

**CITY OF SPARKS  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
2020 SUNDAY FAMILY SOFTBALL RULES**

1. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages may be brought into the complexes.
2. No profanity, regardless of who it is directed at. If the official can hear it, an ejection will follow.
3. No arguing with the officials. Disagreements must be handled through team managers and when the decision is explained that's the end of it. No arguing balls and strikes. This may result in an automatic ejection.
4. No harassing the opposition, although cheering for your team is encouraged.
5. Any fighting or shoving between players will result in an immediate ejection from the premises and possibly for the season.
6. Sliding will be allowed at all bases, but is not encouraged for those who do not know how to slide.
7. No bunting.
8. No lead-offs or stealing.
9. No outfielder is allowed to enter the commit area before the ball is hit.
10. No new inning after one hour and 5 minutes, or 7 innings. If one team is ahead by 15 or more runs after 5 innings, the game will be called.
11. No steel cleats. NO EXCEPTIONS!
12. Teams may start with 9 players and must add a tenth at the earliest opportunity.
13. Commit line will be used at home plate. Do not touch home plate to avoid collisions. If you touch home plate you will be called out.
14. No spectators in dugouts, bat kids are NOT allowed, only rostered players are allowed in the dugout for safety reasons.
15. No new players will be allowed on any team after the roster has been turned in unless the manager can show a just cause and receives permission from the league director.
16. Minimum age for players is 14 years old. If under 18 a parent or guardian must sign the roster.
17. Games will be at 5:20, 6:30, 7:40 and 8:50 p.m. If a team is short player(s) and cannot take the field, the official will start the game clock and award 2 runs to the ready team. If after 5 minutes the team is still unable to take the field, the game is a forfeit. The decision of the umpire is final on this issue. If two teams are unable to take the field on time the same procedure is followed but no points are awarded until one team has 9 players, at the end of 5 minutes where no team can take the field, a double forfeit is called with both teams taking a loss. When scheduled times are delayed, the umpire declares the field ready for play which is now the new "scheduled" game time.

18. Everyone will use a yellow 12” softball. Each team is to bring one new ball to each game and give it to the umpire. Balls will be distributed with schedules.
19. Two extra players may be added to the batting order the first must be a female, and the second a male.
20. If a male is walked and the next batter is a female, the female batter must hit if there is less than 2 outs, male goes to second base. If two outs, female batter has the option to walk or hit, male continues to second base.
21. Minimum of 3 female players per team or the opposing team is awarded 2 runs per inning. Minimum of 2 females on a team or the game is a forfeit.
22. Unlimited free substitution is allowed. If only defensive positions are changed the batting order stays the same. No changes are allowed while in the field, except for an injured player.
23. In regards to males and females, there is no specific batting order or defensive positions required. The City of Sparks recommends a man be placed at pitcher due to balls being hit back so quickly.
24. This league will follow coed rules found in the City of Sparks rule book with the preceding rules listed on this sheet being the exceptions.
25. All other playing rules are covered in the City of Sparks league rules and 2020 USA Softball rule book.
26. **Use of an illegal bat listed on the ASA banned bat list, or a bat that has been altered or is not recognizable because name/description have been removed will result in a minimum 30-DAY suspension from ALL USA Softball play as well as a 2-game suspension of the coach/manager responsible for the team. Violators will be immediately ejected from the game, if no substitute is available the game will be a forfeit.**
27. **All batters will begin each at bat with a 1 and 1 count. This means that the batter will have 1 ball and 1 strike when they enter the batters box. There is no extra foul ball with 2 strikes.**
28. **Pitchers may pitch from the pitching rubber to back 6 feet of the rubber all other pitching rules apply.**
29. **Pitching height has been changed to 6 ft min. to 10 ft. max.**
30. **Bases are now 70 feet per USA Softball rules.**

Fields 1 through 4 are at Shadow Mountain Sports Complex, adjacent to Reed High School, and fields 10 through 15 at Golden Eagle Regional Park, so please pay close attention to your field location when reading your schedule. If you have any questions, please call 353-2385.