

North Tonawanda Recreation Softball

2019 Rules & Regulations

Email: ntrecreation@yahoo.com Website: <https://www.playntrec.com/>

Ground Rules:

- a. Galassi Field:
 - i. Any ball that rolls on the ground into the wooded area in right field will be a home run
 - ii. Any ball that rolls on the ground into the wooded area in center field will be a home run.
 - iii. Any ball reaching the wooded area in the air will be a home run.
 - iv. There is a 5 home run limit per contest. Once a team exceeds the limit, each home run will be an out. (This only pertains to home runs entering the woods through the air)
- b. Gilmore Field:
 - i. Any ball that rolls onto the pavement (parking lot) will be a home run.
 - ii. Any ball that reaches the pavement in the air will be a home run.
- c. Felton Field:
 - i. Any ball that reaches the hill in left or center field in the air or on the ground will be a home run.

I. Playing Rules & Game Times:

- a. Games will start at 6:05 PM & 7:20 PM respectively.
- b. There is no grace period. The umpire's time is official. Do not ask the umpire for extra time, it will not be granted, even in the event the opposing team agrees.
- c. No inning of a 6:00 PM game may start after 7:15 PM
- d. No time limit will exist for 7:20 PM games. If an injury or other situation occurs which may delay a game, the umpire has the right to adjust game times.
- e. A coin flip will decide home field advantage (regular season only). In the playoffs the team with the highest seed ranking will be given home field advantage.
- f. Suspended Game Rule: Rulebook Rule 5 Section 3, F. Applies to all playoff games. Playoff games that are stopped due to darkness, rain, etc. will be resumed at the exact point where they were stopped, and when resumed will be played until a winner is determined.
- g. All regular substitution rules apply for suspended games (II, a-l).

II. Rosters/Substitutions

- a. Teams must have 9 players available to play at the start of the game with no penalty being enforced.
- b. Additional players showing up late must be placed in the last spot in the batting order.
- c. If a team becomes one player short for any reason other than ejection, that team may continue to play shorthanded with an out being recorded each time the vacant batting position is scheduled to bat. (It is up to the opposing team, not the umpire, to keep track of when the vacant batting position is up).
- d. If a team starts with an extra player (batting 11 players) and drops to 10 batters for any reason, the penalty listed above (II.c) will be enforced.
- e. Men's & women's teams may exceed the 11 player batting lineup, but must finish with the same amount of players as they started with, or penalty (II.c) will be enforced.
- f. An extra player arriving late to a game can be immediately inserted into the vacant batting position.
- g. Any player can be substituted or replaced by a player (who has not yet entered the game) and re-enter once, providing the player occupies the same batting position (Note: This means the player can only re-enter the game in the place of the substitute).
- h. Any player re-entering the game not according to the above rule (II.f) will be considered an illegal re-entry and will be disqualified.
- i. A substitute may not fill the vacant batting position of a player who has been ejected from the game. The batting position will remain vacant and an out will be recorded each time the vacant position is scheduled to bat. (It is up to the opposing team, not the umpire to keep track of when the vacant batting position is up).
- j. **Courtesy Runners:** 3 courtesy runners will be permitted per team, per game. The courtesy runner will be allowed to take the place of a teammate who has reached base safely. Only the player who made the last out can be used as a courtesy runner. The runner is to report their entry to both the umpire and the opposing team. If the courtesy runner is on base when his/her turn at bat comes, an out will occur, unless another courtesy runner is used. If there are no outs (first inning only) the runner shall be the last batter in the batting order. Teams abusing the courtesy runner rule may be subjected to loss of use of courtesy runners and/or forfeit the game.
- k. Changes to rosters can be made through Wednesday, July 10. **Any player listed on the roster must sign the liability form in order to play on our fields.** Any player listed on the roster who has not signed the liability form will be considered an illegal player. Roster changes can be made after July 10, but they will also carry a \$10 fee.

III. Miscellaneous

- a. 15-run rule is in effect after 5 innings. The losing team must have their last bats in order for the 15 run rule to take effect (ex. Team "B" is the home team and is losing by 17 runs after the completion of the top of the 6th inning. Team "B" must get their last bats in the bottom of the 6th before the game can be called).
- b. A.S.A rules apply to all games
- c. No stealing of bases is allowed. (A player may leave the base as soon as the ball crosses the plate)
- d. The ball must be delivered with perceptible arc and reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground, while not exceeding a maximum height of 12 feet from the ground.
- e. A pitched ball that makes contact with any portion of the plate and/or umpire mat shall be called a strike.
- f. Due to construction fencing at Felton Field, a limit of 5 home runs will be placed; any ball hit over the fence after the limit of 5 is an automatic out

IV. Equipment

- a. All exposed jewelry which is deemed by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed.
- b. Metal cleats are not allowed. Any player found wearing metal cleats will be removed from the game until they are removed.
- c. Any team found using illegal equipment, ie. Bat etc. will forfeit the game. The umpire will notify the Recreation office and if the offense is repeated the team will be removed from further play for the remainder of the season.

V. Suspension/Ejection/Alcohol Policy

- a. The Recreation Department has a written policy regarding penalties for ejection from a game, and other violations of the recreational nature of the program. This handout should be provided to you prior to commencement of the season.
- b. Any player or coach who consumes alcohol in the vicinity of a league game (players bench, playing field etc.) will be ejected from the game. If the players refuse to leave the grounds, the umpire may forfeit the game to the other team. If a spectator becomes unruly the police will be called.
- c. The penalty for player ejections can be found on the Suspension Policy handed out prior to the season.

VI. Forfeit Policy

- a. As indicated in rule (II.a) a team must have a minimum of 9 players at the scheduled playing time or lose the game by forfeit. The umpire's time is official. There will be a forfeit fee of \$35.00 dollars. Teams that notify the Recreation office of their intent to forfeit more than 24 hours before a game, will not be subject to the forfeit fee. Teams forfeiting two games in a season will be eliminated from further play and will not be eligible to register their team the following season. Failure to pay the forfeit fee will also result in dismissal from the league for the following softball season.

VII. Protest Policy

Protest must be made in writing to the Recreation Department by 4:00 PM of the next business day. A \$20.00 protest fee must accompany the protest. The fee is returned if the protest is upheld. The protest must follow the ASA policy as dictated in the 2019 Rule book. We also request that the umpire sign the book at the time each team is notified the game is being played under protest. Ineligible player protests must follow the policy listed above and be filed before the last pitch.

VIII. Umpires

- a. Questions about rules, complaints about an umpire or reporting of umpire no-shows should be reported to Umpire-in-Chief, Paul Kirchmeyer at 818-1998.
- b. Each team is responsible for paying a \$17 fee directly to the umpire prior to the start of any game

IX. Cancellation & Rescheduling Policy

- a. On questionable weather days, teams must contact the **SPORTS HOTLINE** at 695-8520 Ext. 1. Updates will also be posted on our website: <https://www.playntrec.com/>
- b. Teams will be notified within 3 days regarding rescheduling via email. The website will also be updated with make-up dates.
- c. Designated reschedule days are Wednesday and Friday nights. Only teams listing such days as a conflict on the backside of their roster will be accommodated. All other teams must play on the assigned reschedule date or forfeit the game.

X. Schedule

- a. The schedule will freeze on Friday, May 24. Teams have until that time to report any anticipated scheduling conflicts and the Recreation Dept. will try to accommodate such requests
- b. EXCEPTION: Games will obviously be rescheduled due to rainouts; some re-scheduling of rained out games will result in field changes of originally scheduled games to accommodate double-headers

- c. If no conflicts are listed, teams must adhere to all dates on the schedule.