

## **2015 Men's Open / Industrial Slow Pitch Softball League By-laws**

Additional information can be found at [www.oxfordnc.recdesk.com](http://www.oxfordnc.recdesk.com)

### ARTICLE I – ORGANIZATION

- A. The name of the league shall be known as the Men's Open / Industrial Slow Pitch Softball League.
- B. This league shall be governed by the Oxford Parks and Recreation Athletic Division.
- C. League games shall be played under the Official Softball Rules of the current year as prepared by USSSA, except for the noted exceptions. The Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to add or modify the rules to facilitate a smoother running league.

### ARTICLE II – LEAGUE STRUCTURE

- A. This league will be played in as an open division with a maximum of 8 teams.

### ARTICLE III – SCHEDULE AND TIMES

- A. Each team will play a minimum of 12 games. Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Game times will be 6:30 pm, 7:45 pm and 9:00 pm. Games will begin on the first Monday in March. The deadline for registration will be **February 18th at 5:00pm**.
- B. All league and playoff games will be played at Rucker Park Athletic Field.
- C. All games will be played as scheduled. Facilities are booked solid, thus not allowing for switching of games.
- D. Official game times are printed on the schedule. Starting times for first games will be strictly observed. All other games will start five minutes after the conclusion of the preceding game but not before the official time as printed on the schedule. The umpire will establish the official time for each game before the start of the game. Five minute forfeit time, one hour and 15 minute time limit.
- E. For the first game, the home team will be off the field 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Visiting team must be off the field 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- F. Pitcher gets one warm-up pitch between innings.
- G. No infield practice is permitted between innings.
- H. A game may end after:
  - 1. 3 innings if a team is 20 runs ahead.
  - 2. 4 innings if a team is 15 runs ahead.
  - 3. 5 innings if a team is 10 runs ahead.
- I. Each batter will use a 3-2 count. The second foul ball after strike one will be an out.
- J. There will be a five home run limit.
- K. Bases will be at 65 feet.

### ARTICLE IV – POLICY ON POSTPONED GAMES

- A. Decisions on postponements are usually not made until 4:00pm on game day. Postponements will be posted on our Facebook page and team captains will be notified. Please make sure captains provide a working phone number and a preferred email (if applicable).
- B. Whenever in doubt, report to the park.

C. Postponed games will be played on TBD dates throughout the season based on field space. Makeup nights for the league will typically be on Wednesdays or Saturdays.

#### ARTICLE V – PLAYER & TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A. Minimum of 10 players and maximum of 20 players on team rosters.

B. Players on rosters must be at least 18 years of age (insurance requirement).

C. Any team with ineligible players shall forfeit all wins from the time these names were placed on the roster, until they are removed.

D. Teams must provide an initial roster before playing their first game. All participating players must have signed the roster. Failure to do so could result in a forfeit.

E. Players may be added to rosters up until the start of the second week of play. No players will be added after this point.

#### ARTICLE VI – PLAYER & TEAM REQUIREMENTS

A. The team entry fee is \$500. Checks must be from sponsoring business or organization, and made payable to the Oxford Parks and Recreation Department. Fee includes: umpires, softballs, trophies, and other league expenses.

B. Uniform jerseys/shirts of like color will be worn by each player while participating in all league games. Metal cleats are not permitted.

C. A team may start or continue a game with 10 players.

D. Home team will be the second team listed on the schedule.

E. Home team scorebook is the official scorebook in each game.

F. Only authorized personnel are allowed in the bench area.

#### ARTICLE VII – UMPIRE & DEPARTMENT DUTIES

A. EACH TEAM SUPPLIES THEIR OWN BALLS. Only authorized men's ball is a USSSA APPROVED 12" CLASSIC M softball with stamp.

B. Bat – must be approved for softball play only. Men may use any bat provided it has the new USSSA stamp on it. Umpires reserve the right to ban bats from league play that are determined to be illegal.

C. The Oxford Parks and Recreation Athletic Staff or the Umpire will decide if the field conditions are playable.

#### ARTICLE VIII – CONDUCT & FORFEITS

A. Teams are required to conduct all of their relations with other teams and the game officials in the spirit of good sportsmanship.

B. No profanity or misconduct will take place on or around the playing field before, during, and after a game. If profanity or misconduct of any player occurs, this player will be ejected from the game and could be suspended from league play. If a second offense occurs on the same player, this player will be suspended for the entire season, and his team may lose the game by forfeit.

C. Two forfeits, for any reason, may disqualify a team from the league. This disqualification may be for the remainder of the season and will include forfeiture of the team's registration fee. The manager of the team involved may appeal this in writing within twenty-four hours to the Oxford Parks and

Recreation Athletic Staff. They will review the case and make the final decision. Any team which forfeits out of the league may not enter the league the following year.

D. Managers must be responsible for the conduct of their players on the field at all times.

E. The Oxford Parks and Recreation Athletic Staff will take any action they feel necessary to discipline a player, manager, or team during the current, and possibly future seasons.

F. Anyone ejected from a game, will be suspended for the following game as well. The exception to this would be an ejection for metal cleats.

G. Consumption of alcoholic beverages could cause indefinite suspension from the league.

H. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed on Oxford Parks and Recreation property at any time.

#### ARTICLE IX – PROTESTS

A. Procedure for protest must be followed as stated in the official Softball League Rules of the current year. Formal protests must be in writing and presented to the Oxford Parks and Recreation Administrative Office within twenty-four hours. A protest committee is composed of the Oxford Parks and Recreation Athletic Staff.

#### ARTICLE X – PLAYOFFS & AWARDS

A. Playoffs may be played on any night of the week. The amount of teams who qualify for the playoffs will be based on the number of teams registered. This will be determined once league registration is complete at the start of the season.

B. Ties for playoff positions will be determined by regular season head to head competition, and then run difference.

C. Team winning the regular season will receive a first-round bye in the playoffs. The team winning the league championship will have the choice of team trophy or t-shirts.

D. Award Selections must be called into the Oxford Parks and Recreation Administrative Office within two weeks of the completion of the Championship game.