



City of Hastings  
Parks & Recreation Department

## LEAGUE DIRECTOR & GENERAL LEAGUE INFORMATION

### LEAGUE DIRECTOR

1. Phil Vargas, Sports & Recreation Coordinator
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### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. General league information including schedules, standings, and tournament brackets is available on our website at [www.hastingsmn.gov/athletics](http://www.hastingsmn.gov/athletics)

## MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITIES

### COMMUNICATE

1. It is the responsibility of each manager to maintain regular communication with the League Director for league information, cancellations, rescheduling of games, tournament brackets, rulings, and standings
2. Managers are responsible for being the one voice that communicates any questions, feedback, or notification to the league director, league staff, and umpires

### MANAGE YOUR PLAYERS

1. Managers are responsible for the behavior and action of their players, coaches, and spectators
2. Lead your team by setting a good example of sportsmanship and respect for your opponent and umpires

### MANAGE YOUR ROSTER

1. Turn in a completed roster prior to your first game at the Parks & Recreation Office or concession stand at Vet's
2. Familiarize yourself with our roster rules and regulations and manage your roster accordingly

### KNOW THE LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Knowing and understanding the league rules & regulations is crucial to your team's success and enjoyment of the league

## PLAYING RULES & REGULATIONS

1. All league rules are governed and interpreted by the league director and/or game umpires
2. Play will be governed by official USA Softball Slow Pitch Rules and City of Hastings League Rules & Regulations
  - a. General rules of play not outlined here can be found in the current USA Guide and Playing Rules
3. The Hastings Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to modify/change, add, or remove rules or regulations during the season; all team managers will be notified if a rule(s) are changed

## **RULE & REGULATION 1: GAME CANCELLATIONS**

1. The Hastings Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to adjust league format during the season
  - a. Unavoidable game cancellations related to weather, field conditions, and other factors will be rescheduled unless there are prior facility conflicts
  - b. Make-up games are not guaranteed to be made up and may be played on a night different than that of your league
  - c. Decision on game cancellations will be made by 4:30 p.m., information can be obtained by calling the weather line at (651) 480-2392 or by signing up for an automatic texting service by texting the keyword CITYFIELDS to 888777

## **RULE & REGULATION 2: LEAGUE STANDINGS**

1. Standings will be available at [www.hastingsmn.gov/athletics](http://www.hastingsmn.gov/athletics)
2. All teams will be seeded for the tournament based on their regular season record, in the event of identical records the following tie breaker system will be used:
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> tie breaker ..... Head to head record if only two teams
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> tie breaker ..... Better run differential in head to head games if only two teams
  - c. 3<sup>rd</sup> tie breaker ..... Better run differential in all regular season games
  - d. 4<sup>th</sup> tie breaker ..... Better runs for in all regular season games
  - e. 5<sup>th</sup> tie breaker ..... Better runs against in all regular season games
  - f. 6<sup>th</sup> tie breaker ..... Coin flip

## **RULE & REGULATION 3: PARTICIPANT CONDUCT & EJECTIONS**

1. Hastings Parks & Recreation Staff or the game umpire have the authority to issue a forfeit to any game, eject players, captains or fans without warning
2. Managers are responsible for the behavior and actions of their players and coaches
3. Ejection Types
  - a. Behavioral
    - i. Behavioral ejections require players to leave the game and the park and serve an additional one (1) game suspension unless instructed otherwise by the umpire who warranted the ejection.
  - b. Administrative
    - i. Administration ejections require players to leave the game but not the park. The player may continue playing in any remaining games yet to be played for the evening.
4. The Code of Conduct (found at the end of these rules) will govern incidents and occurrences related to ejections

## **RULE & REGULATION 4: ALCOHOL & TOBACCO**

1. Any player bringing any tobacco product or alcohol beverage onto the field of play will be automatically ejected, any argument may lead to further penalty
2. If an umpire feels a player has become intoxicated to the point they are belligerent or a safety hazard to themselves or others the player may be removed from the game
3. City Ordinance prohibits the use of tobacco at any park or outdoor recreation facility
4. City Ordinance prohibits the use of glass containers at any park or outdoor recreation facility

## **RULE & REGULATION 5: EQUIPMENT, FIELD, & BENCHES**

1. Game balls will be distributed to all teams during the first week of game play. Teams will then be responsible for providing the ball(s) used while their team is on offense. Any .52/300 USA Softball approved softball may be used.
2. Only USA certified bats will be allowed, visit [www.teamusa.org](http://www.teamusa.org) for information on legal bats
3. Only players, coaches, and staff are allowed on the benches

## **RULE & REGULATION 6: TEAM ROSTERS**

1. Players must be at least sixteen (16) years old prior to the start of the season, players under eighteen (18) years old must have a guardian sign the roster
2. Each team roster is to be submitted prior to the start of the team's first regular season game, teams must have between a minimum of ten (10) players and a maximum of twenty (20) players on its roster
3. A team may add players until the completion of half of the regular season
  - a. Teams wanting to add additional players after the deadline will need permission from the league director
  - b. No player additions will be allowed during the tournament, all players must be listed on the roster by the last night of the regular season
4. Roster changes must be done on the existing roster, rosters are kept at the concession stand
5. Players may not be on more than one (1) roster on the same league night
6. All players must sign the roster which also serves as a waiver
7. All players must carry a photo ID

## **RULE & REGULATION 7: ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

\*Please keep in mind that during regular season games our league prefers to play over forfeiting, if you feel a team is consistently using non-rostered players please contact the league director.\*

1. Hastings Parks & Recreation Staff reserve the right to check player eligibility at any time
2. Teams that are short players must have all non-rostered subs approved by the opposing team manager before the game begins; failure to do so may result in forfeit; the umpire needs to be present during this non-rostered player agreement
  - a. If the non-rostered subs are not approved by the opposing team manager the game will result in a forfeit unless the team is able to field a minimum of eight (8) or more rostered players
3. If you believe the opposing team is using non-rostered did not notify you of using non-rostered players before the game an eligibility protest can be made; eligibility protests must be made prior to the players second (2<sup>nd</sup>) at bat
4. A team manager may request an eligibility protest of any player during a regular season game or tournament game
  - a. During a regular season game, the player protested will provide the umpire with his/her full name; the game will continue under protest, a decision on the players eligibility will be made when the umpire contacts the League Director with the name of the player protested
  - b. During a tournament game, the game will stop immediately, the player protested will provide Hastings Parks & Recreation Staff with his/her name, a decision on the players eligibility will be made before the game continues
5. A player is ineligible if; the player's name does not appear on the roster, the player does not meet the age requirements or the player appears on more than one (1) roster on the same league night
6. Penalty for using an ineligible player results in ejection of the ineligible player and the team using the ineligible player forfeits the game, a team repeatedly using an ineligible player may be removed from the league

## **RULE & REGULATION 8: REGULATION GAME & FORFEITS**

1. Games will be seven (7) innings long
  - a. No new inning will start after fifty five (55) minutes, including tournament games
2. If the game is tied at the end of seven (7) innings and the time limit has not expired additional innings may be played
  - a. Additional innings will be used during tournament play until there is a winner
3. Game time is forfeit time
  - a. A ten (10) minute grace period will be allowed for a 6:30 p.m. game to avoid forfeit
  - b. The game clock will begin at the originally scheduled start time when the grace period is used
  - c. Games will begin once each team has a minimum of eight (8) players
4. A team must have a minimum of eight (8) players to start and complete a game to avoid forfeit

5. If both teams forfeit a tournament game the following will be used to determine the winner
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> determination ..... Team with fewer tournament losses
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> determination ..... Team with the better seed
6. Managers need to inform the Hastings Parks & Recreation Department by 3:00 p.m. on the day of their scheduled game if they are unable to field a team.
  - a. Teams who forfeit five (5) or more games may be removed from the league.
7. Forfeits will be scored 7-0

#### **RULE & REGULATION 9: RUN RULE & SHORTENED GAME**

1. Run Rule: All games will be called if a team is winning by:
  - a. 20 runs after 3 innings
  - b. 15 runs after 4 innings
  - c. 10 runs after 5 innings
2. Games shortened by inclement weather or any other reason will be official if:
  - a. The home team is winning after 3 ½ innings
  - b. 4 innings have been completed
  - c. Forty (40) minutes of game time has been played
  - d. The game will revert back to the last completed inning if the game is shortened and meets one of the requirements listed above

#### **RULE & REGULATION 10: BATTING**

1. All batters have a 3/2 count
2. The Extra Hitter (EH) rule will be in effect allowing a team to bat their entire roster
3. Any late arriving player may be added to the end of the lineup
4. Home Run Rule: Any player that hits an over the fence home run over the following limits will be ruled out:
  - a. Men's Leagues – Two (2) & one (1) up, the home team cannot go one up in the last inning

# ADULT SPORTS CODE OF CONDUCT & SPORTSMANSHIP AGREEMENT

All rules will be strictly enforced. The term "individual" includes the following: manager, player, coach, or spectator. The term "official" includes the following: umpire, referee, league director, or city staff. A team is responsible for the conduct of its individual players and spectators. Conduct fees may be required to continue participating if the Code of Conduct and Sportsmanship Agreement is breached.

No Individual Shall:

1. At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike, or threaten an official or individual.
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Suspended from the league for one (1) calendar year
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Banned from all City of Hastings Adult Leagues
2. Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent by throwing gloves, balls, bats, or any other forceful actions
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Warning by official
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Ejection from game
3. Be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in the play of the game
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Ejection from game
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Banned from all City of Hastings Adult Leagues
4. Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any official or individual on or off the field/court of play
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Ejection from game
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Suspended from the league for one (1) calendar year
5. Use profane, obscene, or vulgar language in any manner at any time on or off the playing field/court
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Warning by official
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Ejection from game
6. Appear on the field in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of any type of drug that will infringe on the player's safety or the safety of others
  - a. Penalty ..... Removed from game
7. Be guilty of any demonstration of unsportsmanlike conduct
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Warning by official
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Suspended from the league for one (1) calendar year
8. Be guilty of breaking park rules or ordinances
  - a. Minimum Penalty ..... Warning by official
  - b. Maximum Penalty ..... Suspended from the league for one (1) calendar year