

Men's Softball League Rules

2021

The official rules of the league will be those of the Amateur Softball Association with the following local rules being added:

- Teams must have a minimum of 8 players to start and finish a game.
- Game times are 6:00, 7:00, 8:00 and sometimes 9:00PM
- Pitchers arc is 6ft. – 10ft.
- No new innings after 1 hour 15 minutes with both teams having equal at bats.
 - *Please note: If 4 games are being played that night, a 1hr. time limit will be used.
- There will be a 15-minute grace period for the first game only at which point a team must start with 8 players or forfeit. Captains & Umpires are encouraged to note start times in the home book.
- Rule 5 Section 10 When the time limit rule is in effect time begins with the first warm up pitch....
- Rosters are due by each teams' first game. Changes to the rosters may be made for any reason, but roster limits must not exceed 20 players. Your local league director must be notified the **day before** a new player being used in a game unless a mutual agreement between both teams are made or that game will constitute to a forfeit. No roster changes can be made after **June 11th for State Tournaments. A player must play in at least 3 games during regular season to be eligible for season playoffs.**
- Players must be at least 16 years of age. **A player turning 16 during the season will be allowed to play under these circumstances. 1. A copy of his/her birth certificate and his/her birth date is listed on the roster. 2. The players' signature and parent/guardian signature added to the roster.**
- No infield warm-ups are allowed between games, infield allowed prior to first game only.
- New 2017 - Home Runs and 1 rule: Each team is allowed 2 home runs. Once each team has hit their limit of 2 home runs, a team may hit a third without it being counted as an out. The opposing team may hit a third as well. No team can go up 2 home runs on the other team or they will be counted as an out.
- Batters will start with a 1-1 count once they step into the batters box. League Tournament will have the same rule.
- New 2014 – A team may bat as many players in they're lineup as they want with mutual agreement by the opposing team before the game starts. Once the game starts, the number of batters in the lineup may not decrease below 8 or exceed the number agreed upon.

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***New – Teams must submit a lineup card to the plate umpire and make sure late players get put on the card. If a player is not listed on the card more than 3 times, they will be in-eligible to play in playoffs.**

- If a player is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct, he will not be eligible to play his team's next game. A second ejection will result in a three game suspension. The third ejection will result in that player's expulsion from the league for the remainder of the season.
 - a. Any 3rd ejection (for reasons other than physical contact) for the season, the player/player's will be suspended for the rest of the year with probation the following year. **Probation:** Any ejection the following year during probation, will result in a one year suspension from the date the incident occurred and that player will have to go through an appeal process with league administrators for a possible return to the league.
 - b. **Any ejection for having illegal substances** (alcohol, tobacco, drugs) on any premises, police will be called and player/player's will be suspended from the league for the rest of the season and put on probation the following season.

Ejections for Physical Contact – If a player is ejected and suspended for intentional physical contact, (punching, pushing, spitting, kicking, tripping) that player/player's will be suspended from the Caribou and Presque Isle Men's and Coed Leagues for 3 years from the date of the incident. The ASA commissioner for Northern Maine will hold an ASA hearing prior to the suspension being up before that individual may be considered back into the league.

Reminder: Teams may not play down a player after play has started due to the cause of an ejection. A sub must enter in his spot. If no sub is available to enter in that spot, the game will be forfeited. Teams may only play down due to injury.

- Inability of a team to control players on the field of play may result in a forfeit.
- **Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during the game. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn, they must be taped to the body so the medical alert information remains visible. (Pg. 46 2013 rule book)**
- **Both the Caribou and Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Departments have a zero tolerance policy for the use of alcohol or controlled substances at any of their facilities.**

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- Rule 3 Section 3E Exception: (Slow Pitch Only) It is acceptable for the ball to be molded and the molded facsimile of no fewer than 88 stitches that must be red in color.
Comment: Better defines the characteristics of a 12" molded ball in the Men's Slow Pitch Classification of Play.
- Rule 3 Section 6 Exception: Men's D Slow Pitch, Men's E Rec Slow Pitch, Women's Open Slow Pitch, Women's C and D Slow Pitch and Coed C and D Slow Pitch: the only uniform requirement is matching shirt with number.
- No smoking on Caribou or Presque Isle Recreation & Parks premises, including the ball field, dugouts and/or spectator bench areas.
 - Presque Isle Fields:* Smoking is prohibited on all Rec. & M.S.A.D.#1 premises.
 - Caribou Fields:* Caribou Parks and Recreation Department has a zero tolerance policy regarding the use of tobacco products at any facility. Smoking will be limited to public ways off Parks and Recreation property.
- There are to be no children in the playing areas. Please keep all non-playing personnel behind the dugout fence.
- The casual profanity rule adopted by A.S.A. will be in effect.
- If a team forfeits 3 nights of play, it will be automatically dropped from the league without any refund.
- A player may not switch teams after they have played **one game** for a team.
- **Teams that begin the game with only 8 players can add late players to their line-up once they arrive. Late players can only be added to the bottom of the lineup. An out will occur every time through the order until that player arrives. All lineups must have 10 spots in their lineups regardless of how many players are playing.**
- If a game is suspended because of rain or power failure or other unforeseen circumstances, prior to becoming an official game, it will be resumed from the point that it was stopped at on the next scheduled make-up date.
- **The Softball League Playoffs will be during the weeknights played by team seed.**
- Men's D - July 10-11 - Augusta, ME
- Men's E - July 10-11 - Ellsworth, ME
- Coed - August 3-4 - Bangor, ME
- Maine USA Softball Commissioners decided at their annual meeting to make changes to the Men's Slow Pitch State Tourney Program. In 2017, the Men's D Division will be provided with a (4) home run limit.
- State Tournament Rosters will have to be given to district commissioners (Mike Patenaude) by June 11th, 2020. Any team that does not follow through on completing a roster will have to play in the higher division, in this case Class D.

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2021

- Another change for Class E is bringing back the half inning ending home run. Class E teams will not be allowed to hit any over the fence home runs. Any over the fence home run will end that teams at bat for that half inning.
- These changes are being made in attempt to bring back a Competitive Class D and Class E State Tournament.
- The Adult Co-Ed tourney will be held in Augusta and will see no change in format.

Uniforms: A.S.A. uniform rule is not enforced in league play. Similar colored shirts and hats, if worn, are encouraged. **Teams that are interested in playing in championship play (i.e. districts & states),** requires only matching shirts with numbers.

Comment: The 52/300 12" ball will be the only 12" ball allowed in Men's Adult Slow Pitch, Coed (Men), Men's Master's Slow Pitch and Junior Olympic Boys Slow Pitch Championship Play, with the exception of Seniors.

- Team trophies will be handed out to League Tournament Champs and Runner's up.
 - Individual trophies will be handed out to League & Tournament Champions.

Ground Rules

Pine St.: Imaginary line from corner of the backstop to the outfield fence for inbound area. Left field the line should pass in front of the swing set area. Two bases for balls hit through any gate.