

RULES FOR 2016 TURKEY BOWL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

We will be playing by summer leagues rules with the following exceptions:

- **ALL 2015-2016 Sanctioned players and/or CRPD Major/Elite players** must play in the competitive division. Any former sanctioned player “B” or higher must play competitive.
- Mixed and Men’s Recreational Divisions – 0 Homeruns permitted – penalty dead ball out. Recreational Divisions will play by the Game Run Limit Rule.
- Men’s and Mixed Competitive Divisions – 1 Homerun per gender/per team will be permitted. Additional homerun penalty: Dead ball out.
- Time Limit 60 minutes with exception of Championship games.
- Protest fee \$100.00 cash

RECREATIONAL Game Run Limit Rule: Teams may score up to 15 runs per 7 innings.

Inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extra
Maximum Total # of Runs scored at end of inning	5	10	11	12	13	14	15	Unlimited

Please protect and respect Berliner turf fields. The following items are **PROHIBITED** on fields 1, 4, 5 & 10 -17:

Sports Drinks	Juice	Soda/Pop
Food	Sunflower Seeds	Gum
Metal	Tobacco Products	Golf
Flammable Liquids	Glass Containers	Pets

**** Alcohol is prohibited in city parks. There is to be no alcohol in the playing areas, concession areas and spectator stands. All beverages must be in original containers, no cups, water jugs, etc... Any player/team found in violation of the alcohol policy will be immediately removed from this tournament.**

1) Run Rule

- a. Fifteen (15) after (4) innings or more innings and Ten (10) runs after (5) or more innings and either team is ahead
- b. The home team, beginning with the fourth (4th), or fifth (5th) inning is allowed to bat in the bottom half of any inning, only if it is behind in the score or is not fifteen (15) or ten (10) runs ahead. In the latter instance, the game ends as soon as the home team gains the fifteen (15) or ten (10) run advantage
- c. **Time Limit: 60** minutes. No new inning should begin after allotted time has elapsed. Game time starts on the release of first pitch. **Exception: Championship game no time limit.**

2) Pitching

- a. **ARC: 6' minimum 10' maximum.** The ball must be delivered with a perceivable arc and reach a minimum height of 6 feet from the ground, while not exceeding a maximum of 10 feet from the ground.
- b. **Illegal Pitch:** The umpire shall call illegal pitch after it crosses the plate. If the batter hits the ball, play continues and you take the result of the play.
- c. **Ball Strike Count:** 3 balls & 2 strikes
- d. **Foul Ball Rule:** No free foul: After the batter has two (2) strikes, if the batter hits a foul ball, the batter is declared out. The ball is dead and the base runners may not advance.
- e. **Throw Around Rule:** In an effort to keep games moving on time there will be no

allowance for throwing the ball around the infield after a play has ended. Ball must be directly returned to the pitcher or a ball will be called on the batter.

3) Equipment

- a. **Balls: CRPD will provide the softballs.**
- b. **For a list of 2016 approved bat**, please visit the CRPD Sports Website. Also, bats stamped with NSA 2012 are legal for CRPD league and tournament play. All Bats used must be stamped with 1.20 B.P.F. rating or less.
 - If a player steps into the batters box with an illegal bat, the batter is out and is ejected from the game.
 - The Sports Section reserves the right to update and/or change the list at any time throughout the season.
- c. **Cleats: NO METAL CLEATS.** If it is discovered during the game that an offensive player is wearing metal cleats an out will be declared and the player will be ejected. A defensive player who is wearing metal cleats will be ejected.
- d. **Uniforms** - Not mandatory
- e. **Double Bases:** The purpose of the double base is to provide a safety margin between the batter runner and the first baseman.
Follow these guidelines:
 - On the initial throw from the infield or the outfield the batter runner must use the orange portion of the base.
 - The defense can only use the white portion of the base to obtain an out.
 - A batted ball hitting the orange base is foul.
 - When no throw is being made to first base, the batter-runner can touch either the white or orange portion of the base with initial contact.
 - If the base runner uses the orange base anytime after the initial contact he is considered off the base.
 - This rule is in effect only on the initial play at first base that does not include: Running to the base after over running. Re-tag to advance on a fly ball.

4) Players

- a. **Short Handed Player:** What to do when a team has nine (9) players.
 - Team must list ten (10) names on scorecard.
 - An automatic out is awarded every time missing batter fails to make his/her plate appearance. The tenth player can play without penalty as soon as he/she arrives and is "ready" to play.
 - When a team is left with a vacant player spot, the opposing team may not with two (2) outs intentionally or unintentionally walk the previous batter, in order to get to the "automatic out" created by the vacant spot in the batting order.
 - At no time can a team play with less than 9 players.
 - In Mixed when a team has nine (9) players a combination of five (5) women and four (4) men or five (5) men and four (4) women is the only legal combination.
- b. **Extra Player:** Men and women's leagues can play with one extra player.
 - The extra player is considered a starter.
 - When using an extra player, teams must list eleven (11) names on the scorecard.
 - Any of the eleven players listed can play the 10 defensive positions. (Moving the extra player from the bench to the field is not considered a substitution.) Mixed Only: Play with two (2) extra players, one male, and one female.
- c. **Ejected Player: DEVIATION to NSA Rule.** If a player is ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct, and such ejection causes a team to drop below the declared number of players stated prior to the first pitch of the game, the game will be immediately forfeited.
- d. **Blood Rule:** A player or coach who is bleeding or has blood on his/her uniform shall be prohibited from participating in the game, until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is to be left to the umpire's judgment. Uniform rule violations will not be

enforced if a uniform change is required. The umpire shall: Stop the game and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game. Immediately call a coach, trainer or authorized person to help the injured player. Apply the rules of the game regarding substitution, short-handed player and re-entry if necessary.

5) Substitutes: DEVIATION to NSA Rule.

- a. Re-entry – A starter and their substitute may re-enter an unlimited number of times for each other. The starter and substitute must occupy the same batting positions whenever in the lineup.
- b. **Courtesy Runners are not allowed.**
- c. The starting player and their substitute may not be in the lineup at the same time.
- d. If a player re-enters the game in a position in the batting order other than their original starting or substitute position, this is considered an illegal re-entry.
- e. All other NSA substitution rules apply. Rule 4, pg. 87 NSA Rule Book

6) Base Running

- a. **Appeal Rule:** An appeal must be made before the next pitch. Any infielder may make a verbal appeal on a runner missing a base or leaving a base too soon on a caught fly ball.
- b. **Over Throw:** All runners are awarded two bases and the award will be governed by the positions of the runners when the ball left the throwers hand.
- c. **Collision:** It is the greater responsibility of the runner to avoid a collision. Intent has nothing to do with it.
 - The Collision Rule does not apply when the base runner is sliding.
 - When a player avoids a fielder who is illegally blocking the runner, the runner will be declared safe. Even though he/she may not have reached the base.
 - The penalty for colliding with another player is:
 - Runner is out.
 - Runner is ejected.
 - Ball is dead.
 - All other runners must return to the base last touched at the time of the collision.
- d. **Stealing** is not permitted.

7) Mixed Leagues

- a. **Walk Rule:** If a male batter is walked, intentional or unintentional, he is awarded second base and the female that follows in the line up:
 - With less than two outs: female must bat
 - With two outs: female has choice of batting or taking a walk
- b. **Fielding Positions** - A combination of five (5) women and five (5) men can play any of the ten defensive positions. (No alternation is required).
- c. **Balls:** All mixed leagues will use both 12” and 11” softballs.

8) Profanity

- a. The umpire shall assess one out against the offending team for the use of profanity. For serious violations the umpire will eject the offender.
- b. The profanity out is assessed on the batter who is to receive the next pitch from the offending team. (Both offense and defense)
- c. There can be only one profanity out assessed against a team per play.
- d. If the profanity out occurs on the third out of an inning, the out will be assessed on the offending teams next at bat.
- e. Two violations of the profanity rule by the same player is ejection. Three or more violations against the same team are grounds for forfeit.

9) Dugout Rule

- a. **Loitering outside the dugout will not be tolerated**
- b. The only players allowed to be outside the dugout will be the batter, base coaches and the on deck batter. All other players must remain inside the dugout. Failure to do so will result in the following:

- The first violation shall result in an out being assessed on the batter who is to receive the next pitch from the offending team.
- A second violation shall result in an out being assessed on the batter who is to receive the next pitch from the offending team and the offending team's Coach is ejected
- A third violation by the same team will result in a game forfeit by the offending team. Loitering outside the dugout will not be tolerated.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

A) Zero Tolerance Policy: Unsportsmanlike or abusive behavior by spectators, players or teams **will not** be tolerated. Individual and team penalties will be given by administrators of the program and will be based on the severity of the action(s). The team Coach is responsible for the actions of all of his/her players and spectators. Their actions will directly affect the eligibility status of the team. Penalties for individuals and teams are not progressive. They include probation, suspension or total elimination from participation.

B) Any violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy will warrant a minimum (1) week suspension, from all CRPD leagues including participation as a spectator. The player will then be placed on probation the remainder of the season. The Sports Section will make a determination if a longer penalty is warranted as to the severity of the situation. During the suspension period, the player suspended may not participate in any event or be at any facility sponsored by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department.

C) The suspension period does not include postponed games.

D) Anyone ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior **must leave the facility immediately. Failure to do so could result in the game being forfeited.**

E) After an incident is reported, the Sports Section will review the situation, collect any necessary information and make a decision. It is the right of every player or team that is suspended to appeal the decision.

F) The Administrative Coordinator of the Sports Office will make the final decision on all appeals.

** All rules not covered in this rule booklet shall be governed by the **
Official Rules of Softball set forth by the National Softball Association.