

**NEW HOPE MENS SOFTBALL LEAGUE  
2023  
IMPORTANT DATES**

- May 1** Opening Week of the 2023 Season
- June 10** **Final Rosters Due:** Absolutely NO rosters or roster changes accepted after this date!
- District/State Tournament Deposit Due: \$185**  
No team is eligible for a district or state berth (paid or unpaid) unless you have paid a deposit.
- August 4-6** Men's Class D State Tournament - Sand Creek Park, Coon Rapids
- August 4-6** Men's Class E State Tournament - Sand Creek Park, Coon Rapids

# MEN'S SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE 2023 SEASON

## Rules and Regulations

### Bat Rule

All bats used in the New Hope leagues must have the most recent 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.com).**

### ARTICLE #1

The New Hope Slow-Pitch Softball Association shall be comprised of all managers of men's softball teams in New Hope and vicinity expressing an interest in taking part in regularly scheduled games and duly meeting the requirements of the league as agreed upon.

### ARTICLE #2

The USSSA, which now stands for "United States Specialty Sports Association", shall govern in all instances except for local rules decided by the league director.

### ARTICLE #3

All make-up games will be decided by the Parks and Recreation Department. Make-up dates will be built into the league schedule when possible. **Call the Parks & Recreation weather cancellation number (763-531-5158) after 4 p.m. for rain cancellations. We do not typically call teams to make them aware of cancellations.**

### ARTICLE #4

The league director will decide all protests. Protests may be entered with the Parks & Recreation Department upon deposit of a \$25 fee by the protesting team and provided that intention to do so is announced to the head umpire before the game is resumed after the play in question. If the decision is in favor of the protesting team, the deposit will be returned. If the decision is against the protesting team, the deposit will be forfeited and placed in the city's general fund. All protests must be filed with the Parks and Recreation office and accompanied by the fee and written statement within 24 hours after the play in question.

### ARTICLE #5

A team roster with all players must be submitted to the New Hope Parks and Recreation office at the time of registration. Team roster shall not exceed 20 players including manager. **Final team roster is due June 9, 2023.** If your second roster is not in by June 10, your first roster will be final. Use player's work address if eligibility falls under "Work" rule. Use player's home address if eligibility falls under "Live" rule.

### ARTICLE #6

The umpires shall rule the game at all times. No alcohol or beer permitted on the field. Use of profanity will not be tolerated. Smoking is not allowed on the playing field. The umpire in charge will have the authority to eject any person or persons from the field on account of drinking or profanity. In case an umpire does not show up, first try calling Justin Ore at 612-735-2446, the recreation department cell phone at 763-233-2461/952-220-3068 or let a field attendant know. You should try to find an alternate umpire if agreeable to both teams to keep the games moving.

#### **ARTICLE #7**

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.

#### **ARTICLE #8**

The age requirement for the New Hope Adult Slow-Pitch Softball League is 18 years and over. This is effective as of May 1st of the current season.

#### **ARTICLE #9**

The home team keeps the official scorebook. Game scores should be recorded on the cards provided, signed by the umpire and left in the box.

#### **ARTICLE #10**

Games will be 7 innings or 65 minutes in length, whichever comes first. The three-ball walk will be used and the two strike, strike out, with no courtesy foul. \*Ties will be played out as much as possible. Umpires will make final decision when the game ends in a tie.

#### **ARTICLE #11**

Two game balls will be furnished by the Parks & Recreation Department with home team receiving both balls at conclusion of the game. The Dudley Classic M 40 Optic Yellow Synthetic will be the official ball.

#### **ARTICLE #12**

In case of a tie for a playoff position, the determining factors will be:

1. Won-Loss record against each other.
2. Playoff, if time allows.
3. Record against highest place common opponent.
4. Score differential against each other.
5. Score differential against highest place common opponent.
6. Coin toss.

### **ARTICLE #13**

No person in the park may bring in, use, or be in possession of any kind of glass bottles or containers used for the purpose of storing, transporting, mixing, or consuming soft drinks, non-intoxicating malt beverages, or intoxicating liquor, nor shall any glass bottles or containers used for any other purpose be placed in any waters in or contiguous to any park or left on any park grounds or in any receptacles within any park, including trash receptacles. No liquor consumption or smoking within the playing field area is allowed. Alcohol consumption during games is also prohibited.

### **ARTICLE #14**

Teams may start and/or complete a game with 9 players only if short-handed. When a 10th player arrives, he will be put into the game and assume the last spot in the batting order.

### **ARTICLE #15**

Forfeit time is five (5) minutes past the scheduled game time. Any team that forfeits two games will be dropped from the league with no refund.

### **ARTICLE #16**

The league reserves the right to temporarily or permanently suspend any players or teams for conduct that is not in line with good sportsmanship.

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.

### **ARTICLE #17**

- A. Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided players occupy the same batting position whenever in the line-up.
- B. Additional Hitter - A team may insert an additional hitter into its line-up. The batting order must remain constant. However, any 10 of the 11 players can take a defensive position throughout the game. \*If additional hitter is used, you may finish with 9. However, it will become an out when you come to that position in the batting order.
- C. Every player on the roster bats continuously with free substitution in the field. \*If this option is used you may finish with 9, however, it will become an out when you come to that position in the batting order.

## ARTICLE #18

A game may be rescheduled if justification for postponement is made 24 hours in advance to the league director and opposing team manager. The final decision will be made by the league director.

## ARTICLE #19

When the baseman has possession of the ball, the runner must slide or avoid contact with the baseman.

Penalty: Runner is out. If applicable, a double play will be ruled. If the contact is deliberate, player will be ejected.

## ARTICLE #20

Run rule will be in effect for all games. Games will terminate when score differential reaches 20 runs after 4, 15 runs after 5 innings or 10 runs after 6 innings.

### Flip Flop Rule:

In an inning when the run rule has been exceeded (after 4 or 5 innings) and the home team is losing, the home team will remain at bat and become the visiting team. If the team (new visiting 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 that format. If the situation reverses, the teams will flip/flop again.

## ARTICLE #21

Four (4) innings constitutes a legal game, or 3 1/2 innings if home team is ahead.

## ARTICLE #22

To ensure that post-season berths secured from the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) do not go un-used, each team interested in participating in post season play will be required to pay a deposit of \$185 by no later than June 9, 2023. This is for both the league paid berths as well as any additional berths we can secure. If you do secure a city-sponsored berth, or you do not qualify for the post season, you will be refunded your deposit. Any team that pays and qualifies for post-season play, but no longer wants to play will still forfeit that money. **Any team that does not pay a deposit of \$185 will NOT be eligible for a berth, paid or unpaid.**

## **ARTICLE #23 HOMERUN RULE**

The league will use a homerun rule:

- a. During the regular season all leagues will play with a homerun limit of 5 per game. Any ball hit over the fence untouched after 5 homeruns have been hit is an out.
- b. No homeruns will be allowed in any division during playoffs.**

## **ARTICLE #24**

### **LEGAL POSITIONS OF THE PITCHER'S FEET**

- A. The pitcher may pitch from the pitching plate or from the pitching area, an area the width of the plate and up to six (6) feet behind the pitcher's plate.
- B. Prior to pitching, the pitcher shall take a position with his/her pivot foot firmly on the ground and in contact with the pitching plate or pitching area. The pivot foot must be in contact with the pitcher's plate or pitching area when the pitch ball is released.
- C. The other foot (free foot) has no restriction on position and may be placed on, in front of, to the rear of, or to the side of the pitcher's plate or pitching area. After taking the initial position, the pitcher may take more than one step with the free foot, in any direction of his choice, provided that it is taken prior to, simultaneously with or during the actions of delivering the pitched ball.
- D. After the release of the pitch, there are no restrictions on pitcher's subsequent movements, or the fielding positions he may assume as a defensive player.

## Men's Softball Game Sites:

Begin Park	5407 Wisconsin Ave N
Lighted Field	8810 – 49 <sup>th</sup> Ave N
Northwood Park	3815 Boone Ave N
Victory Park	5550 International Parkway

### Important Information:

- There is a homerun limit of 5. Any ball hit over the fence after the homerun limit is used up, is an out. There will be no homeruns allowed during the playoffs.
- For rain-out information, please call the weather line at 763-531-5158. This line will not be updated if the games are not cancelled. We will also update the New Hope Parks and Recreation web page. [www.newhopemn.gov](http://www.newhopemn.gov)  
Highlight PLAY then click on Parks and Recreation  
Click on weather alerts
- If your umpire does not show, you do not have game balls in the box, or your lights do not get turned on, call the Parks & Recreation Department cellular number at either 612-735-2446, or 952-220-3068.  
**DO NOT CALL THESE NUMBERS FOR NON-EMERGENCY ISSUES.**
- League Schedule, standings, scores and ball field locations or handouts  
[www.newhopemn.gov](http://www.newhopemn.gov)  
Highlight PLAY then click on Parks and Recreation  
Click on Adult Sports Leagues  
Click on your league under League Standings and Scores

## NEW HOPE PARKS & RECREATION

### POLICY ON RESERVATIONS OF BALLFIELDS

1. Ballfields may be reserved for exclusive New Hope team use for practice or games by obtaining a field permit.
2. Teams may reserve **one** field per week, and only for **two weeks in advance** for a specific two week period.
3. Reservations will be accepted on Friday mornings by calling 763-531-5151 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
4. The permit holder must have a valid permit in his/her possession to claim exclusive field use. These permits will be emailed.
5. **Reservations 5:30-7:00 AND 7:00-8:30 (or dark) - Monday thru Friday.**
6. Saturdays, 8-10 a.m., 10-12 noon, 1-3 p.m., 3-5 p.m.
7. No fields are reserved for Sundays under this policy.

Lighted Field	49 <sup>th</sup> & Ensign	1 field (depending on field condition)
Northwood Park	38th & Boone Avenue	2 fields
Victory Park	5550 International Parkway	1 field (Depending on field condition)
Begin Park	54 <sup>th</sup> & Wisconsin	1 field

All teams using the athletic fields agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Parks & Recreation Department, City of New Hope, including the ordinance prohibiting glass in any form in the parks.



## NEW HOPE PARKS AND RECREATION

### 2023 ADULT SOFTBALL Regional / State Tournament Deposit Procedure

The following procedure **MUST** be followed by any and all teams interested in participating in any post-season tournaments such as MRPA Regional or State Tournaments.

1. Teams interested in participating in post season play (State or Regional Tournaments) must submit cash or a check in the amount of \$185 to the Parks and Recreation Department by Friday, June 9, 2023.
2. **NO TEAM WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR POST SEASON PLAY WITHOUT THIS DEPOSIT EVEN IF YOU RECEIVE A PAID BERTH BY THE LEAGUE.**
3. Deposit payments will be processed by the Recreation Department upon receipt. League Champions or (League Representative) will have their money refunded after participation in the post-season tournament if you received a league paid berth. **The exception to this is for co-rec teams who will pay for their berths.**
  - A. The team representing the league (League Representative) in post season play will be the team, with the best record at the end of league play, that has submitted a check in the appropriate amount and on time; not necessarily the League Champion.
  - B. Additional berths will be requested for the leagues in which we receive more than one deposit check. **No guarantees on the extra spots however.**
  - C. Refunds will be issued to teams for which we are not able to secure berths.
  - D. Refunds will not be given to teams who choose not to participate in post-season play.
  - E. Teams who commit to playing in post season play, and do not participate, will not be allowed to represent New Hope the following year in post season play.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The Tournament deposit payments submitted indicate to us the number of berths we should accept for tournaments. Therefore, if you submit a payment, it is your financial commitment to play in the post-season tournament.

For more information call Steve Ellingson, 763-531-5155 or email at [sellingson@newhopemn.gov](mailto:sellingson@newhopemn.gov)



# ROSTER

New Hope Parks & Recreation  
4401 Xylon Avenue North, New Hope  
Phone: 763-531-5151 Fax: 763-531-5136  
Email: [nh-parkandrec@newhopemn.gov](mailto:nh-parkandrec@newhopemn.gov)  
[www.newhopemn.gov](http://www.newhopemn.gov)

**FINAL ROSTER: DUE JUNE 9**

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_ League \_\_\_\_\_

Manager's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_

List all players who qualify under live. Then list all players who qualify under work. List nonresidents last.  
Roster must include manager. Qualifying addresses and signatures for all players are required on final roster.

Players	Address/City	Signature	Phone
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			

**Reminder:** New players added to the roster must be cleared through the Parks & Recreation department prior to the first game. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of games played.



**If weather is questionable, call  
763-531-5158. This line will NOT  
be updated if games are not  
cancelled.**



## **USSSA Rules**

<http://www.ussa.com/slowpitch/slowpitch-rules-and-legal-info>

## **Minnesota USSSA Softball**

<https://mnrpa.org/Rules-and-Regulations>

55TH ANNUAL  
**PUB  
 42  
 CLASSIC**



**July 14 - 16, 2023**

Northwood Park and Surrounding Parks  
 38th & Boone Avenue North

**New Hope, Minnesota**



**EASTON**



**CONTACT INFORMATION: Cathy Hoffman (763) 228-1974 - [hoffe12@msn.com](mailto:hoffe12@msn.com)**

**DIVISIONS OF PLAY**

**Men's Upper B/C/D (5HR) \$300**

- ◆ 1st Place - \$1,500
- ◆ 2nd Place - \$1,000
- ◆ 3rd Place - \$500

**Top 6 D teams play in separate bracket for \$2,000.**

**Men's Lower D/E (2HR) \$275**

- ◆ 1st Place - \$500
- ◆ 2nd Place - \$250
- ◆ 3rd Place - \$100

**Co-Rec \$250**

- ◆ 1st Place - \$500
- ◆ 2nd Place - \$250

**Women \$250**

- ◆ 1st Place - \$500
- ◆ 2nd Place - \$250

- ◆ To register contact Cathy Hoffman email: [hoffe12@msn.com](mailto:hoffe12@msn.com) phone: 763-228-1974.
- ◆ Hit your own softballs. USSSA Dudley (SY) Synthetic or A.D. Starr 52/300 Synthetic. Must designate at the coin flip.
- ◆ Teams may swing USA Softball or USSSA bats.
- ◆ This tournament is dual sanctioned USA Softball and USSSA.
- ◆ USSSA rules will be used.
- ◆ Rosters must be put online and the tournament director has final say on team classification.
- ◆ The Tournament Director reserves the right to change rules, dates, locations, etc. to complete the tournament due to inclement weather or any other condition beyond our control.
- ◆ **PAYOUTS BASED ON NUMBER OF TEAMS ENTERED!!!**
- ◆ Deadline to enter is July 10th.
- ◆ Tournament draw is Wednesday, July 12th at 7:30PM at Pub 42 (7600 42nd Ave N, New Hope, MN 55427).
- ◆ **Saturday Night Home Run Contest. \$20 per person.**
- ◆ Go to the Duk Duk Duel Softball Tournament Group on Facebook for more information at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1862617237288330>.

**2023 OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM**

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Manager Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Community: \_\_\_\_\_ USSSA Team Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Division of Play:**     Men's Upper (B/C/D)     Men's Lower (D/E)     Co-Rec     Women's

**Send Entry Form and Fees to: Cathy Hoffman  
 23167 Kerry St NW, St. Francis, MN 55070**

Make checks payable to New Hope Lions or  
 Venmo @new-hope-lions and make sure to add manager and team name

**For Office Use Only**

Entry Fee Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Entry Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Called Team Manager: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Field: \_\_\_\_\_