE HOMERUN LIMITS (all leagues)
 - i) 3 homerun limit per team per game.
 - ii) Once a team has hit their number of homeruns per game, the team will receive an out for any additional homeruns.
 - iii) Homeruns are defined as over-the-fence, untouched homeruns only. Inside- the-park homeruns do not count towards limit.
 - iv) When a batter hits a Homerun (untouched over-the-fence) with-in allowed league homerun limits, the batter and all base runners may go directly to the dugout. They do not have to touch any base(s).
- q) Any batter who hits directly at the pitcher will first receive a warning. Second offense is an automatic out and no runners may advance. This will be enforced as a safety rule under the judgment and discretion of the umpire.
- r) The NO CONTACT rule is in effect for base runners. A runner must do everything possible to avoid contact. Runners do not have to slide but must make an attempt to avoid contact. Fielders are not entitled to block a base without "having a play" on the runner. Runners that initiate contact will be called out, and may be ejected from the game at the umpire's discretion. In the event of contact, it is an "Umpire's Judgment" call, as to which player caused the contact.
- s) Third strike foul is an out.

6) PLAYING ROSTERS

- a) Team rosters must completely filled out and turned into league supervisor prior to or at the first game. No team will be allowed to play without a completed roster.
- b) Teams may add or delete players from their roster up to noon of the game day.
- c) A player may appear on only one roster per league. A player may be on different roster in multiple leagues. (I.e. A player can play for a church team and an open team.)
- d) All players must meet all eligibility requirements before being put on a roster.

7) CO-ED

- a) All Lumpkin County Adult Softball League rules and regulations apply, except in the following exceptions:
 - i) BALLS: Same core as regular league rules. Men and Women will hit the 12 inch ball.
 - ii) PLAYERS: Teams must have at least 4 women to start a game.
 - iii) If an EH is used, team must have both male and female EH.
 - (1) If a team is playing with 9 players, the team will not have to take an out in the 10th spot.
 - (2) Batting order must alternate genders.
 - iv) DEFENSIVE POSITIONING: 2 males and 2 females in the outfield, 2 males and females in the infield. Teams do not have to alternate genders in positions in the field.
 - v) Out fielders must remain behind a 180 foot line while female is batting, until she makes contact with the ball. PENALTY: Automatic double to the batter.
- b) When any male batter draws a walk (intentional or not), he is awarded both 1st and 2nd base. The next batter (a female) will bat. EXCEPTION: With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.

8) PROTESTS AND PENALTIES

- a) Definition of ILLEGAL PLAYER: A player that is in violation of substitution rules or is not listed on playing roster, not of legal playing age, or does not meet church requirements.
- b) Protest
 - i) The only legal protest shall be one which involves a violation of the playing rules or the use of an illegal player.

- ii) The manager/coach raising a protest of a play situation shall inform the umpire he/she is protesting before the next legal pitch. The manager/coach must also submit a written protest with a \$25.00 protest fee to the LCPR Community Center by 5:00pm the next working day following the game in question.
 - iii) The manager/coach raising a player protest shall inform the umpire he/she is protesting the use of an illegal player before the conclusion of the game. The manager/coach must also submit a written protest with a \$50.00 protest fee to the LCPR Main Office by 5:00pm the next working day following the game in question. The protest fee is \$50.00 per player.
- c) Penalties
- i) The use of an illegal player shall result in the forfeiture of the game in question and any prior game in which the illegal player participated.
 - ii) A player who is guilty of playing on more than one team in the same league will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
 - iii) Any team that allows a player from another team to play for them will forfeit the game in question plus their next scheduled game.
 - iv) All protest fees will be refunded if protest is upheld. Games protested on rules interpretation will be replayed from point of protest.
 - v) The penalties for violating the restricted bat rule are as follows:
- 9) First offense is an automatic out on the batter.
- 10) Second offense is a 2-game team suspension and \$50 team fine. All fines and fees must be paid before the team is allowed to participate in any LCPR program.
- 11) Third offense will result in a 1-year suspension for the team and all players.
- 12) ELIGIBLE LEAGUES FOR LOCAL PLAY
- a) WOMEN'S OPEN
 - b) MEN'S OPEN
 - c) COED OPEN
 - d) COED CHURCH
- 13) PLAYER CONDUCT
- a) Any player or coach ejected from a game for ANY reason will be suspended at the discretion of the league supervisor as follows:
 - i) 1st offense -- 2 games + a \$50.00 fine
 - ii) 2nd offense -- 2 games + a \$50.00 fine
 - iii) 3rd offense -- suspension for 1 calendar year

** Ejections do not carry over season to season; however fines must be paid prior to further participation.

* NOTE: Players and coaches who are ejected may appeal the resulting suspension. A 3rd ejection in one season may not be appealed. A written appeal and a \$25.00 appeal fee must be turned in to the league supervisor by 5:00pm the next working day. If the appeal is upheld, the fee will be returned.
 - b) Team manager/coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her players and spectators.
 - c) Team manager/coach is the only person authorized to discuss a play situation with the officials.
 - d) Drinking of alcoholic beverages at any park facility will not be tolerated. Any player or spectator under the influence of intoxicants will be immediately removed from the facility and subject to suspension.
 - e) Smoking is only allowed in the designated smoking areas.
 - f) Profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, verbal and/or physical abuse of officials, scorekeepers, or LCPR staff by players, managers/coaches, or spectators will not be tolerated. Offenders will be suspended.
 - g) LCPR may suspend without probation, any participant or spectator who, in LCPR's judgment, creates or is involved in creating a disturbance that endangers the health and safety of players, officials, park staff or spectators.
 - h) Fines and suspensions are subject to review by a LCPR appeal board.
 - i) All fines and fees must be paid before a player or team is allowed to participate in any LCPR program.
- 14) AWARDS
- a) No Team Awards will be given.
 - b) Individual awards will be given to first place teams only; 20 awards per team will be given.
 - c) At the conclusion of the regular season, if there is a tie in the league standings, the tiebreak will be as follows:
 - i) Head-to-head record during the regular season
 - ii) Championship game
- 15) OTHER POLICIES/RULES
- a) Park Rules
 - b) Refund Policy
 - c) Zero Tolerance Policy

All above rules and policies will be strictly enforced.