

Monticello Softball League Rules Summer/Fall 2019

League Manager contact info:

Leanne Holker

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Website for league info and standings: www.monticellocommunitycenter.com/leagues

Head Umpire: Gene Decker

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The unsportsmanlike conduct rule: This covers swearing at umpires, swearing at another team, players or managers, fake tags, flagrant throwing of the bat, intentionally bowling over a player or sliding into a base with the intent to injure. Violation of these rules will result in the following: 1st offense the player will be ejected. 2nd offense by the same player will result in that player as well as that manager being ejected. 3rd offense by the same player will result in suspension for the entire season. If a 3rd offense happens the player must also appear in front of all league managers to be able to play the following year. The umpires will have forms to be completed and signed by the player and manager. If either player or manager refuses to sign, neither will be allowed to play until the form is signed.
2. Foul language by a player or manager will not be tolerated. Any member of a team who does not follow this rule will be subject to discipline per USA Softball rule. Penalties may also be passed to a team if their fans are swearing at an umpire, player or manager. Remember there are children or people who may become offended so please watch your language.
3. XCEL BALLFIELDS ALCOHOL POLICY:
 - Drinking of alcoholic beverages in the dugout is allowed.
 - Absolutely no underage drinking is allowed! **Team managers let the league manager know if there are any players under 21 years old on their team.**
 - Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be tolerated and the Wright County Sheriff's office will be alerted if this situation arises.
 - NO kegs are allowed in the park at any time. Bottled or canned beer only.
 - NO hard liquor will be allowed. League participants will only be allowed beer, malted beverages or wine colors.
 - **League participants must remove their trash and recycle appropriately or face fines from the league. Unpaid fines may result in team suspension until fines are paid.**
 - *Consequences for Violation of Alcohol Policy:*
 1. The League Manager or approved substitute will alert the Wright County Sheriff's office for underage or excessive alcoholic drinking and that player may be suspended indefinitely from league play, at the discretion of the League Manager.
 2. If a player, team or fans of a team bring in unapproved alcoholic beverages, the team manager will be responsible for removing the beverages at the request of the League Manager or substitute.
 3. Teams that do not remove trash will be fined \$25 to their team account.

LEAGUE STARTUP

4. All entry fees must be paid a week before the anticipated start date of the league or your team will not be on the schedule.
5. The City of Monticello and the Monticello Community Center are not responsible for accidents. Play at your own risk.
6. Teams that do not pay fines will be reported to USA Softball and the players on that roster may be placed on suspension by USA Softball for an entire year or until the fine is paid. Teams having a suspended player on their roster may become ineligible for post-season play and may also be put on suspension.
7. Any team or players that issue a Non-Sufficient Funds check or cancels a check will pay a \$30.00 recovery fee to the Monticello Community Center.
8. On the first night of league, each team will receive the following (at no additional cost):_1 dozen certified softballs,_1 score book,_1 USA Softball rule book, a roster to be filled out and turned in by week 2

SCHEDULE

9. Teams will be notified of rainouts prior to game time. Decisions will be made by the City of Monticello. The team manager will be contacted by text message, e-mail or phone call by Leanne by **3:30 pm**. The league website will also be updated by 3:30 pm for weather related cancellations. (www.monticellocommunitycenter.com/leagues)

EQUIPMENT

10. **ILLEGAL BATS:** Any player found to have a banned, altered or illegal bat in their possession will be ejected for the night. A 2nd offense by the same player will result in suspension for the remainder of the season, including post-season. A list may be found on www.asasoftball.com
11. Teams will hit their own balls. Balls must be ASA/USA Softball certified .52/300 optic yellow.

GAME TIME

12. No inning of the 1st game will be started 55 minutes after the scheduled posted time. After that, no inning will be started after 55 minutes from the start time according to the umpire's time. If a game is tied after 55 minute time limit the game will end in a tie. **If a game is tied after 7 innings and it is before 55 minutes each team bats once with the last out of the prior inning starting on second. Each team will start with 1 out. If neither team scores, the team leaving most runners on base will win.** If tied, the game will end in a tie. Game time starts as soon as the umpire finishes his pre-game meeting. The umpire shall declare the start time at the conclusion of the pre-game meeting.
13. A grace period of 10 minutes will be given for the first game only for a team with 7 players. Once the 8th player arrives, the team must begin the game. The 10 minute grace period counts as part of your game time limit.

TEAMS & PLAYERS

14. Picking up players from other teams

Teams that have less than 10 players at game time may pick up players from other teams to make 10 players. If you have a roster player arriving late, they must be put in place for the picked up player(s).

The intent of the league is for teams to play with their rostered players as much as possible. But to avoid forfeits, teams are allowed to use players from other teams, within reason. If a team is picking up players often (at the discretion of the league manager), they will be penalized by the number of players they can pick up from other teams (Example: only picking up to 8 players instead of 10 players).

15. A team may start with 11 players and finish with as few as 8 players due to injury or illness with no penalty. If a player is ejected and there is not a replacement player available not already in the game, the team forfeits the game. Teams cannot pick up a player to replace an ejected player.
16. During post-season play only your team's rostered players will be allowed to play for your team.
17. Any team that forfeits a game due to lack of players or failure to show up will be fined \$33 for each game. This fine must be paid in full before the team can play its next game. Failure to pay fine before the next game will result in that game also being forfeit with fines assessed as well. The fine will be to cover the cost of the umpire. You may call the league manager ahead of time for help filling spots on your team. We do not want forfeits if at all possible.

THE GAME

18. **20-run rule after 4, 15-run rule after 5, 10-run rule after 6 innings.**
19. Home run rule- 2 with 1 up. Example if your team hits 2 then hits another it is an out until the opposing team either hits 2 or goes up by 1.
20. A courtesy runner must be declared before the game starts at the Ump/Captains meeting. If a player becomes injured during the game, it is up to the opposing team's manager to decide whether or not a courtesy runner will be allowed. In all cases, the runner will be the batter who made the last batted out. The batter must touch first base before the courtesy runner can take first.
21. **There will be no courtesy foul.**
22. The home team has the option to bat first.
23. Teams may bat as many roster players as they like. If a player is ejected, the team must have a non-batting roster player replace him or the game will be forfeited.
24. Strike zone mats will be used to mark the strike zone. If the pitched ball is of the required height and hits the mat, it is a strike. **The bottom of the ball must touch the mat to be a strike (i.e. the bottom of the ball touches dirt but the side of the ball overlaps the mat but does not touch the mat, it is a ball).**
25. Any rule not covered by the league rules will follow USA Softball rule.