



# **PLANO ADULT SPORTS**

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## **2017 SUMMER SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL PACKET**

Registration: April 3, 2017 – April 21, 2017

Registration Fee: \$365 per team

Registration form can be found in packet. Please complete and e-mail to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov). There will be NO online registration.

**NO LATE REGISTRATION**

League Format: 8-game season

Nights Offered: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

Game Location: Heritage Yards Softball Complex

Schedules Post Online: Monday, May 8, 2017

Season Begins: Monday, May 15, 2017

Adult Sports Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Office Contacts:

Natalie Nimmo, Adult Sports Supervisor, 972.941.5206, [natalien@plano.gov](mailto:natalien@plano.gov)

Curtis Mosser, Adult Sports Coordinator, 972.941.5205, [curtism@plano.gov](mailto:curtism@plano.gov)

Natalie Mathews, Adult Sports Administrative Assistant, 972.941.5275, [nataliem@plano.gov](mailto:nataliem@plano.gov)

Adult Slow-Pitch Softball Manager:

Welcome to the City of Plano Parks & Recreation Adult Slow-Pitch Softball League. In this packet, you will find the 2017 summer registration form (p. 17), league by-laws (p. 4), official roster (p. 18), and the player addition form (p. 19). Please make sure to thoroughly read through **ALL** information included in this packet.

In addition, please make sure to submit all proper documentation included in this packet to the Adult Sports Department. Your team will not be allowed to participate in league play until the Adult Sports Staff has received all of your completed documentation.

Your registration form must be e-mailed to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov). You may also fax your completed registration form to 972-941-7469, or drop it off at the office at Heritage Yards, Monday – Friday, from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM. If you e-mail or fax in your registration form, please make sure to call the Adult Sports Office at 972-941-5275 with your payment information. **DO NOT write/type your payment information on the registration form.** Registration forms may also be dropped off at our administrative offices located at 5901 Los Rios Blvd, Plano, TX 75074. The administrative office is open Monday – Friday, from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

Please make sure that your **team's completed roster** is submitted to the Adult Sports Staff **prior to your team's second scheduled game.** You may e-mail your completed roster to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov). You may also fax your completed team roster to 972-941-7469, or drop it off at the office at Heritage Yards, Monday – Friday, from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM.

Any player added to your roster after you have submitted it to the Adult Sports Staff must complete and submit a player addition form before they compete in any City of Plano sanctioned games.

All schedules, standings, league information, and communications will be posted on [www.teamsideline.com/plano](http://www.teamsideline.com/plano).

Please make sure to sign up for text/e-mail communications through our TeamSideline website.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the Adult Sports Office at 972-941-5275 or e-mail Adult Sports Supervisor, Natalie Nimmo, at [natalien@plano.gov](mailto:natalien@plano.gov).

Best of luck this season!

Sincerely,



**Parks &  
Recreation**



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# City of Plano Adult Slow-Pitch Softball By-Laws

## Article I. City of Plano Policies & Procedures

### Section 1.01 GOVERNMENT

1. This league shall be governed by the Plano Parks & Recreation Department and assisted by an Adult Softball Advisory Committee, consisting of appointed player representatives from both Men's and Coed leagues. The Umpire-in-Chief shall also be a member of the Softball Advisory Committee.
2. The Softball Advisory Committee shall rule on protests, appeals, and extended disciplinary action.
3. Any rule not covered in the league By-laws will be covered under the ASA (Amateur Softball Association) Official Rules of Softball and ASA Code.
4. Amateur Softball Association rules will govern play, and TAAF rules will govern player eligibility.
5. Per City Ordinance, the consumption or possession of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited in all parks located within city limits. This also includes park parking lots.
6. The officials' decision shall be final on judgment calls and on the conduct of the game. These decisions do not involve interpretation of the rules, the by-laws of the league, or the eligibility of players.

### Section 1.02 REGISTRATION

1. A fillable-field registration form is available on our website ([www.teamsideline.com/plano](http://www.teamsideline.com/plano) / Downloads / Registration Forms). Your completed registration form is to be e-mailed to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov) or it may also be faxed to **972-941-7469**. You must call **972-941-5275** with your payment information. Your team will not be registered until we have received payment. You may also register in person at the Adult Sports office, 5901 Los Rios Blvd. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. You may also register in person at the Heritage Yards Sports complex for the summer and fall seasons. Heritage Yards hours during season are Monday – Friday, from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM.
2. Special requests that are noted in the appropriate location on the registration form will be honored if possible.

### Section 1.03 FEES

1. Each team shall pay a participation fee set by the Parks & Recreation Department.
2. All fees shall be paid in full by the designated due date set by the Parks & Recreation Department.  
**THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**
3. There will be no refunds once the schedules have been published.
4. All teams are required to play game schedules as posted. Game schedules will not be changed to accommodate individual teams. The only changes to game schedules will be made by Parks & Recreation Staff due to rain-outs or other unforeseen administrative or facility-related circumstances.

### Section 1.04 ELIGIBILITY

1. **AT ALL TIMES, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ELIGIBILITY AND CONDUCT OF PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS RESTS WITH THE MANAGER OF THE TEAM.**
2. All participants on softball teams must have attained the **age of fifteen (15)** prior to the registration date.
3. Participants must either live, work, or worship within the city limits of Plano. Part-time jobs do not fulfill the "work" requirement. However, non-resident teams will be permitted on a space-available basis.
4. No player shall be eligible who has not signed the official playing roster or player addition form (both can be found in this packet).

5. Players may not play on different teams within the same league. No player will be released to play on another team in the same league. Players may play on more than one team; however, they will do so at their own risk.
6. No player may participate who has been suspended from any other affiliated Parks & Recreation activity until approved to play by the Softball Advisory Committee upon recommendation by the Parks & Recreation Department.
7. Teams may question eligibility of only two players per game. Whole rosters may not be questioned. Teams playing ineligible players will forfeit all games in which the ineligible persons appeared in the lineup and may forfeit all remaining games in the current season's schedule. The ineligible person will be suspended, and no entry fees will be refunded. Managers playing ineligible or suspended players may be suspended for two (2) full calendar years from Plano Parks & Recreation Department activities.

## Article II. Rules

### Section 2.01 HITTING

1. A batter will be awarded first base after three (3) balls have been called by the umpire.
2. A batter will be called out:
  - a. On a second called strike by the umpire.
  - b. After hitting a second foul ball with a two-strike count.

### Section 2.02 HOME RUN LIMITS

1. Home run limits are in effect as listed below. For any over-the-fence home runs in excess, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners can advance.
  - a. **Men's Recreational and Coed Recreational – No (0) home runs allowed**
  - b. **Men's A, Coed A, and Church A – One (1) home run allowed per game plus "One-Up Rule."**
  - c. **Men's AA – Four (4) home runs allowed per game plus "One-Up Rule."**
  - d. **Men's Open – Unlimited home runs**

### Section 2.03 ONE-UP RULE

1. Once both teams have reached their respective home run limits, either team may hit an additional home run; however, no team may ever go more than one home run up on the other team. Any additional home runs above the one-up will be scored as outs. Once the home team has reached its home run limit and there are fewer than ten (10) minutes left in the game, the home team can hit one (1) home run to pull even but cannot go one-up. The "10-minute rule" does not go into effect until the home team has reached its home run limit.

### Section 2.04 HOME TEAM

1. "Home" team is named on game schedules. Teams may occupy either dugout on a first-come, first-serve basis.

### Section 2.05 SHORT HANDED RULE

1. Games will begin if a team has nine (9) players. There will be an automatic out when the absent player's time comes to bat. However, if a tenth player arrives, the player may be substituted for the absent player. Teams may play shorthanded for any reason. **Teams may not play with fewer than nine (9) players.**
2. Coed teams normally field 5/5, with equal distribution in the infield and outfield. However, Coed teams may start and play shorthanded for any reason. **There must be a minimum of nine (9) players** (5 men/4 women or 4 men/5 women). There will be an automatic out when the absent player's time

comes to bat. The pitcher and catcher must be of opposite sex, and there must normally be two (2) men and two (2) women on the infield and two (2) men and two (2) women in the outfield.

## Section 2.06 TEAM ROSTERS

1. Please be mindful when picking your team name. The City of Plano Parks & Recreation leagues and facilities are family friendly. Please refrain from using suggestive, derogatory, profane, or offensive team names. The City of Plano Adult Sports Staff has the right to refuse any team name that may be viewed as non-family friendly.
2. Team rosters will be limited to twenty (20) players.
3. Players must be fifteen (15) years of age.
4. All players must sign the official team roster form or have completed a player addition form prior to playing in a game.
5. The official roster form (included in registration packet) must be completed and submitted to the Adult Sports Staff by the second scheduled game. Your completed roster form is to be e-mailed to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov) or it may also be faxed to **972-941-7469**. You may also submit your roster in person at the Adult Sports office, 5901 Los Rios Blvd or at the office at Heritage Yards when games are being played. Adult Sports office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
6. In order to add a player to the team after the roster has been turned in, a player addition form must be filled out and turned in as detailed in rule #5 above.
7. Players may not be added to your roster after the completion of the sixth game played in the season.

## Section 2.07 THE LINE-UP

1. Line-ups will be exchanged at the home-plate meeting before the game. All players must either be on the official roster submitted to the City of Plano Adult Sports Department or they must have completed a player addition form after the original roster has been turned in.
2. A legal hitting line-up can consist of up to 16 batters.
3. **Line-ups must alternate male and female hitters.**
4. Line-up cards are available on our website at [teamsideline.com/plano](http://teamsideline.com/plano) (Downloads page) or at the Heritage Yards office, located in the middle of the complex.

## Section 2.08 CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER

1. Continuous batting order is optional. Either team may exercise its option to use or not to use the continuous batting order. However, when used:
  - a. Teams must inform the umpire prior to the start of the game at the home plate meeting and may not change their option after the start of the game.
  - b. Teams will be restricted to a maximum of sixteen (16) batters in the line-up.
  - c. Teams may not add additional batters to the batting order once the game begins.
  - d. When using the continuous batting order in Coed play, teams must start with an even number of males and females.
  - e. Men and Coed: when a void in the continuous batting order is created for any reason, an out will be recorded when the player in that spot in the line-up is due at bat.
  - f. Any ten (10) players listed in the continuous batting order may play defense at any time during the game. Players must remain in the same position in the batting order throughout the game unless substituted.
  - g. If substitutions are made to the continuous batting order, the re-entry rule will apply.

## Section 2.09 COURTESY RUNNER

1. Courtesy runners will be allowed in all leagues. Any eligible player on the official line-up, including available substitutes, may be used as a courtesy runner. Only one runner, per sex, per team (a man for a man or a woman for a woman) may be used per inning. If a courtesy runner's turn at bat comes while on base, the courtesy runner will be called 'out,' removed from the base and take his/her turn at bat.

#### Section 2.10 IMAGINARY "OUTFIELD" LINE

1. In all Coed leagues an imaginary "outfield" line will exist approximately 40 feet into the outfield (marked by hash marks on the foul lines). All outfielders must remain behind this line until the batter hits the ball. Violations of this rule will result in a one-base award to the batter/runner and any other runners on base at the time of the violation. If the "outfield line" is not clearly visible, it will be up to the umpire's discretion whether or not an outfielder is too close to the infield.

#### Section 2.11 SAFETY BAG

1. On a play made on a batter/runner advancing to first base, the batter/runner must use only the orange portion of the base, and the fielder must only use the white portion of the base. After a batter/runner passes the first base, both the white and orange portions of the base become live. Exception: On a force out attempt from the foul side of first base, the defense and the batter/runner can use either the orange or the white portion of the base.

#### Section 2.12 PITCHING

1. A pitching box fifty (50) feet from home plate and extending back ten (10) feet perpendicular to the pitcher's plate toward second base will be used in all league play.
2. The pitcher must release the ball after coming to a complete stop with one or both feet in contact with the pitcher's plate or anywhere within the pitcher's box. One foot must remain in contact with the pitcher's plate or within the pitcher's box when the ball is released with an underhand motion. A step may be taken in any direction with the non-pivot foot. The pitcher must be facing the batter when delivering the ball.
3. The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least six (6) feet from the ground while not exceeding ten (10) feet from the ground.

#### Section 2.13 RUN RULE

1. All games will be played under the following run rules with the exception of Recreational leagues.
  - a. **2-1/2 or 3 innings: 20 runs**
  - b. **3-1/2 or 4 innings: 15 runs**
  - c. **4-1/2 or 5 innings: 10 runs**

#### Section 2.14 STEALING

1. The stealing of bases will be allowed in all men's leagues with the exception of the Recreational leagues.

#### Section 2.15 ASA BLOOD RULE

1. Players who are bleeding may not participate in games unless the blood is covered, as with a bandage. A player who is injured in a game and is bleeding will have one minute to take care of the problem and return to the game. If bleeding cannot be stopped and the blood cannot be covered within one minute, a substitution will be necessary or the team must play shorthanded (shorthanded rules apply). Substitution and re-entry rules will apply. If a player gets blood on any part of clothing (jersey, pants,

socks, etc.), that part of the uniform may not be worn unless the blood is dry. It is strongly recommended that the manager has a first aid kit with bandages, gauze, tape, spare jersey, pants, and socks available. Spare shirts do not have to match and do not have to be numbered.

## Section 2.16 BATS

1. All bats must be ASA approved. Please check the ASA website at [www.ASAsoftball.com](http://www.ASAsoftball.com) for the current approved and banned bat lists.
2. Teams must make all bats available to the umpires for a pre-game bat inspection. If a player is discovered to be using a banned bat after the pre-game inspection, the player will be called out. Both the player and the bat will be removed from the game. Any time that a player has a question regarding the legality of a bat, they must ask the home plate umpire for a ruling prior to taking a position in the batter's box.
3. If a banned bat is discovered during the pre-game inspection or prior to the batter entering the batter's box, the bat will be removed from the game and no penalty will be assessed to the player or to the team.
4. All bats must be inspected (or re-inspected) each calendar year. All bats used must bear a NEW City of Plano hologram sticker in order to be used in league or tournament play. Stickers from prior years are no longer viable and must be removed from the bat prior to inspection. Players must bring their bats to the Heritage Yards Office to be inspected before the first game played to obtain the required hologram sticker. If a sticker is no longer readable, comes off, or is damaged, the bat must be presented for re-inspection before a new sticker can be provided.
5. If a player is discovered using a bat that does not have a City of Plano hologram sticker, the bat will be ruled illegal and the following penalty will be assessed:
  - a. If the batter reached the base and the illegal bat is discovered prior to the next pitch, the batter on base will be declared out, and all runners must return to their positions prior to the "at bat." The bat will be removed from play until a sticker is obtained.
  - b. If the illegal bat is discovered after the next pitch, the bat will be removed from play until a sticker is obtained, but no penalty will be assessed to the player.
  - c. If discovered while the batter is in the batter's box, the batter will be declared out, and the bat will be removed from play until a sticker is obtained.
6. League officials have the authority to inspect any bat suspected of being altered in any way. The inspection may include weighing the bat, performing a compression test on the bat, photographing the bat, or doing any other tests that can be performed at Heritage Yards. During the inspection the bat will remain on-site and the owner of the bat may be present.
  - a. If upon completion of the inspection the league official determines that the bat should be kept for further inspection or testing, the player and/or owner of the bat has two choices:
    - i. Choose to allow league officials to keep the bat for further testing with the understanding that the bat may be sent to either the bat manufacturer or the Amateur Softball Association. If the player and/or owner of the bat allows league officials to perform further testing on the bat and it is found that the bat has been altered, the player and/or owner will forfeit ownership of the bat and will be suspended from future participation in any City of Plano league or tournament games from the date of refusal.
    - ii. Refuse to allow league officials to keep the bat for further testing and accept a two (2) year suspension from future participation in any City of Plano league or tournament games from the date of refusal.
  - b. Upon completion of the suspension in either case above, the player and/or owner of the bat will also be placed on probation for a period of one year. If while on probation the player and/or owner is found with an altered bat or refuses league officials the opportunity to keep a



bat for further testing, that player and/or owner will be permanently suspended from future participation in any City of Plano Adult Softball league or tournament games.

- c. The responsibility of knowing whether a bat has been altered is that of both the user and the owner of the bat. If an individual uses an altered bat in City of Plano league or tournament play and the owner is not identified, the suspensions will be imposed without regard to actual knowledge of the bat being altered. In addition, if the owner is not identified, the team will be suspended from future participation in City of Plano Adult Softball league or tournament play until someone claims ownership of the bat. Any bat that goes unclaimed will be treated as abandoned property and will be held by the City of Plano staff until claimed by the rightful owner.
- d. The game in which a suspected altered bat is discovered will be forfeited by the team of the user/owner of the bat.

## Section 2.17 GAME BALLS

1. All balls used must have an ASA-approved certification mark and must not appear on the ASA non-approved list. All balls must be Optic Yellow in color, with red stitching.
2. The umpires must be able to read the specifications on the ball. Due to safety concerns, playability of the ball is at the discretion of the umpire.
3. **Game balls used by men must be 12-inch. They must be cor. 52 and 300 compression.**
4. **Game balls used by women must be 11-inch. They must be cor. 52 and 300 compression.**

## Section 2.18 UNIFORMS

1. At all games (including the first), all players on a team are required to wear shirts of similar color.
2. All jerseys must be numbered. A legal number of contrasting color, at least 6" inches high, and must be worn on the back of all jerseys. Numbers may not be fractions or triple numbers. **These numbers must be of a permanent nature. No tape is allowed. Penalty: A player must change his/her shirt, or fail to participate, if the umpire deems the shirt or number unsuitable.**
3. If two players wear the same number, both players may not participate in a game at the same time.
4. Players may not switch jerseys after the line-up has been submitted.
5. During cold weather, players may wear a jacket over an appropriate jersey.
6. Apparel including uniforms worn by spectators, players, managers, and coaches must be appropriate and not of obscene, lewd, vulgar, profane, or disruptive manner in either written or graphic format. Anyone wearing apparel as described will be considered a public nuisance and will be subject to penalties as provided in Ordinance 15-3 of the City of Plano.
7. Teams will be expected not to make a mockery of the game (i.e., wearing inappropriate attire).

**Note: The City will have a limited number of t-shirts with numbers available for sale (\$10) at the Heritage yards office for teams to purchase in the case that a player does not have a legal uniform.**

## Section 2.19 SHOES

1. All players must wear shoes (sandals unacceptable). Metal spikes, boots, and open-toed shoes are illegal. Screw-on spikes that have exposed metal are illegal. **Penalty: A player must change his/her shoes, or fail to participate, if the umpire deems his/her shoes to be unsafe for themselves or other players. If a player refuses to change his/her shoes, the player will be removed from participation for the remainder of the game.**

## Section 2.20 FORFEITS

1. The official score of a forfeited game due to ejection or due to lack of players at game time shall be recorded as **10-0**. In the event that a team has to forfeit due to injury, the official score will be recorded as **5-0**. In the case of a double forfeit, the official score shall be recorded as **0-0**.
2. Games will begin at the scheduled start time, and the clock will be started. If the event a team does not have the required number of players to begin the game, that team will automatically become the visiting team and will bat first. The game will continue to be played until such time as there are no longer any eligible batters or the team does not have the minimum number of required players upon the completion of the third out. At that point, the game will be forfeited.
3. If neither team can produce the required number of eligible players at the stated game time, a double forfeit will occur, and the official standings shall show a loss for both teams. There shall be no opportunity to replay the game. If the forfeit is the last game of the evening, the bases will be taken up, and lights will be turned off.
4. **Forfeiture of three (3) league games will automatically suspend a team for the remainder of the season. All remaining games to be played will be forfeited and no entry fee refund will be made. The scores for all completed games will be recorded as played.**
5. If a team manager knows prior to game time that his/her team will be required to forfeit the game due to lack of eligible players, he/she should verbally forfeit the game only by contacting the Adult Sports staff by phone. **Prior to 5:00 PM, please call 972-941-5275. After 5:00 PM, please call staff at the Heritage Yards softball complex office at 972-712-3930.** Leave a message if necessary so that the opposing team can be notified. This forfeit will count as a forfeit toward suspension from the league.
6. **“No-Show” Forfeit Rule: This rule applies only if no players show up for the scheduled game and the Adult Sports Staff has not been notified of the forfeit. A voicemail left at the correct phone number will be considered a notification if left before your team’s scheduled game time.**
  - a) First Offense: A written warning will be sent to the team manager.
  - b) Any future offenses will incur a \$20 penalty fee for each “no-show” forfeit. The penalty fee **must** be paid before the team is allowed to play again. Payment must be received within 24 hours of the team’s next scheduled game. Failure to provide this payment will result in an automatic forfeit of any future games scheduled until the fee has been paid. Payment can be submitted to the Adult Sports Staff at the Adult Sports Office, the office at Heritage Yards, or payment information can be given over the phone to the Adult Sports Staff.
7. Forfeited games will be rescheduled only if all games scheduled for the day and game time are canceled by the Adult Sports Staff (due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances) prior to the scheduled start time of the forfeited game.

## Section 2.21 TIES

1. If at the end of seven innings and/or the end of the time limit the score is tied, each batter will get one pitch per at bat. Time limit on games is 55 minutes. Only Recreational leagues can end in a tie.

## Section 2.22 SCHEDULES

1. Teams are required to play schedules as posted. Game schedules will not be changed to accommodate individual teams. The only changes to game schedules will be made by Parks & Recreation Staff due to rainouts or other unforeseen administrative or facility-related circumstances.
2. All games will be played as scheduled except in the event of unavoidable conflicts in facilities or inclement weather. Any postponed game will be rescheduled by the Adult Sports Office of the Parks & Recreation Department. Decisions on cancelations of games due to inclement weather will be made by the Parks & Recreation Department on the scheduled game day. Managers can call the rain-out hotline

**(972-941-7278)** by 4:00 PM, Monday – Friday. Managers/players may also check [teamsideline.com/plano](http://teamsideline.com/plano) to find field condition status updates. Any change in the decision after 4:00 PM Monday – Friday due to later weather conditions will be updated at the time of the call on the rain-out hotline and at [teamsideline.com/plano](http://teamsideline.com/plano).

3. Games that are called due to rain or other unforeseen circumstances will be considered final if the game has progressed through 4-1/2 or 5 innings, or has fulfilled the 15-run rule, or has progressed through forty (40) minutes of play. All uncompleted games will be started from the beginning.
4. All make-up games will be played as time allows during and after the regular season. Make-up schedules will be available online. An effort will be made to reschedule all make-up games on each league's respective night of play, but scheduling on weekends or other week-nights may become necessary due to limited availability on a given week-night.
5. Make-up dates/times will not be changed to accommodate individual teams.

## Section 2.23 PROTESTS

### 1. Rule Interpretation Protests:

- a. Protests will not be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of a judgment on the part of an umpire.
- b. Only protests involving the **misinterpretation** of a playing rule will be allowed.
- c. Only protests that actually affect the **win-loss** outcome of the **protested game** will be considered.
- d. **Teams wishing to protest the misinterpretation of a playing rule must:**
  - i. Notify the home plate umpire stating the reason for the protest prior to:
    1. The next pitch **OR**
    2. All infielders having left fair territory, if on the last play of the inning **OR**
    3. The umpire having left the playing field, if on the last play of the game
  - ii. Notify City Staff in writing, signed by the team manager, and filed by 5:00 PM the next business day.
  - iii. Provide a \$50.00 deposit (cash or check) to City Staff by 5:00 PM the next business day. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be refunded.
- e. All protests will be ruled on by City Staff and the Umpire-in-Chief.
- f. If the protest is upheld, all penalties will be determined by City Staff and the Umpire-in-Chief whose decision shall be final.
- g. It is recommended that both teams keep a scorebook. The home team's book will serve as the official scorebook from which standings and records will be recorded.

### 2. Eligibility Protests:

- a. **Teams wishing to protest the eligibility of a player must:**
  - i. Inform the home plate umpire that the game is being played under protest and identify the person(s) in question prior to the completion of the game.
  - ii. Notify City Staff of the protest in writing, signed by the team manager, and filed by 5:00 PM the next business day.
  - iii. Provide a \$50.00 deposit (cash or check) to City Staff by 5:00 PM the next business day. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be refunded.
  - iv. The eligibility of only two (2) players per game may be challenged.
  - v. All protests will be ruled on by the City Staff and the Umpire-in-Chief.
- b. **Protested player(s) must:**

- i. Produce picture identification to the Umpire issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety within ten (10) minutes of the completion of the game. **Failure to produce picture identification will result in an automatic forfeiture by the team using the player(s) in question.**
- ii. City Staff will verify the identity of the player(s) in question with the umpire. Rulings on player eligibility will be made within 48 hours, and City Staff will notify both team managers. **If the team roster is not on file and a player's eligibility is challenged, the game in question will be automatically forfeited.**

## Article III. Rules (Men's Recreational & Coed Recreational)

### Section 3.01 STRIKE ZONE

1. A strike zone mat measuring 25-1/2 inches long and 17 inches wide with a V shape cut out to fit tight with the point of home plate will be used. Any legally-pitched ball not struck at then landing on any part of home plate or the strike mat will be ruled a strike. The shoulder-to-knee strike zone is eliminated.

### Section 3.02 TIME LIMIT/RUN RULE

1. Ties will be allowed in Men's Rec and Coed Rec league games, and recreational games will not be played with a Run Rule. All league games including recreational games will be 55 minutes. The Szymie Rule goes into effect at the expiration of 55 Minutes.

### Section 3.03 STYMIE RULE

1. If a team cannot win or tie due to the 5-run per inning rule, the game is over. If the Szymie Rule has not been achieved at or after 55 minutes, the inning will be continued until the Szymie rule is in effect or the inning has been completed.

### Section 3.04 RUNS PER INNING

1. Teams may score a maximum of five (5) runs per inning including the last inning.

### Section 3.05 BASE ON BALLS (COED)

1. A walk to a male batter will result in a two (2) base award, and the next batter (female) must bat regardless of the number of outs.

### Section 3.06 SECOND HOME PLATE

1. A second home plate will be used in all Coed and Recreational leagues. The runner will run to the second home plate. The catcher will remain on the regular home plate. If the runner runs to the regular home plate instead of the second home plate, it will be an out. If a runner returns to third base after passing the commitment line (a marking 20 feet from the second home plate), the runner will be called out, and the ball will remain live.

### Section 3.07 STEALING

1. Stealing of bases is **NOT** allowed in any recreational leagues.

## Article IV. Rules (Men's Open League)

### Section 4.01 GENERAL OPEN LEAGUE RULES

1. The Men's Open League will play by the Men's A/ Men's AA League rules.

### Section 4.02 HOME RUNS

1. Unlimited home runs will be allowed in the Men's Open League

## Article V. Discipline

### Section 5.01 MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Managers will be responsible to see that all their players know and abide by the rules as stated in the City of Plano Adult Softball By-laws. Further, managers are responsible for their players knowing and abiding by the City of Plano Adult Sports Sportsmanship Guidelines. If a manager cannot or will not control his/her players and spectators, he/she faces league sanctions ranging from removal or ejection to forfeiture of games.
2. The manager shall be the official representative of the team unless he/she designates one of the players as a team representative on the line-up card prior to the start of the game. **Only** the manager or his designated team representative may discuss a call or decision made by the officials. The manager or designated team representative is responsible for maintaining the team's cooperation with the umpires and City Staff.

### Section 5.02 SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct is contrary to the basic principles of athletic sports. The player Sportsmanship Guidelines have been established for the protection of the participants and spectators. Violation of the Sportsmanship Guidelines is not condoned by the City of Plano Adult Sports Department.
  - a. **No Person Shall:** At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike, harass, or threaten an umpire. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.
  - b. **No Person Shall:** Be guilty of objectionable demonstrations of dissent at an umpire's decision.
  - c. **No Person Shall:** Refuse to abide by an umpire's decision. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.
  - d. **No Person Shall:** Discuss with an umpire in any manner the decision reached by such umpire except the manager or designated team representative.
  - e. **No Person Shall:** Be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in the play of the game against a person of the opposing team. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.
  - f. **No Person Shall:** Be guilty of endangering a player, league umpire, City Staff, or spectator.
  - g. **No Person Shall:** Be guilty of physical attack upon a player, umpire, City Staff or spectator. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.
  - h. **No Person Shall:** Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon a player, umpire, City Staff or spectator. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.

- i. **No Person Shall:** Appear upon the field of play at any time in an intoxicated condition. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.
- j. **No Person Shall:** Use profane language before, during or after any game on City property. Umpires are required to immediately remove or eject the player from further play and report the player to City Staff.
- k. **The Manager and Team Shall:** Be responsible for the conduct of their fans and supports. If fans and supporters become abusive toward team members, umpires, or City Staff, they place the team in jeopardy of forfeiting the game.

## Section 5.03 PENALTIES

1. Use of profane language and/or unsportsmanlike conduct shall be an automatic suspension. It shall not be necessary for the Adult Softball Advisory Committee to meet except to increase the length of a suspension.
2. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated at any time for any reason. Managers, players, coaches, and spectators may be suspended from league play for any violation of the Sportsmanship Guidelines before, during, or after any game on City property. The Parks & Recreation Adult Sports Supervisor will decide on the length of suspensions, but there shall be a **minimum of two games or more** for the violation of any Sportsmanship Guideline.
  - a. **Two-Game Suspension:** The player shall immediately be ejected from the game in which he/she is playing. The player is required to leave the facility and is ineligible to play in any other game that night, regardless of the league. The two-game suspension shall be enforced beginning with the next game in the league in which the violation occurred.
  - b. **Suspension Greater Than Two Games:** The suspension shall be effective for the number of games designated following the game in which the violation occurred. The suspended player may not return to the park and will not be allowed to participate with any team playing in a City of Plano softball league game or tournament until the suspension has been fulfilled.
3. Any player **ejected** from a game **must immediately leave the park**. If the player refuses to leave the park or threatens an umpire at the time of the ejection, the game will be forfeited even if there are still eight (8) players eligible to play.
4. Bye-weeks and rained out games do not count towards a suspension.
5. Players may not participate in playoffs or tournament games until the full suspension has been served.
6. Playoff games and tournament games will count as games served to fulfill a suspension.
7. The suspension will be carried over to the next season if a player does not have a sufficient number of games remaining on his/her team schedule to complete the suspension.
8. There will be an indefinite period of time for fighting (fights will be defined as intent to do harm). Any or all persons involved in a fight will be suspended. Whole teams may be suspended if the infraction is severe enough (i.e. striking an umpire, mass fights, striking a City Staff member, etc.).
9. A **one-year suspension** will be warranted if a second two-game suspension is drawn. **THE MAXIMUM PENALTY APPLIED AFTER THE SECOND EJECTION MAY RESULT IN A ONE-YEAR SUSPENSION FROM PARTICIPATION IN ALL CITY OF PLANO ADULT SPORT LEAGUES.**
10. A **one-year or more** suspension will be issued for striking an umpire or City Staff member.
11. Umpires have the option of **removing** a player for minor infractions. A removal means that the player may not play for the remainder of the game only. The player **does not have to leave the park**, and the game may continue if there are at least eight (8) players eligible for play. **The umpires have the right to increase a removal to an ejection if the unsportsmanlike behavior continues.**

## Section 5.04 APPEALS

1. The City of Plano Adult Softball Advisory Committee will accept appeals of suspension from teams or players as long as:
  - a. The length of the team or player suspension is four (4) weeks or greater.
  - b. The suspension is not connected to any pending investigations by law enforcement.
2. To file an appeal, the team or player must:
  - a. Contact the City of Plano Adult Sports Supervisor within three (3) days of being notified of the suspension.
  - b. Provide a written account of the incident that led to the suspension, stating why the suspension should be terminated or reduced. This written account must be received within 48 hours of contacting the Adult Sports Supervisor and declaring the desire to appeal the suspension.
  - c. Provide contact information for any and all witnesses to the incident.
3. The City of Plano Adult Softball Advisory Committee will review all written documentation provided by all parties involved including players, umpires, spectators, and City Staff. Upon reviewing the written documentation, the Committee will decide the necessity of:
  - a. **A meeting** with all involved parties to gain additional information.
    - i. If the Softball Advisory Committee finds it necessary to meet with the individuals involved, staff will set the date, time, and location of the meeting. All involved parties will be contacted and informed of the date, time, and location of the meeting. Every effort will be made to give at least one (1) week notice of the meeting. Once a date and time for the meeting have been set, they will not be changed or rescheduled except for unforeseen circumstances.
  - b. **A suspension**
    - i. If the Softball Advisory Committee decides that meeting with all the involved parties is not necessary, Committee members will decide if the suspension is warranted. If the suspension is deemed to be warranted, members will decide if it should be shortened, lengthened, or remain as is.
  - c. Once The Softball Advisory Committee has ruled on the suspension, the team manager and player will be notified by the City of Plano Adult Sports Supervisor who will inform them of the Committee's ruling. All appeal rulings by the City of Plano Softball Advisory Committee are **FINAL** and may not be appealed a second time.

## Article VI. General Information

### Section 6.01 DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE WINNER

1. If a tie exists for any award position, the following tiebreaker criteria will be followed:
  - a. Win-loss in head-to-head games
  - b. Fewest points allowed in head-to-head games
  - c. Most points scored in head-to-head games
  - d. Fewest points allowed in league play
  - e. Most points scored in league play
  - f. Play a tiebreaker game

### Section 6.02 FREE AGENT LIST

1. A “free agent” list is maintained by the Adult Sports Staff. This list contains information regarding individuals wishing to be added to a team. The free agent list can be found on the ‘Slow-Pitch Softball’ page located on our website at [www.teamsideline.com/plano](http://www.teamsideline.com/plano).

#### Section 6.03 AWARDS

1. 1<sup>st</sup> place award consisting of eighteen (18) custom championship shirts for first-place winners.

#### Section 6.04 QUESTIONS

1. The Adult Sports office telephone number is **972-941-5275**, and the fax number is **972-941-7469**. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The City of Plano Parks & Recreation Department is located at 5901 Los Rios Blvd.

#### Section 6.05 END-OF-SEASON TOURNAMENTS

1. All teams participating in a league at Heritage Yards are eligible to participate in the End-of-Season Tournament.

#### Section 6.06 LEAGUE ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENT

1. The City will maintain league standings for all leagues. At the end of the season, any men’s recreational or coed recreational team ending the season with a 6:2 record or better will be required to move up to the “A” league division.





## 2017 Summer Adult Slow-Pitch Softball League Registration Form

Please e-mail your completed registration form to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov). You may also fax your completed form to 972-941-7469 or deliver it to Adult Sports, 5901 Los Rios Blvd., Plano, TX 75074. Registration forms can be dropped off Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Forms may also be submitted to the office at Heritage Yards. Heritage Yards office hours are Monday – Friday, from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM.

The cost is \$365 per team. Your team will not be registered for the league until we have received payment.

Please call 972-941-5275 to make payment via VISA, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express. You must call to obtain the proper mailing address if you wish to send a check. **DO NOT include payment information on the registration form.** A receipt will be e-mailed to you upon registering.

We will honor special requests if possible. However, we cannot guarantee that all requests will be accommodated. Please type/write a brief description of your request below.

CONFLICT W/ OTHER TEAM (TEAM NAME): \_\_\_\_\_ # OF PLAYERS ON BOTH TEAMS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW TEAM: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

COMPANY TEAM? IF YES, PLEASE STATE COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ DRIVERS LICENSE #: \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDARY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle or Highlight Desired Division in the Table Below**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Men's Rec	Men's Rec	Men's Rec	Men's Rec	Men's Rec
Men's A	Men's A	Men's A	Men's A	Men's A
Men's AA	Men's AA	Men's AA	Men's AA	Men's AA
	Men's Open	Men's Open		Men's Open
			Men's Church	
Coed Rec	Coed Rec	Coed Rec	Coed Rec	Coed Rec
Coed A	Coed A	Coed A	Coed A	Coed A

**OFFICE STAFF ONLY**

Date Received:                      Check    Cash    Card                      Number:

Expiration Date:                      CVV:



**City of Plano Parks & Recreation Slow-Pitch Softball Roster Form - 2017**

TEAM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ NIGHT (CIRCLE): M T W TH F MENS/COED (CIRCLE) AA A COED CHURCH  
 SEASON (CIRCLE): FALL SPRING SUMMER

All sections below must be completed by all players. Please e-mail your completed roster to [adultsports@plano.gov](mailto:adultsports@plano.gov) or submit to the office at Heritage Yards before your second scheduled game. Any additional player(s) added to the roster after the roster form has been submitted must complete a player addition form and submit to the adult sports office.

	NAME (PRINT)	PLAYERS SIGNATURE FOR RELEASE	HOME ADDRESS (STREET & CITY)	LIVE, WORK OR WORSHIP IN PLANO?
1	Manager:			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

- I voluntarily elect to accept and assume all risks of injury incurred or suffered by me (a) while practicing or playing as a member of the team so designated, (b) while serving in a non-playing capacity as team member during practice or play by other teams or by other players on my team, and (c) while on or upon the premises of any and all of the fields arranged for by my team or league for practice or play.
- I hereby waive, release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City of Plano and all of its officials, employees, officers and agents (both in their public and private capacities) from any and all liability, claims, suits, demands and causes of action (expressly including, but not limited to, all expenses of litigation and settlement) which are related to or arise by reason of (1) bodily injury, up to and including death, suffered by me or any other person or (2) loss of, loss of use of, or damage to any property, when such bodily injury or property loss arises out of, results from, or is occasioned by any act of error, omission or negligence by me or any other person (expressly including but not limited to all officials, employees, officers and agents of the City of Plano) when such act arises out of, results from, or is connected with my participation in the City of Plano Program(s) registered for herein.**
- I will, without limitation, assume and pay all medical and emergency expenses in the event of an accident, injury, illness, or other incapacity, regardless of whether I have authorized such expense.
- I agree that City, its officials, employees, agents, and representatives have the authority to use pictures of me taken at any City of Plano event. The pictures may be taken and used without my knowledge or payment to me.



**PLAYER ADDITION FORM**  
**RELEASE and INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT – 2017**

Use this form only to add a player after your *original* roster has been turned in! Players cannot be added after a team's 6th game. You may have up to 20 players total (those listed on your original roster and including any players added with this form).

**Slow-Pitch Softball**

1. I voluntarily elect to accept and assume all risks of injury incurred or suffered by me (a) while practicing or playing as a member of the team so designated, (b) while serving in a non-playing capacity as team member during practice or play by other teams or by other players on my team, and (c) while on or upon the premises of any and all of the fields arranged for by my team or league for practice or play.
2. I hereby waive all claims, release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City of Plano and all of its agents, for any and all liability, claims, suits or demands, or causes of action, including all expenses of litigation and/or settlement which are related to or arise by reason of, injury to, or death or debt of any person, including but not limited to myself, or for loss of, damage to, or loss of use of any property arising out of, resulting from, or in connection with my participation in the Program(s).
3. I will, without limitation, assume and pay all medical and emergency expenses in the event of an accident, injury, illness or other incapacity, regardless of whether I have authorized such expense.
4. I agree that City, its officials, employees, agents and representatives have the authority to use pictures of me taken at any City of Plano event. The pictures may be taken and used without my knowledge or payment to me.

PLAYER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU LIVE, WORK, OR WORSHIP IN THE CITY OF PLANO? Please circle YES or NO  
**If no, you still may play.**

TEAM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DAY OF PLAY \_\_\_\_\_

PLAYER'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submitted completed player addition forms to the office at Heritage Yards**