

**Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation  
Men's 50 and Over Spring/Summer Softball League 2020**

**LEAGUE RULES**

**Registration/Forfeit/Umpire/Scorekeeper Payment**

- Each team will need to bring a total of \$28 for each game; see payment breakdown below.
- **Umpire Fee-** \$14 to the umpire
- **Scorekeeper Fee-** \$14 per game per team (paid at the field).
- **If a game starts (even 1 pitch thrown) and it gets cancelled due to weather, teams must pay umpire \$10 and scorekeepers \$6. The other half of payment will be returned.**

**Roster Cards /Eligibility for Playoffs**

- Due: July 22 with a limit of 25 players
- All players must fill out player information/liability cards and turn in to supervisor.
- Eligibility for playoffs: **6 regular season games.** This rule of eligibility is waived for managers only.
- Must be 50-year-old by the calendar year.

**Softballs**

- Worth Hot Dot Extreme Classic M, 40/325

**Shirts**

- Players must have the same color shirt with a number on the back.

**Schedule & League Format**

- League begins- Monday, June 22.
- Game times: 6:30, 7:30, 8:30. There is a 5 minute grace period for the first game only.
- Each team plays approx..16-18 regular season games and Playoffs.

**Rain Out Procedure/Cancellation/Hotline**

- **RainedOut.com – text: mymens50softball to 84483 to receive cancelation info**
- Make-up games will be tried to be made up at the end of the season.
- Games may not be made up if they will not affect the standings (later in season)

**Bats/Spikes**

- **No Metal Spikes.** If a player is found wearing metal spikes he will be required to change shoes or he cannot play.
- **Bats – USSSA/NSA Standards. Bats must have a USSSA Thumbprint**
  - **Due to COVID19 – All bats will not be tested and stamped this year. Instead, any bat that is called into question will be tested separately. If failed, it will be sent to GSL for further testing.**
    - **If a bat is deemed illegal/altered in any way, the Player automatically receives a lifetime ban from all Mayfield Village Leagues. GSL will have their own suspension as well.**
  - **If a bat comes back as illegal (deemed by GSL) the game of which is was used during will automatically become a forfeit win for opposing team.**
- Players who turn 65 years old in the calendar year (with valid ID approved), are permitted to use senior bats which are marked with bright tape. Any batter caught using one of these bats who is not over 65 years old, the game is forfeited and 2 game suspension for violator.

## Awards

### Regular Season

- The champion will receive a trophy/plaque for the sponsor.

### Playoffs

- The champion and runner up will both receive a trophy/plaque for the sponsor plus the champion team will receive individual awards

**Pitching Screen Rules:** If not using the Pitching Screens, we ask pitchers to wear face mask for protection.

- Pitchers will decide inning by inning if they want to use the screen due to sun light issues on the fields.
  - 1.) If both teams agree to use the screen:
    - a.) First ball to hit the screen in an at-bat is considered a "dead ball"
    - b.) If the screen is hit for a second time in the *same* at-bat, the batter is out.
  - 2.) If one team decides not to use the screen:
    - a) That team can hit the screen an unlimited amount of times in an at-bat without any penalty.
- “Chuck and Duck” - If using the screen, the pitcher may not field the ball until it is past them. They must pitch the ball, then stand behind the screen until the ball in play is past them.

## Rules

### 1. Number of Players for Game/Batting Order

- Must have 9 players to start game: if you don't have 9 then it's a forfeit. If there are 9 players at the field, the game MUST start (cannot wait for better players, etc.)
- The 10<sup>th</sup> player can be added at any time as long as the team has not batted through the entire order. Can only add player if on the roster and they will be added to the bottom of the line-up.
- A team can bat everyone but does not have to (optional)
- If a team starts with 12 players then they must end with 12 players. If a team start with 12 and continue playing with less than 12 (if someone has to leave, gets thrown out, or is injured, etc.), each time that person is up to bat, it is an out. If 2 or more players are ejected, injured, or leave the field, then the game is automatically declared a forfeit.

### 2. Time Limit/Grace Period

- 70 minute time limit.
- There is a 5 minute grace period for the first game only (which does cut into the time limit). No inning will start after 70 minutes. There will be a 2 minute break in between double headers.

### 3. HOMERUN RULE - DHH + 3 additional AND +1 HR's

- a. All teams may have one (1) Designated Homerun Hitter (DHH) that, without penalty, may hit a homerun every time at bat. Teams must designate their DHH prior to the start of the game, or there won't be a DHH for that team. Should the DHH be walked, whether intentional or not, the next person to hit a homerun may do so without penalty, until the DHH's spot comes back up in the line-up. An additional two (2) total Homeruns are allowed for all others in the line-up. Once the two homeruns are hit, all other homeruns hit will be an out.
- b. After each team has used their “2 Additional HR's” teams may increase by 1 UP. Meaning, Team A hits #3, Team A can't hit #4 till Team B get's #3. If teams are tied with same amount of HR's; Team B can't hit a “walk-off.” The other team must have the ability to hit a tying HR.

- A team can only score 5 runs per inning until the last inning then it is unlimited. However, this rule is canceled if the run rule is reached, a team can score unlimited runs until they are within 12 runs by the 5<sup>th</sup> inning
4. Mercy Rule/Official Game
    - Mercy Rule: 20 runs after 3 innings; 15 runs after 4 innings or 12 run spread after 5 innings
    - In order for a game to be considered official, 5 innings must be played (4½ if home team is winning in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup>).
  5. Sliding
    - Sliding is allowed at only second and third base.
  6. Tie Breakers
    - If the time limit is up then the game will be left in a tie in the regular season.
  7. Pitching Arc/Bases/Pitching Rubber/Home Plate Mat/Two Home Plates
    - **Pitching Rules**
      - **Arc – 5 – 10ft arc**
      - The Pitcher must deliver the ball within 5 seconds after assuming the pitching position on the pitchers plate (or in the 6ft pitching area), and **must present the ball in front of his body**. During this 5 second timeframe, (after presenting the ball) the pitcher may make any windup or motion desired, either in front of his body, above his head or behind his back, including stops and pauses, but the **pitcher must face home plate on delivery of pitch**.
      - The ball must be pitched underhanded at slow speeds with the arc gap of 5ft – 10ft.
      - The umpire shall declare a ball if the pitcher does not deliver the ball within the 5 seconds, delivers the pitch from outside the pitching area, and/or a quick pitch.
    - The bases will be at 65 feet, and the pitching rubber will be 50 feet from home plate. The pitching rubber will be permanently in the ground so don't move it.
    - **The pitcher is allowed to be 6 feet behind the plate (the toe doesn't have to be on the pitching rubber). The pitch must be within the 6 ft limit while pitching. If caught being behind the 6 ft limit the umpire will call a ball for the first time. After the first warning, player is automatically ejected. One foot must be within pitching rubber**
    - There will be a mat behind home plate that will be used to determine balls and strikes.
    - There will be a second home plate to avoid collisions. The play at home is always a force so they cannot tag the runner. If the runner uses the regular home plate it is an out.
  8. Miscellaneous
    - Start with a 1:1 count. Batters will receive an extra foul ball after the 2<sup>nd</sup> strike
    - Unlimited courtesy runner. (**player can only run once per inning.**)
      - **If a courtesy runner is on base and his spot in the batting order comes up, the batter is out**
  9. **Sportsmanship/Bad Language:** No player, coach, or occupants of team bench shall not incite, or try to incite by words, or sign, or demonstration to either opposing teams/spectators, or umpires. The use of profane or abusive language or taunting will not be tolerated. Players violating the above can be ejected from the game without warning. A player/coach with excessive arguing of balls/strikes, carelessly throwing bats, or any other act considered to be unsportsmanlike conduct shall be given a warning. A repeated violation shall cause the offender to be immediately removed from the game and playing area, including the bench.
    - **Any player thrown out of a game will automatically be suspended for the following game. League supervisor also has authority to lengthen the suspension depending on the situation.**

**10. Team Conduct:** Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation has the authority to eject players or teams from the league based upon improper behaviors and/or any other situation that arises which Mayfield Village feels is inappropriate. If a team is ejected, then they will not receive any refund from Mayfield Village Parks and Recreation.

**11. Alcohol/Smoking/Trash:**

- **No Alcohol permitted at the fields (this includes spectators).** The league supervisor will be responsible for enforcing this rule in regards to the spectators. If teams are caught drinking at the fields by either umpires/supervisors, they shall be given 1 warning for the season. A 2<sup>nd</sup> incident shall result in the game currently be played as a forfeit.
- **Smoking is allowed at the facility but all cigarettes must be deposited in designated smoking towers that are stationed at each bench.**
- **Trash** – Following each game, and before vacating the bench area, please throw away all garbage, bottles, etc. into the cans located at every bench. **Please help keep our facilities clean!**