

"2017" ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE INFORMATION / RULES

Dickinson Parks & Recreation (updated February 24, 2017)



Web Site: USASoftballIND.com

➤ **(MEN & WOMEN: Player Fee = \$48 / Sponsor Fee = \$170)**

(COED: Player Fee = \$35 / Sponsor Fee = \$120)

All fees MUST BE PAID IN FULL when team registration is submitted to DPRD or it WILL NOT be accepted!!! It is the Team Manager's responsibility to collect all fees ahead of time and submit them as one team registration. DO NOT tell players to stop at DPRD and pay.

➤ NO LATE REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM (Ryan D. Nelson – Recreation / Facilities Manager).

➤ Player **MUST BE AGE 16** by 1st day of DPRD league play (May 8, 2017). Players age 16 or 17 **MUST HAVE** written parental consent; parent must sign back side of USA roster form and in last column on the DPRD Information Sheet.

SUBMIT WITH REGISTRATION:

➤ DPRD SOFTBALL TEAM INFORMATION SHEET: Must be filled out completely!!! (Players: 12 min. / 20 max.) Male players may play on more than 1 team, but teams must not play on the same night.

➤ NORTH DAKOTA AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION Official Team Roster: (Players: 12 min. / 20 max.) Fill out all player information neatly. Manager must sign and date roster at bottom of page. Any player on more than one team's roster in the state must be listed on back side of roster. A team may have a maximum of 3 player's one class higher and still maintain their present classification.

IMPORTANT DATES:

2017 DPRD Softball Team Information Sheet DEADLINE: April 5, 2017 (By 5:00 p.m. @ DPRD Office). Must include all "Player Fees"!

USA ROSTER DEADLINE: May 15, 2017 (By 5:00 p.m. @ DPRD Office). USA roster changes after May 19th = \$5 handling fee.

MANDATORY MANAGER'S MEETING: May 1, 2017 @ WRCC (7:00 pm) THIS IS IMPORTANT!

Each team **MUST** have the manager or a player from their team in attendance at this meeting!

GAME SCHEDULES READY: May 1st (if not sooner) will be posted on DPRD website: www.dickinsonparks.org

DAYS OF LEAGUE PLAY: Women – Monday (+ 1 Wed.)

Coed – Monday

Men – Tuesday

Coed – Wednesday

Men – Thursday

1st Night: May 8 / No games May 29, July 3
(Must play games Wed, May 31)

1st Night: May 15 / No games May 29, July 3

1st Night: May 9 / No games July 4

1st Night: May 17 / No games May 31

1st Night: May 11

ROSTER CHANGE DEADLINE: June 15. All changes on your roster must be completed with DPRD by this time.

"COED CLASSIC" TOURNAMENT: Saturday, June 10, 2017 **DEADLINE:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017

NOTE: Entry Fee for this tournament must be paid for with a separate check! **DO NOT INCLUDE OTHER FEES!**

*Entry Form is available on our Website: www.dickinsonparks.org

"MILLER LITE" TOURNAMENT: Saturday & Sunday, July 8 - 9, 2017 **DEADLINE:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017

NOTE: Entry Fee for this tournament must be paid for with a separate check! **DO NOT INCLUDE OTHER FEES!**

*Entry Form is available on our Website: www.dickinsonparks.org

"LAST CHANCE" TOURNAMENT: Sunday, September 10, 2016 **DEADLINE:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017

NOTE: Entry Fee for this tournament must be paid for with a separate check! **DO NOT INCLUDE OTHER FEES!**

*Entry Form is available on our Website: www.dickinsonparks.org

STATE TOURNAMENTS: Entry Form listing State Tournaments is available on our Website: www.dickinsonparks.org

DEADLINE: Monday, June 26, 2017

NOTE: Entry Fee for this tournament must be paid for with a separate check! **DO NOT INCLUDE OTHER FEES!**

PLAYER PARTICIPATION:

- A player may be on an unlimited number of ASA rosters in the state. Any Men's or Women's player on more than one roster in the state **MUST BE LISTED** on the back side of each roster under additional teams (this may affect classification of any team the dual roster player in on).
- Men may play on 1 Tue., & 1 Thu. DPRD team. Women may play on 1 DPRD team. Coed players may play on 1 DPRD Coed team (in addition to the Men's / Women's teams). Player fee must be paid for each team you participate on.

LEAGUE STRUCTURE:

- **DPRD OFFICE HOURS:** Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
PHONE: 456-2074 WEBSITE: www.dickinsonparks.org E-MAIL: dprd@dickinsonparks.org
Location: 2004 Fairway Street (inside West River Community Center)
- Dickinson Parks & Recreation will not be held liable for stolen articles or damage to personal property that has occurred during the activity. Dickinson Parks & Recreation does not carry insurance for participants in any city sponsored programs, and will not be held liable for injuries that occurred during the activity.
- Roster addition or changes **MUST** be taken care of at the Recreation Office during normal business hours. **NO PLAYER IS ELIGIBLE TO PLAY UNTIL SIGNED UP ON THE LEGAL ROSTER & PAID IN FULL. This WILL NOT be accepted at the complex facilities.**
- **REFUNDS** (player fee and/or sponsor fee) will only be given prior to the registration deadline. Individual player fee refund may be given after that on a case by case situation. **Transfer of player fees from one player to another are not allowed after a team's 1st game.**
- **PRACTICE DIAMONDS:** Practice may begin at Gress Complex when frost leaves the ground (TBD by DPRD). All reservations must be made in person at DPRD office during normal business hours. Diamond reservation fees = \$10 per diamond. Monday-Friday @ 5:00-6:30 or 6:30-Dark. Saturday-Sunday @ 11:00-12:30, 12:30-2:00, 2:00-3:30, 3:30-5:00, 5:00-6:30, or 6:00-Dark. Reservations are on a 1st come – 1st serve basis. You will receive a reservation pass designating the diamond, date, and time. This pass takes precedent over anyone occupying the diamond without a reservation (they must vacate the diamond during your reserved time).
- **UNIFORMS:** Teams are required to have uniform shirts of matching color and style for league play. **An Arabic whole number (0-99) of contrasting color, or outlined in contrasting color, at least 6 inches high must be worn and visible on the back of all uniform shirts.** These must be worn whenever possible. Common sense must prevail based on weather conditions, unforeseen circumstances, etc.
- **NO GLASS CONTAINERS OF ANY TYPE ALLOWED ON THE COMPLEX PROPERTIES!**
- **NO SMOKING ON THE COMPLEX PROPERTIES!**
- **NO PARKING ON THE SIDES OF THE ENTRANCE ROAD! USE PROPER SPACES IN THE PARKING LOT!**
- All games are played at Gress Softball Complex (5th St & 8th Ave SW)
- League schedules and standings will be posted on DPRD website: www.dickinsonparks.org
- Men's / Women's teams will play an approx. 18 game schedule when possible (plus end of season tournament games). Coed teams will play an approx. 14 game schedule when possible (plus end of season tournament games).
- **Gress Softball complex accommodates a maximum of 24 teams per night.**
Men's Teams: Returning teams will have 1st choice for playing on same night. DPRD reserves the right to place any new team on Tuesday or Thursday; dependent upon number of teams registered.
- **LEAGUE PLAY:** Round Robin format. Teams may not play everybody the same number of times (depends on the number of teams in the league).
- **GAME TIMES:** 6:15 / 7:00 / 8:00 / 8:45
- Games will be scheduled as double headers when possible. 2nd game of double header WILL START immediately following the conclusion of the 1st game. We do not wait for the 7:00 or 8:45 start time for 2nd game of the double header.
- **LEAGUE PLAY** will determine seeding placement for league tournament play. Shuffling of teams from one league to another, as well as additional divisions, may take place to make for more competitive league tournament play. Tie-breaker: 1) Win-Loss Record; 2) Head-to-Head Record; 3) Least runs allowed of tied teams; 4) Run difference of all games played. (When 1 tie is broken, always revert back to head-to-head).
- **TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS** will receive T-Shirts. If tournament is cancelled due to weather, etc. and no make-up date is available; champion will be determined by highest seed remaining in the tournament.

- **RAIN-OUT POLICY:** In the event of threatening weather and it becomes questionable whether the games will be cancelled; a decision is not normally made until 4:30 pm at the earliest. When in doubt, assume the games will be played and report to your respective diamond. If at all possible; games will be held, as we do not have any dates available for re-scheduling games. If games are cancelled, DPRD will notify KDIX radio (1230 AM) and post on our website (www.dickinsonparks.org) if before 5:00 pm.
- **LIGHTNING POLICY:** This decision will be made by the Complex Coordinator. If lightning is viewed by the complex coordinator and he deems it to be in striking range, play will be suspended for a period of ½ hour. If another lightning strike is viewed within that ½ hour time frame, the ½ hour wait period starts over. If the delay extends us more than 40 minutes from the original stoppage of play, games are suspended for the evening. All personnel must vacate the playing diamonds to their vehicles.
- **PARTIALLY PLAYED GAMES:** For recording of league standings; any game in progress and suspended due to weather, etc. will be counted after 4 complete innings of play (3 ½ if home team is ahead). If suspended game is tied; it ends in a tie with no win/loss recorded.
- **CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED!!!** Please keep children under adult supervision at all times for their safety.
- **PLEASE clean up your team area prior to leaving the facility (pick up and place garbage, etc. in proper trash cans). Trash bags will be available at the complex office.**

PLAYING RULES:

Play shall be governed by current USA Softball of North Dakota rules with the exceptions listed below.

1. **NO DRINKING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND/OR SMOKING BY PLAYERS OR COACHES DURING THE PLAYING OF THEIR GAME! NO WARNING! PENALTY = Player(s) identified are ejected for remainder of the game + must serve a 1 game suspension and on probation remainder of season.**
2. **GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME! (Use cell phone for official time) If 1st game is a forfeit; team will have 15 minutes to field a team or 2nd game is a forfeit also! 2nd game will start as soon as 8th player arrives.** A team's 4th forfeit may eliminate the team and all roster players from further competition in the league, as well as all tournament play.
3. **60 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER GAME:** Time Limit starts with 1st warm-up pitch. No inning may start after 60 minutes of play unless score is tied. If home team is at bat and ahead @ 60 minutes, the game is ended at that point. Tied games must continue play to determine a winner.
4. **7 INNING GAME:** Team at bat is responsible for score card. At end of each ½ inning; give score card to umpire, who will then check the card and transfer to other team.
5. **EXTRA INNING RULE:** Starting with the top of the 8th inning, and each ½ inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective ½ inning being placed on 2nd base. A substitute or courtesy runner may be inserted for the runner.
6. **RUN AHEAD RULE:** 20 runs after 3 innings / 15 runs after 4 innings / 10 runs after 5 innings.
7. **TEAM HOME RUNS PER GAME: (4)** Excess home runs are outs. When a home run is hit you do not run the bases. Anyone on base goes directly to the dugout. **Team hitting the home run MUST retrieve the ball in a timely fashion or play will be stopped. If team does not retrieve the ball, the umpire shall declare a forfeit on that team!**
8. All at-bats start with a "1 Ball & 1 Strike" count. No courtesy foul ball.
9. **COURTESY RUNNER:** A courtesy runner is in the game when announced by the offensive team manager.
 - A. Any eligible player on the official line-up (roster) including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner.
 - B. One courtesy runner only may be used per inning. Exception: A courtesy runner may be replaced by another courtesy runner due to injury. Injured courtesy runner is done for that game!
 - C. A courtesy runner whose turn at bat comes while on base = team receives an out; courtesy runner is removed from the base and takes their turn at bat.
10. **SUBSTITUTION RULES:** Any player may re-enter the game 1 time. Player must re-enter in the same batting slot they were originally in. You cannot alter the batting order of the players. Defensive position is irrelevant to the substitution. All substitutions must be reported to the umpire immediately when they occur.
11. **NO PROTESTS!** The umpire's decision is final. You cannot question judgment calls! Any questions on a rule interpretation must be handled on the field at that time. The umpire will converse with each team manager only! You may ask the umpire on the nearest field for help or the complex coordinator (or call Ryan D. Nelson, Recreation/Facilities Manager @ 495-0025).

GAME WITH NO UMPIRE:

- A. Any diamond with no USA sanctioned umpire will be posted at the entrance to the complex.
- B. Will use a "STRIKE MAT". A rectangle 17" x 32.5" mat is used which includes the plate and the plate extension. Any legally pitched ball not swung at that lands on any part of the plate or mat will be ruled a strike. The shoulder to the knee strike zone has been eliminated.
- C. Team managers on that diamond must stop at the complex office to pick up the game equipment.
- D. Team at bat must supply a player(s) to umpire that ½ of the inning. If a team refuses to do this, said team will be issued a forfeit for that game.
- E. Teams may not have friends, spectators, etc. umpire the game (due to liability).
- F. It is the responsibility of both team's managers to return game equipment and score cards to the complex office immediately following the conclusion of the 2nd game.

LINE-UP ON SCORE CARD:

- A. **Team may start with 8 players.** Team must play at least 10 players whenever possible. Team must finish with at least 8 players. Outs are not given for the 9th or 10th vacant batting slots.
- B. **Team may bat up to 14 players** (available slots on the score card) with any 10 of those 14 playing defense at any time during the game. This does not have to be reported to the umpire as they are already in the line-up.
- C. **Once game has started, a team may add players at the bottom of the batting line-up as they show up** (14 player max.). This must be done as they show up (ex: a player cannot show up, sit for 2 innings, then decide to be added to the line-up – player would have to enter as a substitute). The player may enter the field for defense as soon as he is ready at any dead ball situation (this includes even between pitches). You do not have to wait until next batter or end of ½ inning.
- D. **If a team has at least 10 players batting;** they may keep 1 or more of their extra players out of the line-up to be used as a substitute later in the game.
- E. **If a player leaves or is injured and cannot continue play, and no substitute is available:** it IS NOT AN OUT in the batting order. Once a player leaves the game with no substitute available; said player cannot return to play later in the same game.
- F. IT IS AN OUT IF A PLAYER IS EJECTED AND NO SUBSTITUTE IS AVAILABLE!

COED RULE DIFFERENCES:

- 1. **Teams must use DPRD issued bats.** Teams cannot use their own bats.
- 2. **Men's ball will be used for all play.**
- 3. **Male & female must be alternated in the batting order.** Players may be added as they show up; up to 14 players max. @ 7 female / 7 male).
- 4. **Team may bat more females than males.** (Ex: 6 female/4 male = leave blank space for each absent male in the batting order) All 6 females and 4 males play the field.
- 5. **Team CANNOT bat more males than females.** (Ex: 4 females/6 males = leave blank space for each absent female in the batting order). The last 2 males in the batting order DO NOT get to bat. Any 5 of the 6 males may play the field; as 5 would normally be in the field. No advantage is gained defensively. If a 5th female shows up, she is inserted into the 1st female vacant slot. This would now allow the 5th male in the line-up to bat (the 6th male is still limited to defense only).
- 6. **A walk to a male batter will result in a two base award.** The next batter (a female) shall bat. Exception: With 2 outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.
- 7. **Defensive positioning is at each team's discretion.**

INVITATIONAL / STATE TOURNAMENT RULES: Differences from league rules are as follows:

- 1. Team must declare if they are batting 10 or 11 players. All other available players must be used as substitutes. If batting 11, any 10 of the 11 may play defense at any time during the game. This does not need to be reported to the umpire. All substitutions must be reported to the umpire immediately when they occur.
- 2. Team may start with 9 players. The vacant 10th batting spot is an out in the batting order. If a 10th player arrives, they may enter the game on the 1st dead ball situation. Any player arriving after this may play as a substitute.

3. If a team has no substitutes and a player is injured and cannot continue; the team may play one short if batting 10 or 11. If this happens and team started the game short-handed @ 9; the game is forfeited, as they are already playing one short.
4. If a team has no substitutes and a player is ejected; the game is forfeited.
5. **Home Runs:** C = 4 / D = 3 / R1, R2 = 2 / R3 = 1 / R4 = 0
6. **Invitational Tournament Rules:** A multi-roster player may play with only 1 team for the week-end. It is the player's choice which team to play with. Player does not have to play with the highest classified team. A player may only be picked up by his highest classification.
7. **Pick-up Players for Invitational Tournaments: (Coed Players Are NOT Eligible)** Teams may pick up players based on the level of tournament they are participating in (Ex: R3 team playing in an R2 tournament may pick up R2 & below players). Pick-up players allowed: (12 original = 0) (11 original = 1) (10 original = 2) (9 or less original = 3). **Pick-up players must wear their original team's uniform; not a uniform from the team picking them up!** The maximum number is 12 players if using any pick-up players.
8. **State Tournament Rules:** A multi-roster player must play with the highest classified team for state tournaments if they are on the same week-end. If the tournaments are on separate week-ends, the player may play in both state tournaments.
9. **Pick-up Players for State Tournaments: (Coed Players Are NOT Eligible)** (12 original = 0) (11 original = 1) (7, 8, 9 or 10 original = 2) **Pick-up players must wear their original team's uniform; not a uniform from the team picking them up!** **REQUIRED: Manager must secure a State Tournament Pick-up Player form signed by DPRD League Representative.**
10. **One Time Only Invitational Tournament Team:** Players from various ASA sanctioned teams may combine to play in an invitational tournament. Team must fill out an ASA roster – have league representative sign it – pay a one-time \$25 ASA sanction fee (attach this fee with the invitational tournament registration form/fee) and submit to the tournament by entry deadline. **Players must wear their own uniform of the highest class team roster they are on.**

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT:

All players are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times!!! This is a recreational program. The "Heat of the Moment" excuse is not acceptable. Listed below are DPRD Player Conduct Guidelines. This is not an all-inclusive list. Items and situations not listed will be ruled upon by the proper DPRD Program Supervisors.

1. NDASA enforces a "Casual Profanity Rule". Casual profanity pertains to expletives "Not Directed" at the umpires or opposing players; but most likely at the players uttering them as a vent to frustration. This type of profanity is penalized by "OUTS" being declared against the offensive or defensive team, whichever is guilty of the violation. The above "OUTS" will be treated on a delayed, dead ball situation.
2. Situations resulting in EJECTION include, but are not limited to:
 - A. Profanity directed at others, especially umpires.
 - B. Disrespectfully addressing or contacting an umpire or any other player.
 - C. Throwing of bat in disgust.
 - D. Arguing of Balls & Strikes.
 - E. Intentional running over of player in the base path.
 - F. Violation of DPRD Alcohol & Tobacco use rules.
3. **Any team found to be using an ineligible player will be penalized as follows:** (1) All games with ineligible player will be forfeited, (2) Team Manager and violating player will be suspended for 2 games, (3) Team will be on probation remainder of season, (4) Any further infractions may subject player and/or team to suspension for remainder of season
4. All above mentioned actions are minimum penalties. DPRD reserves the right to impose more stringent penalties based on the severity of each individual action.
5. **PLAYER EJECTION:** The ejected player is suspended for the remainder of the night. In addition, the player is also suspended for the next two (2) games played by this team, whether it is a tournament game(s) or league game(s). During this suspension, the ejected player cannot be a pick-up player for any league or tournament games before the suspension has been fulfilled. If the ejection occurs during tournament play, the player is suspended from the game the ejection took place plus the next two games played in the tournament if it applies, or for their next two games whether it is a tournament game(s) or league game(s). If the player is a pick-up player, they must sit out the next two games played by this team in the tournament if it applies. If not, they must sit out their next two games whether it is a tournament game(s) or league game(s) for the team being represented as a pick-up player.
6. **EJECTION IN LAST GAME OF SEASON:** If the ejection is in the last game of the season, the suspension will carry over to (next team player is on if dual roster player) the next DPRD adult program the suspended player participates in.