

**WILMINGTON RECREATIONAL DEPARTMENT
INDUSTRIAL CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE
RULES – 2008**

I. ORGANIZATION

- A. This league shall be known as the Wilmington Industrial Co-Ed Softball League.
- B. The purpose of the Wilmington. Rec. Dept sponsored adult leagues is to provide an opportunity for recreation activity to those qualified under the following regulations:
 - 1. The player must work for the team sponsor (permanent, full-time employee of the company).
 - 2. 5 (five) Non-Company players are allowed to play on said sponsored team. These are players NOT employed at sponsored company. Within this number you are allowed both male & female players. **If a person leaves your company, they can come back and play as one of the 5 Non-company players. If a player leaves the company during the current season, they can continue to play as a company member until the end of the season. If they continue to play the following season they will be included as one of you 5 non-company members.**

The league coaches may, by majority vote, change these rules, as they deem necessary and/or suitable.

The league Commissioner has the right to limit membership of teams or individuals due to time restrictions, scheduling problems, or past expressions of bad faith.

These rules of policy will be binding upon all teams, individuals, and sponsors of the various leagues as approved by the Recreation Committee.

II. MEETINGS

The Commissioner shall call an organizational meeting during February, and other meetings may be called when deemed necessary by the Commissioner.

III. PLAYING RULES & REGULATIONS

- A. The Co-Ed League shall play all games in accordance with A.S.A. Rules, except where these rules have been modified by the league due to local conditions.
- B. The Commissioner may cancel a contest before it begins no later than 4PM. Cancellations will be sent out via email to all League coaches. Once the game has begun, only the Chief Umpire may cancel the contest. If inclement weather causes postponement of a game, the Commissioner shall be responsible for rescheduling that game.
- C. First game times shall start as scheduled, but no later than 15 minutes after scheduled time. (5:30PM start time / 5:45PM grace period)
- D. The schedule and playoff procedures shall be decide by the Leagues Coaches.
- E. Tie Games will be replayed and postponed games played when rescheduled by the Commissioner (Games becomes official after 5 complete innings.)

F. Teams will consist of 10 players offensively and defensively (minimum-9) that includes 3 members of the opposite sex.

1. Teams will have choice of using all players offensively with free substitution defensively, which will include 3 members of the opposite sex defensively. (If a player cannot complete the game they will be dropped from the batting order. Players arriving late can be inserted at the end of the lineup.)
2. Teams that do not use all players offensively will hand a lineup to opposing team and when substitutions are made.
3. Teams that only have 2 members of the opposite sex will play 9 players defensively and the number 4 spot in the batting order will be an automatic out. (If umpire determines that the batter before the out was walked intentionally – the out will be eliminated.)
4. Teams that only have 1 player of the opposite sex will play with 9 defensively and the number 4 & 8 spots in the lineup will be automatic outs. (If the umpire determines that the batter before an automatic out was walked intentionally –the out will be eliminated.)
5. Teams that do not have a member of the opposite sex will forfeit the contest.
6. When female batters are at bat only 4 defensive players will be allowed in the infield. Outfielders will only be allowed to make defensive plays after the ball crosses the outfield grass. Violation will result in base hit to batter. **There will be a line drawn in the outfield 40 feet from the infield; the outfielder will NOT be allowed to pass this line until the female batter hits the ball.**
7. Teams that lose a member of the opposite sex because of injury or for personal reason – that spot in the order will be an automatic out.

G. No Bunting, no stealing. Runners may leave the base after pitched ball crosses home plate. Runners only advance after ball is hit.

H. PITCHING RULE – 2000

The slow Pitch Rule will be the same as defined in the A.S.A Rules handbook with a 6-12-foot arc.

I. SCORING – The Home Team will be responsible for keeping score. (If the home team does not have enough players to keep score – they will reserve the right to decline the responsibility to the visiting team if they wish to accept it.)

J. RUNNER SUBSTITUTION – The Opposing Team Coach/Mgr. is allowed to pick a gender substitution, male for male, female for female.

K. OUT RULE – A pitcher cannot walk a male to get to a female player; **4 balls thrown in a row, the female batter has the option of hitting or taking the walk.**

L. HOME RUN RULE – Progressive Home Run rule is in effect during all games. The first team is allowed to hit three (3) home runs, then, the second team must hit 3 home runs in order for the first team to advance to 4. If Team #1 hits 4 home runs and Team #2 only has 1, the home run that is hit is confined to a single.

M. RE-ENTRY RULE – ~~Allows substitutes to reenter game after having been taken out. They must return to original spot in order and the person who replaced them is removed.~~

N. TEAM ROSTER PER GAME – Each team should have their game roster to the opposing team before the throw of the 1st (first) pitch of the game.

O. GAME SCORES – Each team will call or email the score into the Commissioner (commish@wilmssoftball.com) the day after the game and report the score regardless of win or loss.

IV. FOREFIT

A. A team may forfeit a game in these cases:

1. Failure to field the prescribed number of players
2. Failure to observe regulations pertaining to rosters (Ineligible Players)
3. Abusive language or action toward another player, an umpire or a spectator by one or more players.
4. The umpire will terminate the game if after 5 complete offensive innings if the losing team is behind by MORE THAN 12 RUNS.

B. If a team forfeits a game and a so-called exhibition game is played, no records are kept. All fees are to be paid

C. Any team forfeiting 2 games during the regular scheduled season will be dropped from the league.

V. PROTESTS

A. No protests will be considered which involve judgment calls.

B. All protests will be presented to the Chief Umpire and opposing team by the Manager or Acting manager of the team during the game immediately following the incident prompting such action.

C. All protests must be delivered in writing to the Commissioner before the completion of the next scheduled league date of the incident under protest, accompanied by a \$5.00 fee which shall be returned if the situation causing the protests, as well as the citing of the specific rule whose violation caused the protest, is ruled in favor of the protesting team.

D. The Commissioner will hear and rule on all protests within one week from the time they received such a protest. Both managers may present their case before them, and they may call for any supplementary information they deem necessary.

VI. UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

A. All teams are encouraged but not required to have uniform shirts.

B. All metal spikes will be considered **ILLEGAL**. Only rubber cleats or rubber sole shoes or sneakers will be allowed. No street shoes or work boots.

C. The Dudley SB12 is the official ball. Each team will supply a new ball each game

D. Upon completion of the game, one ball will be returned to each team. (Teams are responsible for retrieving balls out of play.)

E. Each team must provide their own catchers masks and enforce that they are worn each game.

VII. ROSTERS

- A. All players participating in the Co-Ed League will be listed on the team roster before they compete. 30-player maximum
 - 1. Rosters will be passed in by the first game of the season. Any changes to this roster must be made by the 3rd game of the season.
 - 2. After the 3rd game of the season Rosters will then be closed for the remainder of the season.
- B. All players must be registered and must have participated in half (1/2) the regular season games to be eligible for playoffs with that team. Team coaches and the Commissioner will police this.
- C. **Any violation of roster rules is cause for forfeiture of all games played to that point.**

VII. CONDUCT

- A. Managers and players must conduct themselves as gentlemen/ladies. No abusive language and no drinking of alcoholic beverage is permitted. These rules also apply for all fans that accompany a team – No abusive language and drinking of alcoholic beverages will be permitted. The team Coach will control this. Removal and suspension from the league will be enforced for conduct violation.
- B. Managers and players on any roster are not allowed to drink alcoholic beverages at the Town Park during any function sponsored by the Co-Ed League, such as exhibition or benefit games. (The Town Park will be defined as any area within the gates of the main road.)
- C. Minimum penalties for ejection from the field of play or the bench:
 - 1. A player ejected for the first time – warning.
 - 2. A player ejected for the second time – one game suspension.
 - 3. A player ejected for the third time – automatic suspension pending meeting of managers.
 - 4. The Commissioner/Managers may, at their discretion, increase the penalty for flagrant violations.
- D. No Smoking is allowed in the coaching boxes or on the field of play.

XI. FEES

- A. Fees will be decided by the Commissioner. All fees will be paid **BEFORE** the start of the regular season.
- B. Each team will split the Umpire fees per each game.

X. PLAYING AREA

The field shall be considered to mean any area within the confined of the exterior fence.

INFIELD: All balls will be in play that does not go beyond the fences.

OUTFIELD: A fly ball, in fair territory, hit over the fence is a home run. A fair hit bounding over the fence is a two-base hit. A fair hit which goes through the fence or beyond the fence in foul territory is a two-base hit. Any other hit to the outfield **REMAINS IN PLAY**.

MISCELLANEOUS

Selection of New Teams – When an opening occurs in the league, we will advertise that opening. Any team wishing to enter the league will submit a roster that fulfills the league eligibility requirements. The Commissioner will review the applicant's roster to verify eligibility and select the number of teams to fill the openings.

Manager's Note: Starting times and forfeit times **will be enforced as written** – if the minimum amount of players are not in the **bench area** (*not* right field foul area) at forfeit time, the game will be forfeited.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO CONSUME ALCOHOLIC BEVRAGES ON TOWN PROPERTY. THIS INCLUDES TOWN PARKS. PLAYERS' OBSERVED ENGAGING IN PUBLIC DRINKING WILL BE SUSPENDED.

**PER ORDER
WILMINGTON RECERATIONAL DEPT.**