

AUBURN BALL ASSOCIATION 2011 ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Offer residents and visitors of Auburn and surrounding counties an opportunity to participate in an organized softball program. The experience is designed to stress fun, fair play and good sportsmanship in all facets of the game. Players and spectators alike should try to remember that the game is not meant to be a win at all costs situation, but one where everyone can enjoy themselves and participate in the game for it's recreational value.

This program is run by volunteers as a fundraising project for the youth baseball & softball programs of the Auburn Ball Association.

II. BALL COMPLEX

The City of Auburn Ball Complex improvements continue. Field lights will be installed on Field 2 in late May. It is our intention at this time to move the Summer Corec Adult softball league to Field 2 starting in June. The purpose of this is to allow more convenient access to the restroom facilities located in the Auburn Civic Center and also to allow for possible concession sales. Further improvements to the complex include rotating Field one so it's home plate is adjacent to the Civic Center building as well.

III. SCHEDULES

The Auburn Ball Association reserves the right to adjust the schedules, game times, and locations as deemed necessary. Check out schedules online at www.auburnball.com/Adult_Softball.html

IV. ROSTERS

The ABA Summer Corec Adult Softball League does not require rosters to be turned in at this time. The league originated as a "Just For Fun" type league and subsequently has been less formal than other leagues. However the nature of human competition makes that difficult. ***Please avoid picking up multiple players on game day from other teams.*** This is beginning to become a problem that is causing some tension and if it continues rosters will be required in the future. Please do not sign up a team unless you are certain you can field a full team on most game days.

V. ASA BALLS

The official ball of play for Men's is the 12" ball, Women's play with an 11" ball; Co-Rec leagues utilize the same size as previously stated. All balls should be Core.44 and show the ASA stamp of approval. Teams will hit their own balls. Umpire has the right to reject any ball.

VI. GAME DATES/TIMES

All games will have a 60-minute time limit. NO GRACE PERIOD; see league schedule for starting times.

VI. UNIFORMS

Teams shirts are optional and are not a requirement to play in ABA's softball leagues. However, a shirt, shorts, and shoes are to be worn at all times.

VII. SHOES

Metal cleats are illegal and may not be worn in ABA slow-pitch leagues. Only rubber soled/plastic soccer style or appropriate athletic shoes are allowed.

VIII. UMPIRES

This program shall make use, when possible of ASA registered officials.

IX. RAINOUTS

For possible cancellation due to rain or inclement weather, see www.auburnball.com or follow the ABA on Facebook. The web site may not always be updated on game day but Facebook will & text alerts will be sent to those who indicate to receive them on the registration form.

Rainouts will be made up at the earliest possible date. See http://www.auburnball.com/Adult_Softball.html for make up dates.

X. FLAGRANT and UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Any/all foul language/gestures directed at an opponent, umpire, scorekeeper, spectator, and/or SCPR staff may result in the immediate ejection and or suspension of the player(s) in question. Continued abuse will result in the game being forfeited. The umpire's decision in this matter is not protestable. Managers/coaches are reminded that they are responsible to control their players' and spectators' actions, before, during and after participation in the program on all ABA parkland.

XI. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND OR 3.2 BEER

Any player(s) seen with alcoholic beverages or 3.2 beer on City of Auburn properties prohibited by City of Auburn Ordinance 3-104. Teams will be suspended in violation of 3-104. Any alcoholic beverages in dugouts before or during the game will make that game subject to forfeit. Managers/coaches will be mailed violations/suspension notices. Repeat offenders will be immediately suspended from ALL play at the complex.

XII. PROBATION

Any player(s) that are ejected from a game for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct and alcohol consumption will be immediately placed on probation for the remainder of the season. The Auburn Ball Association reserves the right to remove any individual or team from the league for such conduct or use other disciplinary action as deemed necessary. Any future problem caused by a player or team on probation will result in that player or team's status being reviewed as to further participation in league play. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE ISSUED FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.

XIII. SUSPENSION

Any player or team that is ejected from a game, due to flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, shall immediately leave the park. Failure to leave may result in the player(s) or team being suspended from further participation in league play and charges being filed with the authorities. All remaining games will be credited as losses. A player, coach or manager who is ejected from a game is automatically suspended for a minimum of the next two (2) playable games.

XIV. PROTEST

The Auburn Ball Association does not allow for game protests at this time. All umpire rulings are final. Contact the ABA with concerns about umpires.

XV. GROUND RULES

1. If a ball becomes lodged in a fence, the fielder should raise their arms in the air and get the umpire's attention. The umpire will go over league and field specific issues prior to the start.
2. All base distances will be 65' in length. The pitching rubber will be set at a 50' distance.
3. The home team will have third base dugout or whatever is decided between the teams.

4. Batters Dig Out Rule: To help preserve batters' boxes at county ball diamonds, umpires have been instructed to warn all teams that should a player dig foot holes in the batter's box, that player will be ejected from the game. This rule will be strictly enforced.

XVI. APPEALS (Refer to the current ASA Rule Book).

XVII. LEAGUE SPECIFICS

1. The home team will furnish an ASA approved restricted flight slow pitch softball with a coefficient of restriction rating of .44 or lower. The visiting team will furnish a good used ball of the same standards. For Co-Rec both teams must provide a good men's ball and a good women's ball.

2. Pitchers will be allowed a maximum of five (5) warm up pitches at the start of the game. New ASA rules state that a pitch should now be between 6' and 10' in height.

3. Games will be seven (7) innings. The 15 run rule after three (3) innings and 10 runs after five (5) innings will be in effect.

4. Wearing jewelry during a game is not allowed. Rings/jewelry that cannot be taken off must be taped over. Wedding bands and post earrings excluded.

5. NO SMOKING IN THE DUGOUTS OR ON THE PLAYING FIELD.

6. Alcoholic beverages or 3.2 beer are NOT allowed in Shawnee County Parklands. Any alcoholic beverages or 3.2 beer found on the playing surface including the dugouts will result in penalties associated with HR-84-1 & HR-84-18. The Auburn Police Department or County Sheriff's Department will issue tickets.

7. All equipment should be kept in the dugout area.

8. While a team is at bat, only batter, the base coaches and the on-deck batter are allowed on the playing field.

9. All braces must be covered with some type of protective covering, foam or ace bandages. Players on crutches or in hard casts are not permitted on the playing field.

10. Teams are allowed a maximum of 3 out-of-the-park home runs per game. Subsequent home runs will result in a single. Players on base advance one base if forced. The ABA has adopted the ASA 1-1 count in order to speed up the game. The umpires have been instructed to get games started on time and keep play moving between innings.

11. Home team must keep score.(The ABA has eliminated the scorekeeper position in order to save costs.)

XVIII FOUL BALL OUTS Please refer to the current ASA Rule Book. No courtesy fouls are given in SCPR leagues.

XXIV CO-REC SPECIFICS

Player Position

1. All outfield players must remain behind the 175' line until the ball is hit.

2. All infield players must remain on the infield surface until the ball is hit.

3. The batting order must rotate by gender when the numbers permit. (male, female, male, etc.)

Player Ratios

1. Teams should play five (5) men and five (5) WOMEN.

2. Teams can start or continue a game with eight (8) players but automatic outs are enforced. Teams not fielding a full ten (10) players will have two (2) automatic outs with eight (8) players, one (1) automatic out with nine (9) players.

3. Maximum number of males in the line up is five (5) with a minimum of two (2).

4. The maximum number of females that can play at one time is eight (8) with a minimum of four (4) unless both coaches agree to play with an unequal ratio.
5. Male-to-female ratio must be equal or more females than males.

XXV. BATS OUTLAWED IN COREC AND MEN'S LEAGUE

Male batters will not be allowed to use any Ultra bats. Male batters using a banned bat shall be immediately called "out." All runners return to base occupied prior to the pitch. It is the responsibility of the coach to make sure which bats are legal to use or who uses the bat. SCPR Athletics believes in providing a safe playing environment so please assist us.

XXVI. CO-REC WALKS

With TWO (2) outs and a male batter drawing a walk, the following female batter will have the option to either take an automatic walk or take her turn at bat. When there are LESS THAN TWO (2) outs, the male batter goes to 2nd regardless, and the female batter must bat.

XXVII. EXTRA HITTER

1. An extra hitter (referred to as an EH) is optional, but if one is used, the EH must be used for the entire game and so listed in the regular batting order.
2. The EH must remain in the same batting position for the entire game.
3. The EH may be substituted for at any time, either by a pinch runner or pinch hitter who then becomes the EH. The substitute must be a player who has not yet been in the game. If removed, the original EH may reenter the game in their original starting lineup batting position. The re-entry rule applies only to the starting 11 or 12 players while they are legally in the game. See Re-Entry Rule in the ASA Rule Book.
4. Defensively when using an EH, the manager has the option to play any of the 11 (MEN'S/WOMEN) or 12 (CO-REC) while they are legally in the game. That is, defensive position may assumed by an EH.
5. When using the EH, if a player becomes injured or must leave the game for any reason, and there is not a legal substitute available to play, an automatic out will occur in the vacated batting position.
6. Co-Rec teams using the EH may use one (1) male EH and one (1) female EH OR two (2) female EH's in the lineup. A Co-Rec team must have (12) players in the lineup before the EH can be utilized. An EH may not be added OR removed after the game has started (see Rule 5 above).
7. Player ratio using the EH in Co-Rec is maximum of six (6) men in the lineup, five (5) defensively & one (1) EH. Minimum number of males is three (3) males with nine (9) females. Any combination falling within these guidelines is acceptable.

XXVIII. LEAGUE DIRECTOR

Mike Robison

President

Auburn Ball Association

633-4320

mikerobinson21@cox.net

www.auburnball.com