

**WOMEN'S SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE
FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
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 (May 6th). No changes or additions will be made to rosters after 10 days.
5. League Fee \$1,140.00 must be paid one week before the first scheduled game (April 27th). \$100.00 Late fee after May 4th.
6. Home Team will keep official score, to be approved by umpire after each inning.
7. There shall be no public display of umpire disapproval. Umpire discontent can be settled at a manager's meeting.
8. After 2 strikes, batter is allowed one foul ball. A second foul will result in an out.
 - 8a. All batters will start with a 1-1 count, there will be 1 courtesy foul ball allowed.
9. Games will start at 6:15 PM at Haydon), (6:15 at Owen Fish), (6:30 starting May 18th). A forfeit will be called by the umpire 15 minutes after scheduled starting time. Teams will be allowed one forfeit. A second forfeit will automatically drop a team from the league with no refund. All remaining games will be considered losses. A game cannot be postponed later than 24 hours prior to its scheduled start unless by mutual consent of both managers.
10. Playoff Games: home team will be the higher ranked team from the final standings of the regular season.
11. Games must start on time. If the first game runs late, then there will be no batting practice. Both teams are allowed five (5) minutes for infield practice.
12. Catchers masks and chest protectors are optional. Bare feet and metal cleats are forbidden on the playing field.
13. Umpires will be paid from the Entry Fees on the following basis:
 - a. One umpire will be provided per game.
 - b. Umpire forfeit fee: hold back first game.
 - c. In case of team forfeit, umpire will receive full pay.
14. 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, she is not automatically eligible to continue play.

15. Postponed Games: Postponed games will be announced on the Recreation Department's CANCELLATION HOT LINE - 256-3144 (Press 5 then 2) 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. Games called due to rain before the 5th inning will be suspended and resumed at a later date from point of suspension.

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. Manager will hold team manager responsible for his/her teams conduct.

18. League will play both the re-entry rule and EP rule.

18A. Batting order may have multiple EP's but must remain the same throughout the game.

19. Home team must provide bases. (Double first base) Failure to do so will result in forfeit.

20. The 15 run rule will be in effect in all Recreation Leagues. If home team is leading by 15 after 4 ^{1/2} 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. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED. Any team personnel found using same will be expelled from game with possible forfeiture.

22. Teams may start with 9 players and a 10th added at anytime during the game however, added player must bat last in the batting order.

23. OFFICIAL GAME BALL: Dudley Thunder (Leather Coated) .52 core .300 Compression Red Stitched (12 inch)

24. PLAYOFFS: Team 7 vs. Team 6 with the winner playing again on opening night at 7:30 against team 5. Team 4 will play Team 5 with the two winner playing team 1 and team 2 the next week in a single elimination tournament. Winners meet for Championship.

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. If a tie should still occur, then the team with the highest winning percentage against the higher seeds will prevail. Run differential will be final tie breaker.

26. Courtesy runners will be allowed (2 per team). If there is an extreme case, then the umpire must be informed and 2 coaches must agree before the game starts. Runners may only be replaced at first base. Last out of previous inning will replace injured runner.

27. 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.

28. No composite or graphite bats will be allowed. Example: Miken Ultra's, Miken Freaks, Cynergy's, Orange Crush, etc. No double walled or triple walled or titanium bats are allowed.

29. Any single wall bat approved by the USA or ASA is allowed for league play.

30. Bases will remain at 65 ft.

31. Winning Team Text Final Score to League Director After Game.