



Wrightsville Beach Parks & Recreation
1 Bob Sawyer Drive, P. O. Box 626
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480
(910) 256-7925 Fax: (910) 256-7926
www.towb.org

Softball Team Captains:

Enclosed is registration information for the upcoming **2010 SPRING CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE** at **WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH**. Play begins the weekend of **MARCH 27TH AND 28TH**.

Please read this entire letter and the attached rules. Remember that if there is nothing specific in the attached Wrightsville Beach rules concerning an issue, ASA rules apply. Remember also, if there is a rain out and you have not been contacted via email by the department by 1:00 p.m. the following Tuesday, it is the captain's responsibility to contact the department regarding the new schedule.

MONDAY, MARCH 1 - Registration for returning teams.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2 - Open registration.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19 - Registration closes (sooner if league fills)

We must have 22 teams registered in order to conduct the league.

When registering, each team must provide a registration form, initial roster (the roster serves as a waiver which every player **MUST complete and sign prior to the first game**), and the team fee of \$600. No registrations will be accepted without **ALL** of these items.

At the end of the season, there will be a double elimination tournament of the top 6 teams from each division. If you have any questions, call the Park Office at 256-7925.

Sincerely,

Katie Ryan
Program Supervisor

2/15/09

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

ADULT CO-ED SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

REGISTRATION FORM and REFUND POLICY

TEAM NAME: _____

MANAGER: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

OTHER CONTACT: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

REFUND POLICY

Refunds will be made under the following guidelines:

1. FULL REFUNDS will be made if the Parks and Recreation Department cancels the league.
2. FULL REFUNDS less a \$5 administrative fee will be made if cancellation is requested two weeks prior to the start of the regular season.
3. If requested less than two weeks prior to the start of the season, twenty percent (20%) will be retained as an administrative cost.
4. If requested after the season has begun, forty percent (40%) PLUS a pro-rated amount for any games already conducted will be assessed.

I hereby state that all documentation turned in by me upon registering is correct to the best of my knowledge. In addition, I have read and agree to the Wrightsville Beach Parks and Recreation Department Co-ed Softball League Rules, Code of Conduct and Refund Policy.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH PARKS & RECREATION –CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE - ROSTER/WAIVER

TEAM: _____ CAPTAIN/MANAGER: _____

WAIVER/RELEASE FORM - I, by signing below, desire to participate in the Co-Ed Softball League offered by the Wrightsville Beach Parks and Recreation Department. I hereby voluntarily release the Town of Wrightsville Beach, its Parks and Recreation Department, their staff and employees, from any and all responsibility, liability, claims, demands or causes of action, on account of injuries or problems of any nature, which may arise as a result of my participation in the above-described activity. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ORDINANCE** - I have read and agree to abide by the alcohol policy as stated in the rules. I understand that violation of this ordinance will result in ejection from the remainder of the season/tournament.

PLAYERS' FIRST & LAST NAME	ADDRESS (Street, City and Zip)	PHONE NUMBER	SIGNATURE
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WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH PARKS & RECREATION ADULT CO-ED SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **REGISTRATION** - Registration form, fee, and initial signed rosters are due at time of registering. Call the Park Office at (910) 256-7925 for registration dates for the Spring/Summer and Fall Leagues. The Park Office is open Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
2. **AGE LIMIT** - All players must be at least age 17 by the date of the first game of the regular season. All 17-year-old players must have their parent or legal guardian sign a waiver/release form.
3. **LEAGUE COMPOSITION** - The league consists of two divisions, with 11 teams in each division, for a total of 22 teams. Each team plays all other teams in their division. The top 6 teams in each division will play in an inter-division, double-elimination tournament played at the end of the regular season.
4. **SEASON SCHEDULE** – Games are played on weekends (alternating Saturdays & Sundays). Each team has at least one double header scheduled each season.
5. **RAIN OUTS** - The decision to delay game times, or to reschedule games to other dates, will be made at 7:30 a.m. on game day and team captains will be notified. In addition, an appropriate message will be posted on the Park Office answering machine 256-7926.

If games must be rescheduled, a revised schedule will be emailed (or if necessary mailed via postal service) to all team captains. If any captain has not been contacted by 1:00 p.m. on the following Tuesday either by phone or email, it is that coach's responsibility to contact the Park Office regarding the new schedule.
6. **PRACTICES (FIELD RESERVATIONS)** - Teams may reserve the field (after registering) at no charge by calling the Park Office. Times available are anytime before 5:00 p.m., 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. or 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on Monday – Thursday. The field is CLOSED on Fridays, for field maintenance. This applies to everyone. Reservations are limited to ONCE per week, and may be made up to TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE from the day you call. You should call EACH WEEK for the best chance of getting the practice day/time wanted.
7. **TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY** - A player must play in AT LEAST ONE ENTIRE INNING of at least FOUR of the regular season games to be eligible to play in the tournament. In the case of a forfeited game, all members of the team awarded the win will receive credit for playing that game. If an ineligible player participates in the tournament and it is noted and proven, the team using the ineligible player will be forfeited out of the tournament.
8. **TIES FOR TOURNAMENT "SEEDING"** - Ties for seeding are broken in the following order:
 - A. forfeited game
 - B. scores against each other
 - C. total runs scored
 - D. least runs allowed
 - E. coin toss

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL RULES

1. **TEAM COMPOSITION/ROSTERS** - Rosters are limited to 10-25 players. At least two women must be among the players on the field at all times (one outfield/one infield). You are allowed to add or delete players from your roster during the first 4 weeks of game play. After that, rosters are frozen. NO EXCEPTIONS! The roster serves as a waiver which every player **MUST complete and sign prior to playing their first game.**
2. **STARTING LINE-UPS** - Starting line-ups **MUST be turned in at least ten minutes prior to the scheduled game time.** The batting order may **NOT** be changed after this point; however, players may be added to the **BOTTOM** of the batting order. At least two females must be in the top ten batters of the team line-up. (A line up form is attached for use.)
*Starting line-ups must be submitted in **legible writing** on a form that the scorekeeper will provide you with and will keep. **Line up form must include first and last names for each player.** This will help us determine each player's tournament eligibility which will be strictly enforced.*
3. **PLAYING WITH NINE PLAYERS** - Nine players may start a game with player #10 inserted into position #10 of the batting order at any time during the game. If a team has 10 players present, then 10 players must start. AT ALL TIMES, THERE MUST BE AT LEAST TWO WOMEN PLAYING. If fewer than 9 players are present by **five minutes past game time**, it is a forfeit. If you have only 8 players a non-roster player (see Rule #4) may be used, however if you have 9 of your own players you must play with 9.
4. **PLAYING WITH "NON-ROSTER" PLAYER(S)** - During the regular season only, in order to avoid forfeiting a game due to lack of players, if both managers agree, a team may use **one** non-roster player. If a player on the official roster arrives, they must be immediately substituted for the non-roster player. **AT ALL TIMES, THERE MUST BE AT LEAST TWO WOMEN PLAYING. BOTH COACHES MUST SIGN A CONSENT FORM. THE NON-ROSTER PLAYER MUST SIGN A WAIVER FORM. THE SCOREKEEPER WILL PROVIDE BOTH OF THESE FORMS.**
5. **ILLEGAL PLAYERS** - Any games in which an ineligible player participated will be forfeited.
6. **SUBSTITUTIONS** - If a team has more than two women playing, a male player can be substituted for a female player, but **ONLY WHEN THE TEAM IS PLAYING DEFENSE**. The team **MUST** still have at least two women playing at all times.
7. **FORFEITS** – Forfeiting a game results in a \$25 penalty due before the next game. Upon the second forfeit (regular season or tournament) the team will be immediately **OUT OF THE LEAGUE**. A team forfeiting a tournament game (if it is their first forfeit) will be allowed to move to the losers' bracket and play the next scheduled game in the bracket. A team forfeiting out of the league's regular season or tournament will not be allowed to return for the next season. In the case of a forfeited game, all members of the team awarded the win will receive credit for playing that game.
8. **GAME BALL** - Each team will supply their own balls to hit. The game ball (12") must be ASA or USSSA approved with **a core of .44 or under and 375 compression**. Official stamp and core density must be visible at all times in order to be legal. Umpires make the final decision regarding the legality of a ball.

9. **GAME BAT** – Bats must be ASA approved. No triple-wall bats are allowed. Umpires have the final decision regarding the legality of a bat. If an umpire determines that a player is using an illegal bat, that player will be banned from Wrightsville Beach league play for at least one year from the date of the incident.
10. **CLEATS** - No steel cleats are allowed WHAT-SO-EVER.
11. **CATCHER'S MASKS** - Catcher's masks are optional. Those catchers wishing to wear a mask must provide their own.
12. **TIME LIMIT**
 - A. **Regular Season** - Games consist of seven innings or 1 hour and 10 minutes, whichever comes first. **ONLY** tied games continue past the time limit. **EXCEPTION:** See the slaughter rule (below).
 - B. **Tournament** - With the exception of the championship game, all tournament games will consist of seven innings or one hour and 10 minutes, whichever comes first. The slaughter rule will still apply. The **CHAMPIONSHIP** game **ONLY** will consist of a full seven innings with no time limit or slaughter rule in effect.
13. **SLAUGHTER RULE** - After 55 minutes of a regular season game or 5 innings, whichever comes first, if a team is behind by 15 or more runs, the game **WILL** be ended by the officials. **OR**, at any point in a game, if a team is behind by 20 or more runs and wants to end the game, it is their responsibility to notify the officials. However, once an inning has begun, it must be completed unless the home team is ahead.
14. **HOME RUN RULE** - The first person to hit the ball out of the park is considered the Designated Home Run Hitter (DHRH) for that game. Any subsequent ball hit out of the park (by players other than the DHRH) is considered a single. If the DHRH is walked (intentionally or not) he/she is then nullified and anyone else can become the DHRH.

If the DHRH leaves the game for any reason, he/she remains the DHRH. Any subsequent player who hits a ball out of the park (including the player replacing the DHRH in the batting order) will be allowed a single. If the DHRH returns to the game later, he/she must do so in their previous position in the batting order, once again becoming the DHRH.
15. **FOUL BALL RULE** - After two strikes, the batter is allowed one foul ball. The second foul ball is a strikeout.
16. **SLIDE RULE** - For players' safety, a base runner attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder by running into or over the fielder or with the use of the runner's hands, will be automatically called out, on the umpire's judgment. **ALSO**, fielders are prohibited from deliberately blocking the base, on the umpire's judgment. **Flagrant contact IN EITHER CASE** will result in ejection from the game.
17. **INTERFERENCE** - Intentional interference (in the umpire's judgment), by a runner in a double-play situation will result in **BOTH** runners being called out, and the possibility that the runner interfering may be ejected from the game.
18. **CONTACT BETWEEN PLAYERS** - Avoiding contact, particularly in a close play situation, is the responsibility of the **RUNNER**.

19. **BATTER'S BOX** - If the batter's box is not visible, it is still considered to be present in regards to stepping out of the batter's box while batting. The determining factor is where the batter's feet are at the time of contact with the ball.
20. **WOMEN'S LINE** - Outfielders must remain behind the women's line (marked in the outfield) when a woman is at bat UNTIL THE BALL IS HIT. When a woman is at bat, defensive players positioned in the grass are considered outfielders and they must be behind the line. Infielders must remain on the infield clay. Umpire's judgment will determine if violations have occurred. The penalty for violations will result in the batter being allowed first base safely and all base runners allowed to advance one base.
21. **DUGOUT AREA** - All players and equipment, with the exception of the on-deck batter and base coaches, shall remain INSIDE the dugout area.
22. **OUT-OF-PLAY BALLS** - The fence extended is out-of-play (visualize a 25-foot wall). EXCEPTION: When a fielder catches a fly-ball in live ball territory and momentum carries him/her out-of-play, base runners advance at their own risk.
23. **WALKING MALE BATTERS** - Any male batter who is walked will receive a two base award if the next batter is a female. The female player will bat. EXCEPTION: With two outs, the female player has the option to walk or bat.
24. **ASSIGNED HITTERS** – Teams may bat up to 25 players (maximum on roster) with the following requirements: 1) Two females must be in the top 10 batters. 2) If a 13th batter is added to the line-up, you must have a 3rd female in the line-up. 3) If a 16th batter is added to the line-up, a fourth female must be added to the line-up. If the assigned hitters 11th or higher are **injured** during the game, those positions in the line up will become an automatic out if you cannot fill the spot(s) with a sub. If you lose one of the players because of an ejection for poor sportsmanship, the game will automatically be forfeited if you cannot fill that position with a sub. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated. See Code of Conduct.
25. **COURTESY RUNNER** – **This rule is intended to allow injured players the opportunity to bat. Therefore, a player needing a courtesy runner may not play defense. Once a player has declared the need for a courtesy runner, that player may not play defense the rest of the game. In other words, if you can play defense, you can run the bases.** If a player has an injury prior to the game and needs a courtesy runner, the **UMPIRE** should be notified before the game begins. If a courtesy player is needed for an injured player, it will be the player making the last out. (If it is the first inning & there are no outs, the last batter in the line-up will be eligible to be the courtesy runner.) If the courtesy runner is on base when his/her turn at bat comes up, a substitute runner may be used to enable the courtesy runner to bat without penalty. However, only one courtesy runner may be used per inning.
26. **BLOOD RULE**: A player who is bleeding or has blood on their playing uniform must leave the ground for immediate medical attention. They must ensure that the bleeding is stopped, the wound dressed and that there is no blood on their uniform before they return to the playing arena.
27. **DISCUSSIONS WITH UMPIRES** - **ONLY the team coach may leave the bench for discussions with either umpire.** Said discussions are to be conducted calmly and in a respectful manner. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players. See Code of Conduct.

28. **PROFANITY** - Profanity will not be tolerated, and may result in ejection from the game. See Code of Conduct.
29. **PERSONAL CONDUCT** - The throwing of equipment by a "disgruntled" player is not allowed and may result in the player being ejected from the game. If unsafe play is exhibited by any team member during the course of the game, an official may call the game ended at any time, regardless of the score. Any player guilty of moral misbehavior, bad sportsmanship or interference in any way adversely affecting the benefits the program offers for others, shall be disciplined either by restricting his/her playing privilege or expulsion from the team and league. **EJECTION FROM A GAME WILL CARRY THROUGH THE NEXT SCHEDULED GAME.** If the next scheduled game is postponed, the ejected player will sit out that game whenever it is rescheduled. Continual trouble will result in ejection from the league. See Code of Conduct.
30. **PROTESTS** - The umpire's decision on judgment calls is FINAL. **The only legal protest is one involving a misinterpretation of the rules, or the use of an ineligible player.** To file a protest, the manager must immediately notify the umpire and the scorekeeper that he/she is protesting (before the next pitch). The umpire will announce that the game is being played under protest. The scorekeeper makes an entry on the scorebook of the situation when the protest was made. To be considered, the protest must be made in writing and be delivered to the Park Office within 48 hours of the game in question (with a \$10 deposit to be returned if the protest is upheld).
31. **ALCOHOL ORDINANCE** - The following ordinance will be strictly enforced at all league games:
- 130.03 DRINKING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN PUBLIC - No person shall consume, serve, or drink fortified wine, unfortified wine, malt beverages, or alcoholic beverages of any kind as defined in state law on or within the rights-of-way of the municipal streets, boulevards, alleys, sidewalks, municipal parks or buildings, or any other property owned by the town.***
- Violation of this ordinance will result in ejection from the game. Ejection will carry through the team's next scheduled game. The Parks staff member will complete a Suspension Form, which the Team Coach will be required to sign. Upon a second violation, the player will be ejected from the league and the Police Department will be notified.
- Before playing in any game, each player must read and sign the attached Waiver/Release form which includes the Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance stipulation. This form must be turned in along with the roster, when registering.**

CODE OF CONDUCT

ALL SOFTBALL PLAYERS AND COACHES SHALL BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING:

- NO PLAYER OR COACH shall refuse to abide by an official's decision.
- NO PLAYER OR COACH shall be guilty of objectionable demonstrations of dissent at an official's decision by throwing the ball, bat or other equipment.
- NO PLAYER, other than the coach or captain, shall discuss with an official in any manner, the decision reached by the official.
- NO PLAYER shall be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in play of the game against the body and person of an opposing player.
- NO PLAYER OR COACH shall at any time lay a hand on, push, shove, strike or threaten to strike an official.
- NO PLAYER OR COACH shall be guilty of physical attack as an aggressor upon any player, official, or spectator.
- NO PLAYER OR COACH shall be guilty of personal verbal abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary wrong decision or judgment.

PENALTY: Any player or coach ejected during a game will not be eligible to participate in the team's next game. A player or coach who is ejected from two games will be automatically suspended for the remainder of the season.

An official can call any game ended at any time, regardless of the score, if unsafe play is exhibited by any team member during the course of the game.

NOTE: JUSTIFICATION IS NOT A POINT OF ARGUMENT CONCERNING CODE OF CONDUCT

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH PARKS & RECREATION ADULT CO-ED SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RULE 2 - THE PLAYING FIELD

The bases, other than home plate, shall be 15 inches (38.10cm) square, shall be made of canvas or other suitable material and not more than five inches (12.70cm) in thickness. The bases should be properly fastened in position.

1. The double base is approved for use at first base. This base is 15 by 30 inches and made of canvas or other suitable material. Half the base is white (over fair territory) and half is orange or green (over foul territory). It should not be more than five inches (12.70cm) in thickness.

When using the double base at first, the following rules should be enforced:

- a. A batted ball hitting the white portion is declared fair and a batted ball hitting the colored portion is declared foul.
- b. Whenever a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white portion and the batter-runner is out when there is a play being made at first base and the batter-runner touches only the white portion, providing the defense appeals prior to the batter-runner returning to first base. Once the runner returns to the white, no appeal can be made.
- c. On any force out attempt from the foul side of first base, or an errant throw pulling the defense into foul ground, the defense and the batter-runner can use either the white or colored portion. This includes overthrows.
- d. On extra base hits or balls hit to the outfield when there is no play being made at the double base, the batter-runner may touch the white or colored portion. Should the batter-runner return, the runner must return to the white portion.
- e. When tagging up on a fly ball, the white portion must be used.
- f. (Fast Pitch & 16-inch Slow Pitch Only) On an attempted pick-off play, the runner must return to the white portion.

RULE 8 - BATTER-RUNNER AND RUNNER

If, when using the double base, and there is a play on the batter-runner, the batter-runner touches only the white portion and the defense appeals prior to the batter-runner returning to first base. This is treated the same as missing the base.

- EXCEPTION:
1. If the ball is thrown from the foul side of first base line, or
 2. When an errant or missed throw pulls the defensive player into foul ground.

If, when using the double base, and there is a force play by an infielder on the batter-runner, who touches only the white portion and collides with the fielder about to catch a thrown ball while on the white - EFFECT: Interference is ruled, the ball is dead, the batter-runner is out, and all other runners are returned to the base last occupied at the time of interference

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH PARKS AND RECREATION

Date: _____

CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE TEAM LINE UP

(Must have first and last name; and print each name legibly)

Teams may bat their full roster. However, two females must bat in the top ten. If a 13th batter is added, there must be a third female. If a 16th batter is added, there must be a fourth female.

TEAM _____ VS _____

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