CITY OF TURLOCK RECREATION DIVISION

ADULT SLOWPITCH RULES & REGULATIONS

The City of Turlock Recreation Division will follow USA Rules and Regulations with the following league exceptions:

RULE 1 MEDICAL AND/OR ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Sec. 1 The City of Turlock does not carry Medical or Accidental Insurance on any of its City wide programs. This responsibility lies with each individual on a team.

Sec. 2 A physician’s clearance is recommended for all participants prior to participation.

RULE 2 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

Sec. 1 All players must be 18 years of age or out of high school. All rosters will be classified upon review by the classification committee and the Recreation Supervisor-Sports with the final classification decision made by the Recreation Supervisor-Sports.

Sec. 2 Persons who play on any high school, college, or professional softball/baseball team will not be eligible for play in league until their season is over for their respective level, except when noted by the League Director.

Sec. 3 All players must sign a team roster releasing the City from any responsibility from accidents occurring during the program. The team manager assumes the responsibility for having all team members sign the roster. Failure to sign will result in immediate forfeiture of all games and may result in the team being removed from the league.

Sec. 4 All games will automatically be declared a forfeit in which an ineligible player has participated.

Sec. 5 A team may protest a game in which they thought the opposing team used ineligible players. This protest must be done before the conclusion of the game and in writing with the umpire on the field for the game in question.

a. All protests for playoffs and championship game must be made by before the last out of the game.

RULE 3 ROSTER

Sec. 1 The maximum number of players carried on a roster is **twenty (20).** All players must sign the official roster prior to participating or they are ineligible and cannot play(see Rule 2, sec 1).

Sec. 2 Each team must submit an official team roster (available at the Recreation Division office and on-line at cityofturlock.org) by the deadline set for the program. The roster must be filled out completely with all players having signed the roster. Teams who fail to meet this deadline may be dropped from the program.

Sec. 3 Any player who signs a roster that is submitted before the classification committee places the teams in leagues, may play in the playoffs, regardless of number of games played. Teams may add players to their roster during a league providing they fill out an Add/Drop Form (available at the Recreation Division office). All player fees must be paid for the remainder of games to be played in that season. Players to be added must sign the Add/Drop Form to be eligible to participate. The Recreation Coordinator will review all Add/Drop Forms for approval or denial of roster changes.

a. For the Spring and Fall leagues, players that are added to a roster must play in 50% plus one (1) game to be eligible to play in the playoffs.

b. For the summer league, players that added to the roster must play in 50% plus one of the games (1) of the games in the half that the team qualifies for the playoffs.

Sec. 4 The League Director reserves the right to allow additions to any roster providing it is done to eliminate future forfeits by that respective team.

**Sec. 5** The League Director reserves the right to place teams in leagues according to their ability or if their league does not fill up, which may override a team's preference as to the night or league they play.

Sec. 6 Players may play on more than one team as long as both teams are the same level. Any other teams that players appear on a line up will automatically forfeit those games and players will be suspended for their next league game.

RULE 4 SIGN UPS/ENTRY FEE

Sec. 1 Sign ups for this program will be set by the City of Turlock.

Sec. 2 Each team is required to pay the entry fee at sign ups and **must have a minimum of 10 players on roster** with all signatures.

Sec. 3 All checks are to be made payable to the City of Turlock.

RULE 5 EQUIPMENT/FACILITIES

Sec. 1 Game balls for league games will be provided by the City of Turlock. The official game ball is Dudley, optic yellow, .52 COR, 300 max compression. For Coed, the official game ball is the Easton, optic yellow, Incrediball.

Sec. 2 All games will be played as per the official schedule.

Sec. 3 Uniforms are not required. **Metal, football and soccer cleats are not allowed.** The City of Turlock recommends catcher's masks to be worn; they are not, however, required.

Sec. 4 All bats will be checked by the officials and conform to USA bat rules and regulations for league play. **All Non-Approved USA bats, All Titanium bats are banned from City league play. Bats that appear to be altered may be confiscated for USA testing.**

Sec. 5 No earrings are allowed to be worn during play.

Sec. 6 U.S.A batters box will used for league play. Front line of the batters box and the side line at the heels of the player’s feet will be enforced for safety.

RULE 6 LEAGUE PLAY

**NOTE**: The advisory committee for this program is the Adult Softball Advisory Committee. Meetings are held periodically throughout the year, or, if necessary to hear issues raised during the season. All members are appointed by the League Director. Anyone wishing to be placed on the committee must contact the League Director.

Sec. 1 The League Director for this program is the Recreation Coordinator for the City of Turlock Recreation Division. The League Director is **not** responsible for any win, loss, or tie that may occur.

a. For Conflict resolution, the League Director will communicate only with the team manager, as listed on the current league roster.

b. The coach or manager of a team can appeal to the Adult Softball Advisory Committee. A special meeting will be called to discuss the issues at hand with a resulting decision made by the committee.

c. If a player or team needs to appeal further, the final appeal may be made to the League Director. This final appeal will result in the final decision for the issue(s) at hand. No further appeals will be accepted.

Sec. 2 Awards will be given to champions and runners up only. Champions will receive individual awards.

Sec. 3 Any team forfeiting a game prior to the start of the game shall notify the Recreation Coordinator. The Coordinator will notify the opposing team of the forfeit win.

Sec. 4 All protests, other than ineligible players (SEE Rule 2), must be made to umpires at the time of the violation and not after the conclusion of the game. The protesting team must inform the umpire to write in the score-book when the protest occurred. This must be done **before** the next pitch. The protest must cover a specific rule and not a judgement call. A written protest explaining the grounds of the protest must be filed with the Recreation Division within 48 business hours from 8:00am the next day (Monday if the game is played on Friday) of the protest along with a $25.00 protest fee, payable to the City of Turlock. If the protest upheld, the money will be refunded. Postmarks will be accepted.

Sec. 5 The league protest committee will consist of the Recreation Supervisor (or representative) and a minimum of two representatives from the Players Advisory Committee.

**Sec. 6 All teams with the best record in their league, of those leagues with halves, will be moved up regardless of the night they will be moved to. All teams with the worst record in their league, of those leagues with halves, will be moved down regardless of the night they will be moved to. The Recreation Supervisor-Sports reserves the right to move teams up or down more than one league if necessary.**

a. All teams have the option of notifying the League Director as to what night they cannot play. Please fill out the appropriate information on the roster. This will only apply to the first half in the summer league.

b. Due to the potentially large variation in caliber of Women's leagues, Women's teams may or may not be moved up or down at the half at the discretion of the League Director.

Sec. 7 **All rosters will be checked before playoffs and championship games.**

RULE 7 GAME RULES

**Sec. 1**  All games will be governed by the current official USA Rule Book rules and regulations except as noted within.

Sec. 2 Uniforms regulations for this league have been waived.

Sec. 3 Home team is listed first according to schedule.

Sec. 4 When scorekeepers are in use, all official score books will be kept by the Home team. Once the game has started, if the official scorekeeper fails to keep score the entire game, then they will forfeit the game. If the Home team cannot provide a scorekeeper, then the Home team forfeits the Home team status and the Away team will become the Home team. If neither team can provide a scorekeeper, then the team listed as Home is the Home team and the book is passed between the teams.

**NOTE:** Score keeper shall be some 16 years or older or under the discrepancy of the umpire.

Sec. 5 The **home run rule** will be as follows:

All Leagues -One (1) home run per inning is allowed everything

hit after that will be an out.

**NOTE:** Homerun is over the fence and untouched. A 4-base award is not a homerun.

Sec. 6 Teams must have a minimum of eight (8) player to start or finish a game. A team may play with fewer than they started with if a player or players must leave due to a job conflict or injury. Players who are removed from the lineup due to a job, injury, emergency or conflict must leave the ballpark. Teams that have less than eight players at any time during the course of a game must forfeit the game.

Sec. 7 Official game time will be scheduled game time unless changed by the official. At official game time, teams with less than eight (8) players have a ten (10) minute grace period in which to start the game. During the grace period, the team that has enough players to start the game will receive one (1) run for every two (2) minutes until the undermanned team is ready to field eight (8) players. For the odd minutes late, the minutes will be rounded up (i.e., 0-2 min - 1 run; 2:01 - 4 min - 2 runs; etc.). This will be for all official game times, not only the first game of the evening. Once there are eight (8) players, the game will start.

Sec. 8 Time limit on all games is 65 minutes. No inning may start after time has expired. **In the playoffs, the time limit on the all games is 75 minutes**.

Sec. 9 Alcoholic beverages are not permitted at Pedretti Park at any time. Players and teams are subject to immediate ejection from the facility. GLASS BOTTLES OR CONTAINERS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT PEDRETTI PARK AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON.

Sec. 10 Players may be added to the line up sheet once the game has started, provided they are eligible players. All players that will be entering the game must be entered at bottom of batting order, up to 16 players may appear on the line up. **All players adding to the line-up must report with the umpire and score keeper before batting.**

**Note:** A total of 16 batters may be used after the game has started.

Sec. 11 No more than ten (10) players may be in the field.

Sec. 12 One courtesy runner is allowed per inning. The courtesy runner is out if they are on base when it is their turn to bat. You may not take a courtesy runner off base to come to bat.

Sec. 13 There is no run limit.

Sec. 14 No one under the age of 15 is allowed inside the team area. No children are allowed on the playing field at any time regardless of age.

Sec. 15 USA pitching/batting rules will be in effect with the following emphasis/exception in these leagues:

ALL LEAGUES - recreational strike box (measuring 17" x 31½"), 6' - 12' pitch, with the count starting at 1 - 1. Batters will be allowed one foul ball when batter has two (2) strikes in the count.

In recreational strike box, the pitched ball must arch at least six (6) feet, from the ground, before it passes any part of home plate. The pitched ball shall not rise higher than twelve (12) feet from the ground. In order for a pitch to be considered a strike, the pitched ball must land inside the recreational strike box. If the batter hits the ball fair or foul while stepping on or in the strike box, the batter is out and the ball is dead. All leagues will have a batter's box. **Batter may not hit the ball if they have crossed over, in front of, or behind the batter's box line.**

Sec.16 A player, coach, or umpire who is bleeding or has blood on his uniform, cannot participate until he is treated or his uniform is changed. If this is accomplished in a reasonable amount of time, the player does not have to leave the game. The amount of time that is reasonable is left to the umpire's judgement. The City of Turlock Recreation Division will allow a courtesy player to fill in on a short-term temporary basis while the bleeding is attended to and/or the required uniform change is made. If this cannot be accomplished in a reasonable amount of time, a substitution will be required or the player will be dropped from the lineup. A team is still required to have eight (8) players. The courtesy player must be a member of the team. Time will not be suspended because of the blood rule unless the injury prevents the player from leaving the field for required treatment and/or uniform change.

Sec. 17 All leagues will have playoffs. The playoff format is as follows:

**All league rules apply to the playoffs.**

Spring/Fall - the top four (4) teams in each league with the best overall record will be in the playoffs. If teams had more than the scheduled number of games due to an odd number of teams in a league, then records will be broken down by winning percentage.

Summer - the 1st half champ (#1 seed), 2nd half champ (#2 seed), and the next two teams with the best overall record (#3 seed and #4 seed) will be in the playoffs; the #3 seed will play the #2 seed with the winner playing the winner of the game between the #1 seed and the #4 seed for the championship. **If a team wins the first half in a lower league and the second half in a higher league, the team must compete in the highest league qualified for playoffs.** Home team is the highest seeded team.

To break ties, the following will be used in order:

1. Winning percentage (if different # of games played)

2. Head to head competition (when teams play each other - who is the winner)

3. Offensive runs scored head to head

4. Defensive runs allowed head to head

5. Offensive runs scored in league

6. Defensive runs allowed in league

7. Coin Toss

Sec. 18 All base runners must peel of to the inside or outside of base path to remove themselves from the base path or can slide if a double play is potentially in effect.

**Sec. 19 The officials will call all illegal pitches verbally as soon the pitch is recognized as an illegal pitch. The officials will extend their arm out to identify to all players that an illegal pitch has occurred.**

**Sec. 20 If a player is ejected from a game during playoffs, regardless of the infraction, they cannot return for the remainder of the night’s games.**

**Sec. 21 A player ejected from a game will be automatically suspended, at least one game, depending on the severity of the players actions.**

**Sec. 22 Any player ejected from playoff game may not participate in any playoff game for the remainder of the league.**

**Sec. 23 If ejected player leaves team with less players than started with, this spot in the order now becomes an out.**

**Sec. 24 Any batted ball that strikes the pitcher or is hit within the pitchers area will be an automatic out. Line drive up the middle/Pitchers box (12 foot box) 6 feet wide and 2 feet in front of mound and 10 feet deep, all balls grounders and line drives are outs, above pitchers glove height are not outs, also pitcher must be in the box. If pitcher leaves the box they are not protected with the up the middle rule. Ball must reach the box to be called an up the middle out**.