

Composition and organization of the Palm Creek Softball League. 3/1/21

The Spring League will consist of 6 teams, coed and free agent blended ranking in composition. The teams will be chosen by volunteer coaches from each Park with the intention of forming teams that are balanced and as equal in ability as possible by draft methodology. Games will be played at Palm Creek.

a.) Substitutions:

If a team's roster drops to 11 or fewer players for any game due to injury or absence, they may use player(s) from the Substitution List or another team to substitute for their injured/absent player(s). Teams that have injured player who cannot continue for the remainder of the season will be given a replacement player from the Sub list of equal ranking to maintain the teams roster of permanent players to a minimum of 12 active rostered players. The player that is not able to continue to play the remainder of the season will be removed from the team's roster. A substitute player has to have the same Rating or below as the injured/absent player(s) they are replacing. Substitute players must bat at the end of the line-up and may not be used as courtesy runners. Teams may not sit a healthy player on their roster in order to use a substitute player. In addition, if a player is injured and can't continue to play and there is no substitute, that team may use a catcher from the other team to get to 11 players.

b.) Courtesy Runners:

Any player on a team's roster and present for the game may be used as a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner may be used for a base runner before the first pitch to the next player (or at any time in the case of an injury), but the courtesy runner may not be used more than once per inning. A substitute player may not be a courtesy runner.

c.) Field specifications:

The Palm Creek softball field has a 275 ft fence and 65 ft bases. There will be a 165 ft encroachment line in the outfield. Outfielders may NOT go in front of this line until the ball is in play. The infielders and rover may go anywhere they want on the field prior to the ball being in play.

The Robson Ranch softball field has a 300 ft fence and 70 ft bases.

d.) Equipment:

ASA or USSSA approved 1.20 BPF bats will be used. Senior bats are NOT allowed (see exception for Robson Ranch field games. National Division games played at Robson Ranch field will be allowed to use Senior Bats. Balls used shall be a 44 cor, 375 compression softballs, 12" balls for male hitters and 11" balls for female hitters.

e.) Pitching Screen:

The pitching screen **WILL** be used in all games in the American (C) division. All pitchers are **REQUIRED** to wear a pitchers face mask. Pitchers may wear additional protective equipment if they choose to do so.

f.) The batter will start with a 1 ball, 1 strike count. There will be one foul ball “to waste”. The first batted ball hitting the pitching screen in any at bat is a dead ball and each subsequent batted ball hitting the screen in that at bat will be counted as a foul ball.

g.) Home Runs:

The League will have a “2 up” home run rule. Any home run hit by a team with a 2 home run advantage will be scored as a walk.

h.) Teams are limited to 5 runs per inning except for the final inning of the game. In the “open” inning each team may score an unlimited number of runs. Game time limit will be 60 minutes.

i.) Mercy Rule:

If a team is ahead by 12 or more runs at any time after 5 innings have been completed, or four and one-half innings if the home team is ahead, the game will be declared over. The “flip flop” rule will take effect when the visiting team has a lead of 8 or more runs going into the open inning.

j.) Sun Rule:

If the Sun is in the batters eyes during the 2:00 game, the batter may move the pitcher 6 ft to the left or the right of the pitchers rubber. This must be done before the 1st pitch of the at bat.

k.) American (C) 1st Base Rule:

If a fielder is behind the 165 line at Palm Creek (Outfielder), he/she may **NOT** throw out a batter at 1st base on a batted ball put into play.

l.) Covid Rules:

See the Covid Rules document for modified Covid rules for the 2020 Fall season.

The most recent SSUSA Rule Book will be used for all additional rules for the Fall league.

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