

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Department

MEN'S OPEN/Church and CO-ED Leagues

2026 ADULT SOFTBALL BY-LAWS

PURPOSE

The Adult Softball Program was established to provide recreation and enjoyment through athletic competitions. The success of the league depends upon the conduct of both players and coaches involved with the league and their strict observance of league standards and rules.

LEAGUES

The following leagues will be offered:

Men's Open \$575 per team and Co-ed 525 per team

Managers register a team into the softball league

TEAMS

- 1) Each league will play a total of 12 regular season games, co-ed will play 10 games, plus a league tournament at the end of the regular season. Teams will be seeded in all tournaments according to their regular season records.
- 2) The co-ed regular season is scheduled to begin April 29th; Open on May 4th, Leagues are open to individuals 16 years of age or older.
- 3) All teams will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. 12 team max for Co-Ed

ROSTERS

- 1) The roster for each team will be unlimited and are due at time of registration **with all entry fees & info sheet on or before April 21st 5pm 2025.**
- 2) All information on the roster form must be filled out **completely.** Each player shall also sign the roster before they are able to play.
- 3) Players can be added to a roster all season long. Adding players to teams will be allowed only during regular season and must sign up through county before eligible for play!
- 4) Once a player plays on a team, they remain on that team for the rest of the season.
- 5) Players can only play on **one** team in the County Adult Softball Program. **Exception:** A player can play Co-ed and one Open team.
- 6) If your roster is not filled out before your first game, your team will not be allowed to play.
- 7) A player will be illegal if he/she is not on official HCPRD roster at time of play.
- 8) **No players added to roster after regular season ends.**

PLAYER CONDUCT – THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM!

- 1) Each team is responsible for the conduct and behavior of its players and fans, both on and off the field. Please remember that each player represents the team that he/she is a player for. ***Profanity will not be tolerated by anyone & subject to park ejection!***
- 2) Verbal attacks on officials/park staff will not be tolerated by players or team representatives. Verbal attacks on an official/park staff will result in immediate suspension of person/persons from league/softball activities up to 1 calendar year.
- 3) Players shall always control their tempers and behavior during play. Players will be ejected from the game for hitting or assaulting another player. Players will be ejected for intentionally attempting to injure other players during the game, or any other unsportsmanlike behavior.
- 4) Any player or coach under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs at the time of the game will be suspended from the game. Coaches shall not play players who are under such influence.
- 5) Players are urged to abide by good sportsmanship. Any conduct that is not in keeping with good sportsmanship is considered a violation of league policy. Violation may result in ejection from the game, at the umpire's discretion.
- 6) **If a player or coach is ejected from the game, he or she must leave the park - No Exceptions! If the player/coach does not leave after two minutes, the game will be forfeited by the team the player/coach represents.**
- 7) Any ejection of a player may follow with a suspension. This is left at the discretion of the Athletic Program Supervisor, Recreation Director and/or Sherriff Dept.
- 8) A total of two ejections of a player/coach will result in the player/coach receiving a minimum 4 game suspension. The probability of being suspended for the entire season may also be an option for discipline of the player/coach. 3rd Ejection, done for one calendar year!
- 9) Players must always follow all park rules. Any player who violates rules may be suspended from play and the team could forfeit games.
- 10) Any player who physically attacks an umpire in any way will be suspended from play at least one calendar year.

RULES

- 1) N.S.A. Rules shall govern all play and disputes other than those outlined in this booklet.
- 2) **Teams not ready to play when scheduled & lineup in will forfeit the game!! There will be a 10-minute grace period for the 6:00 game only. If first game is 6:30, no grace period.**
- 3) A coin toss will determine home team.
- 4) **Line-ups must be turned in to the scorekeeper before game time or before the previous game ends. Teams must be ready to play 10 min prior to game time!**
- 5) Once line-ups are turned in, they are official.
- 6) Line-up cards must be filled out with the player's first and last name, and shirt number.
- 7) Players are recommended to wear matching color shirts with a number on the back.

- 8) Metal spikes are not allowed.
- 9) No in-field or batting practice allowed before the game.
- 10) **Absolutely no players outside of dugout except 2 base coaches & on deck batter!! Play will not start until ALL PLAYERS ARE INSIDE DUGOUT!!**
- 11) No practice balls are allowed between innings after the first inning.
- 12) A game will consist of 7 innings of play. **Exception:** If after 5 innings of play, one team is ahead by 10 or more runs, the game will end (4½ innings if the home team is in the lead). The same rule applies with a 12run lead after 4 innings, a 15run lead after 3 innings and a 20-run lead after 2 innings of play.
- 13) N.S.A. Rules shall apply to all rainouts and official games.
- 14) When the batter steps up to bat, the count will be: 1 ball and 1 strike. **There will be no extra foul balls.**
- 15) Hats must be worn properly. **Courtesy runner, 1 per inning! Must be Last Batted Out!**
- 16) There will be a 1 hour, 10-minute time limit on all games. No inning will start after the time limit is up.
- 17) **200ft line in use for co-ed! Stay behind line until contact.**
- 18) **Teams can hit 12 players (using 2 extra hitters) for league play. Co-ed teams can hit 14 players (4 extra hitters, 2 men and 2 women).**
- 19) **If the previous game ends early we will start early!**
- 20) **Home run limits will apply: All leagues – 5 HR. Next HR over limit will end inning.**
- 21) **Pitching distance will be 53' - ball Arch 6-12.**
- 22) **Pitching Screen in use! Hit by ball = strike, 3rd strike out**
- 23) **Pitchers must “toe the rubber” while pitching**
- 24) **Teams attempting to intentionally prolong a game through obvious actions will receive one warning then may be subject to game forfeiture! It’s a mockery of the game!**
- 25) **HCPRD League Rules are in play first then all other NSA rules apply!**

EQUIPMENT

- 1) N.S.A. regulation softball bats are approved for this league. Baseball bats are not allowed. Wooden bats must be taped. Titanium bats are illegal. **All bats must be stamped “1.20 BPF” by the manufacturer.**
- 2) **All teams must hit Departments 44 core 400 comp. ball! Pitcher responsible for checking each ball entered in game! If ball is illegal, batter is out if before ball is put into play!**
- 3) Golf, metal or track spikes cannot be used. Rubber spikes or tennis shoes only will be allowed. A list of approved equipment can be found at www.playnsa.com.
- 4) **! All Bats Must be tested & stickered before use!**

PROTESTS

- 1) All official protests must be turned in to the Henderson County Parks and Recreation Department, located at the AAC Office, **in writing, within 24 hours** of the game being protested. The protesting team **must notify the umpires before the next pitch** about the protest. All protests must be accompanied by a **\$100 protest fee**. A receipt will be issued.
- 2) Proper protest procedure: Protests cannot be made on decisions involving the judgment of the umpire. Notification of protest must be made before the next pitch. Player eligibility can be protested any time during the game.
- 3) The umpires will notify the official scorekeeper and opposing manager of the protest.
- 4) The following should be included on the written protest:
 - a) Date, time and place
 - b) Name of the umpires, scorekeeper and teams playing
 - c) Rule section of NSA Rules/local rules being protested.
 - d) Reason for the protest – what happened
 - e) Any pertinent facts, signature, phone number

RAIN-OUT POLICY

- 1) A decision on rain-outs will be made between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. If it rains after 5:00 p.m., the decision will be made at game time.
- 2) **DO NOT CALL THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT GAME LINE UNTIL AFTER 3:00 p.m. on rainy days. Every effort will be made to play the games.**
- 3) Games may be played in the rain, if field conditions permit. Games will **not** be played with lightning in the area.
- 4) A recording will be made at the Recreation Department if games have been canceled. **ONLY THE TEAM REPRESENTATIVE SHALL CALL THE OFFICE!
ONLY ONE MEMBER FROM EACH TEAM SHALL CALL THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE FOR ANY SCHEDULE INFORMATION. THAT PERSON SHOULD CONTACT ALL TEAM MEMBERS.**
- 5) **If games are canceled, a recording will be played if you call 698-5101.**
- 6) **It will be the team representative's responsibility to notify his/her team of rainouts and any make-up games. The Recreation Department will not call team managers or individual players regarding these matters.**
- 7) Players are encouraged not to call the Recreation Department. Instead, they should call **698-5101 or team representative**. It overloads the phones when all the players call the Recreation Department.

Henderson County Parks & Recreation

708 South Grove Street

Hendersonville, NC 28792

Office (828) 697-4884 FAX 697-4886

www.hendersoncountync.gov/recreation

Game Cancellation Line 698-5101

League Supervisor:

Matt Russell, 697-4884

mrussell@hendersoncountync.gov

Softball Field Supervisor:

David Elmore, 674-6532

elmoredavid55@gmail.com

Check out:

www.carolinansa.com

For North Carolina NSA softball info

NSA Rulebook Available at <https://playnsa.com/rule-book/>