

FAIRFIELD PARKS & RECREATION
MEN'S SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUES
Men's Wednesday and Thursday Night
RULES AND REGULATIONS 2026

1. All rules and regulations shall be in accordance with those set forth in the U.S.A. official guide with the exceptions as described below.
2. Each adult softball team is allowed 3 non-residents on its roster. The following are to be considered NON-RESIDENTS:
 - Grandfathered players
 - Non-resident Tax Payers
 - Non-Resident Sole Proprietors of a Fairfield BusinessFull Time Town of Fairfield Employees, no matter what Town they reside, will be considered Fairfield Residents.
 - a. If a team had 3 or more grandfathered players on their roster in 2005, they ALL may continue to play on that team.

However, if a grandfathered player moves to another team he or she will not be allowed to return to that team or move to any team unless it has less than 3 non-residents on its roster.
 - b. Non-residents will only be allowed to play on one team and only in one league. Residents and full time Town Employees may play in one league per night.
 - c. Non-residents will be charged to play: The fee will be \$75.00 for the Women's League.

All other leagues will pay \$100.00 per person, payable to Fairfield Parks and Recreation Dept. at time of registration.
 - d. All players MUST register at the Parks & Recreation office and either prove residency or pay the non-resident fee prior to the season starting.
 - e. Team rosters will be unlimited.
3. Players shall have reached their 18th birthday on or before May 1, 2026.
4. All players MUST register before the first schedule game (week of April 27th) No changes or additions will be made to rosters after the first game. (1 week grace period)
5. League Fee of \$1460.00 for **Thursday** and \$1,320.00 for **Wednesday** must be paid one week before the first scheduled game.
6. Home team will keep official score, to be approved by umpire after each inning by checking with both teams. Winning team is to phone in results of game to the League Director to keep standings current.
7. There shall be no public display of umpire disapproval. Umpire discontent can be settled at a manager's meeting and grievance committee.
8. Games will start at 6:15 PM with 7:30 PM and 8:45 PM to follow at Haydon. Dwight & Owen Fish will start at 6:15 PM and 6:30 PM starting May 22nd and May 21st.
 - 8a. All batters will start with a 1-1 count with 1 courtesy foul ball.
9. A forfeit will be called by the umpire 15 minutes after scheduled starting time, a second forfeit will automatically drop a team from the league with no refund. If a team drops out, all remaining games are losses. A game can not be postponed later than 24 hours prior to its starting time unless by mutual consent of both managers. In case of emergencies Ffld. Police and Fire will be exceptions to this rule.
10. Both teams are allowed 5 minutes infield practice (if time allows).
11. Umpires will be paid from the entry fees for the following:

- A. One umpire will be provided per game
 - B. Umpire forfeit fee: Hold back first game fee.
 - C. In case of team forfeit, umpire will receive full fee.
12. Protests must be made to the League Director or the Recreation Office in writing with \$25.00 within 24 hours after the game in question. Team must notify umpire that game is being played under protest. Protest will be taken up by a neutral board within 7 days. Protest fee will be returned if protest is upheld. The use of an illegal player constitutes an automatic forfeit as is playing under an assumed name. If a person illegally participated during the previous season, he is not automatically eligible to continue play. Player caught under an assumed name will face a one year suspension.
13. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED. Any team personnel found using same will be expelled from game with possible forfeiture.
14. OFFICIAL GAME BALL: Dudley Thunder (Leather Coated) .52 core .300 Compression Red Stitched (12 inch)
15. Postponed Games: Postponed games will be announced on the Park and Recreation Departments CANCELLATION HOT LINE - 256-3144 after 3:00 PM. If not canceled, go to field. Managers shall decide the fitness of the field. If managers can not agree, umpire will be the deciding factor. Umpire is sole judge for having and later continuing game on grounds of weather conditions. All games called due to rain will be suspended and continued from the point of stoppage of play.
16. Ground rules must be adhered to by all umpires as well as teams.
17. Physical abuse or extreme violence of umpires will not be tolerated. This will constitute a year's suspension or more if necessary. This will be in effect with all U.S.A. organization officials.
18. EP (extra player) & re-entry rules in effect in accordance with U.S.A. Guide.
- 18.a. A 10th player may be added to lineup at any time but must bat 10th.
 - 18 b. Teams may use more than one EP but if you start with 12 you must end with 12.
19. Home team must provide bases. (Double first base)
20. The 15 run rule will be in effect in all Recreation Leagues. If home team is leading by 15 after 4 ½ innings the game will be over. If visiting team is leading by 15 or more runs, the game must go at least 5 innings.
21. Courtesy runners: Each team will be allowed two courtesy runners. (extreme cases only) These runners must be declared to the umpire before the game starts. Batter who asks for a courtesy runner will only be allowed 1st base and must run through the orange base and cannot make any movement toward second base or will be declared out. He may only advance on an overthrow which goes out of play, or a homerun that is automatic or clears the fence. During the regular season runners may be replaced by the last out of the previous inning. If a player is injured during the game, a bench player who is not in the game must replace injured runner. If no bench players are available, the defensive team will pick the courtesy runner. During the playoffs the defensive team will choose the courtesy runner. Only two are allowed.
22. Lost balls in foul territory or home runs, must be replaced with a new or good used ball by the team that hit the ball. (Umpire's Discretion)
23. A player ejected will automatically be suspended from the next game including playoffs. Any player ejected from 2 games during the season will face 3 game suspension. A 3rd ejection will result in a two year suspension.
24. **PLAYOFFS: Wednesday: Top 6 teams will play a double elimination tournament for the "A" division championship. Teams finishing 7th and 10th will play team 10 in a play in single elimination game with the winner playing the #2 seed. Team 8 will play team 9 with the winner playing the #1 seed. Play in games are on Monday and are single elimination.**

Thursday: Top 2 receive byes in a 6-team double elimination tournament.

25. Tie Breakers: all ties will be broken by virtue of head to head competition during regular season. If two or more teams are tied, seeding will be determined on the basis of best record in head to head amongst the teams involved in the tie. 3rd tie breaker will be. The team with the highest winning percentage against the higher seeds will prevail. Any ties after this will be broken in a playoff game.

26. Three Home Run Rule: At Dwight and Verteran's, teams are allowed 3 automatic home runs hit. At Haydon Field, each team will be allowed 3 home runs over the fence. **WEDNESDAY LEAGUE:** Only 3 home runs allowed. Automatic out after 3.. **THURSDAY LEAGUE:** Only 3 home runs allowed. Automatic out after 3.

27. METAL CLEATS, DOUBLE WALL, TRIPLE WALL, TITANIUM and MIKEN ULTRA and ULTRA II BATS ARE NOT ALLOWED. PENALTY: AN AUTOMATIC OUT AND EJECTION.

27. a. All Single walled bats approved by the U.S.A. will be permitted. All graphite & composite bats are NOT allowed, however single walled bats with composite handles are allowed.

28. A questionable bat should be brought to the attention of the umpire. If, in the opinion of the umpire, the bat has been "doctored" in anyway, the bat will be removed for the remainder of the game. A second offense by the same team will result in an automatic forfeit and the bat will be confiscated by league officials for the remainder of the season.

29. Any coach or player caught doctoring a ball or bat will be ejected immediately and suspended for the next game.

30. Bases will now be at 70 ft.

31. Winning team text final score to League Director after game.

32. Mats will be used behind home plate to determine Balls & Strikes.