



ISA 2023 General Slowpitch Playing Rules govern this league unless otherwise stated in these rules.

CARROLL COUNTY COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

All teams are required to submit a roster to the League Supervisor **for Fall Leagues by August 7, 2023**. Rosters will remain open until you play your second doubleheader. Any additions to the roster following this date must be submitted to the League Supervisor for Board review and approval prior to proposed addition participating in league play for that team. All players must sign the roster/waiver before first night of play.

For the 2023 Summer season, players may not be on more than one team roster.

See "TEAM ROSTER" section below for further details.

For Fall 2023, the league will utilize a 6 male/4 female ratio. At least 4 females must be in the field at all times. No more than 2 males will be allowed to bat back-to-back. Teams may bat up to 14 players keeping the male to female ratio in mind (6/4, 7/5, 8/6). Teams may bat and field more women than men.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

League Supervisor:	Becky Kishter
Umpire-in-Chief:	Gene Burgee
Assistant UIC:	Matt Purkins

LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES AND DEVIATIONS FROM ISA RULES

LEAGUE ENTRY FEES - - League entry fees must be paid by the first game of the season, or by the date set by the League Supervisor. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of games until the fees are paid. Checks should be made payable to the Carroll County Commissioners.

EQUIPMENT - -

Bats: All bats used in play must be properly marked with ISA 1.20 BPF and pass a compression test, displaying the 2023 CCSC approval sticker.

All bats used in play must be tested by the Carroll County Softball League and properly display the Carroll County Softball League certification sticker for 2023. Any bat that fails the testing will be recorded and ineligible for use in any Carroll County League. If a player is found using an untested bat, the umpire will remove the bat from play and the bat will be tested by the league representatives.

Any bat that fails to register legal (220 PSI or above) on the Carroll County Sports Complex compression tester will be considered illegal for use in our leagues. The Sports Complex will not preset the tester on any number other than zero (0).

If a batter hits a pitcher or other player, the bat will be removed from play at the umpire's discretion for testing. Any bat used during play may be removed from play at the umpire's discretion for testing.

Any player caught using a bat that has previously failed testing will be ineligible to play in any Carroll County League for a period of one (1) year.

Bats may have pine tar added to the grip provided any pine tar does not extend up the taper above the key graphic information on the bat such as the sanction mark, serial number, model or manufacturer name, official softball, etc. Any dirt or pine tar that obscures key graphic information or adds to the thickness of the bat above the sanction mark cannot be used in league play until the dirt or pine tar has been removed.

Bat Testing:

During the season, bat testing will be on an as needed and as available basis. Only the League Supervisor and the Umpire-in-Chief or Assistant are permitted to test bats. Players needing bats tested should contact the League Supervisor to see when bat testing is available on any league night.

Fields:

Practicing on the infields for any of the five fields at the Complex is permitted with advanced notice and permission by the Complex Manager.

Softballs:

League balls shall be properly marked as ISA (.44/400). All balls shall be Optic Yellow. Always have a backup ball available.

Uniforms:

Teams must have matching t-shirts or jerseys of the same color. Players must have sleeves on their team issued jersey/t-shirt unless the team's uniform shirt is sleeveless. Players may play in sleeveless shirts that have sewn openings. Players MAY NOT play in team jerseys/t-shirts that have the sleeves cut off and may not play in tank tops or "wife beaters." Uniform shirts must cover entire chest and stomach area (i.e., no bare skin). Players must wear team shirts to play, and women may not play in exposed bras or sports bras. Any player that arrives to play in any attire that violates this rule will not be allowed to play until they conform to the rule.

GAME PLAY - -

Base Burglar:

A base burglar may be utilized. Requirements are as follows:

- A. Does not need to be declared prior to start of game.
- B. May only run for one player per half-inning but is eligible to run multiple times per half-inning for the same player.
- C. May be utilized as a regular substitute however, that team loses the base burglar option for the remainder of the game unless they have another eligible substitute.
- D. Runner must be male or female for male, female for female.

Courtesy Runner:

For Fall 2023 Season, a courtesy runner may be used as follows:

- A. The pitcher has the option to utilize a courtesy runner if they reach base.
- B. One additional male batter and one additional female batter may utilize a courtesy runner each inning.
- C. In both instances, runner must be the last out, male for male, female for female.

Ejections:

Ejections are subject to additional review by the League Supervisor and Umpire-in-Chief and additional disciplinary actions may be taken. Any player ejected is ejected for the next full week from all softball league play at the Carroll County Sports Complex, including Coed and Church leagues. Any player ejected during a league tournament is ejected for the remainder of the tournament.

Forfeit time:

Forfeit time is game time for the first game of a doubleheader with a 30-minute grace period for game two. The forfeiting team must cover umpire fees based on the following:

First Forfeit Offense:	\$70.00
Subsequent Offenses:	\$105.00

All forfeit fees must be paid to the League Supervisor, Umpire-in-Chief, or the umpire whose games were lost before the forfeiting team will be allowed to play again. Properly rescheduled games (see "Rescheduling" below) are not subject to forfeit fees and penalties.

The team that was present for the games and unable to play due to forfeit may utilize the assigned field for practice at their own risk for the time slot intended to play the games.

Home Run Rule:

Home run rules for all Coed league divisions are as follows:

10 home runs per game then they are outs. Players are not required to touch a base for the home run to count.

Inside the park homeruns shall not be counted towards the homerun limit.

The batter and any base runners may return to the dugout after hitting a home run without being required to touch a bag.

Payment:

Umpires will be paid \$70 per doubleheader and must be paid before the start of the first game. Each team is responsible for ½ (\$35) of umpire pay for each game. Teams forfeiting will be responsible for the full \$70. Umpires will not have to accept coins or checks.

Rescheduling:

Teams must give notice no later than 8:00am of game day to the League Supervisor at either **443-602-5008** or **bkishter@carrollcountymd.gov** if they are unable to play a scheduled game (to avoid forfeit fees listed above). Teams are also responsible for contacting the opposing team manager by 8:00am of game day.

- Stealing:** There will be no stealing in this league.
- Strike Count:** All batters begin their at-bat with a 1 ball, 1 strike count, with one foul ball to waste after two strikes.
- Tie Games:** Any game remaining tied through 7 innings or expiration of time will finish as a tie.
- Time Limit:** All games are subject to a 1-hour time limit. A game may end in a tie if 7 innings have been completed and the hour time limit is up, at the discretion of the umpire. Teams will finish the inning they are in when time has expired.
- Whiff Rule:** There will be no “Whiff” rule in this league. However, at the judgment of the umpire, a player may be called out for purposely swinging and missing at a pitch.

UMPIRES - -

- Pre-game Meeting:** The game umpire will meet with both managers to go over game rules prior to the start of the first game. Teams will pay umpire at this time and a coin flip will be used to determine home/away status. Home/Away status will reverse for the second game.

GAME SCORING AND RESULTS - -

- Scorebooks:** All teams will be required to record an official record of every game in a scorebook. Scoring should be confirmed by teams at the completion of each inning. Records must be accurate and legible. The home team scorebook is the official scorebook of record. The use of pen, and first and last names is highly encouraged. In the event the eligibility of a player for tournament play is questioned, the Tournament Coordinator can review the scorebook of the team in question to determine the eligibility of said player.

PLAYER CONDUCT - -

- Alcoholic Beverages:** Alcoholic beverages are not permitted at the Sports Complex. Players that appear visibly intoxicated will not be allowed to participate in any games. (*Article V, Subsection 155-22 Intoxicating Beverages, Carroll County Code of Public Local Laws and Ordinances, Parks and Recreation*).
- Conduct:** Players are expected to always conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. Inappropriate conduct by players, managers, teams, or fans will result in penalties including but not limited to game ejection, game forfeit, suspension, or expulsion. Fighting, cursing, or use of physical force will not be tolerated (refer to *Good Sportsmanship Policy/Code of Conduct*, Carroll County Recreation & Parks website at ccrecpark.org for more details).
- Parking:** Players or spectators are not permitted to park in the grass anywhere in the Complex (except in designated Overflow Parking area), along the driveway, or by the main Complex building. Parking by the main building is allowed with a valid handicapped permit. (*Article III, Subsection 155-11 Parking, Carroll County Code*

of Public Local Laws and Ordinances, Parks and Recreation). Fines will be assessed to violators, and towing may occur at owner's expense.

Smoking: Tobacco products are not permitted at the Sports Complex. Any tobacco usage is prohibited, and any player or spectator caught smoking or using tobacco products shall be immediately ejected. This includes anywhere in the Sports Complex. E-cigarettes/vaping are NOT permitted for use.

PROTESTS - -

Umpire's Judgement: Umpire's judgment **IS NOT** subject to protest.

RAINOUTS & OTHER CANCELLATIONS - -

Rainouts: In case of rain or questionable field conditions, please call the Sports Complex rainout line at **410-857-4832** for field conditions - usually updated at 5pm unless conditions warrant an earlier decision. If fields are closed, do not use them. Use of fields when the Sports Complex is closed is trespassing. Umpires calling a game for rain or lightning/thunder constitutes the closure of the Sports Complex fields.

Lightning & Thunder: As per Department of Recreation & Parks policy, lightning strikes or thunder will result in a 20-minute delay of play/practice. Teams must leave the field, benches, and bleachers for a lightning delay. Play may resume upon a consecutive period of 20-minutes without a lightning strike or thunder. The umpire reserves the right to cancel a game due to excessive delays. A lightning or thunder delay on one field shall be enforced on all fields.

TEAM ROSTER - -

Roster Submission: All rosters must be turned into the League Supervisor by April 1, 2023. Any players added after this date are to be approved by the League Supervisor before the player can participate.

Player Age & ID: All players or base coach must be at least 18 years old by April 30, 2023. All players must have valid, state issued ID in their possession at the playing field and must present that ID at the request of an Umpire. This is used to verify name and age.

Maximum Roster Size: A maximum of 25 players is allowed on a team roster. Rosters are open until you play your second doubleheader. They must be turned into the umpire before you start your second game that night or all games played after that will be a forfeit; teams that fail to turn in their roster will be subject to forfeits until the roster is turned in and all forfeit fees will apply and must be satisfied to return to play. IT IS YOUR JOB TO GET THE ROSTER TO THE LEAGUE SUPERVISOR!

Players may only play for one team in each division. Players cannot fill in for other teams.

Signing Roster: All players must sign their team roster/waiver prior to playing in a game.

Switching Teams: A player may leave one team to play on another during the course of the season. For this to happen, both coaches must notify the League Supervisor, in writing, of the change. Once a player has changed teams, he/she may not return to the original team that season. A player may not switch teams after the 10th scheduled game of the season. You must return equipment belonging to the team you leave before you are eligible to play with your new team.

LEAGUE TOURNAMENTS - -

Division Tournaments: The two divisions shall operate separately from each other for their year-end tournaments. The League Supervisor reserves the right to adjust tournament schedules based on weather and teams entered. Tournaments will be played using a double-elimination format.

Player Eligibility: If a player is on the final roster, he/she is eligible for the tournament if he/she has played a minimum of 8 games or 1/3 of the season schedule of that team's games. Prior to the tournament, all teams must turn in to the League Supervisor a tournament roster including first and last names indicating their eligible players. Failure to do so will result in your team being ineligible for the tournament. Teams should have all scorebooks used that season available for review at the tournament. It is highly encouraged that all scorebooks use first and last names of players and be kept in pen ink. Players should have valid state issued ID in their possession should a question about eligibility arise. Players may not play for more than one team in the tournament for that division.

Time Limit: The time limit will be waived for winners' bracket games through to the Championship game.

Umpires: Single umpires will officiate tournament bracket games up to the winner's bracket final, championship and "IF" game where 2-man umpire crews will be provided. Teams will be responsible for paying for ½ (\$18) of the umpire's pay for each game played. Teams must pay \$28.00 towards umpires during 2-man crew games in later rounds of tournament.