

City of Salem Recreation Department & Marion County YMCA
2016 MEN'S SOFTBALL GENERAL LEAGUE RULES

No game will be canceled due to weather prior to 3:00 p.m.--*do not call Salem City Hall before this time.*

Cancellations will be announced on WJBD radio and on their website at wjbdradio.com or phone messaging to your teams captain.

Cancellations or changes in schedule will also be posted on the **City of Salem, Illinois Recreation Department** Facebook page.

GENERAL

1. Game time is ***promptly*** as scheduled, or if games are running late, game time will be immediately following the completed game. The scorekeeper of the official record book and/or umpire will determine the official game time and correct time used to determine a game forfeiture. Each team should have their line-up turned into the scorekeeper by the fifth inning of the preceding game or by 10 minutes prior to the beginning of the game. If a team or both teams are not ready to play, it will result in a forfeit.
 - Teams must have a minimum of eight (8) players to start an official game. If eight (8) players are not present at game time, a forfeiture will occur. Teams will ***NOT*** be required to maintain eight (8) players throughout the game. A team may finish a game with fewer than eight (8) players.
2. Seven innings will be played unless **1 hour 15 minute time limit has elapsed**, whereby no new inning will be started unless it is a tie game. (NOTE: The next inning officially begins as soon as the last out is completed.)
 - If at least 1 hour 10 minutes have elapsed, it will be the umpire's judgment whether or not to begin a new inning.
3. Between games, there will be a total of 10 minutes (maximum) allotted. Each team will be allowed a five minute warm-up to take infield practice. Between innings, the pitcher is limited to three warm-up pitches.
4. There will be a 10 run rule observed after the fifth inning.
5. Each team is to provide an umpire for their game(s).
(* if not enough funds are available for second umpire*)
 - The team at bat--their first base coach and third base coach will serve as umpires. The umpire provided by the Salem Recreation Department may over-rule any call.
6. A game called by the umpire shall be regulation, if five or more complete innings have been played, or if the team second at bat has scored more runs in four or more innings than the other team has scored in five or more innings. In case of the game being replayed, it shall be replayed from the beginning.
7. Metal spikes will ***not*** be allowed on the field, unless approved for a particular player by the Salem Recreation Board, for a designated season.

8. **ALL BATS MUST BE ASA APPROVED.** Prior to game time a compression test will be provided by the umpire, to the bats that a team will be using during the game are to be placed in the bat rack located on the field side of the dug-out fence, to allow for inspection by the umpire and by the members of the opposing team. Bats must remain in the bat racks throughout the games, except when a bat is being used by the batter or batter on deck. If either team objects to a bat being used by the opposing team, they should tell the umpire, who will then inspect that bat and determine whether or not to allow use of the bat. If the umpire bans the bat, a note will be made by the scorekeeper and kept in the score booth, and the bat will be permanently banned from use in Salem.

Recreation Department's Men's Softball League.

If a player is discovered to be using a bat that has been banned by City staff (i.e. Recreation Director, umpire, scorekeeper), that player will receive an automatic out. If use of the bat occurs again, it will be an automatic forfeit of that game, by the team using the banned bat.

ROSTERS/PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

9. Players must be 15 years old or older on or before June 1 of the current season.
10. There will be no limit to the number of players on a roster.
 - The team fee covers a roster of 16 players.
 - Additional players may be added to a team's roster at a cost of \$24 per resident player, \$30 per non-resident player.
11. Players who are listed on more than one roster will be assigned to the team with whom he plays first.
 - No players will be allowed to change teams during the season.
12. Teams having players (substitutes or any other persons) listed on their roster who have not paid their player fees ***or are listed without their address***, may be stricken from the team's roster at the discretion of the Director and will be ineligible to play until the fees are paid or the necessary information supplied to Salem Recreation Department personnel.
13. **If a team is found to have a player(s) playing in a game, who is not listed on the team's roster** or who has not paid the player fee, the current game will be forfeited.
14. Teams wishing to add players to their roster must submit payment of player fee (*if the addition of this player creates a roster of more than 16 players*) along with a player addition form. No player may be added to the roster using the player fee paid for another player.

TOURNAMENT

A post-season tournament involving teams in Salem Recreation Department's Men's Softball League teams will be scheduled after the final league game.

15. In tournament play, with the exception of the championship and consolation games, teams with higher seeding will be the home team.

16. A team's roster at their last game of the season will be their roster for the tournament. **No players may be added to a team during the tournament.**
17. A player must have played in a *minimum of two games* during the regular season in order to participate in the league tournament.

BATTER/RUNNER

18. **ALL BATS MUST BE ASA APPROVED.** *Prior to game time a compression test will be provided by the umpire*, bats that a team will be using during the game are to be placed in the bat rack located on the field side of the dug-out fence, to allow for inspection by the umpire and by the members of the opposing team. Bats must remain in the bat racks throughout the games, except when a bat is being used by the batter or batter on deck. If either team objects to a bat being used by the opposing team, they should tell the umpire, who will then inspect that bat and determine whether or not to allow use of the bat. If the umpire bans the bat, a note will be made by the scorekeeper and kept in the score booth, and the bat will be permanently banned from use in Salem Recreation Department's Men's Softball League.

If a player is discovered to be using a bat that has been banned by City staff (i.e. Recreation Director, umpire, scorekeeper), that player will receive an automatic out. If use of the bat occurs again, it will be an automatic forfeit of that game, by the team using the banned bat.

19. Each batter will come to the plate with a count of one-and-one.
20. Ground rule doubles: When a ball bounces over the fence; or, when a ball is declared fair and then rolls out of play, the base runner will receive two (2) bases only.
21. The base runner is out when the base runner fails to keep contact with the base to which he is entitled until a pitched ball has reached *home plate*.
22. Each team will be allowed to hit three (3) out-of-the-park homeruns per game. The 4th, 5th, 6th, etc. out-of-the-park homerun hit by a team during a game will be counted as an ***out***. (In-the-park homeruns do not count against the three out-of-the-park homeruns allowed.)
23. **Interference:**
 - When a defensive player has the ball, or is about to receive the ball, the runner remains on his feet and deliberately, with great force, crashes into the defensive player, the runner is to be declared out, the ball declared dead, and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision, unless there is obstruction. If the act by the offensive player is determined to be flagrant, the offensive player shall be declared out and *ejected* from the game.
 - The runner is not out and may run behind or in front of the fielder and outside the baseline in order to avoid interfering with a fielder *attempting* to field the ball in the base path.
 - If the fielder has the ball in his possession, the runner must go directly to the base.
24. A **COURTESY RUNNER** may be used only one time in any half inning.
 - A team must use the last recorded out or eligible sub.

- If there are no outs or subs available, a team may use the player farthest from the batter in the batting order.
- Once a player is being used as a Courtesy Runner, there are no substitutions.
- If the Courtesy Runner's turn to bat comes up, it will be considered an out.
- The defensive team may pitch around the prior batter to get to the out.

PITCHING

25. The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc, and reach a height of at least six (6) feet from the ground while not exceeding a maximum height of ten (10) feet from the ground.
26. The mat will be used to call ***all*** balls and strikes. Either it hits or it doesn't. The catcher must let the ball hit the mat or it will be called a ball.
27. In case of player injury or any circumstance, ***other than ejection***, in which a player must leave a game before completion and no substitute is available, the team will ***not*** be charged an out when it is that player's turn at bat.

RE-ENTRY/SUBSTITUTES/LATE PLAYERS

28. **Re-entry:** Any of the players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided players occupy the same batting positions when in the line-up. *Note: The original player and the substitute(s) cannot be in the line-up at the same time.*
29. If a player is ejected while at bat and said player did not complete his bat, a substitute is required to be supplied by the team. The substitute shall assume the ejected player's count or on base position. If a team has only nine(9) or ten (10) players, if there is no sub, an out is recorded and the batting order shall be reduced by one (1) player. If it is the umpire's judgment that a team has intentionally staged actions which resulted in a player's ejection from a game and it is to the team's advantage, said team may be required by the umpire to forfeit the game.
30. Late players may be added at anytime throughout the game. These late players are to be placed at the bottom of the line-up.

MISCELLANEOUS

31. **Obstruction:** Any defensive player without the ball in their possession or a defensive player who is about to receive the ball may not block the plate or base. If he does, it will be declared an obstruction, and the offensive player will be safe. All runners will advance to the base they were going to at the time of the obstruction or to where the umpire determines they would have gotten if the obstruction had not occurred.
32. **Any injury** should be reported to the scorekeeper, and an Accident Report form completed.
33. Any rule(s) not covered in this handout will be governed by the **ASA** rule book.

CONDUCT

34. City ordinance states it is **unlawful for any person to possess alcoholic beverages in a public park in the City of Salem.** Anyone suspected of being intoxicated will be ejected from the game and the premises.
35. **Smoking is not allowed** by players while on the field--either batting, running the bases, playing the field, as a base coach, etc.
36. All players are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times by showing respect to all participants and Recreation staff. Players are expected to refrain from using inappropriate language, from threatening or causing bodily harm to others and from defacing or damaging City property, equipment, supplies and facilities.

The City of Salem Recreation Department reserves the right to restrict, suspend, expel or deny participation in any program, event or facility to any person whose behavior interferes with or disrupts the quality of those offerings, the enjoyment of them by other participants, or the ability of staff to conduct or manage the activities or facility.

The above is taken from the Code of Conduct adopted by the Salem Recreation Board on February 27, 2003, copy attached to these rules, as page 6.

37. Any fighting will result in both parties being banned from further participation in any organized activities offered by the Salem Recreation Department.
 - Any player, coach, spectator, etc. who is ejected from a game **MUST** appear before the Salem Recreation Board for *consideration* of reinstatement before they will be allowed to further participate in any Salem Recreation Department activity. They will also be banned from any facility at which a Salem Recreation Department program is being played.

CODE of CONDUCT

Adopted February 27, 2003 by Salem Recreation Board

City of Salem Recreation Department & Marion County YMCA 2016 Men's Softball Rules

The goal of the City of Salem Recreation Department is to provide positive recreational experiences in which all individuals are welcome and treated with respect. The City of Salem Recreation Department offers its programs, activities, services, and benefits to all individuals on an equal basis. Employees of the City of Salem Recreation Department, all program participants, and all users of City facilities are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times by showing respect for all participants and staff members. Employees of the City of Salem Recreation Department, all program participants, and all users of City facilities are expected to refrain from using inappropriate language, from threatening or causing bodily harm to others and from defacing or damaging City property, equipment, supplies and facilities. Employees of the City of Salem Recreation Department, all program participants and all users of City facilities are also expected to adhere to all City of Salem Recreation Department rules.

The City of Salem Recreation Department reserves the right to restrict, suspend, expel or deny participation in any program, event or facility to any person whose behavior interferes with or disrupts the quality of those offerings, the enjoyment of them by other participants, or the ability of staff to conduct or manage the activities or facility.

The following guidelines will be used to address inappropriate behavior by a program participant or spectator or facility user. The nature and severity of the incident however, may warrant a meeting, suspension, or expulsion on the first, second or third occasion of inappropriate behavior or referral to local law enforcement authorities.

Inappropriate behavior by a participant

- 1st Incident: The participant, or if the participant is under 18 years of age, their parent or guardian, and coach will receive written notification of the first incident.
- 2nd Incident: The participant, if under 18 years of age along with their parent or guardian, will be required to appear before the Salem Recreation Board for *consideration* of reinstatement into the program.
- 3rd Incident: The participant will be permanently suspended or expelled from the program, event, or facility.

If a participant engages in behavior which poses a threat of bodily harm to himself or others, an immediate meeting may be called or based on the severity of the incident, the individual will be immediately suspended or expelled from the program or facility and local law enforcement authorities notified.

Inappropriate behavior by a non-participant

- 1st Incident: The non-participant will receive one verbal warning with a written confirmation. If the non-participant is a minor, parents will be notified.
- 2nd Incident: The non-participant will be suspended or expelled from the event or facility

If a non-participant physically strikes or takes any other action that poses a threat of bodily harm to himself or others, the individual will be immediately suspended or expelled from the facility. Any violation of common law will result in local law enforcement authorities being notified and legal action will be pursued.

The severity of the incident or incidents will dictate the severity of the consequences.

Inappropriate behavior is defined as use of inappropriate language; threatening or causing bodily harm to others; harassment (in any manner) of officials, coaches, players, spectators, Salem Recreation Department staff, etc.; defacing or damaging City property, equipment, supplies or facilities.