

Elmhurst Park District

Adult Softball League

Spring 2025

- League games will be held at Berens Park Diamonds 1-4
- Games are held between 6:30 and 9:30PM
- 10 game regular season + single-elimination, post-season tournament for **top 8 teams**
- League fees - \$836 for 12-inch men’s league and \$860 for 14-inch co-rec league
- \$275 cash award for league champions
- \$175 cash award for league runners-up
- \$150 cash award for tournament champions
- \$100 cash award for tournament runners-up

NOTE: FULL payment is due at the time of registration.
 You may register in person at 615 N. West Ave, Elmhurst IL 60126 or online

Adult Softball League Timeline

Saturday, February 24, 2025

Registration opens.

Monday April 7, 2025

Last Day for teams register, dependent on availability.

Wednesday April 11, 2025

Schedules available online at teamsideline.com/Elmhurst

Monday April 21, 2025

League play begins.

Men’s 12”	Monday C1	Tuesday B Tuesday C2	Thursday C2 Thursday C3 East Thursday C3 West
Co-Rec 14”	Wednesday	Co-Rec division	



RULES

The Elmhurst Park District has adopted the following to govern the Adult Softball league organized and controlled by the Park District. Rules not covered herein will be determined by the “Official USA Rules”.

- USA rules apply except where the Elmhurst Park District has made adaptations.
- To ensure league parity, teams that participated and won their league for the Spring 2024 or Fall 2024 season, will be moved up leagues for the Spring 2025 season (at the Program Supervisor’s discretion).
- In addition, teams that finished .500 or better for the Spring 2024 or Fall 2024 season, will not be allowed to move down divisions for the Spring 2025 season (at the Program Supervisor’s discretion).
- If there are not enough teams to support a given league, those teams may be placed in another, available league.
- Men’s 12”
 - A team consists of 10 players, 11 if the extra player (EP) is used.
 - To start a game, at least 8 players must be present.
- Co-Rec 14”
 - A team consists of 20 players, 12 if the extra players (EP) are used.
 - To start a game, at least 8 players must be present.
 - Men are no longer allowed to wear gloves in the field, women are still allowed
- ALL
 - If a player is ejected for inappropriate conduct, the player’s place may not be taken by anyone else, forcing a team to play short a player for the remainder of the game.
 - An automatic out will be assessed each time that player would have batted.
 - If an EP is designated and not present, an out will be recorded each time the EP is to bat.
 - If a player is ejected for inappropriate conduct that team’s pitcher will also be ejected.
 - Teams have the option of batting their entire roster, if desired. This must be declared prior to the start of the game.
 - Once declared, it will be in effect for the entire game. All other rules remain in effect.
- One new game ball will be provided each game.
 - In the event of a home run or a foul ball, another new ball will be provided for the game to continue quickly.
 - “Extra balls” provided by teams must conform to league specifications and be approved by the umpire prior to being allowed to be put into play.
 - The Park District will provide one “extra ball” per field for the first two weeks of play if necessary.
- Scorebooks are provided to teams once per year.
- There will be a 5-home run limit per team in effect for each game. Any home runs exceeding 5 shall result in a dead ball out.

- Metal or detachable cleats are not permitted.
- 8 players are required for an official game, and teams may add a 9th, and 10th player at any time. Should a team play with only 8 players, an out shall be recorded each time the 9th spot in the batting order is scheduled to bat. Minimum of 8 players present for game to start.
 - If at any time after completion of the 3rd inning, a team with only 8 players falls behind by 15 or more runs, the game shall be immediately declared over.
- A 20-run slaughter rule will be in effect after the 4th inning (3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead), 12 runs after the 5th inning (4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead), or 10 runs after 5 ½ or 6 innings.
- Game length: All scheduled games will be 7 innings or the one (1) hour time limit, whichever comes first. No new inning will be started with 5 minutes or less to the hour time limit. If the game is tied after 7 innings and the time limit has not been met, extra innings will be played with international rules until the time limit, or a winner is determined. If the time limit has been met and the game is tied, then it will be ruled a tie.
 - In case of rain, a 4 ½ inning game will be official with the home team winning or 5 innings with the visiting team winning. Any game called for rain prior to this point will be replayed in its entirety.
- Games tied after the completion of 7 innings, prior to the 1-hour time limit, shall continue using the “International Tiebreaker Rule.” Starting with the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base.
 - In the event a game is tied at the completion of the one-hour time limit, the game will be declared a tied game. **Exception: Championship games shall have a 75-minute time limit.**
 - Due to the nature of the game and that no inning will be comparable to another, umpires and Elmhurst Park District staff reserve the right to announce time or last at bats depending on a given situation during the regular season.
- The infield fly rule applies.
- Players must avoid contact. If a player fails to avoid contact and there is substantial physical contact in the judgment of the umpire, the runner shall be declared out and immediately ejected. If a player is ejected for substantial physical conduct that team’s pitcher shall also be ejected.
- To appeal a play for a missed base - ask the umpire **BEFORE** the next pitch.
- Co-Rec Specific:
 - A team consist of 10 players (5 females & 5 males). If a team has only 8 or 9 players, at least 4 of them must be females.
 - Defensive positioning shall include two males and two females in the outfield, two males and two females in the infield, one male and one female in the pitcher-catcher positions. In the case of a team with 8 or 9 players, the following exceptions apply:
 - If a team has eight players, teams must position one male and one female in the pitcher-catcher positions.
 - If a team has only nine players and the number of males is greater than the number of females, teams must play three players in the outfield with a male playing the right field position.

- The batting order shall alternate sexes. Should two males bat consecutively, an automatic out will be declared. Two players of the same sex can hold the same spot in the batting order if they alternate each time up to bat.
- Gloves are optional for female Co-Rec 14” Mushball players. Gloves are not allowed for male players.
- Any walk to a male batter shall result in a two base award and the next batter (a female) has the option to walk or to bat.
- Bases will be set at 65’

ROSTERS

- Rosters are due before the team’s 1st scheduled game! Any team, which does not turn in a roster before their first game, will forfeit the match. Rosters may be submitted right before your scheduled match. Roster changes will be allowed as designated by the Park District deadline, before the 3rd game of the season.
- **NEW: All rosters and waivers will be finalized by team captains via TeamSideline. Captains will be sent a link to invite their players to their teams. Players will register and create their own individual TeamSideline account by clicking the link sent by their team captain. All rosters will be locked after the third week of games. Paper rosters and waivers will no longer be utilized.**
- No change to the roster can be made after the third game, except in the case of an injury. A doctor’s note will be required, and the replacement player must be of similar ability to the injured player. Any change(s) will require approval by the Program Manager prior to the game.
- A player is ineligible if they meet any of these restrictions:
 - A player who is not 18 years of age on or before the first scheduled game.
 - A player not on the team’s roster
 - A player using a false name or nickname on the roster and/or sign-in sheet.
 - A player using an improper/incorrect address (i.e., non-resident using an Elmhurst address).
 - A player with no photo I.D., proof of residency, and/or incomplete/inaccurate roster information.
 - A player on more than one roster per sport per night. Exception: A player may be rostered on a League Team and an Open Division Team, though they should anticipate numerous scheduling conflicts.
 - A player currently listed on a professional volleyball team roster. Amateur players are eligible. Exception: Professional athletes are permitted in Open Division.
- To be eligible, a player must meet all the following criteria:
 - Must be 18 years of age on or before the first scheduled game.
 - Must be on the team’s roster.
 - Must have accurate information on the roster and sign-in sheet.
 - Must have a photo I.D. with them while in the facility (refer above for acceptable ID’s).
 - **Must be on only one roster per sport per night.**
- Any team giving false information on a roster shall be dismissed from the league without any money being refunded.

- An ineligible player is anyone who is listed on more than one roster on the same night
- Any team using an ineligible player will forfeit the game.
- The maximum roster size is 20 players.

ROSTER CHECKS

- If a team suspects that the opposing team is using an unrostered (illegal) player, a roster check may be requested. At that time all players from both teams will be required to produce photo identification.
- The time taken to complete the roster check will count towards the hour game period.
- Use of an unrostered player will result in the forfeiture of the game in which he/she is caught illegally playing.
- If the roster check occurs:
 - Prior to the beginning of the game, all players without photo identification will not be allowed to play.
 - During the game, the game shall immediately be stopped and photo identification of all players from both teams will be checked.
- Any players unable to produce photo identification at that time shall be declared an unrostered player.
- Staff shall have the right to request a roster check on any individual player or team at any time.
- A captain may request a roster check on any individual player arriving late. A player roster checked in this fashion shall not force the entire team to be roster checked.
- A roster check must be made before the 4th inning begins.

BATTING

- Each batter will begin with a 1-1 count.
- Batter is out if he/she throws the bat.
- Bunting is not allowed. Players must take a full swing at the ball.
- A batter is out if he/she hits 1 foul ball after 2 strikes.
- Bats must be covered with a non-slip tape or other approved material (minimum of ten inches).
- The batter's box will not be marked off; however, the batter may not cross the imaginary plane of the base until the ball is contacted. For the safety of the batters and catcher, the batter may be required to move up in the batter's box.

- In all games in which a double first base is used, the batter-runner shall automatically be declared out if, on a play on the infield, he/she touches only the white portion of the base.

BASE RUNNING

- No stealing.
- No leadoffs. Base runners may leave the base if the pitched ball hits the ground, is short, or is hit.
- Courtesy Runner:
 - Each team may designate 2 players before the game that will receive courtesy runners.
 - No other courtesy runners will be awarded, unless a player is injured during the game. (At the umpire's discretion)
 - The courtesy runner will be the last out.

PITCHING AND FIELDING

- Pitching Distances:
 - Men's 12": The pitching rubber shall be at 50 feet from home plate.
 - Co-Rec 14" Mushball: The pitching rubber shall be at 40 feet from home plate.
- The pitcher shall take a position with both feet on the ground with one or both feet in contact with the pitching rubber. The ball shall be held in one or both hands in front of the body.
- The ball must be delivered to the batter at a height of at least 6 feet to a maximum of 10 feet from the ground.
- The catcher must be positioned behind the no used batter's box. The catcher may not cross the imaginary plane of home base until a pitched ball has landed. If the catcher breaks the imaginary plane before the pitched ball has landed, the batter will be awarded first base.
- **NEW: All outfielders must remain behind the white line in the outfield until contact is made with a pitched ball. (150 FT from home)**
- Men's 12" Exception:
 - After the pitcher has taken proper position, both feet in contact with the pitching rubber, he may take one step directly backwards before releasing the ball.

PLAYER CONDUCT

- Players must respect the umpire, Elmhurst Park District Staff, and other players.
- Player's behavior is the responsibility of the player and captain of that team.
- Any player ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct will be automatically suspended for 2 games.
- If any player is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct, the team's pitcher shall be ejected for the remainder of the game.

- Further unsportsmanlike conduct may result in forfeiture of games and/or additional suspensions at the program manager's discretion.
- If a player is ejected from a contest (for anything other than use of metal or detachable cleats or use of tobacco products), that team's pitcher shall also be ejected from the remainder of the contest.

FORFEITS

- If a team fails to have enough rostered players in their dugout by game time, the game will be awarded to the opposing team in a score of 7-0.
- Once an umpire declares a game forfeited, the game cannot be played.
- If a team forfeits 2 games, they are ineligible for the post-season tournament, per program supervisor discretion.
- Forfeiture of a doubleheader will be counted as one forfeit for eligibility purposes.
- If a team is aware ahead of time that they will not have enough players to field a team, they should call or e-mail the Program Supervisor at tgiovenco@epd.org as early as possible. Same day forfeit will result in a \$5 charge. This will be taken out of any winnings or registration fees.
 - The Program Supervisor will then attempt to notify the other team, if time allows.
 - In the event a rainout occurs BEFORE the scheduled start time of the game, the game will not be recorded as a forfeit and will be rescheduled.
- Carry enough rostered players to not forfeit during the season.
 - A free agent list is available for all teams upon request.
 - All roster rules apply when adding Free Agents to your team.
- Grace Period:
 - There will be a ten-minute grace period for all games.
 - Should a team fail to have the minimum number of players required to begin the game upon conclusion of the grace period, the game shall be declared a forfeit and awarded to the opposing team.
 - The grace period is considered a part of the one-hour time limit for the game.

TOURNAMENTS

- A BONUS single elimination tournament is conducted at the end of league play. League standings determine the seeding of each team in the tournament.
- The top 8 teams in each league shall be eligible for the tournament. In extreme circumstances, the tournament may be cut to the top four teams in each league or cut completely.
- In the event the tournament is cut due to time constraints, the tournament prize money will be added up, and divided evenly amongst the top four teams in each league.
- Tournament play has separate awards from league play.

- Several games may be played in succession.
- Tournament rules will be the same as regular season
 - Exception: Games tied at the conclusion of seven innings or one hour, will be played until one team is ahead at the end of an inning utilizing the “International Tiebreaker rule.”
- Roster checks may be conducted for all tournament, semi-final, and championship games. Players not listed on the roster or who are without photo identification will not be allowed to participate.
- No refunds will be given in the event the tournament is canceled.

TIE-BREAKER POLICY

- To determine a league champion, the tiebreaker will be based on:
 - 1) League standing during the regular season (winning percentage)
 - 2) Games back
 - 3) Head-to-head*
 - 4) Head-to-head run differential
 - 5) Average run differential
 - 6) Total runs against
 - 7) Total runs for
 - 8) Coin toss

*Generally, Head-to-head will only determine one winner. After that, the next tie breaker is used to break the tie between the remaining teams.

*Head-to-head could be versus the entire league depending on the standings. If 2 or more teams have the same record it would focus on the group of teams that have the same records.

QUESTIONS

- If you have any questions regarding the league, please contact Toni Giovenco, Program Manager at tgiovenco@epd.org or 630-993-8980.



USA BAT TESTING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

- All bats must be USA approved. Use of an illegal bat will result in a player ejection and that team's pitcher shall also be ejected from the remainder of the contest. A player found to have an illegal bat a second time will be suspended for the remainder of league and post season play (at the Program Supervisor's discretion).
- Even if a bat has been approved in another park district league does not necessarily mean that it will be accepted in the Elmhurst Park District leagues.
- A complete list of legal/illegal bats can be found on <https://www.usasoftball.com/?redirectPath=%2Fusa-softball%2Fplay-asa%2Fcertified-asa-equipment>.
- The official bat in USA Championship Play must meet all the requirements of Rule 3, Section 1 and:
 - The Official bat must bear either the USA approved 2000 certification mark, the USA 2004 certification mark as shown below, or the USA 2013 Certification Mark (Slow Pitch ONLY) as shown below and must not be listed on an USA Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Marks, and
 - Must be included on a list of approved bat models published by the USA National Office; or must, in the sole opinion and discretion of the umpire, have been manufactured prior to 2000 and if tested, would comply with the USA bat performance standards then in effect. This includes wooden bats
- All bats in USA Championship Play, except Seniors, must pass the USA Bat Performance Standard. All bats having the 2000, 2004 or 2013 (Slow Pitch, Men's Adult Fast Pitch, Junior Olympic Boy's Fast Pitch and Men's Modified Pitch ONLY) Certification Mark and not listed on the list of Non-Approved bats with Certification marks will be allowed in USA Championship Play. Bats with the 2013 Certification Mark will be allowed in Slow Pitch National Championship Play Only. For your convenience, the USA website has a listing of all approved bats and bats that have USA Certification Marks and are no longer approved.
- For a list of bats that have been tested and found to comply with the USA bat performance standards, and therefore are authorized to bear the USA 2000, USA 2004 or USA 2013 certification mark and/or are authorized for use in USA Championship Play please click on the manufacturer below. Manufacturers continue to submit additional bat models for testing, and the USA will update this list as test results become available.
- **Non-Approved Bats 2004 and Beyond**
 - [Click here for USA's 1 Page Non Approved Bats with Certification Marks \(2000 and 2004\) \(current listing\)](#)
 - [Click here for USA's Non Approved Bats with Certification Marks \(2000 and 2004\) \(current listing\)](#)
 - [Click here for USA's Non Approved Bats with 2004 Certification Marks \(current listing\)](#)