



CITY OF NAMPA

Softball League Information

RULES & GUIDELINES

The Nampa Recreation Department is committed to providing community events that strengthen families and enhance the quality of life in our community. Good sportsmanship, exercise, social interaction, and healthy competition are the values that will be enhanced through participation of physical activity and athletics.

LEAGUE & PLAYER FEE DEADLINE:

- The individual player must sign team roster and waiver, or the captain or coach may be held liable. The team roster must be turned in by the **early deadline on Monday April 17, 2023** or the **late deadline on Monday April 24, 2023** by 7:00 p.m.
- Registrations will be taken at the Nampa Parks and Recreation Department (*Located inside the Nampa Rec Center building*). Call 468-5858 for more information regarding team registrations.
- **League rules, league schedules, weekly scores, league standings and rescheduled games are posted on our website at namparecreation.org.**
- **End of the season tournament brackets will be posted on our website the final week of the regular season.**

TEAM ROSTER INFORMATION:

- All league fees and players' fees must be **paid in FULL by the first game**. If ALL fees are NOT paid in FULL, games will result in forfeits until fees are paid! **Player's fees can be paid online at www.namparecreation.org. Please save your receipts! Players fees are NON-TRANSFERABLE!**
- The team roster will be limited to 20 players. Players must be on the roster for liability purposes.
- Team rosters will be checked periodically during the season. Anyone who has not paid his/her players fees and is not on the team roster, or has not signed the pick-up player card for the game, the game will be forfeited. Identification will be required if requested from the site supervisor.
- All players are eligible for roster moves. However, players moving from an upper division team **CANNOT** move to the same lower division team. **Ex:** Player A and B are Co-Ed "A" division players and both players want to play on the same lower division Co-Ed "B" team. This is **NOT allowed**. Player A and B must play on **DIFFERENT** Co-Ed "B" teams.
- Teams may only have two players from an upper division team.
- Players can only play on a second team if the two teams are within two divisions of each other.
- Sixteen is the minimum age for Nampa city league play. Parent signature is required for individuals under the age of eighteen.

GAME DAYS & TIMES:

- Men's Recreation league games will be played on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings at West Park Complex. Co-Ed league games will be played on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday at West.
- Early game time is 6:30 p.m. (no grace period). Late game time 7:45 p.m.
- No new inning will start after **1 hour and 10 minutes or 7 completed innings**. Exception: If the game is tied after 7 innings and there is time remaining in the game, the game will continue until one team wins or the 1 hour and 10-minute time limit is up, whichever comes first. If the limit is up and the game is tied, it will not be played out. All started innings must be completed.
- Games shall be played as scheduled (**No games will be rescheduled, except in the case of a rain out or an upheld protest. Tie games will stand, except in tournament**)
- **Games will consist of 7 innings or 12 runs after 5 innings. If there is a difference of 12 or more runs at the top of the 5th inning, the umpire will call a captain meeting to discuss whether to complete the inning or to call the game.**
- **Every at bat will begin with a 1-1 count. Each batter will have one courtesy foul ball. **
- **Teams must be ready to play at game time.** A full team consists of 10 players on the field. Extra Hitters can be used in the line up. There must be an even number of hitters in the lineup for all Coed games as well as alternate between male and female. If a team bats 13 in the lineup, an out will be recorded in the 14th spot. To avoid taking an out, a team can bat 12. Each hitter **CANNOT** play in the field at the same time. If one gets injured or cannot participate in the game, the turn for the missing player will result in an automatic out.

- Teams may start or finish a game with 8 players. Players missing will bat in the lowest positions in the batting order. Outs will result in all missing players batting positions. If players arrive after the game has started, the players will bat in one of the open positions. An Extra Hitter may be added to the lineup after the game begins only if that team has not already started their second time through the lineup. Teams can play short handed in any position other than pitcher and catcher.
- A team not having the minimum of 8 players at game time or any time during the game will forfeit the game. A practice game can be played providing there are 8 players for each team.
- Unlimited substitutions will be allowed during each game. If a player withdraws from play and re-enters, that player **MUST** occupy the same spot in the batting order.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

- In Co-Ed play, 10 players (five male & five female) with the following position requirements: 2 males and 2 females in both the infield and outfield, and one male and one female as pitcher or catcher.

SCOREKEEPER:

- **Home team is the official scorebook** – First initial and last name in scorebook. Please turn in scores to the umpires at the end of your game so they can be turned into the Parks and Recreation office. (If you do not turn scores in they will not show in the league standings).

UNIFORMS:

- League teams must have shirts with a minimum of 6" numbers on the back by the first league game or their game is a forfeit. If this is a problem that cannot be avoided, the player/team must have approval and written authorization from the Nampa Parks and Recreation Department to show umpires before the start of the game. **Metal spikes are NOT allowed in co-ed play.**

SOFTBALLS:

- Each team will be required to furnish a new softball for each game. It must be an USA Softball (Formally ASA Softball) USA Softball. approved optic yellow ball. Men's Division -- 12" ball 52 Core 300lbs compression. Women's Division -- 11" 52 Core balls 300lbs compression. Co-Ed Division -- 11" and a 12" ball, alternate for female - male.

Bats

- Bats must conform to the certified bat or re-certification bat listing provided by USA Softball. Players caught using an illegal bat that appears on the USASB non-approved list he or she will be ejected from our league for one year. To obtain a copy of the banned bat list go to usasoftball.com and click on certified equipment.



The official reference will be lists of approved and non-approved bats on ASA's website: <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Certified-Equipment/Equipment-Bats>. ASA's lists **NON-Approved** bats will be printed and kept for reference at each field in the softball coordinators league information binder.

A player who enters the batter's box with a non-approved bat will immediately be called out, ejected from the game, receive a one game suspension and be subject to a one-year suspension from the date of the incident. Ownership of the bat is irrelevant.

A second offense of using a non-approved bat will result in a **ONE-year** suspension from the date of the incident. This is non-negotiable.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

- Any player in a game using profanity or unsportsmanlike language (including expletives **not** directed at an umpire(s) or opposing player(s)) **and** loud enough to be heard by spectator(s) **will result in an out** being called against the offending team.
- **Profanity will not be tolerated from players or spectators**; profanity will be interpreted by the judgment of the umpire, and/or site supervisor and could lead to **immediate ejection from the public premises**.
- Any player(s), coach, or spectator who assaults a City of Nampa employee may face criminal charges.
- Any player, coach, or fan that throws a punch in any activity associated with the City of Nampa is automatically **suspended for one year from all activities**.
- **Team Captains are responsible for the conduct of their players and fans**. Children are the responsibility of their parents, not the supervisor or umpires. Your children **MUST** always be closely supervised during games by an adult **NOT PARTICIPATING** in the game.
- **A player who has been thrown out of the game will receive a one game suspension to serve before they can return to play or to spectate**. The player must meet with the program supervisor before returning to play.
- **Players returning after a one game suspension who are thrown out of another game, will be required to meet the program supervisor to discuss the potential of being suspended for the season**.
- **A player who has been thrown out for a season can return the following season. If they are thrown out again, they will be suspended from the league**.
- **Players who have been thrown out or are serving a suspension, cannot attend games or be on park premises until they have sat out their one game suspension in the division they received it in**.

RESCHEDULED/CANCELED/RAINOUT GAMES

- Rained out games will be replayed the next available day and time. Teams should be prepared to play that same week.
- In case of inclement weather, a decision in regard to games will be made at 4:00pm. Please call the rain-out hotline at **250-5670** to hear a recording regarding game decision.

PROTESTS:

- Decisions involving an umpire's judgment may **NOT** be protested.
- Misinterpretation of a playing rule – protest must be made before the next pitch or before the infielders have left fair territory, or if on the last play of the game, before the umpires leave the playing field.
- Illegal Player – protest must be made before the umpires leave the playing field after the game is completed. If the player's name is in the book and the first pitch has been thrown, a player can be protested. It is strongly recommended that protests be made at this time instead of waiting until after part of the game being played.
- The manager, acting manager or captain of the protesting team shall immediately notify the plate umpire that the game is being played under protest. The plate umpire shall notify the opposing manager and official scorekeeper. The umpire must make a notation of the protest and/or illegal player in the home team score book, on the score sheet and sign both. The protesting team must make sure these procedures are followed:
 - A) The game will be completed. The protesting team must verbally notify the NRD within 24 hours from the time of the game.
 - B) The protest must also be put in writing to the NRD no later than two working days from the day of the game protested.
- All protests must contain the following information:
 - The date, time and place of the game
 - The name(s) of the umpire(s)
 - The rule and section of the official rules or local rules under which the protest is made.
 - The information, details and condition pertinent to the decision to protest. The protest will be reviewed and determined if valid or if a hearing needs to be held.
 - If proper procedures are not followed and the protest does not include the above information it will not be considered and will be invalid.

Illegal Player Penalties:

- Team forfeits the game.
- Team suspended from the tournament where applicable
- Player is ejected from the game
- Player is ineligible to play in their next scheduled game. (This effects any team the player is registered on if they play on more than one teams.)

TIES – LEAGUE PLAY:

- If the game time limit is up, the game will stand and each team will be credited with a game won for team standings.

TIE BREAKER RULE – TOURNAMENT ONLY:

- If teams are tied at the end of 7 innings, each team will start their half of the inning with a runner on 2nd base (the runner will be the last out of the previous inning). The game will continue until the winner is determined.

HOMERUN RULE:

- A limit of four over the fence home runs may be hit by each team in all men's division games. A limit of three over the fence home runs may be hit by each team in all coed division games. After a team has reached four home runs in a game, the progressive home run rule will be in effect. (After the maximum number of home runs has been hit, both teams must stay within one home run of each other.) Any home runs not in line with this rule will result in an out.

COURTESY RUNNER:

- A courtesy runner will be allowed one time per inning. The runner must be the last out of the previous inning **or** the player who made the last out in the current inning. (Co-ed runner must be the same gender as the person running for).

OTHER INFORMATION:

- City of Nampa Parks and Recreation Department has the authority to institute new rules or alter current rules to insure the continuity of the league. City interpretation of rules is final.
- The City of Nampa does not provide accident insurance to cover individuals who may be injured while participating in a game.
- All players, coaches, employees, spectators will abide by City of Nampa City Code Chapter 9-5; 1-10 for care and use of city park and recreation facilities. **DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT WEST PARK OR SKYVIEW SOFTBALL COMPLEXES!**
- Schedules, weekly scores and league standings are posted on our website at www.nampaparksandrecreation.org!

Nampa Parks & Recreation Department 468-5858 www.nampaparksandrecreation.org

Rainout Phone: 250-5670