

**ELYRIA PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**131 COURT ST. SUITE 103**  
**TELEPHONE: 440-326-1500**  
**SOFTBALL RAIN-OUT HOTLINE: 440-322-7696**  
**ADULT SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL RULES**

The Elyria Parks and Recreation Department will follow the One Nation Slowpitch By-Laws governing all play except as noted in these rules.

**I. ELIGIBILITY**

- A. Men's & Co-ed Leagues: All players must be 18 years of age or older to participate. It is the manager's responsibility to assure compliance with Ohio's high school eligibility requirements for high school sports.
- B. Any changes in player status during the first half must be referred to the evening supervisor at West Park. Second half eligibility is based on the player's status at the scheduled conclusion of the first half of play

**II. UMPIRE FEES.**

**\$12.50 per team/game, \$25 a night per team**

**Teams are required to pay umpire fees directly to the umpire on the field before league play begins.**

**\*\*There is no forfeit fee. If you forfeit a game your team is responsible for paying all (both teams) umpire fees. You must pay all umpire fees prior to your next scheduled games.**

**FORFEIT UMPIRE FEE**

**All Leagues                      \$25.00 PER GAME**

**III. ROSTERS**

- A. All rosters will be limited to twenty players. Once a player's name has been added to the roster it can not be removed. A player can be on one roster per league. If a player is on more than one roster in the same league – those teams will forfeit any games that player has participated in.
- B. Rosters are due prior to the first regular season game. Rosters may be submitted at West Park to the evening supervisor on opening night or at the Elyria Parks and Recreation Department during office hours.
- C. Rosters will be kept on file at the Elyria Parks and Recreation office throughout the season. Roster changes may be made by calling the Parks and Recreation Office or by e-mailing the Recreation Supervisor.
- D. Rosters will be frozen (No changes allowed) after the third (3rd) week of the season has been completed. Or when twenty names appear on the roster. Changes after that date may only be made due to an emergency injury and/or illness.
- E. It is the responsibility of the manager to make sure that the roster is properly filled out and all information is accurate.
- F. Any person listed incorrectly on the roster will cause the team to forfeit the game or games the ineligible player participated in and may result in the suspension of the manager and player.

**IV. LEAGUE ORGANIZATION**

- A. League rules and organizations will be determined by The Elyria Parks and Recreation Department.
- B. The Elyria Parks and Recreation Department will make the final decision concerning all requests.

## V. GENERAL

- A. There will be no warm-up in the infield or outfield before or during games. The pitcher shall be given three-warm up pitches before each half inning. After the batter is retired or play has ceased the ball must be returned directly to the pitcher.
- B. Line-ups must be submitted ten minutes before the scheduled game time. Inform the umpire of all substitutions prior to the player entering. A lineup card will be placed in the fence by the umpire.
- C. Each team will receive a scorebook. One person from each team will keep score for their teams. They should verify the score after each half inning. When there is a discrepancy in the score, which cannot be corrected by the umpire, the home team scorebook will be official. Results for each half inning will be official and irreversible when the first pitch, legal, or illegal is made in the next half inning.
- D. One new ball will be provided for each game. All of the leagues will use the Gold Dot Extreme Ball.

## VI. SCHEDULE

- A. Games will be scheduled at West Park Softball Fields. Game times will be 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.  
**Grace period of 10 (ten) minutes for the first game ONLY.**

## VII. GAMES

- A. All teams must have at least nine players to start and complete a game.
- B. Seven innings constitutes a full game.
  - 1. Games will be limited to one hour. The umpires watch shall be the official time.
  - 2. Run Rule will be as follows for all leagues:
    - a. 15 runs after 4 innings and 10 runs after 5 innings
- C. Games terminated by the time limit will end and the winner will be determined as follows:
  - 1. If the visiting team is at bat when time expires the score shall be that of the last completed inning.
  - 2. If the home team is at bat when time expires the inning shall be completed but no new inning started.
  - 3. When seven full innings have been completed and the score is tied the game shall continue until a winner is determined.
- D. Games suspended in the middle of an inning:
  - 1. Revert back to the last complete inning.
- E. No new inning will be started after 12:00 midnight. Any inning in progress may be completed. The supervisor's watch or the person he designates will be the official.
- F. In case of rain or other inclement weather at least five innings must be played for the game to be official.
- G. The Elyria Parks and Recreation Department will reschedule games that are cancelled as fields become available. Copies of the schedule can be obtained from the evening supervisor.

## VIII. SPECIAL RULES

- E. Metal spikes will not be permitted in any Leagues. Players will be asked to remove all metal spikes. Failure to do so will result in a player being ejected.
- F. In all Leagues the batter will start with one and one count (one ball & one strike).
- G. Any player hitting the ball over the fence for a Home Run does not have to run the bases. All base runners will advance to home plate automatically.
- H. Jewelry: Any exposed jewelry such as wristwatches, bracelets, any type of earrings, neck chains, or any other item judged dangerous by the umpire may not be worn during the game. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry but if worn, they must be taped to the body. NOTE: Players may be asked to remove jewelry and if they fail to do so, they will be ejected from the game.

- I. Extra Hitters:
  - 1. Two (2) extra hitters may be utilized in the lineup.
  - 2. These 2 players need to be on the official lineup at the beginning of the game.
  - 3. Extra Hitters may be substituted in the field at any time and at any position.
  
- G. Courtesy Runners:
  - 1. Teams may use a courtesy runner every inning and the courtesy runner may be anyone on the roster.
  - 2. Courtesy runners may be used unlimited times for one player per inning.
  - 3. If the courtesy runner is on base and comes to bat, an out will be taken for that spot in the order.
  - 4. There will be no substitution for a courtesy runner.
  
- H. We will utilize a Designated Homerun Hitter (DHH) as explained in the GSL By-Laws:
  - 1. All teams may have one (1) designated homerun hitter (DHH) that, without penalty, may hit a homerun every time at bat.
  - 2. Teams must designate their DHH prior to the start of the game, or there won't be a DHH for that team.
  - 3. If the DHH is walked, whether intentional or not, the next person to hit a home run may do so without penalty, until the DHH's spot comes back up in the line-up.

## **IX. CODE OF DISCIPLINE**

- A. Players, managers, coaches, and spectators are reminded that good sportsmanship is required of all participants. The supervisor and the umpire may remove any player from the game when they feel this is not being complied with or it becomes necessary to keep the game under control.
- B. Any player, manager, or coach ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct from a game will become ineligible to play in the remainder of that game and will also receive an automatic one game suspension to be served when his or her team plays its next game.
- C. Players ejected from a game must leave the park immediately. Failure to comply with this rule may result in further penalties.
- D. Any player ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct may be suspended for any number of games up to and including the remainder of the season as deemed necessary by the Elyria Parks and Recreation Department or its designee.
- E. The second time a player, manager, or coach is ejected during the season they become ineligible for the remaining regular season and post season games.
- F. Any player, manager, or coach who is ejected from a game for flagrant conduct, automatically becomes ineligible for the remaining regular season and post-season games.
- G. Any time there is an altercation between two or more players of opposing teams and the benches clear, the staff supervisor or umpires can declare the game a forfeit or if warranted issue a double forfeit. The second time during the season if either of the teams is involved in a similar incident they will receive a multiple game suspension.
- H. Player Eligibility:
  - 1. If there's a question of a players' eligibility, the player must have identification with them and show the umpire. The umpire will make note of the player's name on the scorecard and roster will be checked the following morning. If player is ineligible then the game will be forfeited.
  - 2. In a case where ineligible players are used, the penalty will be:
    - a. The illegal player may become ineligible to participate in the Elyria Parks and Recreation Department Adult Slow-pitch Softball Program for the remainder of the season. This will include all remaining season and post season games. All games participated in by the illegal player shall be forfeited.

- b. The manager, or in his or her absence, the person signing the line-up card, may become ineligible to participate in the remaining regular and post season games. Any manager or player who becomes ineligible under this rule is not permitted inside the field enclosure (fenced in area) for all remaining regular season and post-season games.

I. Players and managers may only be affiliated with one team per league.

J. **Smoking is not permitted on the playing field, or dugout area.**

K. All players must remain inside the dugout. After one warning is issued, the umpire is authorized to forfeit the game if the team refuses to co-operate.

L. The decision of the Elyria Parks and Recreation Department concerning suspensions of individuals or team is final. Protests will not be accepted.

M. **NO CHILDREN IN DUGOUT OR ON PLAYING FIELD.**

N. Alcohol is prohibited at the West Park Softball Complex. This includes the parking lot, playing fields, warm-up area and dugouts.

## **X. PROTESTS**

A. The Elyria Parks and Recreation or its designee will decide all protests concerning league matters. The Elyria Parks and Recreation Department will have the final decision.

B. All protests must be submitted in writing accompanied by a \$50.00 protest fee and submitted to the Elyria Parks and Recreation Department, 131 Court St. #103, by 4:00 p.m. (following business day) after the completion of the game. They must notify the umpire of their intent to protest the game before the next pitch, legal or illegal. If the protest is upheld the \$50.00 fee will be refunded.

C. A written protest must include:

1. A complete description of the situation being protested.
2. A description of the misinterpreted rule. Judgment calls are not grounds for a legal protest.
3. Indicate the correct rule on which you base your protest.

## **XI. INJURY AND LOST ARTICLES**

A. All players are reminded they assume all responsibility for injuries they receive.

B. The Elyria Parks and Recreation Department is not responsible for lost or stolen personal items. Players should remember to remove all personal items from the dugout upon completion of their game.

## **XII. PLAYOFFS**

A. Leagues playoff will be determined by the staff of the Elyria Parks & Recreation Department.

B. League titles will be determined by the staff of the Elyria Parks & Recreation Department.

**EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO PLAY ALL GAMES. IN EVENT WE CANNOT A CHAMPION WILL BE CROWNED AND NO REFUND GIVEN.**

## **XIII. CONCLUSION**

These rules have been created to improve the program operation and to create an optimum level of safety and enjoyment. They are not inclusive and cannot begin to cover every situation that can or may occur. **Any situation not specifically covered by the One Nation Slowpitch By-Laws or these rules shall be decided by the Elyria Parks and Recreation Department.**