# SPECIAL LEAGUE RULES FOR CO-REC LEAGUES

The following in-house rules will be in effect for the softball season. The current MSF/NSF Official softball rules will prevail with the following additions and/or exceptions:

1. Three (3) balls, two (2) strike count with **NO COURTESY** foul allowed will be in effect for all league games. (Note: On the 2nd strike foul ball, the ball is dead and the base runners can’t advance).
2. Home team must supply a new ball (which was provided by the athletics department) otherwise the other team automatically becomes the home team.
3. A minimum of 8 eligible players must be present to start and finish a game, but can’t have more men than women.
4. Games will be seven (7) innings with a one-hour time limit. No new inning should begin after the 55-minute mark. Note: games can end in ties.
5. *Run Rule* – If one team is ahead by 15 runs or more after 3-1/2 - 4 innings; or 10 runs or more after 4-1/2 – 5 innings, the game will end.
6. A team may elect to bat all players at the game (open ended batting order). To do this the team manager must inform the umpire and the other team prior to the start of the game. Teams may not subtract batters except for injury. Additions can only be made before the batting order has been completed once. Note: In Co-Rec the batting order must be alternating between men and women. **AT NO TIME MAY THERE BE MORE MEN THAN WOMEN IN THE BATTING ORDER**. The batting order must remain in the same order throughout the game (no rotating an extra male batter through out the order). Teams can bat more women than men but this will cause the women to bat back to back at the end of the order. Any combination of 5 men and 5 women may play on defense. If a player gets injured and there is no substitute, that spot in the batting order will be skipped over with no penalty. If a player leaves early or is ejected and there are no subs, that spot in the order will be an automatic out.
7. A courtesy runner shall be allowed for a player injured during the game.
8. If a male walks he automatically goes to 2nd Base. The female than has the option of walking or hitting.
9. Males and females may play any defensive position irrespective of other player’s positions. (Don’t need a minimum number of men or women in the outfield or infield). Also outfielders can play anywhere that they want to, there is no outfield line in use this year.
10. Players cannot switch positions (except during a pitching change or injury substitution) or physically overlap another fielder until the ball is hit.
11. Steel spikes are not allowed.
12. No infield practice is allowed before the games. Teams should warm-up in the outfields. Game times usually are 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, & 9:15 pm
13. **DRINKING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** shall not be allowed on the fields, the bench area or the bleachers during the game. Offending players will be ejected from the game. Also **no smoking allowed** in the City of Anoka Parks.
14. The Weather cancellation Voice Message Hotline is 763-506-7840. Team managers and players should call this hotline number to find out if games are effected by the weather. The message will not be updated until 4:00 pm each day. If a game is not called off at 4:00 pm, the umpire will then decide at the field if games will be played.
15. **The Home Run Rules** – All Men’s & Co-Rec Teams are allowed 2 Home Runs per team. After the your allotment of home runs have been hit, each additional non-touched or deflected ball that goes over the fence will be considered an out.
16. **Interference Rule** – A) If a runner does not slide or get out of the way during a double play situation, the runner and the batter will be declared out if the umpire feels a double play could have been made, regardless if the ball was thrown or not. THINK SAFETY FIRST!! Note: If another runner was originally on 2nd or 3rd base, he/she will be declared out rather than the batter. ALSO - B) On a close play at a base which will result in a tag being applied, the runner must slide or avoid making any contact with the defensive player. If the umpire feels the runner didn’t make an attempt to slide or avoid contact on a tag play (at any base) the runner will be declared out.
17. **No Dig Rule (in the batters box)** – A batter is not allowed to dig any type of hole in the batters box. Digging is defined as moving dirt out of the batters box and/or actually creating a hole in the batters box. The first offense, by a team, will result in a strike being called on the batter. The 2nd offense, by a team, will result in the batter being called out. The 3rd and any other offense, by a team, will result in the batter being ejected from the game.
18. **Casual Profanity/ Family Atmosphere Rule** – Casual profanity pertains to expletives not directed at umpires or opposing players, but uttered by a player, manager/coach frustrated with themselves, a teammate or a fan. (Examples: A player swearing after popping out, striking out, or booting a ball). This type of “casual “profanity will be penalized by ‘”outs” being declared against the offending team. (Check rule manual for more details).
19. All teams are responsible to put all their trash in the garbage cans provided at the fields. If it is determined that a team isn’t putting their trash in the cans, then they will be fined.