

LOWNDES RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Adult Church League Rules

Administrative Rules

1. This league is organized to give Christians an opportunity to fellowship and to play together in a way pleasing to the Lord. Winning, keeping score and your league standing are all secondary concerns. Coaches are responsible to pass this understanding on to their teams and to set an example of Christian sportsmanship.
2. Rosters must consist of members that actively attend your church. Actively attending church means weekly.
3. Larger churches in Lowndes County, such as Fairview Baptist and Vibrant Church will not be allowed to pick up players. These churches have a large enough membership that allows them to field a team without picking up players.
4. Rosters- will be your church logo stationary with a list of the Church-member player's names, addresses and the player's signature. The Church Preacher/Pastor must sign the roster and include a statement verifying the Church members listed on the roster. The roster/church stationary must be turned in prior to your first scheduled ball game.
5. Adding new members- to add new members to the roster/church stationary, an updated roster/church stationary (add the new member to the existing roster/church stationary) must be provided using the credentials in the above Rule #2, Rule #3 and turned in prior to the new member playing.
6. Two (2) players who are members of a church without a softball team can play with another church with a team in the league (exception- Rule #3 above). Both pastors of the two churches involved must provide a signed church logo stationary letter agreeing to the arrangement.
7. A suggested roster size is 20 players, but any number of players may be on the roster/church stationary.
8. These are the only situations where players may play in the Church League.
9. Adult playing age begins at age 16. A player must turn 16 years old before the regular and posts season leagues are completed.
10. Ejections- anyone ejected from a ball game will be suspended for the next two (2) team games. A second ejection will result in being removed from the league.
11. Control of language- language should be respectful to authority and other participants. It should be representative of the Christian atmosphere we desire to create. Umpires and league staff have the authority to determine what language is offensive.

Playing Rules

12. Game time is forfeit time, except for the first game which will have a 15 minute grace period. The team arriving late may not be listed as the home team, can only be listed as the visiting team.
13. A team may start a game with nine (9) players. Each time the 10th batting slot comes up, it is an automatic out. Any player inserted after the game starts will go to the bottom of the line-up. Once a player arrives for the game, they may be inserted into the line-up in the 10th batting slot. The late player does not have to arrive before you have batted through your line-up one time.
14. Each game will have a one (1) hour time limit. Games will finish the inning they are playing if necessary.

15. Twenty-one (21) run rule after three (3) innings or ten (10) run rule after five (5) innings.
16. Home team will be determined by a coin toss prior to the game.
17. Home Team is the official scorebook. If the home team does not have a scorebook then the away team will be the official scorebook.
18. Game balls will be supplied. The 12" Clincher softball is the ball we will use.
19. Any official softball bat may be used- exception, bats listed on any softball association banned bat list may not be used.
20. Home Run Rule- Three (3) home runs. The batter is ruled out for any in excess. Any over the fence home run or four base awards, you do not have to run the bases and base runners do not have to run the bases.
21. Batters will start with a 1-1 count and allowed one courtesy foul.
22. No stealing will be allowed.
23. Uniforms- Shirts must be alike with a 3" minimum number visible on the shirt.
24. Shoes- no metal spikes.
25. Courtesy Runner- a player who has made the last team out may be used as a courtesy runner for any player on their team. The last out does not necessarily mean the last out of the prior inning; it could be the last out of the current inning. This is the only player who can be used as a courtesy runner. The courtesy runner must be reported to the umpire.
26. The umpires are in control of the game. Only the coaches are to discuss any disputes with the umpires. Players who try to take disputes into their own hands are prone to being asked to leave. Please remember these umpires are out here to fellowship and have fun to.