

CITY OF RACINE



HANDBOOK FOR COACHES/MANAGERS



**City of Racine
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
800 Center St., Rm. 127
Racine, WI 53403
(262) 636-9131**

Visit: [Parks Department - City of Racine](#)
<https://cityofracinewi.gov/parksrec/>

**For Game Time Cancellations/Updates:
TEAM SIDELINE APP OR WEBSITE**

<https://teamsideline.com/sites/RacineParksandRec/home>

OR FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1053895331468435/>

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CITY LEAGUE SOFTBALL INFORMATION

Coaches are responsible for informing their players of the following information:

Welcome to softball season! Please provide PRCS with a current phone number and email. Standings and other important team information may be found on Google Docs/Sheets. You may also contact Michelle Nelson at michelle.nelson@cityofracine.org.

TEAM FEE

Registration deadlines, additional player, forfeit and team fees can be found in the current season's brochure.

INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS

Fee information can be found in the current season's brochure.

Players' fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

In the event a player must be released from a team, the team manager must complete and sign a player release form. Players released with all proper paperwork due to injury will be required to present a physician's written release to resume play again after 30 days. An additional player may be added to replace the one released. The replacement player must complete/sign a registration card and pay a player fee to participate. All required paperwork for the released player and added player must be presented together with appropriate fees.

Once a season is underway players may only transfer to another team during mid-season signup. A player may not transfer to any team in any league when that team has a better percentage of wins & losses than the team he/she is leaving. A player may not transfer to a team if it is going to leave his/her current team with fewer than eleven (11) players.

NO GRACE PERIOD

A team must have the minimum required legal players at game time or the game will be forfeited. The official's watch will read official game time. A team is only allowed **two (2) forfeits a season** and must pay a forfeit fee to resume play in the league. A team will be dropped from the league after the second occurrence.

** 6 p.m. softball games (M-F) shall have a ten (10) minute grace period

GAME POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

If you would like to make-up a softball game that has been rained out or postponed, please read below:

A postponed game must be established 6 hours before game time, or it will not be made up.

Make-up games will be played Monday through Friday evenings at 9 p.m. or on Sunday evenings at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. Unless PRCS says different.

You may choose any of these days/times as long as the date & time selected is available and your opponent agrees.

NO games will be made up after the second week of August, unless the game has a bearing on the title. You must choose an option available to you during the season.

League championships that result in a tie will be determined by head-to-head league play.

All rules concerning postponements, forfeits, eligibility, protests, transfers, etc. are included in the PRCS "Rules and Regulations" handbook. Managers and players should familiarize themselves with the rules.

ABUSIVE AND PROFANE LANGUAGE

Any team personnel (players, coaches, managers or scorekeepers) using abusive or profane language will be subject to ejection from the game. In the event of a dispute, only the offensive and defensive players involved, and the team managers may participate in discussion. Players leaving the bench during a dispute will be subject to ejection from the game. A legal manager is the person listed on the team registration card.

ARGUING BALLS AND STRIKES

In a most-welcomed change the ASA adopted across all classifications a rule successfully implemented in the super slow-pitch division in previous years. No offensive or defensive player, substitute, team manager, or coach may argue ball and strike judgment with the umpires.

Teams should consider this as their warning: those who argue are EJECTED.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS (TO MANAGERS) AT TIME OF COIN FLIP

1. Discuss ground rules
 - a. Will you be allowing courtesy runners?
 - b. How many are you batting?
 - c. Which pitching distance will your team be using? (Women only)
 - d. No metal cleats.
 - e. Check other team's bats
2. Arguments or unsportsmanlike conduct on calls made by officials will result in:
 - a. First offense – team warning
 - b. Second offense – ejection from game
3. Swearing or abusive language will result in immediate ejection without warning.
4. Consumption of alcohol and drugs, and smoking by players or coaches in the facilities will result in immediate ejection without warning.
5. Officials will listen to legitimate protests from the manager ONLY. Officials will not tolerate any display of unsportsmanlike conduct.
6. Team lineups must be exchanged before game time.

NO ALCOHOL, SMOKING, or DRUGS ALLOWED IN PARKS

Sec. 70-86. – Alcohol beverages.

(a)

No intoxicating liquor, including wine, may be possessed or consumed in any city park, beach, playground, recreation area or boulevard, except in the Johnson Park Clubhouse and on the Johnson Park Golf Course pursuant to the granting of an intoxicating liquor license by the common council, and in the Zoological Park and Wustum Museum for specific events upon the specific approval of the common council, excepting that if a public facilities permit to sell intoxicating liquors has been granted for Zoological Park and if a concession agreement for sale of alcohol beverages at Zoological Park is in effect, then alcohol beverages may be possessed and consumed at Zoological Park pursuant to the terms of the agreement. No person shall bring into, possess or consume fermented malt beverages in any city park, playground, beach or recreation area, except in areas designated under this section and only upon written permission of the parks, recreation and cultural services commission, and except at such places as beverages are sold by licensees of the city and, except as otherwise provided in this section, in the Zoological Park, North Beach Park and Wustum Museum for specific events upon the specific approval of the common council. Application for such approval shall be in writing to the mayor and common council and shall be referred to the public welfare and licensing committee for recommendation to the common council.

(b)

Fermented malt beverages may be consumed in the following city facilities or parks, during the hours the facility is open to the public, upon purchase of a facilities rental permit and a group fermented malt beverages permit from the department of parks, recreation and cultural services offices, 800 Center Street, during normal business hours, by an adult who is responsible for the group:

- (1) Pershing Park Athletic Field and southerly park area.
- (2) Johnson Park picnic area nos. 1, 2 and 3.
- (3) Island Park.
- (4) Lincoln Park.
- (5) Pierce Woods.
- (6) Roosevelt Park.
- (7) Community or neighborhood centers.

OFFICIAL SOFTBALL RULES

12" SLOW PITCH RULES

Men & Women & Supplied Bat
REGULATION SOFTBALL RULES ARE IN FORCE
WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

1. There is a one-hour time limit. No new inning started once this time limit has been hit.
2. Only 6 p.m. softball games (M-F) shall have a ten-minute grace period.
3. Games will be seven innings or until time limit.
4. A 12 rule will be in effect after five complete innings or the home team is ahead by 12 after four and one-half (4½) innings.
5. After nine innings a runner will be placed a second base to start the tenth inning. The runner is the player in the batting order immediately preceding that innings leadoff hitter.
6. Eleven-man teams, except co-ed league, which is allowed ten man teams. Teams may start a game with as few as nine players. The team must, however, add their eligible players as they appear at the diamond. No fewer than nine players must be on the field at all times. Penalty: **FORFEIT**.
7. Extra Hitter(s) (EH) is optional, but they must be listed in the scorebook in the regular batting order. If EHs are used, they must be used the entire game.
8. Two strikes, three balls. Second strike, swinging, foul tip, or foul ball is out.
9. A pitched ball will be called a strike only when:
 1. It lands on home plate (black edge included) and/or mat; and
 2. It is delivered within the 12' arch maximum; and
 3. It reaches the front of home plate or the black edging at the height of the batter's front knee.
10. The pitching distance is: 46 feet or 50 feet (women), 50 feet (men). Whichever distance is chosen by starting women's pitcher (all women's leagues, 46' or 50'), shall be used by subsequent pitchers.
11. An illegal pitch is when the pitcher delivers the ball not in accordance with the pitching rule. In each case, an illegal pitch shall be declared a ball in favor of the batter; the ball shall be dead until put in play again at the pitcher's box. However, if the batter swings at an illegal pitch there shall be no penalty for such illegal pitch and the ball shall remain in play.
12. If a pitcher is guilty of a too-fast pitch, he/she will be warned. If he/she is guilty a second time, he/she will be removed from pitching, but may play another position.
13. If a pitcher desires to walk a batter intentionally, he/she may do so by notifying the umpire who shall award the batter first base. Ball is dead.
14. Base runners may leave their base after a pitched ball has reached the plate.
15. On plays at first base, the runner must go to orange half/fielder to white half. If no play at first/or runner returning, that runner must use white portion. If a poor throw pulls fielder to orange position, runner must go to white portion – runner must avoid contact!
16. No metal cleats.
17. Ball & strikes are not arguable. Player, coaches, or managers who argue may be ejected.

CO-ED SLOW PITCH RULES

1. There is a one hour time limit. No new inning started once this time limit has been hit. Unless score is tied
2. Only the 6 p.m. softball games (M-F) shall have a ten-minute grace period.
3. Games will be seven innings or until time limit.
4. A twelve-run rule will be in effect after five complete innings or the winning team is ahead by twelve after four and one-half (4½) innings.
5. After nine innings a runner will be placed at second to start the tenth inning. The runner is the player in the batting order immediately preceding that innings leadoff hitter.
6. Teams may start with a maximum of ten players in the field.
7. A team must have a minimum of eight players to start a game in order to avoid a forfeit. Must have four females and four males with one male and one female as pitcher or catcher. (The legal infield/outfield combination with eight players is two males and one female or two females and one male).
8. When starting a game with nine players, a team must play five females and four males and the pitcher/catcher remains the same as above.
9. **HOWEVER**, when starting a game with **TEN PLAYERS**, a team must play five females and five males; two males and two females in both the infield and outfield; and one male and one female as pitcher and catcher.
10. Additional legal players may be inserted at any time during the course of the game.
11. All men must use the softball bat provided by PRCS. There is a \$25.00 deposit.
12. **BATTING ORDER**: "Rule of Thumb" – you **MAY NOT** have two men bat in consecutive order in the line-up.
13. **WALK RULE**: The ball is dead. When a male is walked the female has the option of the female batting or walking.
14. **COURTESY RUNNER**: Upon opposing team manager's agreement, the last person to make an out of the same sex may replace the base runner. If there has been no person put out, the last out of the same sex is the runner.
15. **BATTING ORDER – OPTIONS**: Teams may utilize **ONE** of the following batting order options:
 - a. Standard ten-person order.
 - b. Eleven-person order (EXTRA PLAYER/EP), this hitter must be a woman.
 - c. NOTE: The extra players will not be treated like the re-entry rule.
 - d. The total ratio of men may not exceed the number of women. TEAMS MUST DECIDE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE GAME WHICH OPTION THEY WILL CHOOSE. The option chosen must be utilized throughout the game (unless injury adjusts the number of players).
16. A pitched ball will be called a strike only when:
 - a. It lands on home plate (black edge included) and/or mat; and
 - b. When it is within the **6' - 12' arch limit**; and
 - c. It reaches the front of home plate at the height of the batter's front knee.
17. Pitching distance is: 46 feet or 50 feet (women), 50 feet (men). Whatever distance is chosen by starting women's pitcher (46' or 50') shall be used by subsequent pitchers.
18. An illegal pitch is when the pitcher delivers the ball not in accordance with the pitching rule. In each case, an illegal pitch shall be declared a ball in favor of the batter; the ball shall be dead until put in play again at the pitcher's box. However,

if the batter swings at an illegal pitch, there shall be no penalty for such illegal pitch and ball shall remain in play.

19. If a pitcher is guilty of a too-fast pitch, he/she will be warned. If he/she is guilty a second time, he/she will be removed from pitching, but may play another position.
20. If a pitcher desires to walk a batter intentionally, he/she may do so by notifying the umpire who shall award the batter the correct base. Ball is dead.
21. On plays at first base, the runner must go to orange half/fielder to white half. If no play at first/or runner returning, that runner must use white portion. If a poor throw pulls fielder to orange position, runner must go to white portion – runner must avoid contact!
22. No metal cleats.
23. Ball & strikes are not arguable. Player/coaches, managers who argue may be ejected.

****MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION****

LEGAL SOFTBALLS:

- 12" Dudley SB-12L RF Y 44 (Yellow Leather Cover)

LEGAL BATS:

- All bats must be *inspected and certified before* being used for any softball game in city leagues. A new city sticker must be put on each year. Penalty for using/stepping into the batter's box with a bat not having a Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department inspection sticker is as follows:
 1. Batter is called out;
 2. Ejection of the bat; and
 3. Ejection of the player (An ejected player must miss the next game played with each team you play with. So, if you play on Tuesdays and Thursdays and are ejected on Tuesday, you will miss Thursday's game and the following Tuesday's game).
- Men in Coed must use the bat provided by the PRCS department. Men's bats are available from PRCS office with payment of a refundable deposit. Penalty for men in coed using/stepping into the batter's box with a bat that was not provided by Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department is as follows:
 1. Batter is called out;
 2. Ejection of the bat; and
 3. Ejection of the player (An ejected player must miss the next game played on each team you play with. So, if you play on Tuesdays and Thursdays and are ejected on Tuesday, you will miss Thursday's game and the following Tuesday's game).
- Thursday Supplied Bat: Bats will be provided by PRCS department. Penalty for using/stepping in the batter's box with a bat not provided by PRCS is as follows:
 1. Batter is called out;
 2. Ejection of the bat; and

3. Ejection of the player (An ejected player must miss the next game played on each team you play with. So, if you play on Tuesdays and Thursdays and are ejected on Tuesday, you will miss Thursday's game and the following Tuesday's game).

METAL CLEATS ARE NOT ALLOWED:

- Anytime an offensive player is discovered wearing metal cleats, it shall be ruled an out:
 1. When the batter enters the batter's box.
 2. If by the batter/runner – no runs can score, and all runners must return to the base they left.
 3. If by a base runner – no runs can score, and all runners must return to the base they left unless not able to because batter reaches 1st base safely.
- Anytime a defensive player is discovered wearing metal cleats:
 1. 1st time at bat after discovery shall be ruled an out.
 2. Player is ejected. (An ejected player must miss the next game played with each team on which you play. So, if you play on Tuesdays and Thursdays and are ejected on Tuesday, you will miss Thursday's game and the following Tuesday's game). When the player is ejected from the game, and a replacement player is not available for the ejected player, the 1st time that player is up to bat it will be an out.

MAT AND PLATE:

- A pitched ball will be called a strike only when:
 1. It lands on home plate (black edge included) and/or mat; and
 2. It is delivered within the 12' arc maximum; and
 3. It reaches the front of home plate at the height of the batter's front knee

PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS – BLOOD RULE

A player, coach or official who is bleeding or who has blood on their uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time considered reasonable is left to the official's judgment. Uniform rule violations will not be enforced if a uniform change is required. The official shall:

1. Stop the game and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game.
2. Immediately call the coach/manager to the injured player.
3. Apply the rules of the game regarding substitution, short-handed player and re-entry if necessary:
 - I. The player must leave and not re-enter until after the clock has run and a substitution opportunity has occurred.
 - II. Coach has 30 seconds to replace the player.

The player involved is not to return until the bleeding has stopped, an open wound is covered or an excessively bloody uniform is changed

CONCERNING WEATHER CONDITIONS

Calls to cancel due to weather will not happen until 4pm (no matter what the radar says). Do not presume because school was cancelled that games are cancelled.

Managers will receive a text when games are cancelled from a PRCS staff member. Managers are responsible for letting their players know.

***** For the most accurate and up-to-date information concerning the status of games, get the Team Sideline App and register the email you gave PRCS or look on the Team Sideline website: <https://teamsideline.com/sites/RacineParksandRec/home>

EJECTIONS

Any player or manager ejected from a game (city league or tournament) is subject to City of Racine rules. To ensure better sportsmanship and conduct among managers, player and spectators, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission has set the following rules, which apply until the game official and/or player leave the premises.

(1) Players, coaches and spectators who are dismissed for unsportsmanlike conduct, such as cussing, over-arguing, foul gestures, etc.:

1st offense: One week suspension.
2nd offense: Two weeks suspension.
3rd offense: Thirty-day suspension.
4th offense: One year suspension.

(2) Players, coaches and spectators dismissed from a game for fighting with or hitting another player will be suspended from playing:

1st offense: Thirty-day suspension.
2nd offense: One year suspension.

(3) Players, managers, or spectators that make a verbal threat to an umpire, official, referee or anyone associated with the program:

1st offense: Thirty-day player and spectator suspension.
2nd offense: One year player and spectator suspension.

(4) Players, managers, or spectators that threaten an umpire, official, referee, or anyone associated with the program with a weapon, such as a bat, chair or other object:

1st offense: Suspended indefinitely with review after two years.

(5) Players dismissed from a game for pushing, shoving, spitting, chesting or any other physical action taken against an umpire, official, referee or anyone associated with the program:

1st offense: One year suspended.

(6) A player dismissed from a game for hitting or kicking an umpire, official, or referee:

1st offense: Suspended indefinitely with review after three years.

Any player that receives a suspension that plays in more than one league, the suspension will apply to player participation in all respective league play.

A suspension will be increased if the violation is severe enough to warrant such action to be taken.

If the offense is near the end of the season, the remaining days will be carried over to the league tournament, next sport he/she participates in, or the next season, whichever comes first.

A suspended or ejected player must leave the gym/field immediately. The game will not continue until suspended player, coach or spectator has left the premises. Failure will result in the game forfeiture.

Any player or coach who has been suspended for one year or more will be placed on a one-year probationary status after serving his/her suspension with the condition that if he/she is ejected from any game that he/she played, will be placed on indefinite suspension.

Any spectator who has been suspended for one year or more and returns to the premises after serving suspension will be placed on a one-year probationary status with the condition that any unsportsmanlike conduct exhibited will result in an indefinite suspension from all games.

Any and all appeals must be directed to the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission within 5 days of the incident. Suspensions remain in effect until ruled on by the PRCS commission.

ROOSEVELT PARK

PARKING & RESTROOM ISSUES

MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE: Trinity Terrace Apartment management has informed us that parking in the apartment lot located at 2132 Center Street, adjacent to Roosevelt Park, is prohibited. Violators will be ticketed by the Police Department.

Please inform your players and fans! Thank you.

HOME PLATE (Where Runs Are Scored)
--

DOUGLAS PARK
2221 Douglas Avenue

HUMBLE NW
2218 Blaine Avenue

ISLAND NORTH
1700 Liberty Street

LINCOLN FIELD
2200 Domanik Drive

ROOSEVELT NORTH
601 - 21st Street

WASHINGTON BOWL EAST
1330 Valley Drive

HUMBLE SE
2218 Blaine Avenue

ISLAND SOUTH
1700 Liberty Street

LOCKWOOD NORTH
4300 Graceland Boulevard

SOLBRAA
3825 - 16th Street

Maps And Rules Are Available Upon Request!!

POSTPONEMENT AGREEMENT

Games may be postponed, but ONLY under the following conditions:

1. Only two (2) postponement games per team.
2. No game may be postponed unless agreed to by both managers AND A POSTPONEMENT AGREEMENT is filed in the PRCS Department by 11:55 a.m. the Tuesday of the week prior to the game being postponed.
3. Managers must call the PRCS Department to set up a date for the replay of the game. This date MUST be agreed upon by both managers.
4. **POSTPONEMENT AGREEMENT** form is available at the PRCS Department or on the website.
5. If a team fails to field a **minimum number** of eligible players for any scheduled game not officially postponed, the game will be awarded to the opponent and the forfeiting team must pay the forfeit fee prior to their next scheduled game. Teams must pay the \$25.00 forfeit fee in order to resume play in the league. A team will be dropped from the league after the second occurrence.
6. If neither team fields the required number of eligible players for any scheduled game, a forfeit will be declared against both teams.
7. A team is only allowed two (2) forfeits a season and must pay a \$25.00 forfeit fee in order to resume play in the league. A team will be dropped from the league after the second occurrence.
8. Forfeited games will NOT be replayed.

TEAM REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT: _____

OPPONENT: _____ LEAGUE: _____

DAY & DATE OF SCHEDULED GAME: _____

LOCATION: _____ TIME: _____

Signature of Opposing Team Manager

Signature of Manager Making Request

INELIGIBLE PLAYER PROTEST

Date of Protest _____

SUBMITTED BY

PRINT YOUR NAME

ADDRESS

ZIP

OPPOSING TEAM _____
MANAGER PRINT NAME

PRINT NAME

ADDRESS

ZIP

1. Name of Player: _____
2. Date of game player performed: _____
3. Team player played with: _____
4. League: _____
5. Teams involved:
Your team: _____ Opposing team: _____
6. Officials: _____ Time: _____
7. Game location: _____
7. Team(s) the protested player signed with _____
8. Were both officials and opponent notified the game was being played under protest because of the alleged ineligible player? circle one
(yes no)
9. You must bring your score book with completed protest form. Score book must show player names from both teams.
10. In 50 words or less, tell why: _____

Fee Paid -

*All titanium bats and 100% composite bats are illegal for play

*Fast pitch bats are not legal for slow pitch play

*In addition, any bat that is deemed by an umpire as altered in any manner shall be illegal for play in all leagues.

All bats must be **stickered before being used for any softball game in city leagues. Please have all bats ready for the umpires to check before the game.

Penalty for using/stepping into the batter's box with a bat that is not stickered by PRCS:

- Batter is called out,
- Ejection of the bat, *and*
- Ejection of the player. (An ejected player must miss the next game played with each team you play with. So, if you play on Tuesday's and Thursday's and are ejected on Tuesday, you will miss Thursday's game and the following Tuesday's game.)

*****Tie Breaker Rule: Will start in the eighth inning. The player in the batting order immediately preceding that inning's leadoff hitter will be placed on second base. The inning will proceed as usual, with each team getting a turn at bat.

ALL COMPOSITE BATS ARE ILLEGAL!!!!

ALL FASTPITCH BATS ARE ILLEGAL!!!!

ALL BATS MUST HAVE A USA OR ASA STAMP

April 13, 2023

This list depicts the previously USA Softball certified bats that failed a USA Softball sponsored field audit and that also carry the 2000 or 2004 ASA Certification Mark. It also depicts any bats that had marks prematurely put on the bat without approval of USA Softball. This list is intended for informational purposes only.

Manufacturer	Bat Name
Bass	Quake
	
Combat	VIRSP3 Lady Virus
	
Data Driven Athletics	314159 PI
	
Easton	SCN1
	
Easton	SCN11BH
	
Easton	SCN1B
	
Easton	SCN2B
	

Easton SCN3



Easton SCN4B



Easton SCN5



Easton SCN5B



Easton SCN6B



Easton SCN7



Easton SCN7B



Easton SCN8B



Easton SCN9



Easton SCX14



Easton SCX14B



Easton SCX2 Synergy



Easton SCX22 Synergy 2



Easton SCX24B



Louisville Slugger FP136



Louisville Slugger FP1368



Louisville Slugger FP1369



Louisville Slugger FPC305 Catalyst (-8)



Louisville Slugger SB304



Louisville Slugger SB34 Genesis



Louisville Slugger

SB404



Miken

MSF Freak



Miken

MSU Ultra



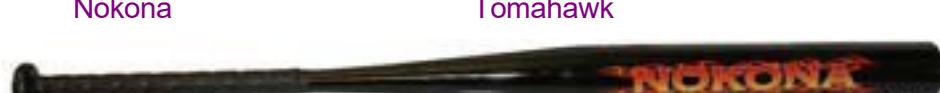
Miken

MSU2 Ultra II



Miken

MSUM Ultra Maxload



Nokona

Tomahawk



Onyx

Battle Ground - ESBCA242



Onyx

First Born - ES2P21



Worth

EST9

Worth

QESTFP



Worth

SBWK(Wicked)



Worth

SBWKA



Worth

WWSC Wicked Comp. (SP Only)



Worth

WWSCA



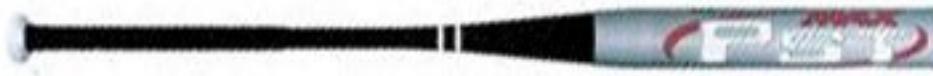
Worth

XEST9X



Worth

XPST4



Worth

XRed



Worth

XWICKX Wicked (SP Only)



For a complete list of approved bats go to the certified equipment section of www.usasoftball.com Last Updated: April 3, 2023