



2014 Biddeford COED Fall Ball League Rules

Rule Adoption for the 2014 Season **(Cancellation Hotline 571-1616)**

We will be adopting all ASA Softball Rules governing COED Slow Pitch Softball Leagues except the following:

- 1) There must be four women in the playing field and batting order.
- 2) Women must be split evenly between the outfield and the infield positions.
- 3) The entire bench (25) may be in the batting order. The batting order shall lead off with a woman, and alternate, man-woman-man-woman (a woman in positions 1, 3, 5, 7). If more than 4 women are in the order there is no requirement for the additional players.
- 4) You may start a game short two players (both may be men, or women).
 - A) **A team may start the game with eight players.** If the ninth and/or tenth player arrives, they must play and be added to the bottom of the line-up, they may enter the field immediately. If a team has sufficient players present, they must start with ten. Teams may drop down to eight from the original line-up in the following cases: injury, work commitment. In the case of work commitment, the Umpire must be informed at the start of the game.
 - B) If you are short two women, one still must be in the outfield and one in the infield.
 - C) If you are short a woman in the field, you cannot substitute a man in the playing position.
- 5) A team may add players to the bottom of the lineup after a game has started.
- 6) Teams may pick up players from another league team to fill spots in their lineup up to 10 players, to avoid forfeits.
- 7) **Intentional walks:** If a man is intentionally walked to get to the next batter, which is a woman, the woman gets the choice whether she wants to hit or take first base. This must be an intentional walk, at the umpire's discretion. During an unintentional walk, this rule will not apply.
- 8) **Run Rule:** To call a game on the run rule is as follows:
 - 20 runs ahead after 4 innings
 - 12 runs ahead after 5 innings
- 9) **Rosters:** are limited to a 25-person team, all players must register online before playing.
- 10) There will be one umpire for each game.
- 11) No playoff tournament will be held.
- 12) Equipment **Bats-** All bats will be tested and stickered before use in league play, and are subject to retesting at anytime **Balls:** The Home team is responsible for one 11" game ball per game. The visiting team is responsible for one 12" game ball per game. If either ball is lost during the game, it is the responsibility of the teams to replace the game ball with a ball from their practice bag. The Recreation Department only provides one ball to each team per game; so two balls total are used for each game.
- 13) **Uniforms:** All teams should wear shirts of a uniform color and design with six inch numbers on the back, wearing of hats is optional. Sweatshirts and undershirts may be worn.



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14) There will be one division of play.

15) **Courtesy Runner:** A courtesy runner is allowed for an injured player or for ADA compliance, after the runner has reached first base. A man will run for a man and a woman for a woman, it will be the last batted out made. Only 1 runner of each gender will be allowed per inning, at the umpires' discretion.

16) If a game is protested for any reason, it must be protested with the umpire at the time the problem occurs. The protest must conform to ASA rules and then the game may go on from there under protest. No Monday morning after the fact protests will be honored.

17) **Outfield Rule:** As an outfielder, you must maintain a minimum of 30 feet (10 yards) off the infield dirt until the batter makes contact, no matter if a male or female is batting.

18) **Metal spikes** are not allowed, after a warning, an ejection will result.

19) **Kids in Dugout:** For safety reasons, no one under the age of 13 shall be allowed on the playing fields or in the dugouts during games. Umpires will ask teams to remove such persons and will declare a forfeit for non-compliance.

20) **Batters Count: 1-1,** We will allow 2 fouls on the third strike—If you hit a foul on the third strike, you will be allowed one more foul (unless the foul is caught, then you are out.)

21) Teams are responsible for their own First Aid kit(s). It is strongly recommended that each team have a minimum of a basic First Aid kit, and ice packs, with them at all times.

22) Smoking is not allowed on the playing field. Smoking is not allowed in the dugouts. Smoking on the playing field or in the dugouts can result in ejection from the game.

23) Games that are postponed, that have not completed 5 innings (official game) will be replayed from the start.

24) Soccer goals need to be moved to foul territory before and after the games each week, please replace the sand bags.

25) **Extra Innings:** In any inning after 7, each half inning will start with a base runner on 2nd base, this will be the last batted out.

26) **Alcohol Rule:** Penalty for abuse of alcohol rule:

A) First Offense: Player(s) will be suspended for five (5) games.

B) Second Offense: Team will be suspended for two (2) games. Penalty for first offense applies to player(s) involved.

C) Third Offense: Team will be ejected from the League for the season. Players will not be Eligible for playoffs and tournaments sponsored by the League.

26) **Player Conduct:** Any player who willfully strikes, shoves, runs into, or grabs a Participant, Umpire could face a one-year suspension from the League as well as disciplinary action from ASA. Players will not be allowed to continue in League play until a hearing is held.

A) Players ejected from a game for profanity, berating Umpires, etc. are subject to an **automatic one-game suspension** from the League to be served at the team's next scheduled game, including regular season games, play-offs, or League-sponsored tournaments.

B) Three ejections of the same player will result in dismissal from the League. Players ejected for any of the above reasons may be suspended for additional time. The umpires shall file a written report with the Assignor.



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C) The department, after a hearing, may drop teams that are constant violators of League Rules or good sportsmanship without refund. Any report of drinking or use of illegal drugs (as defined by State of Maine law), by a player on the playing field(s), practice areas, spectator areas, or parking areas could result in the suspension of that player or team. This includes those players/teams still in uniform that have completed Play-Off or tournament play.