



City of Salem Parks and Recreation
Sports Office – Division
925 Union Street
Salem, Virginia 24153

PH: 540 375.4094
FAX: 540 375.4032



City of Salem Adult Softball League

www.salemva.gov

NSA Leagues Offered

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Men's Open | Church Open (American / National) | Church Co-Ed (American / National) |
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General League Rules

Any rules not cover in this section will fall under the NSA Rulebook

Co-Ed Open Leagues

1. All Co-Ed Open teams must have a male pitcher and female catcher.
2. Each team shall have ten (10) players; five (5) males and five (5) females.
3. There must be two (2) of each sex in the outfield and infield positions.
4. Outfielders may not be on the infield surface.
5. Each team must have a male/female pitcher/catcher combination.

Church & Church Co-Ed

1. This league is open to all churches.
2. Players listed on the official team roster must be a member/regular attendee of the church they represent prior to the start of league play.
3. Team rosters must be signed and verified by the Church Pastor/Minister prior to the start of league play.
4. Roster must be turned in by teams first regular season game.
5. Additions may be made up to your first game and must have signed verification by the Church Pastor/Minister and be approved by the City of Salem Sports Office.
6. Teams must have two (2) women on the field at all times.
7. Women are not allowed to pitch, play 1st or 3rd base.
8. If a church does not have a team in the league, those members may play for another church under the condition they have a signed player release from their Pastor/Minister, and signed approval from the Pastor/Minister of the church they wish to play for.

Residency Requirements

There are no residency requirements to participate in any league.

Age Requirements

All players must be eighteen (18) or older prior to the start of the team's first game to participate.

Team Placement

In the best interest of equalizing league play, after a team(s) demonstrates dominance in a division, the Sports Office reserves the right to promote a team into a more competitive division. Depending on the total teams registered in a league, the top three (3) teams in American will move up to the National league, the bottom three (3) teams in National will be moved down to the American league.

Ineligible/Illegal Players

Players cannot play on more than one team. The Sports Office reserves the right to check for illegal players at any time during the season. If a team is found using an illegal player, all games in which that player participated in will be declared a forfeit. Teams found using an illegal player for the second time will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season and forfeit all games played. A third offense and the team is expelled from the league. The person that is found to be an illegal player on a City of Salem softball team will not be allowed to play in the City of Salem for one year. Players may only play for one team, and in one league.

Time Limit

An official game will consist of fifty-five minutes, seven (7) innings, or the Slaughter Rule, whichever comes first. The scoreboard will be used as the official time. Time will start when the first pitch is thrown. No inning will begin after time has expired on the clock. Innings will be completed if time expires while a team is at bat. If the game is tied at the end of regulation play, the game will be declared a tie. **GAME OVER.**

Uniforms/Shoes

1. All players on each team must wear jerseys that are matching in the base color and have a permanently affixed, non-duplicated numbers on the back. Jerseys without numbers or jerseys with taped, pinned, or handwritten numbers will NOT be allowed. There will be a one game "grace period" for all teams to obtain jerseys. After this "grace period", players not attired as described above will NOT be allowed to participate.
2. No metal cleats will be allowed.

Rosters

Teams will have a limit of 24 players including the Manager. Rosters must be turned in before the first game of the season. NO EXCEPTIONS. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture. Rosters can be completed online at www.salemva.gov

Game Balls

1. All leagues will use Worth PROTAC Gray Dot 375-.40COR or equivalent ball depending on availability.
2. Game balls will be provided at the field by the plate umpire or field supervisor. Teams are asked please retrieve foul balls and home runs and return to the plate umpire.

Bats

1. Only NSA approved bats shall be used.
2. When a batter appears in the batter's box with, or is discovered using an illegal bat, altered bat or a non-approved bat, prior to or after hitting the ball the batter is also ejected from the game for using an altered or non-approved bat. Appeal must be made to the umpire prior to the next pitch thrown.

Grace Period

No Grace period for any games. Teams must be ready to play at game time.

Ties in Final Standings

If two teams are tied in the final regular season standings, the following tie-breakers will be used:

1. Teams record against each other.
2. Teams run differential against each other.
3. Teams total runs allowed for the season.
4. Coin flip.

On a three-way-tie, the team's record against each other will be taken out.

Courtesy Runner

1. Courtesy runner may be used once per inning.
2. Courtesy runner must be the player who made the last out.
3. Courtesy runner must be of the same sex.
4. If the player that made the last out is on deck or due up-to-bat, the player who made the previous out prior to the last out will be used.
5. If the game is in the first inning, the player furthest from the batter will become the courtesy runner.

Rules for League Play

1. Pitchers will get three (3) warm up pitches at the start of the game. No warm up pitches after the game has started.
2. On deck batter must be in the on-deck circle ready to bat.
3. **Speed-up Rule:** The team that is behind will bat first in the LAST INNING.
4. **Slaughter Rule:** 12 runs after 5 innings.
5. Teams must have a minimum of nine (9) players to begin a game.
6. Bases will be 70ft and the rubber will be 53ft.
7. **Home Runs:**

| League | Limit |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Men's Open | 2 per game per team |
| Church Open (American / National) | 1 per game per team |
| Church Co-Ed | No home runs allowed, Progressive penalty home run rule in effect |

- Once the limit is met, each subsequent home run is an out.

Conduct

1. The City of Salem will not tolerate the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in any park located within the City.
2. Verbal or physical violence directed on other participants, umpires or league officials will not be tolerated. Any individual involved in conduct deemed unsportsmanlike will lose his/her right to participate in any City of Salem leagues for a minimum of one (1) year. Decisions by the Sports Office involving verbal or physical violence are final. Subject to an annual review if requested.
3. The umpires have the authority to remove a player, coach or spectator from a game and/or forfeit the game due to unsportsmanlike conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, profanity, threats of any kind toward the umpires, staff or designate official, fighting (before, during or after the game), any intoxicated condition detected by the umpire before or during the game.
4. Any player warming up outside of the designated warm-up areas or hitting balls against the fence will be suspended and repeated offenses of this rule will be cause for suspension from the league.

Ejections

1. Any player, coach or manager ejected from a game will be suspended for a minimum of two (2) games.
2. If a participant receives a second ejection, he/she will be suspended from all City of Salem Adult Leagues for one (1) year.
3. **If a player or a coach is ejected from a game that person must leave the premises immediately.**
4. If player is ejected from their last regular season game, suspension will carry over to next season.

Protests

1. Protests must be made before the end of the game by the team manager.

2. The team manager making protest must notify the recreation department within 48 hours in writing.
3. Judgment calls are not protestable.
4. **Protest fee:** \$20.00, which will be returned if protest is upheld.

Postponements

Information on daily game status may be obtained by logging onto www.salemva.gov ('Parks and Recreation' link, then Adult Sports) or by calling the Sports Office Weather Hotline at 966-6900 after 3:30 p.m. If the first game is cancelled, all games that night are canceled. Please note, if games have not been cancelled prior to 5:00p teams are asked to report to the field where a decision on that night's playing status will be made by the officials.

Schedules

Game schedules and reschedules will be posted online at www.salemva.gov ('Parks and Rec.' link, then Adult Sports).