

# ADULT SENIOR SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS



THE CITY OF LONG BEACH PARKS AND  
RECREATION

**Updated 11/18/25**

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
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## FAQ'S:

### **What are the Team Fees?**

\$283 Per Team

### **What is the Officiating Fee?**

\$20 per team/per game

### **What is the Forfeit Fee?**

\$40 per team/per game

### **Can I give my Forfeit Fee to the Umpire?**

All Forfeit Fees must be paid Directly to Dale Moussette

### **Where do I go to pay the Forfeit Fee?**

Pan American Fields on Saturdays to pay Dale Moussette directly.

### **What are the Game Times?**

9:00AM, 10:30AM & 12:00PM

### **Where are the Games Located?**

Joe Rodgers Field, Pan American Field #1, Pan American Field #2

### **When are Rosters Due?**

A completed official team roster must be submitted through email or in person at the Sports Office before the third game of the season

### **How many players can be on a Roster?**

Maximum roster size is 20 players

### **When is the last day to Add/Drop a player?**

Players may be added and dropped up until the beginning of the eighth (8) game. This includes holidays and make-up games.

### **Can I sign up as an individual?**

Individuals can sign up by registering as a free agent on [teamsideline.com/longbeach](https://teamsideline.com/longbeach)

# LONG BEACH GENERAL SUPPLEMENTAL RULES

## 1. FEE DEADLINE:

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE LEAGUE PLAY BEGINS. If your team does not make payment in full by the publicized registration deadline, your team placement in the league is not guaranteed. PARTIAL FEE PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

## 2. ROSTERS/PLAYERS:

- Maximum roster size is twenty (20) players. Any team in the "Silver" and "Bronze" division with only eight (8) or nine (9) players at game time may pick-up substitutes from within their division to reach eleven (11) players for the game, but those substitutes must be on an official league roster. Substitutes must bat last and play catcher or right field.
- EXCEPTION: A team in the "Gold" division with only (9) players may only pick-up one (1) substitute from within their division.
- Completed rosters (Manager's information, player names, signatures, addresses, and phone numbers) are due by the 3rd week of games. Failure to submit on time will result in paper forfeits, they are reversible once the completed roster is turn in. It is recommended that teams carry a full roster to allow for injuries and players that may be out of town. NOTE: LEAGUE AND PLAYOFF SCHEDULES WILL NOT BE CHANGED TO ACCOMODATE PLAYERS OR TEAMS IN MORE THAN ONE (1) LEAGUE.

## 3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

**Players must be fifty-five (55) years old or older.** No active professional or collegiate athletes will be allowed to play in any league. Former professional or collegiate athletes must have been inactive for at least one year in order to participate. Teams or players found in violation of this rule will result in team forfeiture of all games in which the player(s) participated.

## 4. ADDING/DROPPING PLAYERS:

Players may be added and dropped up until the beginning of the eighth (8) game of the league (this includes holidays and make-up games). Players who played prior to the submission of the add/drop form will not receive credit for player eligibility for those games. All players and all changes must be in writing on the add/drop form and received in the Sports Office prior to participation in any league game. Acceptable submission is through email or dropped off in person at the Sports Office.

## **5. REFUND POLICY:**

Refunds for Adult Sports League fees will be available once the schedules for that particular league have been generated and printed. Any team that is removed from any league (willingly and on their own fruition) will be refunded a certain portion of their league fee, based on games played. Teams removed from leagues because of suspension or because of disciplinary action by the Sports Office will not receive a refund. Refunds for Adult Sports League fees will be processed if the league has been canceled. The City of Long Beach has a refund processing fee of \$10.

## **6. PICTORIAL IDENTIFICATION:**

Each player at every game must have in their possession and be able to provide a valid photo identification (Government issued Driver's License or Identification Card) if requested by the official to do so. Any team using ineligible players (not on the roster, no identification) will automatically forfeit any game played, if an eligibility protest is made and upheld by the Sports Coordinator.

## **7. OFFICIAL SCOREKEEPER:**

The umpire/referee will be the official scorekeeper for each game. Managers of both teams must initial scorecards after each game/match to confirm scores.

## **8. OFFICIALS FEES:**

Each team is required to present the game official(s) with the appropriate fee of twenty (\$20) IN CASH prior to the beginning of the game. No game will begin until both teams have paid the official(s) in full. If a team does not pay the official, that team will be charged with a forfeit loss. In sports with multiple officials, if only one official appears for a scheduled game, payment to the official working the game will be half of the regular individual team fee. EXCEPTION: Football and Beach Volleyball (please see specific sports rules).

## **9. PROTESTS:**

Oral protests must be made by the team manager/captain with the official(s) and the opposing team manager/captain prior to the next live ball situation. Protests will not be considered unless they are received at the Sports Office in writing within one (1) working day of the incident. Protests will be decided upon on the spot during the playoffs. Protests for ineligible players must be made by the opposing manager/captain before the end of the game to allow the official to check the identification of the player in question. No protest fee is required at this time. Any player requested by the official(s) to show identification must do so within ten (10) minutes following the completion of the game. If the player in question does not return within the ten (10) minute time period or if the identification does not match the name and signature on the scorecard, the game will be called a forfeit. If the player in question provides identification that matches the name and signature on the scorecard and the opposing manager still feels that the player is illegal, that manager must follow the standard protest procedure outlined above.

## **10. RULE CLARIFICATION:**

Only the manager/captain may approach the official(s) to clarify a call.

#### **11. FIGHTING:**

Any team, player(s), or spectator(s) fighting before, during, or after any City of Long Beach Adult Sport League game will be ejected from the area immediately. The area consists of the field/court, the parking lot, and any portion of City property. If a team, player, or spectator refuses to leave the area or will not stop fighting, this will result in additional team and individual penalties. All penalties will be determined by and enforced by the Adult Sports Executive Committee. The minimum TEAM penalty for fighting is a three (3) game suspension, not counting the game/match in which the incident occurred. This suspension cannot be appealed. The minimum INDIVIDUAL penalty for fighting is an indefinite suspension pending an Adult Sports Executive Committee decision. All Adult Sports Executive Committee decisions are final and may not be appealed. Once suspended, the team, player(s), or spectator(s) may not participate or attend any City of Long Beach Adult Sports Activities during the duration of their suspension. Failure to comply will result in additional penalties. PLEASE REFER TO THE CITY OF LONG BEACH PARTICIPANT'S CODE OF CONDUCT.

#### **12. TRASH TALKING/VERBAL ABUSE:**

Abusive language and/or gestures by any player(s), spectator(s), or coaches directed towards scorekeepers, officials, or other participants will not be permitted. The official will issue a warning on the first occurrence, if abusive conditions continue the individual(s) in question will be ejected from the area. Please see rule #17 for participant ejection rule clarification.

#### **13. ALCOHOL / DRUGS:**

Alcoholic consumption or drug use on any City property is strictly prohibited. Any player(s) or spectator(s) believed to be under the influence of alcohol, or any other drug will be immediately ejected from the area and will be suspended for a minimum of the next City of Long Beach league game played. If the player(s) or spectator(s) refuse to leave the area, a forfeit will be called, and the player(s) or spectator(s) will be suspended indefinitely pending a hearing before the Executive Committee. ANY VIOLATION OF THESE RULES MAY RESULT IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

#### **14. PETS:**

Pets (of any kind) are allowed at field locations but must remain on leash at all times and owners are required to pick up after their pets. Doggie bags are not available at park locations, owners must bring their own.

#### **15. PARTICIPANT EJECTION:**

Any player(s), spectator(s), or coach ejected before, during, or after any Long Beach Adult Sports League game will be automatically suspended a minimum of one (1) game, as well as the remainder of the game in which the suspension occurred. Once suspended, the team, player(s), or spectator(s) may not participate or attend any City of Long Beach Adult Sports Activities during the duration of their suspension and until a decision is made by the Adult Sports Executive Committee. Failure to comply will result in additional penalties. Following the ejection of a team or individual, the game will not continue until the ejected participant(s) vacate the area. Failure to vacate the premises will result in additional penalties.

## **16. MISSED GAMES:**

In the event a game is not played for any reason, CONTINUE FOLLOWING YOUR CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINING GAMES. PLEASE CONTACT THE SPORTS OFFICE OR THE SPORTS COORDINATOR FOR RESCHEDULING INFORMATION.

## **17. PLAYOFFS:**

Single elimination tournament format will be utilized. All teams in each division bracket will advance to the playoffs, regardless of division size. If a playoff team is not able to play, is disqualified, or removed from the division, the playoffs will be adjusted to remove them from the schedule or their opponent will receive a forfeit win. When appropriate, first and second round playoffs will be played on the usual night and location of league play. Nevertheless, teams must be available to play on other nights and locations, as well as multiple nights in the same week.

## **18. PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY:**

Players must be signed on the official team roster or on an official add/drop form and have competed in five (5) regular season games to be eligible for the playoffs. Players must print their name legibly and sign next to it. Scribbles and signatures only (or printed name only) will not be counted towards playoff eligibility.

## **19. TIE BREAKER:**

In the event of a tie in the final standings of a league, the following tie breaker will be used:

1. Total wins
2. Regular season head to-head competition
3. Head-to-head differential
4. Common Opponents
5. Total Run Differential
6. Strength of schedule
7. Lowest number of forfeits,
8. Coin Flip.

## **20. ILLEGAL PLAYER:**

An illegal player is:

1. a person playing on a team whose name and signature do not appear on that team's official roster or official add/drop forms.
2. a person on more than one (1) team roster in the same league or night/day (example: Tuesday D1 and Tuesday D2 or two teams in Tuesday D1).

NOTE: Any team found using illegal players will automatically forfeit any and all games in which the illegal player participated in. It is each teams' manager's responsibility to monitor or protest illegal players.

## **21. WEATHER/FIELD CONDITIONS:**

If you are in doubt of weather or field conditions possibly affecting your game, please call the Long Beach Field Conditions Hot line at 562-570-3799 after 3:00 PM on game day. Due to the large number of teams in our leagues, it is impossible for the League Coordinators to notify all team managers of canceled game information. **Teams should be prepared to play make-up games on any night or field and on short notice.**

## **22. FIRST AID:**

The City of Long Beach does not provide first aid at any Adult Sports facilities. It is recommended that the managers of each team bring any first aid items that they feel are necessary. Please see specific sports rules.

## **23. SCMAF BLOOD RULE:**

Any player, coach, or official who is bleeding, has an open wound, or has blood on his/her body or clothing, is prohibited from further participation in the game until appropriate treatment has been administered. If first aid is required for a player, the player must be immediately removed from the game, unless treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time. A player, coach, or official will not be allowed to participate unless:

1. All bleeding has stopped
2. Any exposed cut/scrape which has bled is completely covered
3. Bloody clothing is removed It is recommended that teams have spare clothing available at the game site to be used if necessary.

## **24. CITY OF LONG BEACH ADULT SPORTS COORDINATOR:**

The City of Long Beach Adult Sports League Coordinator is the final authority for all on field/court and off field/court decisions (INCLUDING SUSPENSIONS) on any City of Long Beach Adult Sports League. The City of Long Beach Adult Sports League Coordinator has the authority to see to the safety of the participants, officials, spectators, and equipment at any City of Long Beach site or any site being used by any City of Long Beach Adult Sport League.

**If necessary, the City of Long Beach Adult Sports League Coordinator is authorized to warn individuals of actions CONTRARY to the City of Long Beach Adult Sports Supplemental Rulebook and eject any participant(s), spectator(s), or anyone else who does not comply with the rules and regulations as stated in the City of Long Beach Adult Sports Supplemental Rulebook. This authority does not affect the official of the match in any way. It is in addition to that authority.** No rules or regulations dealing with a team's right to protest are changed by this supplement. Please see rule #11. The City of Long Beach Adult Sports League Coordinator determines schedule changes, league relocations, and team reclassification as necessary. The City of Long Beach Adult Sports League Coordinator determines whether any games/matches are subject to suspension, replay, or forfeit as determined by the City of Long Beach Adult Sports Supplemental Rulebook.

**25. CITY OF LONG BEACH ADULT SPORTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

The City of Long Beach Adult Sports Executive Committee is the final authority for all clarification and interpretation of rules and regulations as outlined in the City of Long Beach Supplemental Rulebook and the Participant's Code of Conduct.

# Senior Softball Supplemental Rules

**Current Official 2022 or 2023 SCMAF Rules, as well as these supplemental rules will be the official rules for league play.**

## **1. ROSTERS/PLAYERS:**

**Maximum roster size is twenty (20) players.**

Any team with only eight (8) or nine (9) players at game time may pick up up to two (2) substitute players from within their division or any lower division, as long as those substitutes are listed on an official league roster. Substitutes may play in upper divisions but are not allowed to play down, and they must bat last and play either catcher or right field.

## **2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:**

In order to be eligible for this league, **players must be fifty-five (55) years of age or older** during the calendar year in which they are playing. Only 1 player per team can be 54 turning 55 the following calendar but that player cannot be used to sub on a team that is short on players.

## **3. PERSONAL CONDUCT:**

No player or coach may address any official while in possession of a bat. The applies to all participants, spectators, and coaches before, during or after the game. Violation of this rule will result in immediate ejection from the game and indefinite suspension from the league until further review by the Adult Sports Executive Committee.

## **4. ADDING/DROPPING PLAYERS:**

Players may be added and dropped up **until the beginning of the eighth (8) game** of the league (this includes holidays and make-up games). All players and all changes must be in writing on the add/drop form and submitted to the Sports Office prior to participation in any league game.

## **5. GAME SHEET:**

Managers should not fill out scorecard prior to the game. Players should print and sign their own name as they come in. No game may begin until a completed scorecard with signatures is submitted to the umpire; however, time limit for game will begin as scheduled. Late players must sign the scorecard before entering the game. **Names on score sheet must provide first and last name as well as a signature; writing must be legible (Failure to provide legible, full names on score sheet may result in player not given credit for game played).**

## **6. GAME TIME:**

Senior Softball will be regularly scheduled for 9:00am, 10:30am, and 12:00pm. NOTE: Times are subject to change.

## **7. LENGTH OF GAME:**

- **There is no mercy rule**
- All games will last seven (7) innings or eighty (80) minutes in length, whichever occurs first.
- After elapsed time reaches seventy (70) minutes, the umpire will stop play and signify the current inning will be completed, then one (1) more inning will be played as an "Open Inning"

## **8. PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY:**

Players must be on the team roster or add/drop form and have competed in five (5) regular season games to be eligible for playoffs. Players must print their name legibly and sign next to it. Scribbles and signatures only (or printed name only) may not be counted towards playoff eligibility.

## **9. PLAYOFF GAME TIE BREAKER:**

In the event of a tie after the completion of seven (7) innings, a runner shall be placed at second base each successive extra inning. Runner placed at second base will be the last out from the previous inning. NOTE: Regular season games end in a tie.

## **10. FORFEIT TIME:**

- There is a ten (10) minute grace period for the first game only. All other games will start on time as scheduled.
- The grace period is still part of the total game time.
- Games will be forfeited if:
  - A team can't field eight (8) players at game time.
  - A team found to have used an illegal or non-roster player
  - A team continues to harass the Referee or if the Referee feels the situation is such that a physical harm may come to him/herself, other players, or spectators.
  - Any player consuming any alcoholic beverages on the playing fields, park facility, or parking lots. Teams who violate this rule before, during, and after a game will forfeit the game and will be suspended from the league. If a manager knowingly allows a member of the team to participate under the influence of alcohol or drugs, they will be subject to suspension. Any violation of these rules could result in criminal prosecution.

## **11. FORFEIT FEE:**

**ALL CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO Dale Moussette .** Teams that forfeit must pay both team officials fee \$40.00. Payment must be paid to Dale Moussette

**12. UMPIRE FEE:**

\$20 (twenty) per team, per game due to the umpire in cash prior to the start of the game. NOTE: Any team that does not have the full amount to pay the umpire by their scheduled game time or forfeit time (only for the first (1<sup>st</sup>) scheduled game time) will be subject to forfeit.

**13. HOME TEAM/VISTING TEAM:**

The home team will occupy the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) base dugout. The home AND away teams will bring one (1) new approved softball. The umpire will be the sole judge on the quality of game balls. Failure to provide a new approved softball may result in a forfeiture of the home team status. NOTE: The Adult Sports Office will provide each playoff game with two (2) new game balls. Both teams must provide back-up balls.

**14. APPROVED SOFTBALLS:**

Dudley Heat ZN(Max Compression 375 with .44 COR) It is recommended that teams carry their used game softballs with them in case additional back-up softballs are needed.

**15. APPROVED FOOTWEAR:**

Metal cleats are not allowed in any City of Long Beach Adult Softball League. Rubber-soled baseball style cleats are the only recommended footwear for all leagues. Players found to be wearing metal cleats will be asked to change. If a player refuses to change cleats, does not have another pair of legal cleats, or is not legally substituted out the game, the player will be ejected for the remainder of that game.

**16. HELMET/FACE MASKS:**

The City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine REQUIRES all Senior Slow Pitch pitchers to wear a face mask. We recommend all infielders to do the same, however it is not required. In addition, it is recommended that offensive players wear helmets while on the field, it is not required.

**17. SENIOR SLOW – PITCH RUN RULE:**

When a team batting has scored five (5) runs in one inning, that half inning will be declared over, and that team must take the field. This rule does not apply in the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) inning (or the last inning time permitting) which will be considered an “open” inning.

**18. PITCHING DISTANCE/BASE LINES:**

The pitching distance will be fifty (50) feet and the base lines sixty (60) feet for all leagues.

**19. COURTESY RUNNER:**

There is no limit to courtesy runners allowed in an inning. However, a player may be a courtesy runner for only one player per inning. Once a courtesy runner has replaced a player on base, that replaced player may not be a courtesy runner for another player in that inning. **NOTE:** If a courtesy runner is on-base when it is his/her turn to bat, an out will be awarded to the defensive team. A courtesy runner cannot be requested or awarded for a courtesy runner. If this out is not the third out, the courtesy runner stays on base and the next batter in the respective gender lineup is up to bat.

**20. FLIP – FLOP RULE:**

In the last inning, if the visiting team is ahead by at least ten (10) runs, the home team will bat first. If the visiting team is still ahead after the home team completes their half inning, the game will be over.

**21. CATCH UP RULE:**

If a team has fewer than eight (8) players at game time, they may bat first. The game will be declared a forfeit if the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) player does not arrive before the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) out is recorded or his/her turn at bat.

**22. COMMITMENT LINE:**

A runner having passed the twenty (20) foot line from home plate must continue to home plate. Defensive players must touch home plate while in possession of the ball (force out) to record an out. A force out does not exist unless the base runner has at least partially passed the 20-foot commitment line. The base runner will be ruled out if the ball is jarred loose by bumping or physical contact. NOTE: JUDGEMENT CALLS MADE BY AN OFFICIAL MAY NOT BE PROTESTED.

**23. SCORING LINE:**

A ten (10) foot scoring line shall extend from the corner of home plate (closest to third (3<sup>rd</sup>) base) at a 90-degree angle to the third base foul line, starting at the batter's box. Any player running outside of the line through the batter's box or touching home plate, or the mat will be ruled out. To score, the runner's foot must be on the ground or beyond the line before the ball reaches home plate.

**24. OFFICIAL CALLS:**

The umpire will verbally say "illegal, flat, ceiling, too high" or any combination on all high (12 foot) and low (6 foot) pitches.

**25. INFIELD PRACTICE:**

Pitchers are allowed two (2) practice pitches in between innings.

**26. MAN ON 3<sup>RD</sup>:**

If there is a player occupying 3<sup>rd</sup> base, player may choose to get off the base the moment of a pitch that goes towards foul territory. To advance a player MUST retouch the base. (I.e just like a sacrifice fly in the outfield)

**27. THREE STRIKE RULE:**

The batter is out when after having two strikes the batter hits a foul ball.

**28. HOME RUN:**

- If a home run is hit, the runner only needs to tag the next base.
- When playing on a field with an Outfield Fence; a 2-up rule will be enforced. Once a team is up two (2) Home Runs will be counted as a single until the opposing team hits two (2) Home Runs. Once even, the 1-up rule will be enforced.
- On a Home Run that is counted as a Single due to 2-up/1-up, base runner must be "pushed" or "forced" to the next base.

## 29. OFFICIAL BATS:

- Bats shall have a bat performance factor (BPF) not exceeding 1.20.
- Bats containing titanium alloy and double wall are NOT legal.
- Bats can be single wall, one-piece bats or single wall, two-piece bats with an aluminum alloy barrel. Steel, Z-core, and C-core bats are permitted.
- Gold Division: Players who are 70+ years old may use composite bats (ASA/USSSA) with BPF rating that does not exceed 1.20.
- Bats that have composite lining in the barrel are considered multi-wall bats and are not allowed.

NOTE: On game day the umpires have the authority to exclude bats. If you are unsure about the legality of your bat you can check with the sports office staff or umpire prior to first pitch.

## 30. BAT COMPLIANCE

- Official will inspect bats prior to game starting or prior to a player at bat.
- If official deems a bat illegal, he/she will provide player with a firm warning. Player must then switch to a legal bat prior to batting.
- If the same player is found utilizing a bat that is out of compliance for a second time in the same game, the player will be ejected (see rule 15).

## 31. SCHEDULE REQUEST:

- Any schedule request given by teams to the Sports Office may be considered, but not guaranteed. This includes any tournament request even if requested in advanced notice.
- Teams must acknowledge the schedule and plan to play all games listed throughout the season. If a team is unable to play a specific game, requests a reschedule, and the Sports Office does reschedule the game, it will result in a team forfeit.
- **If the schedule is projected to extend for a certain duration. This may result in double headers and bye weeks throughout the season.**

## 32. HOLIDAYS REQUEST:

- The Sports Office will acknowledge holidays that the City of Long Beach recognizes. All other holidays may continue with games proceeding.

## 33. FORCE PLAYS:

All plays at the bases will be force outs. There is NO SWIPE TAGS in any division.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. On a wild throw to first base (1st) base for a force out, the first (1st) baseman may tag the runner.
2. When a batter hits a ground ball to an infielder they are allowed to tag the runner as long as the runner is in front of them, infielders are not allowed to chase the runner to tag them out.

## 34. PEEL OFF:

Runners must avoid contact with defensive players and must not interfere with throws to the bases. When running to second or third base, runners must peel off in the opposite direction of where the ball is coming from to avoid obstructing the play. Intentional contact with defensive player or obstruction of play will result in an out and is determined by the discretion of the umpire.

### **35. DESIGNATED NON-RUNNER:**

Bronze may designate three (3) players, Silver is allowed two (2) players, as non-runners at the pre-game managers meeting. These players are guaranteed first base if they hit a clean hit to the Outfield. These runner may not advance past first (1st) base no matter how far into the outfield the ball is hit. Once they reach first (1st) base they will receive a courtesy runner. NOTE: All other base runners are live.

- A clean hit is considered by the following: The hit must not be touched/deflected by any infield players. If this occurs, it is a live ball and they must make it to first (1st) base before being thrown/tagged out.
- Infield players may not move back and play on the grass when a designated non-runner is up at bat.

### **35. GOLD 70+ PLAYERS:**

Batters in the Gold division who are 70 years and older are not allowed to be thrown out at first (1st) base from the outfield. There is no restraint on how many bases they can try for on a hit.

# SUPPLEMENTAL GROUND RULES

The following rules are specific to certain City of Long Beach Adult League Softball Fields. Questions or Ground rules not covered by these supplemental rules or the SCMAF Rulebook will be the sole judgment of the umpire.

## **EL DORADO FIELD #3 & #4:**

Out of play imaginary lines extend from the first base and third base dugout fences, continuing parallel with the foul lines to the outfield fences.

## **JOE RODGERS FIELD:**

Out of play imaginary lines run from the first and third base dugout fences to the next immediate light pole, continuing parallel with the foul lines to the outfield fences.

## **PAN AMERICAN FIELD #1 & #2:**

- Out of play imaginary lines angle in from the end of the first and third base dugout fences to the last (third) light pole, continuing parallel with the foul lines.
- Any playable fly ball hit in FOUL territory that strikes an overhanging tree or bush is a dead ball. A strike will be issued to the batter and any runners may not advance or be called out.
- Any playable batted ball hit in FAIR territory that strikes an overhanging tree, bush, sidewalks, buildings, street, tables, and/or benches in the outfield is an automatic home run at the discretion of the Umpire. All runners will score. This rule is in effect due to ensure the safety of all participants.