

WOODSIDE RECREATION SUMMER CO-ED SOFTBALL –2025 RULES

- Teams.** Teams will field 10 defensive players, 4 women and 6 men. 2 women in the infield (Catcher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd or SS). Teams forfeit if team has less than 6 players (2 women and 4 men). Batting rotation rules: no more than 2 men can bat in a row.
 - Teams playing with 3 women: **NO Defensive Pitchers Helper, 6 men play**
Choose either **A)** Play 1 woman in the infield (1st, 2nd, 3rd or SS) and 2 women in the outfield (NOT Right field) or **B)** 2 women in the infield (1st, 2nd, 3rd or SS) and 1 in the outfield (NOT Right Field). In both cases, 6 men can play, no defensive Pitcher's Helper, 4 outfielders and 5 infielders.
 - Teams playing with 2 women: **NO Defensive Pitchers Helper, 6 men play**
Choose either **A)** Play 1 woman in the infield (1st, 2nd, 3rd or SS) and 1 woman in the outfield (Not Right Field) or **B)** 2 women in the infield (1st, 2nd, 3rd or SS). In both cases, 6 men can play, no defensive Pitcher's Helper, only 3 Outfielders and 5 Infielders.
 - Forfeit time is 15 minutes after game start time. ex: Weekday start at 6pm has a forfeit time at **6:15pm**.
 - Eligible Players: Age restrictions: 30 and over for males (exception if son(s), of parents currently playing, is(are) over 21. 18 and over for females (Any game time exceptions to this age restriction must be agreed upon by both managers & umpire, before the game). Must work in, live in or have kids that go to school in Woodside. **Exceptions are included in the online registration**
- Game length.** Games will be eight innings. A game may end in a tie score. Beginning with the 6th inning, whenever one team has a lead of fifteen (15) runs or more at the end of the inning, or after the end of the top half of the inning if the home team is the team ahead, the umpire shall declare the team with the lead the winner of the game. By agreement between the managers, the teams may complete more innings, but the winner of the game shall be the team declared the winner by the umpire.
- Field position.** There will be four natural outfielders (no short fielders). Outfielders must play behind the outfield line until the ball is hit, and infielders cannot be in the outfield grass until the ball is hit. The defensive pitcher must remain within the prescribed mound area (dirt area around the mound) until the ball is pitched; this means that one foot must be in the dirt defining the mound.
- Substitutions.** Free substitution is allowed on defense. Players may not play more than 3 innings at any one position during the 1st thru 6th inning only. **Pinch runner is allowed by selecting last out, same gender. Pinch runner must hold designated backstop pole until ball hits bat.**
- Batting order.** All team members who play defense must bat, and all players who bat must play defense. A two-male, one-female or male-female batting order must be followed. Players who arrive after the beginning of the game will bat at the end of the order. The initial order must be followed throughout the game.
- Pitching.** 3 balls are pitched by the offensive team. If the batter fails to hit a fair ball on the 3 pitches, the batter is out. The batter is also out if the batted ball strikes the offensive pitcher. Pitches to men shall be made within dirt mound but pitches to women be from any point closer.
- Bunting.** Only women may bunt.
- Hitting.** Women may choose either size ball to hit. A first fair ball hit over the outfield fence is a home run. Any subsequent hit by that same player over the outfield fence is an out. A pitched ball hitting the ground is a dead ball & can't be hit. Batter may step on home plate to hit ball. In the event of a Home run over the fence, batter may step on home plate.
- Base running.** Runner must remain on base until the ball is hit. No sliding, whether feet or head first; runner will be called out. Runner must avoid contact when reaching a base, if avoidance does not occur, all potential outs on this play will be awarded. **Usage of a pinch runner is allowed by selecting last out, same gender, to pinch run by holding designated backstop pole until ball hits bat.**
- First base.** **There will be an actual first base and a chalked line where running must cross to be safe.** If a runner from home to first touches the defensive base running to first base or runs into the first baseman, the runner is out. **If there is no play at first base, then the runner can touch either bag or cross line while rounding first.** To get the batter out at first, the defensive team can tag the first base or tag out player along first base line.
- Second and Third base.** There will **NOT** be a double bag at second or third.
- Home plate.** All plays at home plate are force plays. No tags of runners coming to home plate after the commitment line down the third base line count as an out. After the commitment line, runners from third to home must commit forward towards the home base line veering to the right from the home plate and must touch the home base line marked. If the runner reaches that marked line before home plate is tagged with the ball, a run is scored. If a runner from third to home touches the defensive home plate, the runner is out whether there is a play at home or not. When a runner from third to home goes beyond the commitment line, they are forced to continue to the home base line and runner cannot retreat to third base.
- 10-run rule.** A team's turn at bat in an inning shall end when either three (3) putouts have been made against it or when the team has scored ten (10) runs, whichever occurs first. This rule shall not apply to the team's last at-bat in a game or if the team is behind by fifteen (15) runs or more even after scoring the ten (10) runs.
- Ground rules for McCovey Field.** All trees and bushes and nets are live. Any ball caught in fair territory on the fly after striking a tree or a net is an out. A ball is determined to be fair or foul by where the ball is actually caught or lands on the ground.
- Equipment and Uniforms.** Balls will be limited flight, Incredi-ball type softballs. No metal spikes are allowed. Each player on team must wear a shirt that is basically color-matched to other players on the team. All bats are legal except wooden bats.
- Field Prep. Home team is the 2nd name on schedule, will reside in the 1st base dugout & preps field and perform Post-game cleanup.** Prep must completely water, drag and line infield and outfield lines.
- Umpires.** At least one umpire will be used at each game. Arguing with an umpire will result in an ejection and player will sit out the next 2 games. Ejected person must leave the premises (out of sight and sound) within 5 minutes. If a person does not leave premises, his/her team forfeits the game. Suspensions can carry over to the following season. Once a player is ejected, during the remaining innings in the game and for those suspension games, the team will also be penalized. The team penalty for the first player ejected is one male removed from outfield, the second ejected player; one male is removed from the infield, the third from the outfield, and the fourth player and on, until a forfeited game. No extra player can replace these open positions.

NO ARGUING PLEASE. PROFANITY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

ABUSE OF THESE RULES ARE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE LEAGUE.

NO BOTTLES, CANS, OR CUPS ON THE FIELD (INCLUDING COACHES BOXES) AT ANY TIME.

RESPECT THE GROUNDS BY PICKING UP ALL TRASH AFTER GAME, AND PLEASE RECYCLE.

BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN CHILDREN AND BE CAREFUL OF OTHERS.

MOST OF ALL, LET'S HAVE FUN