

El Paso County Sportspark

1780 N. Zaragoza, El Paso, TX 79936 - (915) 857-7676
clfernandez@epcounty.com - DeGomez@epcounty.com

2018 Fall - (Co-Ed) Softball League

Format

- Competitive
- **20 Games** Two games on Monday. ****Double Elimination Playoffs****
- League will be conducted under the auspices of the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) except as noted.
- All games will be played at the El Paso County Sportspark.

Playing Rules

- Game time is forfeit time. There is a five (5) minute grace period for the first game of the day (only for regular season) No new inning shall start with 4 minutes or less on the clock. No grace period for playoff. The home team will be determined by www.quickscores.com/epcounty for regular season games.
- The time limit in all games will be fifty-five (55) minutes. However, no new inning will start if there are four (4) minutes or less left on the play clock. This is not a drop dead situation; teams will complete their turn at bat as necessary.
- Teams can start and play with a minimum of eight (8) players, with no more than five (5) players of either sex. The ninth (9th) and tenth (10th) positions in the batting order will be outs until a roster player(s) arrive to play.
- If a player is removed from the game for any reason with no substitute available, the vacated spot becomes an out each time it comes to bat. The player immediately following the vacant spot would be passed as a batter but may still stay in the game to play defense. Two batters of the same sex may bat consecutively if an out is recorded between them.
- Five (5) male and five (5) female players may play defense in any position; however, the pitcher and catcher must be different sexes.
- Run rules are Twenty (20) after 2 ½ or 3 Innings, Fifteen (15) after 3 ½ or 4 Innings and Ten (10) after 4 ½ or 5 Innings depending on which team is ahead.
- The flip flop rule will be in effect during all games including playoffs.
- Batters will start with a zero-zero count. There is no courtesy foul.
- Teams are permitted one courtesy runner per inning for both male and female runners which shall be the last recorded out. The courtesy runner is not in effect if there are no outs in the first inning of play. (This applies to both sexes. Courtesy runners must be of the same sex as the batter/runner for whom they are running.
- Home run limits: men; four (4) home runs. Women; unlimited homeruns. After a team reaches its home run limit any batter who hits a fair, untouched ball over the fence will be out.
- The middle is open. However if in the opinion of the umpire, a batter intentionally goes up the middle, he/she will be ejected. The pitcher is highly encouraged to wear a mask.
- There will be no “point of no return” line or “home plate” line. Runners must touch home plate in order to register a run scored.
- If a game is tied after a regulation seven (7) innings or after time has expired, one extra inning will be played to determine a winner. The USSSA Tie Breaker (last out) will be used. If the game is still tied after the extra inning, it ends in a tie.
- Any walk issued to a male batter will result in a two (2) base award. The batter runner goes directly to second (2nd) base. The following female has the option of batting or taking first (1st) base.

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Roster

1. All players must have a government issued picture identification, at their ball field (must match name on rosters) Players without ID will not be allowed to play. If the player is on the roster but fails to provide an ID he/she will not be allowed to play, even if the other team, the umpire, or I know them personally.
2. Non-roster players are ineligible to play.
3. No player may play on or be on the roster of more than one team, in the same or different league.
4. The UIC and umpires will be enforcing the regulation
5. Coaches have the right to view a copy of every team's roster.
6. All players participating in this league must be 18 years of age or older.
7. Rosters will not exceed 20 players.

The Game

1. Umpire fees are Twelve (12) dollars per team, per game and must be paid before the start of the game at the pre-game conference. **No Exceptions**
2. Suspended games are regulation if 3½ or 4 innings have been played. In the event a game is delayed, teams are required to wait for instructions from the League Manager. If play resumes, absent teams will receive a forfeit.
3. In the event of inclement weather or other acts of Mother Nature, make up games will be played at the end of the season.
4. Requests for specific playing times or fields will not be honored.

Schedule

1. The Sportspark will not be accepting any special requests on schedules (this includes tournaments, times, or day requests) for 2018 Fall Season. Teams are not allowed to postpone any games during the 2018 Fall Season. League Manager has the authority to modify the 2018 Fall Season schedule at his/her discretion.
2. The 2018 Fall Season schedules can be obtain the schedules on **www.quickcores.com/epcounty**. Once this schedule is distributed all game times, dates, and playing teams are official.
3. If a team cannot attend a scheduled game a forfeit will be given. Coaches are to notify the League Manager 72 hour prior to any game the team cannot attend. This 72-hour notice is a courtesy to the other team scheduled as well as to the umpire scheduled to call your game.
4. If a coach fails to notify the League Manager on a "no show", the team will not qualify for the play-offs.
5. The EP County Sportspark will not be responsible for incorrect game times given over the phone.

Uniforms

1. Uniform shirts must be alike in color, having the same team name/logo. Shirts must have at least a 3" clearly visible and permanent number for scorekeeping purposes.
2. Players wearing an over garment must still wear team shirt, and will show shirt upon request by the umpire or League Manager.
3. Swapping of shirts is not allowed and will be considered an illegal substitution. Penalty is immediate ejection from the game. (See Rule of Conduct on uniforms are considered inappropriate)
4. Duplicate numbers are not allowed. Shirt numbers must correspond to number recorded on team rosters.

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Equipment

1. Only legal bats, as determined by USSSA will be allowed. At the very least Miken Ultra I and Ultra II bats and all shaved or doctored bats are illegal. Bats must have a USSSA thumb print. Wooden bats with or without thumb prints are allowed. Teams using illegal bats will receive a forfeit for that game.
2. All balls that are brought into play must be given to the umpire, for inspection, prior to use. Teams must furnish and bat their own ball. All balls will be 12" USSSA Classic M: or 11" USSSA Classic W, and shall have an optic yellow cover. 12" balls shall have a C.O.R. of .40 or less and a compression of 325 pounds or less. (Men) 11" balls shall have a C.O.R. of .44 or less and a compression of 400 pounds or less.
3. All softball pitchers are encouraged to wear a protective mask or faceguard.

Playoffs - The Highest seed team will be home team and undefeated team will home team on championship game. Winner of the Championship game will be home for "IF Game". The highest seed team will have the first choice on dugout. No postponed game will be allowed for the play-offs. Time & Day Request will not be honored for the Play-offs Tournament. Once released, all play-off bracket schedules are final, unless in the event of inclement weather. Game will be played any day, time, and field during the playoff.

Awards:

For winners for 2018 Fall Season:

- Division Champ – half the registration
- Play-off Champ – half the registration

Administrative Forfeit:

1. A team will be ejected from the league if a forfeit occurs. To be reinstated, team captain or manager must speak to the League Manager and pay the umpire fee for each forfeit, in order to be allowed into the league. (Captain Responsibility to inform the league manager) No "make-up" games during suspension or forfeits. Cannot postpone a game. **Absolutely no exceptions**
2. Teams will not be scheduled if they fail to submit team roster during registration. No "make-up" games and those games will be recorded as forfeit.
3. Team rosters are frozen on October 29, 2018.

Protests

A protest is an action that involves a dispute over play between teams or some action/decision made by the umpire against a team. A protest must be made verbally to the umpire on the field at the time of the incident. The coach must inform the umpire of his/her intention to protest. Protests are permitted for Book rules and eligibility only. Protests of judgment calls will not be allowed. (i.e. Balls and strikes Safes and outs.) The home plate umpire shall note on his umpire card or sign the official scorebook to validate the protest. The Umpire in Chief must receive \$100 dollars (**Cash only**) for any protest. Even if it is held that the protested decision violated the rules, no replay of the game will be ordered.

Ejection

The coach's ejection is an action taken by an umpire, when the coach flagrantly violates rules, argues balls and strikes, or shows unsportsmanlike conduct. The coach is then told to leave the game; and in effect the premises of the El Paso County Sportspark. See the Rule of Conduct section; is a guide for the disciplining of the El Paso County Sportspark's members, guests, and other spectators or participants attending other Sportspark's functions or meetings, for violations of certain rules and regulations.

Rules of Conduct – See Sportspark's website

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General Park Policies

Food &/or Drinks: NO outside food or drinks other than water are allowed into the park

Coaches please make your parents & players aware of this policy. It will be strictly enforced, and your fan will be asked to return all food and drinks to their vehicle.

Players will be allowed to bring water bottles. Clear factory-sealed water bottle is permitted, one per person. Food purchased outside of the El Paso County Sportspark will not be permitted inside the El Paso County Sportspark. This includes sports drinks such as (Gatorade, Vitamin Water, Powerade, etc.) This goes for players as well. There is no storage area for any items that do not meet security requirements.

No Pets Allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome

Smoking: Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes, is prohibited in the park. Violators will be ejected immediately. Smoking or the use of Chewing Tobacco products by players and coaches while in dugouts or on the playing fields will not be allowed.

Alcoholic Beverages: Alcoholic beverages are not allowed. Alcoholic beverages cannot be consumed in the parking lot at any time. Any person found in possession of alcohol outside of the park after being warned will be suspended.

Noisemakers: are not permitted inside the Sportspark. Example: air horns, electronic amplifiers, cowbells, air horns, thunder sticks, hitting the bench/fence or other objects, bottle with rocks, firecrackers, bangers, and etc.

Bag Checks: For safety, all bags and/or belongings are subject to search prior to entering the El Paso County Sportspark. Players, coaches, and guests are specifically consent to a search of their bags and/or belongings prior to entry. Players, coaches and guests may refuse a search and return their bags and/or belongings to vehicle prior to entering the Sportspark. Players, coaches, and guests may not bring food and/or beverages into the Sportspark at any time. Disallowed items cannot be left at the gate and must be returned to vehicle or discarded.

- Tailgating, tents, table/chair setup, or overnight camping are not allowed in the Sportspark's parking lot
- No vendors inside or outside the Sportspark's parking lot.
- No silly string inside or outside the Sportspark
- Bicycles, Roller-skates, Hover Boards, Scooters, Drones & Skateboards are not allowed in the park
- Sportspark's gates open one hour before the first game

Destruction of Property: Any person found guilty of willfully destroying property will be required to pay for the damages and will be suspended from the park. In addition, if conditions warrant, the violator will be prosecuted.

Questions and Concerns: The management staff at the County Sportspark requests that any and all concerns arising during a game/season, be reported by the respective coaches, in writing, to Claudio Fernandez, League Manager, not the parent. If a parent would like to voice a concern, the same applies. Please put your complaint/concern in writing and submit to the League Manager. **Anonymous correspondence will not be considered.**