



MALTA PARKS & REC. WOMEN'S **SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES**



LEAGUE REGULATIONS

- **The idea of Malta Parks & Rec. Softball League is to have fun! We hope that all participants keep that in mind when becoming involved. Although the games may become intense, you still can be competitive while maintaining good sportsmanship. With this said, any behavior deemed unacceptable by Malta Parks & Rec. Directors or softball league umpires may result in suspension and/or ejection from a game or the league.**
- Women's Softball League age is High School Freshman and older.
- All players must fill out a participant waiver, and be on a team roster before playing unless they are placed on the sub list. A sub list will be available if a team does not have enough players to fill their team roster for one of their games.
- Each team roster must consist of a minimum of 10 and no more than 16 players. All teams play in the end-of-league double elimination tournament, (teams that have not abused any policies are eligible). Tournament rosters must be complete before the 3rd week of regular play. (Players will only be added after the fourth week for the purposes of a substitution due to an injury or other extreme circumstances as deemed acceptable by Malta Parks & Rec. Directors.) If a player is not on the roster, they will NOT PLAY.
- All teams must pay the league fee before playing their first game.
- A player may play for only one team within this league unless they are placed on the sub list. A sub list will be available if a team does not have enough players to fill their team roster for one of their games.
- Home Team is listed first on the schedule and gets first pick on dugouts.
- Uniforms and helmets are NOT required for league play.
- No metal spikes or metal cleats will be permitted.
- Softball bats must be used-not to exceed 1.20 BPF. No baseball bats are to be used at any time.
- Zero Tolerance for profanity, taunting, and "trash talking". Any player may be ejected after the use of such.
- The umpire's decisions are FINAL!
- Rainout games will be determined by Malta Parks & Rec. and rescheduled if possible.

PLAYING RULES

- 10 women in the field, need at least 8 to start a game.
- Teams must have a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 16 players. Teams may bat all players on their team for each game (16 max may play per game).
- Malta Parks & Rec. will keep the official scorebook. Teams have an obligation to check the scorebook after each half inning to verify the score.
- Turn in your Line-up Card to the scorekeeper at least 5 minutes prior to game time. Line-up Card is to include players' first & last name, and all substitutes who may play that game.
- Each team shall have one captain, and the captain will be responsible for the team, and filling out the team's batting order on the official line-up sheet provided by Malta Parks & Rec.
- Game balls and umpires will be furnished by Malta Parks & Rec. The umpires will have the game balls. Approved softballs must be factory stamped ASA, USSSA, or NSA licensed trademark for slow pitch league play. 12" softball will be used.
- Game length is 55 minutes. Should a team not have enough players to start a game, the clock will start and that team has until 45 minutes left on the game clock to field the minimum number of players. The final score after 55 minutes of play will constitute the winner. Please substitute as often as possible so that everyone gets to play.

- Mercy Rule—A game is complete when a team is leading by 20 runs after 3 innings
A game is complete when a team is leading by 15 runs after 4 innings
A game is complete when a team is leading by 10 runs after 5 innings
- Slow-pitch heights are 6' minimum and 10' maximum from ground level.
- Players must avoid collisions whenever possible. Deliberately causing a collision will be grounds for immediate ejection.
- No protests. All will be settled on the field.
- In the event of a tie score at the end of 55 minutes of play, an extra full inning shall commence until a winner is determined.

ALCOHOL RULE

- There will be no alcohol allowed on the playing field at any time.
- The Malta Parks & Rec. Directors and softball umpires have the authority to remove any player(s) from the field whose overindulgence of alcohol may cause injury to themselves, other players or spectators.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO UNDERAGE DRINKING WILL BE ALLOWED!**
PENALTY: Individual is ejected from the league; automatic team suspension from the current game being played or upcoming game, and an incident report will be filed with the police.

DEFENSIVE/FIELDING RULES

- 4 outfielders must start from the outfield grass for all batters until the pitch is hit.
- Teams may substitute freely on defense each inning.

OFFENSIVE/AT-BAT RULES

- All team players must bat in the same order unless a proper substitution is communicated with the official book. Players may only re-enter in the same spot in the order.
- No bunting allowed.
- No base stealing is allowed.
- No lead-offs. Base runner cannot leave base until ball is hit.
- Each batter will start with a 0-0 count.
- A foul ball after 2 strikes is an out.
- All players present in the dugout for the team can bat. Everyone gets the opportunity to bat regardless if you have played the field yet or not.
- Sliding at home plate and 1st base will not be permitted. Sliding IS permitted at the other two bases. Please keep it safe!
- Courtesy runners (for injured players only,) are permitted but only once per inning (unless multiple injuries). The courtesy runner must be of the same gender and the most recent batter who made an out. You are not permitted to choose your courtesy runners.

