

**GLASTONBURY PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS - 2012**  
**(UPDATED – 4/23/12)**

**I. ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT**

- A. The administration of the league will be the responsibility of the Parks & Recreation Department.
1. The Manger of each team will be responsible to the Parks & Recreation Department for all matters of policy or procedure and is responsible for player information and conduct.
  2. INSURANCE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH INDIVIDUAL AND/OR TEAM. THE TOWN OF GLASTONBURY PROVIDES NO INSURANCE COVERAGE AND ASSUMES NO LIABILITY.

**II. ELIGIBILITY:**

- A. All players must be at least eighteen (18) years old by June 1, 2012; except for seventeen year olds and over provided that they are not participating in a spring interscholastic sport. Those participating in a spring sport are eligible following the conclusion of the school season. Any player under the age of eighteen must have a waiver signed by their parent or guardian.
- B. A minimum of **50%** of your roster must be made up of either resident or school eligible players.
1. A resident is defined as one who resides in Glastonbury. A photocopy of a driver's license is required for each resident player. Anyone submitting a license with a temporary sticker must also provide an original utility bill, tax bill or rental agreement as an additional form of resident documentation.
  2. School eligible is defined as players who graduated from High School while a resident of Glastonbury. A photocopy of a GHS or other H.S. diploma or school record which lists the players name and address is required.
- C. There is no other specific eligibility requirement for the remaining portion of your roster, however, each player must be listed by name, address and telephone number.
- D. A \$25/per player non-resident fee will be charged in addition to the Team registration fee for every player on your roster who is not a Glastonbury resident. School eligible players who do not live in Glastonbury will be charged the \$25/per player fee.

### III.

#### **ROSTERS:**

- A. Team rosters may not have more than twenty-four **(24)** players and not less than fourteen **(14)** players at any time during the season, including registration.
- B. Rosters must be submitted on the official roster form. With the name, address, phone number and eligibility classification of each player must be included on the roster form.
- C. Any player listed as a Resident Player must provide proof of residency, a legible photo copy of license. Any player submitted on a roster without the required documentation will be removed and ineligible to play in the league until such time as the required documentation is received and approved.
- D. Team roster must be received by the Parks & Recreation Department no later 4:00 p.m. on **the day they are due (see attachment)** with full payment of league fee. All documentation and non-resident fees are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on **(see attachment)**.
- E. Roster Changes: Each team may make changes to their rosters until they become frozen on **Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>**.
1. All changes must be made with the Recreation office at least 24 hours before an individual can play in any league game. Violation may result in protest and/or forfeit.
  2. All eligibility material required by the Parks & Recreation Department must be submitted prior to any league play by the new player.
- F. Players may play on only one team in the league.
- G. Once a player has entered and play in one (1) game, they cannot switch to another team, unless they are released by the manager of the original team. They will only be able to join another team if it is before the roster freeze date.
- H. Team rosters are available for review in the Parks & Recreation Department Office, Monday-Friday from 8:00-4:00.
1. Protests on eligibility may be made by any official, player, team, or the Parks & Recreation office at any time before, during or after the season.
  2. Team managers will be held responsible for any falsification of roster information.
  3. **THE BURDEN OF PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY LIES WITH THE PLAYERS, NOT THE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT.**
  6. Team will forfeit any and all games in which an ineligible player has participated.

- I. **Men's League Only** – A player must play in a minimum 6 regular season games in order to be eligible to play in playoff games. Managers are responsible for submitting line-up cards to the umpire at the beginning of each regular season game and checking to make sure they accurately represent who played in that game at the end of the game. The League Administrator will receive the line-up cards from the umpires and compile playoff rosters at the end of the regular season. Line-up cards will be provided to each team and must be legibly completed with Team Name, Date and the Last Name of Each Player.

#### IV. **FEES**

- A. Initial Deposit: Each team must pay \$100 toward the registration fee. The fee is not refundable.
- B. Registration Fee: All teams must pay the required registration fee on or before the deadline (see attached). At the time the Registration fee is paid the Team Manager will receive a schedule of practice times and keys to the equipment boxes at the field. Make checks payable to the "Town of Glastonbury".
- C. U.S.S.S.A. Membership Fee: Each team will be a member of the Connecticut USSSA Association. The registration fee is \$25.00/per team, and is included in the league registration fee.
- D. Non-Resident Fees: Team Managers will be charged the amount of \$25/per player for each non-resident player listed on their roster. Non-resident fees will be due with on (see attached). Any non-residents added to the roster after the start of the season must pay the non-resident fee prior to being added to the roster. Roster changes will be allowed until Friday, June 22, 2012 by 4:00 pm. **NOTE: Teams will not receive a game schedule or equipment until they have paid their non-resident fees in full and turned in all necessary documentation.**
- E. Quick Scores fee of \$6.00 is included in registration fee.

#### V. **THE GAME & PLAY:**

- A. Game Time:
  1. All games are scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. (Forfeit time is 6:15 p.m.)
  2. At Academy Field, the following times will apply:

1 <sup>st</sup> game	6:00 PM (15 minute grace period)
2 <sup>nd</sup> game	7:15 PM (No grace period)
3 <sup>rd</sup> game	8:30 PM (No grace period)

Each team will be allowed ten (10) minutes between games when time allows. In the event games are running late, the umpire, at his/her discretion can limit the time between games in order to get back on schedule.

3. If no umpire shows up at a game by the starting time, the two teams may agree on a choice of any person they wish to umpire. If an agreement cannot be reached, the game will be rescheduled.
4. Play begins when nine rostered players are available, not when a team has its desired nine players. A minimum of nine players are required to start and finish a game. If a tenth player arrives late, he/she can be added to the order up until the bottom of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning.
5. No game will begin prior to its scheduled time.

## **VI. RULES OF THE GAME:**

All league play will be governed by adapted U.S.S.S.A. rules, except as noted below:

1. Batters will start with a 1-1 count. There will be a One Foul to Waste Rule. When a batter has two strikes on them, they can foul off 1 pitch. If they foul off a second, it counts as third strike, the batter is out and the ball is dead so no runners may advance.
2. The Glastonbury league will not allow the use of "faking" during pitching
3. The Glastonbury league uses the USSSA softball arc which is 3' to 10'.

In accordance with USSSA rules, pitchers may pitch from any spot up to 6' back directly behind the pitching rubber, provided that it is in direct line with a line between home plate, the rubber and second base.

4. A complete uniform is not required, but all players must have the same color shirt.
5. If a game is rained out before it is a complete game (complete game is 5 ½ innings) then the game will start over.
6. All purpose spikes, sneakers or tennis shoes must be worn at all times during the game. Bare feet or metal spikes are not allowed.

7. Any of the starting players, including the EH, may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided players occupy the same batting positions whenever in the lineup. The starting player and the substitute(s), may not be in the lineup at the same time. If a manager removes a substitute from the game and re-enters the same substitute later in the game, this is considered an illegal re-entry.
8. Each team has the option of using unlimited extra hitters, hereafter referred to as the "EH". The "EH" can be removed from the game and replaced by a new "EH". The "EH" is also permitted to enter the game in a defensive position and must occupy the same position in the batting order. If a new "EH" is used to replace an original "EH", the "EH" who went into the field, the new "EH" assumes the position in the batting order formerly held by the defensive player being replaced by the original "EH".

**Co-Ed League**, a team must actually use two (2) extra hitters (male and female) and bat twelve (12) players, they may bat more than 12 batters so long as the order remains male female and there is an even amount of batters, so that the batting order remains alternating male-female. Teams must have both a male and female or there will be no use of the EH.

9. Progressive Run Rule - the game will be completed if a team is up by 20 runs after the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning, 15 runs after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, and 12 runs after the 5<sup>th</sup> inning.
10. Each team may designate 2 players before the start of the game who need courtesy runners. If during the course of the game a player is injured and will require a courtesy runner both managers must agree. The courtesy runner must be either the last batted "out" or the last batter in the batting order if there are no "outs" in the game (first inning). **Coed** – Courtesy Runner must be of the same gender as the Batter.
11. Home Run Rule: A limit of five (5) homeruns will be used in all league games. Any home runs hit out of the park after five (5) will be an out.
12. Hit & Sit on Home Runs: A player that hits an out of the park home run should return to the bench without running out the bases. The player should make sure the scorekeeper is aware of the run as they return to their bench.
13. Intentional Walk: A pitcher will notify the umpire if they plan on intentionally walking a player. It will be consider unsportsmanlike conduct to make a mockery of pitches thrown with the intention to walk a player.
14. No bunting, leading, or stealing. A base runner is not permitted off the base until a pitched

ball is struck by the batter. Any runner detected off base by the umpire before the ball is struck will be called out.

15. Bats: The Glastonbury leagues will use the USSSA. Bat Standard. A list of all USSSA Licensed/Approved bats for 2012 can be found on the Quickscores website in the downloadable forms. A batter using an illegal bat will be automatically declared out. The decision of the umpire regarding bats is final and cannot be protested.

**Co-Ed League** – Will use only single wall bats, no composites. A list of banned bats is available on the Quickscores website.

## VII. COED SPECIFIC RULES

1. You can start and finish with 4 women, the 5<sup>th</sup> spot will be an out. Should a 5<sup>th</sup> woman make it to the game they may enter the game and bat in the out spot. Failure to comply results in a forfeit.
2. All outfielders, with the exception of the short fielder, must position themselves 50 feet off the infield. Umpires will do their best to enforce this rule. All teams are expected to cooperate.
3. The only requirement for position play is that there are four females and five males in the field. When a player does change his/her position in the field, he/she must occupy the same position in the batting order.

## VII. HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITY:

The Home Team is listed on the schedule and responsible for the following:

1. Must provide two (2) new balls for each game. The Parks & Recreation Department will provide each team with a season's allotment upon receipt of the entry fee.
2. Must supply a third new (or good) ball if the umpire requests.
3. Must pick up and return bases to the appropriate equipment box.

## IX. POSTPONEMENTS, FORFEITS AND MAKEUP GAMES

A. Postponements:

1. Postponements will be made no later than 4:30 p.m. on weekdays by the Parks &

Recreation Department.

2. Officials, managers and players should call the Parks & Recreation Department daily recording, **652-7689, after 4:30 p.m.** or check [www.quickscores.com](http://www.quickscores.com) for cancellation information. Unless otherwise notified, all players and officials must report to the field when doubtful conditions exist.

If a game is listed as cancelled due to weather/field conditions DO NOT go to the field to try to improve field conditions. Field Conditions are responsibility of the Glastonbury Parks & Recreation department and games will not be reinstated after they are cancelled.

3. The umpire will be responsible for postponement of any game at the field. The umpire will make their decision based upon the field conditions when they arrive or at any point when they deem that they field is not playable. No attempts to perform Park Maintenance should be made by players, managers or spectators.

#### B. Forfeits:

1. Roster violations may result in protest and forfeit.
2. Failure to field the required number of players by forfeit time will result in a forfeit.
3. All scheduled games must be played except when canceled or postponed by the Parks & Recreation Department or the umpire due to inclement weather, dangerous field conditions, or the absence of an official. Each team should be prepared to field a team for all scheduled games.
4. Once a manager notifies the League Administrator of a forfeit the game is in the books as a forfeit and will not be rescheduled.
5. Any team forfeiting three games will be dropped from the league for the remainder of the season, losing all entry fees. The team also loses its returning team status for the following season, and must apply for re-admission to the league along with any other interested teams.

#### C. Makeup Games:

1. Makeup games will be rescheduled for weekday evenings, primarily Friday's during the season in the order that they were postponed. Makeup overloads will be scheduled for Saturday or Sunday afternoon as field space permits. **Women's League** – Make-Ups will be scheduled for Tuesday evenings at the end of the season with additional make-

ups being schedule for the week after the regular season ends.

2. All makeup games will be scheduled by the Parks & Recreation Department. **Once the Official League schedule has been distributed, no game will be changed for any reason other than deemed to be necessary by the Parks & Recreation Department.**
3. All makeup games are mandatory and all postponed games will be made up. If a game is cancelled late in the season and little availability for make-ups remains the game may be cancelled outright as a last resort, if it does not affect playoff standings.

## **X. PROTESTS:**

- A. Protests on eligibility of players should be directed to the Parks & Recreation Department with appropriate documentation.
- B. Game Protests will not be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an Umpire (i.e. fair/foul ball; ball/strike call; safe/out call; legal/illegal pitch; runner did or did not touch a base or leave a base early; fly ball was caught legally or illegally; infield fly; interference/obstruction, etc.)
- C. Protests will be received and considered if they concern matters of the following type:  
misinterpretation of a playing rule, failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule to a given situation;  
failure of an umpire to impose the correct penalty for a given violation.
- E. Procedure
  1. Refer to Section 11 rule 7 when considering a protest.
  2. Refer to Section 11 rule 7 for the format to follow when writing a protest. Written protests must contain date, field, opponent, official's name, rule and section of U.S.S.S.A. rule book relating to the protest. The official's decision, inning, outs, base runner's position and any other circumstances surrounding the decision must also be included.
  3. Legible written protests must be received by the Parks & Recreation Department no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the protested game. If the office is closed, deposit the letter in the mail slot of the night deposit box at 2143 New London Turnpike or email the League Administrator.

## **XI. BEHAVIOR OF PARTICIPANTS**

Players, coaches, managers, or individuals associated with the team are expected to display good sportsmanship.

- A. The manager of the team is responsible for the conduct of their players and fans. If the conduct of players or fans becomes unruly, the manager will be warned to get the players or fans under control. If he/she does not, the game will be a forfeit and a loss in the standings.
  
- B. Ejected players, coaches, managers etc. must leave the field, and should not be anywhere where they can be seen or heard. Failure to comply within one (1) minute may result in a forfeit.
  - 1. The use of profanity or general misconduct will result in ejection from the game at the discretion of the umpire.
  - 2. An ejected player is automatically suspended from the next game played by their team.
  - 3. Any player ejected from (2) games during the course of the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season, and may lose eligibility for future seasons based on the review of the League Administrator.
  
- C. Any player, manager, or spectator attempting to or actually using physical harm on an opponent, teammate, league official, fan or umpire will be permanently barred from future participation in the league. As circumstances warrant, the Police Department will be called.

## **XII. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:**

- A. The use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on school and park grounds. Signs will be posted and the Police Department will enforce.
  - 1. Violators will be issued an infraction for violation of the town ordinance. The current fine assessed by the State of CT is \$60.00. The Police Department will notify the Parks & Recreation Department of any infractions issued. Any player found to be in violation shall automatically be suspended for **three** games. A repeat violation will result in an automatic suspension for one calendar year.
  
- B. Any player, manager, scorekeeper, person on the bench etc. associated with either team on the playing field is subject to the following, to be enforced by game officials:
  - 1. Any player can be ejected from a game for the consumption of alcoholic beverages on the playing field. That player is automatically suspended from the next game played by their team.
  - 2. Any manager, scorekeeper, person on the bench, etc. associated with either team on the field can also be ejected from the game/grounds.

3. Any ejected individual (player, manager, scorekeeper, person on bench etc.) must leave the field and grounds. They should not be anywhere where they can be seen or heard. Failure to comply within one (1) minute results in a forfeit.

### **XIII. ACADEMY FIELD: SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Lights: The lights will automatically go off either (1) 15 minutes after the conclusion of the last game of the night, or, (2) at 11:00 p.m.; whichever occurs first. The ball field, parking lot and adjacent areas must be vacated at that time.
- B. Access to Field: All players and spectators must enter/exit the field via the north entrance drive. Special care should be exercised when driving, as there will be considerable pedestrian traffic crossing the drive going to and from public meetings held in the Town Hall.
- C. Parking: Parking is available behind Town Hall and Academy School in the lots adjacent to the field. The parking spaces along the entrance drive are reserved for persons attending meetings at Town Hall. Do not park in those reserved spaces or in the traffic circle.
- D. Warm Up Area: Use of the field for warm up, infield practice is permitted for the first game only! For all other games, players should warm up in the designated warm up area, located outside of the outfield fence or along the left field line.
- E. Rain Outs: If the first game of the night is rained out, all of the games for the night at Academy are canceled as well. Under no circumstances is the first game allowed to begin after 6:30 p.m. when the start is delayed due to rain.
- F. Reworking the Infield: **The home team for the second and third game is responsible for reworking the infield if necessary before the beginning of their games.** The home team should have players meet the Parks & Recreation staff member on duty at home plate immediately following the game. The home team is responsible for assisting the Parks & Recreation staff member with dragging the infield and redoing the lines. All of the necessary equipment is provided, and each team will receive instructions from the Parks person on duty. No work should be done on the fields beyond what is described above.

### **XIV. WELLES PARK: SPECIAL REQUIREMENT**

Parking: Parking is available in the main lot only! Do not park on Risely Road, Harris Street, or in any other area of the residential neighborhood.

### **XV. BUCKINGHAM: SPECIAL REQUIREMENT**

Any ball that goes into the bleachers or brush in the outfield will be a ground rule triple.

**XVI. ADDISON FIELD: SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Any ball that hits the netting above the left field fence in the air shall be considered a home run. If a team has reached its home run limit and the ball hits the netting it will be an out.

**XVII. PLAYOFFS:**

A. All teams will participate in a double elimination playoff tournament.

1. **Coed & Women** - For the championship series the team coming out of the winner's bracket will have the choice of home field advantage in the first or second championship game.
2. **Men** - Best of three championship series will be played in one evening. The team coming out of the winner's bracket will earn the Home Field advantage for the series, meaning they will be home team for Game 1 and Game 3 if necessary. The team coming out of the loser's bracket will be the home team for Game 2.

B. In the event of a tie for a playoff position, the following tie-breaker will be used:

1. Head to Head won-loss record.
2. Run Differential in head to head game(s).
3. Total number of runs allowed in head to head game(s).
4. Total number of runs in head to head game(s).
5. Head to Head playoff game or coin toss.

\*The Head to Head game will only be used when the last playoff position or a bye is at stake.

C. **Men's League** - The team that wins the B Division regular season will have the option of moving up to the A Division for the next season/playoffs. The A team that finishes in last place in the regular season would then move into the B division for that season.