

Reminders for Softball Leagues

- **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

Profanity, taunting, and “trash talking” will not be tolerated. Any player, manager, and/or coach will be ejected for the use of such. The player may or may not be replaced. In the event the player is not replaced, an automatic out will be charged when that player is scheduled to bat. A team may drop to a minimum of nine players – less than nine will constitute a forfeit.

- a. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated and offender is subject to immediate removal from game. Team managers will be held accountable for their team’s conduct; if a player is ejected from a game the manager will be issued a warning. If there is another incident during the game, the manager and offending player will be ejected and subject to suspension guidelines.
- b. Any player who strikes an official is automatically suspended until the case has been considered by a court of law. Assault and battery charges will be filed and if the player is found guilty, the player becomes suspended indefinitely. Managers shall instruct their players to remain in the dugout during any dispute involving rule interpretation or unnecessary rough tactics between members or opposing team. Umpires will eject offending players and report those individuals to the Athletics office. Any player reported for harassing an umpire or staff member may be suspended depending on the severity of the encounter. Threats of bodily harm towards officials or staff members will be grounds for removal from the league.
- c. A team or team member may be disqualified for any of the following: unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language, throwing bat in anger or disgust, intentional delay of game tactics, rough tactics against opposing player, intentional spiking, fighting, or playing while intoxicated.

- **SUSPENSIONS**

Any player ejected from a game will have 5 minutes to vacate the park. Ejected players refusing to leave the park will be grounds for the game to be forfeited. Ejected players will also be suspended for the next 8 days, or your next scheduled game. Failure to comply with this rule will cause forfeit of game by team that player is illegally playing for.

- **Alcoholic Beverages**

Alcohol is strictly prohibited within the confines of the dugout and playing field at all times. The Umpires and/or Parks and Recreation staff obtains the sole discretion to determine to capability of a player to participate or continuing participating in the game. This includes injuries, appearance of intoxication, or any other relating factors. The decision is final and may not be protested with the umpires or staff members. Flagrant behavior towards decisions made may result in further suspension from the league. Umpires may forfeit games if this rule is not adhered to

Line-Up Cards

- Completing fully and presenting the Home Plate Umpire with the team's lineup card no later than game time, with the exception of the first game of the season

• **Parking**

- a. Unless parking is otherwise prohibited, a person may park a motor vehicle in a 12 park only in a designated area, or within twelve feet of a public park road.
- b. A person may not park, store, or leave a vehicle or trailer in an area posted "restricted" or with "no parking" signs.
- c. PARD may impound a parked vehicle or trailer that creates a hazardous or unsafe condition.

• **Animals**

- a. A person bringing a pet or other animal into a park shall keep the animal under confinement or direct control. Leads or leashes used to control animals may not be more than six feet long. A person who brings a dog into a park may allow the dog to be without a leash in a designated off-leash area; provided that the dog must at all times remain under the person's immediate personal supervision and command. A person who brings a dog into a designated off-leash area must carry a leash in order to restrain the dog should the need arise.
- b. A person shall remove waste left by an animal under the person's care and control and shall dispose of the waste only in an appropriate waste receptacle.
- c. A person who brings an animal into a park may not permit the animal to remain unattended or create a disturbance or a hazard.

• **Peace and Quiet**

- a. A person shall preserve the peace and quiet enjoyment of a park by observing the law governing noise and amplified sound.
- b. A person may not use offensive language, make unreasonable noise, discharge weapons or fireworks, or engage in gestures or conduct in a park that would be offensive to a person of ordinary sensibility.
- c. A person may not operate a noise-making device in a park in violation of applicable law.
- d. A person shall observe and comply with noise restrictions posted in a park.

Team managers, participants, and spectators must abide by umpire and City of Austin staff requests/directives at all times while at any City of Austin Park.