

Town of Fort Mill - NSA 2020 Church Softball Rules

1. Any rule not covered by the following by-laws will be SUBJECT to 2020 NSA rules.
2. Each league's schedule will be posted on the website (www.fortmillsc.gov).
3. A player must play in at least **six (6) games** during the regular season to be eligible for any playoff games.
4. Rosters must be signed by a church representative prior to the beginning of the season.
5. Team members must be active members in the church for which they are playing. Teams may add up to two players who are actively involved in a church that does not field a team in our league.
6. **The allowed age for men's teams shall be 16 years and older and women's teams shall be 14 years and older, provided they have parent's consent signed on the team roster (for players under 18).**
7. A player may only be on the roster of one team per league.
8. Pitching Distances and Base Distance- Men and Women will BOTH pitch from 53 ft rubber (it will be the mound that is not permanent) and the base distance will be 70 ft Men and 65 ft for Women.
9. The ball being used will be .52 Core with 275 lbs.
10. 12 is the max a team can bat in a rotation, 10 defensive.
11. There is no limit on the number of substitutions.
12. Games may begin if a team has eight (8) players. Teams may play shorthanded but may not play with fewer than eight (8) players and the 9th batter will be an out, you can add a 9th whenever they get there. The official score of a forfeited game due to ejection or due to lack of players at game time shall be recorded as 15-0. In the event that a team has to forfeit a game due to injury, the official score shall be recorded as 7-0. In the case of a double forfeit, the official score shall be recorded as 0-0. Teams will be allowed to "pick-up" up to two players to field a team of 9 players if (7 can pick up 2, where as a team of 8 can only pick up 1):
 - a. They are currently on an active roster in the league.
 - b. The new player must bat last in the order and play RF or Catcher in the field.
 - c. The team that needs a player drops their pick up, if one of their team members arrives.
 - d. If a 9th and/ or 10th player shows up, they can increase to 10 field players (if they haven't batted all the way through the order).
 - e. The team that does not have enough must let the other team know they added players.
13. Profanity will not be tolerated. If profanity is heard it is an automatic ejection and 1 game suspension for the player. Any additional profanity will result in forfeiture.
14. **Umpire fees, per team are \$20 per game.** Two umpires will be used. When only one umpire is present, team fees will be \$15/team.
15. If a team forfeits their game they are responsible for paying the umpire that game. The umpire should not have to ask me for the money or how are they going to get paid. The money needs to be paid to me by the next scheduled game.
16. The league will provide game balls.
17. Facilities are non-smoking and alcohol free.
18. Game times will be scheduled on an hourly basis. An inning may not begin fifty-five (55) minutes after the official time unless a tie score exists, then we go to international rule. The time limit begins with the first pitch.
19. If a game is suspended because of weather, it will be considered complete if four (4 1/2) innings or forty (40) minutes have been completed. If four (4 1/2) innings or forty (40) minutes have not been completed, it will be rescheduled and picked up from where it left off.
20. Inclement weather: In the event that inclement weather develops during a game, it is the judgment of the umpires whether to suspend a game because of safety reasons, i.e. lightning, high winds, hail, heavy rain, etc... If a game is suspended, then rule 18 applies as to whether it is an official game or not.

21. There will be a 4-homerun limit for both leagues. The limit is only for over the fence homeruns. After 4 homeruns, any subsequent homerun will be inning ending out.
22. Mercy rule is as follows: 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 after 4 innings and 10 after 5 innings.
23. Teams are responsible for getting foul balls and home run balls back to umpires.
24. A Courtesy Runner (which is not recorded as a substitute in the line-up) and of the same sex, may be used for one (1) male player and one (1) female player per inning. The Courtesy Runner can be any player on the team roster who is present, eligible and not been ejected and may be used for one (1) male and one (1) female player per inning per team. The Courtesy Runner DOES NOT have to be the same player each time the player in need of the courtesy runner becomes a runner. The courtesy runner will be entered into the game by the Head Coach/ Captain through the home plate umpire before play resumes. Once play resumes by the umpire declaring play ball; that courtesy runner will be officially entered. If the courtesy runner comes to bat while on base, the courtesy runners spot in the batting order becomes an out and the next batter listed in the batting order comes to bat. The courtesy runner "MAY NOT" under any circumstances be substituted for. The defensive team "MAY" walk to get to the vacated spot in the lineup. The Courtesy Runner does NOT have to be the last out. It may be a different player each inning.

NSA Bat Rules

NSA rules allow any bats which have not been altered with exception of the Ultra 1 and Ultra 2 bats and any titanium bats. Anyone found using altered or illegal bats will be removed from the league and team's using an illegal bat will forfeit the game in which the illegal bat was used. No Fast Pitch Bats or Senior Bats.