



City of Cleburne
Parks and Recreation Department

Adult Slow Pitch Softball
League Rules

Our goal is to provide a family oriented activity that promotes physical fitness and a positive social interaction. The following rules and regulations follow this premise.

I. General Information

1. The Cleburne Parks and Recreation Department will closely follow the rules of USSSA. There will be some local rulings.
2. We will not be sanctioned, but reserve the right to join at a later date.
3. By City Ordinance 6-2002-36, no glass containers allowed in any city park or areas adjacent.
4. By City Ordinance 130.20, there are no alcoholic beverages allowed in any city park or areas adjacent.
5. There is no smoking within 25 feet of any City of Cleburne facility; this includes the stands, dugout, restroom, and field of play at Don Moore Park or Carver Park ball fields.
6. In case of a tie in the final league standings, that receive awards; league winner will be decided by winning record, number of runs scored versus the other team, and / or total number of runs scored in the season.

II. Eligibility and Roster

1. All team fees must be paid by the posted deadline. Teams that have not paid or have only made partial payment will not be eligible to play. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. Payments can be made in person at Splash Station 1010 Hillsboro St Cleburne, TX 76033.** Payments must be made in cash or check form.
2. All participants must be at least 16 years and older by the date of the first game. 16 and 17 year old players must have a parental release form obtained from the Cleburne Parks Department. **They must also provide ID with roster for proof of age.** (Online at www.cleburne.net or at Splash Station)
3. All participants for each team must be on the team roster and sign the liability waiver (Official Roster). This waiver will not allow a team to use a non-rostered

player, or a player using an assumed name. All players should have a valid I.D. with picture, on their person at each game, for verification purposes.

4. An ineligible player must be brought to the umpire's attention before the **end of the first inning**.
5. All players must be listed on only one roster in each league. Player will be suspended until removed from all but one roster.
6. Team rosters must be submitted to the City of Cleburne before or at the time of the first game.
7. Rosters will be limited to 20 participants, unless previously approved due to work schedules. All rosters must include complete PRINTED names, phone numbers, address, and SIGNATURE. THIS FORM IS ALSO A RELEASE WAIVER FOR THE CITY OF CLEBURNE AND MUST BE SIGNED.

III. Equipment and Uniforms

1. The City of Cleburne Parks and Recreation Department will supply the balls for the league.
2. Each team will supply their own bats. **All bats must be 2013 or newer with the USSSA Thumbprint on the bat**. A list of illegal bats will be agreed upon between the City of Cleburne Adult Athletic Coordinator and the Umpire Association. The umpires from this association will be responsible for recognizing and removing any illegal bats from league play. ANY bat the umpires deem unfit, unsafe, illegal, reworked or suspicious will be removed from the game, no questions asked.
3. Shoes - must be worn by all players. Metal cleats will not be allowed.
4. Jewelry – wrist watches, dangling bracelets, hoop style or large earrings, neck chains that hang outside the shirt, rings, - anything with rough edges cannot be worn. Smooth surfaced rings and stud style earrings are at the discretion of the umpire.
5. Uniforms – each team will have a uniform shirt with non-duplicated numbers on the back. The numbers must be permanently affixed and the shirts must be the same color. Offensive print of any style, will not be allowed on team shirts.

IV. Playing Rules

1. All rules will follow that of USSSA. Any additions or exceptions are listed in the following.
2. The Wednesday night Men's competitive D league will use the **3 + 1, then 1 and 1, home run rule**. **The Coed leagues will be allowed 1 home run ball and then singles after**. The Men's E leagues will be allowed one home run **and then singles after**.

3. All teams will have a field of 10 players in Men's D and Men's E leagues, and 5 Men and 5 Women in the Coed league. A modified co-ed league will be played on Thursday evening with 7 men and 3 women. A team may start a game with 9 players and the 10th may enter at any time, with the umpire's approval. The 10th position will be an out, during the batting sequence, until the 10th player shows up. If for any reason, the player number falls below 9 due to injury, ejection, etc, the team will have to forfeit the game. In the Coed league players can play anywhere they want, but batting order has to be male/female/male etc. If the male batter is walked, the female batter gets an automatic walk if she so desires.
4. A pitch that hits the home plate or mat **within a normal arc** will be ruled a strike.
5. Each game will consist of 7 innings, 55 minutes, or the run rule is invoked. If the game passes 55 minutes, the next inning each batter will get only 1 ball and 1 strike. (no foul balls)
6. To expedite play, the game will be played with the 1-1 rule. All batters will have a 1 ball and 1 strike count at the start of their bat.
7. No "free" fouls will be given. Each foul ball hit will count as a strike.
8. The game over/run rule will be as follows:
 - a. 20 runs ahead after 3 innings
 - b. 15 runs ahead after 4 innings
 - c. 10 runs ahead after 5 innings
9. Due to timing of games, there will be no infield practice prior to the game. In the event of a forfeit, the winning team can practice for 30 minutes.
10. The umpire will explain the field ground rules at the pre-game meeting at home plate.
11. Abusive and/or foul language will not be tolerated. Don Moore is a public park and the umpire will ask participant to leave or eject the participant from the park immediately. If this conduct leaves the team short by less than 9 players, the team will forfeit. Issues of misconduct will be dealt with on a case by case basis, by the Parks and Recreation Department. The Parks Department reserves the right to eject a player from league play for violation of City Ordinance 130.08.
12. HALO rule – this rule has been put in place to protect the pitcher. A line drive ball hit back at the pitcher, within the parameters of head to knee, and arms outstretched, will be deemed a dead ball, and an out. All runners will return to their previous base. This rule is not up for interpretation; it is solely the judgment of the umpire. Ground balls hit back at the pitcher are ok. If the pitcher moves away from the mound after the pitch is delivered, and a line

drive is hit up the middle, it is still an out.

13. All participants must remain in the dugout during their time at bat, with the exception of the base coaches, runners, batter and the on deck batter.
14. Slung bat – Any bat thrown in anger, will result in an automatic ejection of that player from the game.
15. **No Bat Flips- Bat flips are not allowed and are deemed dangerous. The batter will be an automatic out and can be ejected.**
16. Any player ejected twice during the season, for any reason, will be suspended from playing for the rest of that season.

V. Protests

1. There will be no protests. This is solely a recreational league and is intended to promote social well being, fun and physical fitness for our community. All calls by the umpire will be final and not subject to dispute.

VI. Rainouts

1. The City of Cleburne Parks & Recreation Department will be responsible for determining the playability of the field. A decision will be made by 4 pm. Calls can be made to the **Splash Station, at 817-556-8854** to check the status of the game. Players may also check the city webpage for a status update at www.cleburne.net, as well as the **Splash Station Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/SplashStation**. The umpire will have the final decision on inclement weather, i.e.; thunderstorms and lightning, after the 4 pm time. This may result in a game time decision. The decision by the Parks & Recreation Department will be final.