

# 2019 New Hope 11/12" Co-Rec Slow-Pitch Softball General Information

## **Bat Rule**

All bats used in the New Hope leagues must have the USSSA mark 1.20 BPF stamp on them. We will no longer grandfather in old bats so that we can get the full coverage of the USSSA insurance benefits. **FULL RULES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE USSSA WEBSITE.**

USSSA rules will be followed with the exceptions listed below:

1. 11" ball used when female is batting, 12" ball used when male is batting. All players may use gloves. All game balls provided.
2. Games will begin at scheduled times if the minimum number of players are there. Up to 10 minutes will be allowed for teams to reach the minimum number of players to start a game.
3. Protests: Protests may be entered with the Parks & Recreation Department, in writing, with a \$25 fee, provided that intention to do so is announced to the head umpire and opposing team manager before the game is resumed after the play in question. If the decision is not in favor of the protesting team, the deposit will be forfeited. All protests must be filed at the Parks and Recreation office with the fee within 24 hours after the play in question.
4. The umpire shall rule the game at all times. All players must wear similar colored shirts. No metal spiked shoes allowed! No alcohol or beer is permitted during the game although alcohol is allowed in the parks in New Hope but not Golden Valley; use of profanity is not tolerated; smoking in New Hope is not allowed in the parks (parking lots only). The umpire in charge will have the authority to evict any person or persons from the field on account of drinking or profanity.
5. No glass containers are allowed in the parks.
6. Any disagreement, argument or question on any call or play by the umpire in foul or fair territory is to be discussed only by the manager and/or players directly involved. Any player not adhering to the above decision will be removed from the game.
7. Any player who is ejected from a game by the umpire, for any reason, will automatically sit out that team's next scheduled game. If a player is ejected a second time, he will sit out the next two games.

On a third ejection, that player will be suspended the remainder of the year. Any team caught using a player under suspension will automatically forfeit that game.

8. **In case an umpire does not show up or the lights do not come on,** call the recreation department cell phone at 612-735-2446 (Justin) or 763-233-2429 (Steve) or let a field attendant know. You should try to find an alternate umpire agreeable to both teams if yours does not show. Get a name and address so we can pay that person.

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## **2019 New Hope 11/12" Co-Rec Slow-Pitch Softball Rule Modifications**

League will adhere to official USSSA Slow Pitch Softball rules with the following additions:

We will use a 3 ball, 2 strike count with NO courtesy foul.

Games will be 7 innings with a 65-minute time limit.

The free substitution and re-entry rule will be used. You may freely substitute players in various positions during the course of the game. You must keep players in the same batting order throughout the game.

Teams will be allowed to use a two line-up system (male/female) when putting together their batting order. This means that for teams who have more men or women at the game they can still bat everyone without penalty.

Infielders must stay behind the baseline until the ball is hit. Outfielders must stay on the grass.

If a male receives a walk, he automatically goes to second base. The next batter has the option to walk or hit.

Games will be stopped by the run rule if a team is ahead by 20 after 4 innings, 15 after 5 innings, or 10 after 6 innings. The flip flop rule will be used. In the inning when the run rule has been exceeded and the home team is losing,

the home team will remain at bat and become the visiting team. If the team does not score enough runs to reduce the run difference below the run rule, the game is over. If they do, the game will continue under the new format.

This league will allow 5 homeruns per game. Any ball hit over the fence untouched after 5 homeruns have been hit is an out.

There may not be more than 5 men on the field at one time. Men and women must alternate in the batting order. If there are 5 men and 4 women playing, there will be an automatic out between men batting.

In case of rain, five complete innings is considered a full game.

There will be a down and/or out rule in this league. On double play situations you must slide or veer out of the way of the base path. **No take-out slides allowed.**

**Pitching rule:** The pitcher may pitch from the pitchers plate or from an area the width of the pitchers plate and up to 6 feet behind the pitchers plate.

All make up games will be decided by the Parks and Recreation Departments. If weather is questionable, call the New Hope Parks and Recreation Weather Cancellation Line at 763-531-5158 after 4 p.m.