

**LIVONIA PARKS AND RECREATION
SUMMER 2025
LEAGUE RULES**

I. ROSTER

- a. A minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 25 players.
- b. A player shall be considered eligible to participate when they have completed the following:
 - i. Provide their first and last name, address, date of birth, and email to the league coordinator through the Livonia Parks and Recreation website roster submission form by noon the day before their scheduled game.
 - ii. Electronically signed the waiver
- c. All rosters will be locked on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at noon.
 - i. Once past this date, each team will be allowed a maximum of three additions to their rosters.
 - ii. The added players must complete the appropriate paperwork through the Athletic Coordinator by noon the day of the game to be eligible for the night.
 - iii. The added players will be eligible for the playoff bracket.
 - iv. Added players do not count towards the team maximum of 25 players.
- d. Prior to participating in any game, all participants must check-in with the Parks and Recreation Staff member on-site at the diamond.

II. ELIGIBILITY

- a. Participants must be 18 years of age or older as of April 27, 2025 & not enrolled in high school.
- b. To be eligible, all players must have completed the roster form prior to playing.
 - i. They shall receive a confirmation email upon completion of the roster form. Participants should hang onto that email until they see their name on the printed roster.
- c. All participants must have a valid photo ID with them while participating in the Adult Softball League.
 - i. If a participant is asked to produce identification and is unable to do so, they will be declared an ineligible player, and the game will be declared an immediate forfeit.
- d. Managers: If your team or any of your players are playing in more than one league, it is your responsibility to determine eligibility.
- e. No player is eligible to play on more than one softball team in the same division run by Livonia Parks and Recreation.
 - i. Any player(s) found in violation will have all games said player(s) participated in will be forfeited for the team involved.
 - ii. Additionally, the player will receive a minimum of a three-game suspension and will not be eligible for any championship night/playoff bracket games their original team qualifies for.
 - iii. The managers for all teams involved with the said player(s) shall receive a minimum of a one-game suspension.
- f. If a team manager or coach wishes to protest an individual's eligibility, they must bring it to the attention of the Athletic Supervisor as soon as possible before, during, or immediately following the game.
 - i. The team must complete the protest the night of the game and within five minutes of completion of their team's game.

1. Once the five minutes have past, the protest is no longer valid.
 - ii. If the protest occurs during the game, the team protesting must call time to make the protest or make the protest between innings half time.
 - iii. The player in question must produce photo identification. If the player is found to be an ineligible player, the game will be immediately forfeited.
- g. **Livonia Parks and Recreation reserves the right to make decisions it feels are in the league's best interest.**

III. GENERAL SOFTBALL RULES

- a. USA Softball Rules apply except where modified by the Department of Parks & Recreation.
- b. No new inning shall begin after 65 minutes from the first pitch.**
- c. Home team shall occupy the 3rd base side of all fields.
- d. Metal spikes will not be allowed. If a player is wearing metal spikes it will be brought to the umpire's attention and the umpire will ask the player to remove the illegal equipment.
 - i. If the player refuses, they will be removed from the game.
- e. No batting practice on the infield fifteen (15) minutes before the game time.
- f. All at-bats shall start with one ball and one strike count.
- g. Each batter shall receive one courtesy foul ball with two strikes.
- h. Each team is permitted over the fence five home runs per game.**
 - i. Once a team goes over five over the fence home runs, an out shall automatically be recorded and the runners stay on the same base unless the home run was the final out of the inning.**
 - ii. A team may have as many in-the-park home runs as possible.**
- i. Games will be considered complete after 4½ innings (home team leading) or five innings (visiting team-leading), if called by the umpire due to an unforeseen event/weather or other unsafe playing conditions.
 - i. Games not considered complete will be played over from the beginning. No suspended rules.
 - ii. If after five innings, the home team has not completed their turn at bat or gone ahead in their half of the inning, the game will be considered complete and the official score will revert to the score at the end of the last complete inning if discontinued due to an unforeseen event/weather or other unsafe playing conditions.
 - iii. If the home team is at bat and they are leading when the game is discontinued and considered complete (after 4½ innings) the current score will be official even though the inning may not be completed.
- j. Boundaries of the field are described as a line extending from the end posts of the backstop parallel to the baseline an infinite distance.
- k. Only rostered players, coaches, and team managers may coach on the bases or take part in regularly scheduled games in any manner.
- l. Team benches shall be occupied by the manager, coaches, players, one scorekeeper, and one bat person.
- m. Tie games will not be replayed (two points for a win and one point for a tie).
- n. Games may be called off at the site in case inclement conditions make it necessary.
 - i. The responsibility of calling the game rests with the two (2) managers until the game begins.
 - ii. However, if in the opinion of the umpire(s) and the Athletic Supervisors the game is playable, they may overrule the two (2) managers and the game will either be played or result in a double forfeit.

- iii. In case of disagreement prior to the game beginning, the official(s) shall decide.

IV. GAMEPLAY RULES

- a. **Each batter will start their turn at the plate with a one ball and one strike count and will be allowed one foul ball on the third strike.**
- b. The pitching distance for adult slow-pitch softball will be 50 feet. The base distance will be 65 feet.
- c. The Mercy Rule will be in effect if a team is leading by 20 or more after 3 innings; 15 or more runs after 4 innings and 10 or more runs after 5 innings will be in effect.
- d. A courtesy runner may be used at any time during the game. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the last out in the game.
 - i. If a courtesy runner is used before an out is made to start a game, then the last batter in the lineup becomes the courtesy runner.
 - ii. If a courtesy runner is used in coed, a female runner must be replaced with the female that made the last out or the last female in the lineup if an out has not been made in the game yet.
 - iii. If a courtesy runner is used incorrectly and the opposing team brings it to the umpire's attention after the next batter takes his/her position in the batter's box and before the courtesy runner has scored or been put out then the courtesy runner will be declared out, otherwise the courtesy runner will be declared legal.
- e. Any bat may be used as specified by USA Softball (go to <https://www.usasoftball.com/> and click on certified equipment).
 - i. A list of illegal bats will be posted prior to the beginning of the season on the Livonia website. These bats are not eligible for the entire season.
- f. Any batted ball hit up the middle in the direction of the pitcher is a live ball.
 - i. Exception: If, in the opinion of the umpire, the pitcher does not have ample time to make a play on the ball, move for safety purposes, or intent was involved, the batter may be called out.
- g. Base runners on 1st and 3rd bases must have at least one foot on the base prior to the pitch being contacted.
- h. Stealing and leading off are not allowed in any Parks & Recreation Adult Softball League
- i. **Teams must have a minimum of 9 players to start and end a game.**
 - i. **Before the first pitch is thrown, each team must announce the number of players they are batting in their lineup to the opposing team and the umpire.**
 - ii. **Once the first pitch of the game is thrown, the line-up is locked and any players not in the lineup will be considered substitutes and must follow the substitution rules as stated in these rules listed below.**
 - iii. For anyone who is not present when their spot in the lineup comes up, they shall be declared out.
 - 1. **Example 1:** The visiting team announces they will be batting 10 players, with the 10th player still coming to the facility. The top of the 2nd inning, it is the 10th players position in the lineup to bat, but they are not present. They will be declared out.
 - 2. **Example 2:** The visiting team announces they will be batting 9 players with two players still coming to the facility. Both players arrive in the bottom of the first inning and are then considered substitutes.
- j. Substitution and Extra Players

- i. Each team will be allowed to use unlimited extra players (EPs) provided they are listed in the batting order by the time the first pitch is thrown.
 1. Any extra players (EPs) shall be considered starting players.
 2. If a player is not listed in the batting order at the time of the first pitch, they shall be considered a substitute.
 3. The EP's can play any of the ten (10) defensive positions in the field if desired.
- ii. A starting player is defined as a player listed in the batting order at the time of the first pitch of the game.
- iii. A substitute player is defined as player who is rostered, but not listed in the starting batting order at the time of the first pitch.
- iv. Each player may reenter the game once, regardless of starting player or substitute player status.
 1. A starting player is considered to have entered the game when they are listed in the starting batting order upon the first pitch being thrown.
 2. A substitute player is considered to have entered the game when they enter the game either in the batting order or a defensive position for a starting player.
 - a. The substitute player must occupy the same spot in the batting order as the starting player they are entering for
 3. The starting player can reenter the game once, but it must be for the substitute player and take their assigned spot in the batting order.
 4. The substitute player can reenter the game once, but it must be for the same starting player they replaced earlier and must occupy the same batting order position.
 5. Once the substitute player reenters for the starting player, the starting player is no longer eligible to return and is considered an ineligible player for the remainder of the game.
 6. **Example:**
 - a. The starting 5th batter enters the game upon first pitch being thrown.
 - b. The starting 5th batter is substituted in the second inning with the substitute entering the game occupying the 5th batting order spot.
 - c. The starting 5th batter reenters the game in the fourth inning in the same batting order position (5th) and is no longer eligible to reenter, but is eligible to be substituted for. The substitute player returns to the bench.
 - d. The substitute player reenters in the fifth inning for the starting 5th batter and occupies the same batting order position (5th).
 - e. The starting 5th batter leaves the game, is no longer eligible to return, and is an ineligible player for the remainder of the game.
- v. Teams must end the game with the same number of players in the lineup as they started with.
 1. **Exception:** If a player(s) is out of the game for any reason other than ejection, they can continue the game if they have nine players field & batting.
- vi. All players that leave the game (other than ejection) will result in an out when it is their turn to bat.
 1. **Exception: If a team's starting pitcher is injured and unable to continue due to said injury, their team is allowed to continue with the pitcher's spot in the batting order NOT counting as an out provided that team does not have any eligible substitutes remaining.**
 - a. For this rule to be in effect, the following conditions must be met:

- i. **The team must have used all eligible substitutes and have no eligible substitutes left to replace the starting pitcher with.**
 - ii. **They have at least nine players to continue the game.**
 - b. **This rule applies only to the starting pitcher.**
- vii. If an injury occurs when a team has nine players and the player cannot continue, the game is a forfeit.
- viii. If a player is ejected by an umpire and the team does not have an eligible substitute, the game is a forfeit.
 - 1. **Example:** A team has 14 players at a game and bat all 14. During the game a player is ejected by the umpire. The game is a forfeit due to the team not having a legal substitute to replace the ejected player.

V. COED MODIFICATIONS

- a. All coed teams must have their lineup alternate genders and can bat an unequal number of each gender.
 - i. **Example: a team can bat 6 females and 4 males, but will only be allowed to play 9 defensive players.**
- b. If the same gender bats consecutively, an out will be declared between every two batters of the same gender.
- c. Teams must field an equal amount of each gender in the field if playing with 10 defensive players.
 - i. If a team is playing with nine defensive players, it can be five to four of either gender.
 - ii. The pitcher and catcher fields position must be occupied by a male and a female.
 - iii. The infield and outfield positions must be occupied by an even number of males and females: 2 male and 2 females in the infield, 2 males and 2 females in the outfield.

VI. POST-SEASON SCHEDULE

It is our hope that each league will be able to have a playoff bracket at the conclusion of the season. Depending upon the league, not all teams may qualify for the playoff bracket.

Depending upon the number of rainouts, rescheduling, and/or additional restrictions that could occur, the playoff bracket may be canceled to finish the regular season. Any team who forfeits through a no call, no show is automatically ineligible for any playoff bracket. The seeding for championship night and any playoff bracket will be determined by the following factors:

1. Overall Record
2. Head-to-Head Matchup**
3. Run differential in games between the two teams
4. Run differential for the entire season
5. Coin flip with team representatives.

If there is a three plus team tie in head-to-head matchups, seeding shall go directly to point different for the entire season.

1. Example:
 - a. Team A beat Team B 20-10, and lost to Team C 5-10.
 - i. Overall point differential = +5
 - b. Team B lost to Team A 10-20, and beat Team C 20-0.
 - i. Overall point differential = +10
 - c. Team C beat Team A 10-5, lost to Team B 0-20.

- i. Overall point differential = -15
- d. Since all three teams are tied at 1-1, have lost to one team, and beaten the other, the seeding shall be based on the overall point differential for the entire season.
- e. Final Seeding
 - i. Team B then Team A then Team C

All players on position night, championship night and/or the playoff bracket must have all eligible players check-in at the table with the Parks and Recreation Staff with valid photo identification the night of their scheduled game. If a player does not have photo identification and/or is not listed on the roster, they are unable to check in for the game and are an ineligible player for that game.

VII. ALL COMPETITIVE SPORTS

- a. No alcohol, including beer, is allowed in any City of Livonia Park, Facility, or any Livonia Parks and Recreation Athletic Programming
- b. Parks and Recreation Staff have the right and ability to eject players if they see fit based on the conduct of the players and/or team manager.**
 - a. Players may be ejected from any game for, but not limited to:**
 - i. Foul language directed towards Parks and Recreation staff member(s), official/referee/umpire, opposing team member, spectator, or patron.**
 - ii. Face-to-face confrontation with any Parks and Recreation staff member(s), official/referee/umpire, opposing team member, spectator, or patron.**
- c. Teams which are found to have one or more ineligible players shall forfeit all games in which an ineligible player has participated.
- d. Any team forfeiting two (2) game dates in succession or three (3) game dates during the season will be automatically dropped from the league for the remainder of the season.
- e. Any protest regarding eligibility must be made the night of the game in question.
- f. No team shall be allowed to add players to its roster after the final roster date.
- g. Only the participants listed on the paper roster after the final roster date are eligible for participation in the Summer 2025 Adult Softball League.
- h. It will be the manager's responsibility to check the rosters, contracts, and fees recorded for his team prior to the FINAL ROSTER DATE.
- i. No player shall appear on the line-up unless their name is on the team roster.
- j. Each team shall be allowed one manager and two coaches.
 - i. Said manager and coaches must be acknowledged on the rosters with the Department of Parks and Recreation.
 - ii. Any change in managership or coaches of a team must be filed in the Department of Parks and Recreation Office, presenting the name, address, phone number, and email of the new manager/coach before the next scheduled game.
- k. Managers are responsible for the following:
 - i. Player eligibility and team rosters
 - ii. Payment of umpire/official/referee fees
 - iii. Appearance and conduct of players in and around the playing area. This includes any spectators and crowds.
 - iv. Failure to manage the above responsibilities may result in forfeiture of the game and if situation warrants, expulsion from the league.
 - v. In case of injury of any member of his/her team, the manager shall be responsible for any evidence or records demanded by the Department of Parks and Recreation

- l. Only team captains and managers may discuss decisions with the official(s) unless the official(s) call others into the discussion.
- m. Any manager, coach or player ejected from a game shall automatically be suspended from the next official game and is required to remove themselves from sight and sound of the facility within three minutes.
 - i. If the offense warrants, the individual may be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- n. Any player serving a suspension is ineligible to participate in all Livonia Athletic leagues or programs until their suspension is complete.
- o. A player suspended may not be in the facility during his/her team's games or attend any of the league night's games until suspension is complete.
 - i. Failure to comply will result in a one (1) year suspension from all sports.
- p. The second ejection within a four month-period from the first ejection of a player, manager, or coach, from a game shall automatically result in a minimum of a three-game suspension from the date of the second ejection.
- q. The third ejection within a four month-period of the first ejection a player, manager, or coach, from a game shall automatically result in a minimum of a six-week suspension from the date of the third ejection.
- r. Before, during or after a game, players in uniform, or civilian clothes, shall refrain from abusive language or actions, smoking, fighting, or other unsportsmanlike conduct.
- s. Alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance is **NOT** allowed in the parks at any time.
- t. Any manager, coach, or player who, in the opinion of the official(s) is guilty of being the instigator of a fight shall be banned from all Parks & Recreation Adult Leagues for the remainder of the season.
- u. Any manager, coach, or player, guilty of touching, pushing, or other physical contact with an official shall be banned from athletic programs sponsored by the Livonia Parks & Recreation Department.
- v. The Department of Parks and Recreation may exclude any player, manager, coach, or team from the league for abusive language on diamonds, facilities, or continued violation of any rule or regulation governing this league.

VIII. PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS

All teams will pay officials on the site. Each official will receive \$40 per game with each team paying half **before** the start of each game. Officials are paid in **full** for all games started and all games forfeited regardless of outcome.

If you forfeit a game, it is your responsibility to see that the official(s) have been paid in full prior to the start of your next game. Failure to do so could result in suspension from further play. If you have any questions, feel free to call us at (734) 466-2900.

If you are aware that your team is going to forfeit a game and you notify the Parks and Recreation Department at least 3 working days prior to the forfeit we will make every effort to relieve the forfeiting team of sports official fee obligations for that game.

If you know your team will not be playing in your scheduled game, you must contact the Athletic Coordinator by noon the day of the game to remain eligible for the playoff bracket.

Your team is still responsible for the official's fees for that game. If your team forfeits through a no call, no show or contacts the athletic coordinator after noon the day of the game, your team is automatically ineligible for any playoff bracket. If the game is rained out, the forfeit will be nullified and the game will be made up.

IX. CANCELLATION FEES

- a. Council resolution CR#359-93 requires teams to provide acceptable justification for such cancellation in writing, at least 14 days prior to their first scheduled game.
- b. The processing charge shall be established at 30% of the adult entry fee and the balance refunded to the designated team official.

X. SCHEDULES & STANDINGS

- a. All games will be scheduled by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- b. Game time is forfeit time. Teams must be ready to play and have the minimum number of players present by the time the game is scheduled.
- c. The home team is responsible for keeping the official score.
- d. Teams can access their schedules and updated standings online through the individual league portal. Follow the below instructions:
 - i. Access the website: www.LivoniaParks.org
 - ii. Click on "Athletics"
 - iii. Click on "Softball"
 - iv. Under League Standings section, find the appropriate league and click on the link.

XI. RAINOUTS

- a. **Livonia Parks & Recreation Staff will update teams no later than 4:30 pm if games are cancelled for the night.**
 - i. **The rainout number is (734) 466-2299**
 - ii. If teams have not received notification by 4:30 pm, they should come ready to play at their schedule game time.
 - iii. If games are cancelled after 4:30 pm, the rainout number will be updated.
 1. Livonia Parks & Recreation will do their best to update team managers as soon as possible if any cancellations are made on-site.
- b. Team Managers will be emailed when the rescheduled games have been made public.
 - i. All schedules will be found on the softball page of the Athletics Webpage.
 - ii. Games rained out Monday-Wednesday will generally be made up that weekend.
 - iii. Games rained out Thursday-Friday will generally be made up the following weekend.

List of current probationary and suspended players and teams

<u>Player</u>	<u>Date of probation</u>		<u>*Date of suspension</u>	
Jim Beumel	N/A		9-5-97	indefinite
Scott Carlton	7/22/16	one year	7/22/16	
John Carney	1-31-07	indefinite	N/A	
Scott Craver	9-1-11	indefinite	N/A	
Paul Dreiman	N/A		6-12-97	indefinite
Ken Dzczyпка	N/A		1-31-07	indefinite
Mike Fierk	7/16/14	indefinite	N/A	
Greg Gorski	N/A		6-20-02	indefinite
Allie Hamood	3-4-04	indefinite	N/A	
Alan Harajli	N/A		1-31-03	indefinite
Allen Jawad	3-5-04	indefinite	N/A	
Joe Kelly	N/A		6-20-02	indefinite
Rich Kendra	N/A		5-9-14	indefinite
Jerome Potvin	N/A		6-25-01	indefinite
Bob Rahal	3-5-04	indefinite	N/A	
Dan Rahal	N/A		3-5-04	indefinite
Ron Rahal	N/A		3-5-04	indefinite
Darian Richardson	3-4-04	indefinite	N/A	
Jamal Saad	N/A		3-5-04	indefinite
Marc Salah	2-14-03	indefinite	N/A	
Michael Thompson	2-14-03	indefinite	N/A	
Chris Yates	2-8-07	indefinite	N/A	
Todd Hoffmeyer	N/A		9-21-21	indefinite
Grateful Meds Team	N/A		9-21-21	indefinite

*Currently suspended players are not allowed to be on any Parks & Recreation roster.

In case of serious injury, please contact Livonia Parks and Recreation at 734-466-2900.