

Pelham Parks and Recreation

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Men's Softball Rules and By-Laws 2023

Lineups/Rosters

- Team rosters will consist of a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 20 players. Games generally M/T/W and-or Th nights.
- A final roster is due by the first week of games.
- You may have as many players as you desire in your lineup. Designate these players as EH (Extra Hitter).
- If there are 10+ players available for that game, then 10 players minimum must be used.
- Teams must field a minimum of 8 players to start and finish a game. If you start with 9, and a 10th player shows up, he must be inserted in the lineup immediately.
- If for any reason a player is taken out of the batting order, his position must be filled by someone, or an out will be recorded when his position comes up in the batting order.
- Any player playing the field must be in the batting lineup.
- Rules governed by NH USSSA will be in use and umpires assigned by them as well.

Games

- Games will be seven (7) innings long. One pinch runner per inning is permitted.
- If your team cancels a game twice on the game day, it will be a forfeit and team removed.
- ONLY the captain of each team is allowed at any time to speak with an umpire.
- 15-run rule is in effect for games, not for play-offs or championship games. Any team down by 15-runs at the end of the 5th inning and beyond will be deemed defeated. Home team has their last at bats unless they are up by more than 15 runs.
- Game times begin typically at 6:30 pm. Please be sure your players arrive on time for their games always. We will have a scorekeeper present for each game.
- Games that have gone a full 5-innings will be considered an official game (not mandatory for home team to bat if winning).
- Rainouts will be scheduled by Pelham Parks and Recreation generally within 2-weeks of cancellation. Cancellations will be posted on the Pelham Parks and Recreation website (www.pelhamweb.com/recreation). Team managers must inform their own players of the cancellation. Parks and Recreation will e-mail or call team managers only. Once a rain-out has been declared by an umpire, all remaining games for that evening will be cancelled.
- Home Run Rule: 5 and 1 up. There is a 5 and 1 up HR rule in this league. If you are the first team to hit 5 HRs, then you can't hit another HR until the opposing team has hit 6. All HR's that are hit after a team has reached the limit will be considered an out.
- If game is tied after 7 innings, next inning will start with runner on 2nd.

Pitch Count

- All batters start with a 1-ball and 1-strike count on them.
- Foul ball is considered a strike. Foul ball on 3rd strike is an out.

Players

- Players labeled "injured" prior to the game are not allowed to play in that game. Payment, and release forms must be received before the first week of the season. NO PAY, NO PLAY.

- Teams will develop a free agent list and pull a player from approved list as needed.

Teams

- Each team will have one team manager. Team managers will be invited to a meeting with the P&R director before season begins (fall and spring).
- 1st game of any night—home team must drag the field; equipment will be in the shed.
- All Managers and players are responsible for cleaning up the bench area and parking lot after each game and disposing of all trash in the barrels.

Umpires

- Umpires-One (1) umpire for regular season games and for all rounds of the playoffs. We use USSSA umpires.
- If an umpire does not show up, the game(s) will be rescheduled, or if both managers agree on a neutral umpire, then the game can be played using that person as an umpire. P&R pays a scorekeeper to attend all games and report scores to their office.

Ejections/Suspensions/Conduct – We have a ZERO tolerance policy!

- Any ejection or suspension will be made at the discretion of the umpire and be dealt with per sanctioning body rules. The Town of Pelham will have the authority to suspend a player or an entire team beyond the means of sanctioning body rules.
- All ejections are for the existing game and the next (1) game or as determined by the P&R director. **In most instances, the player will be removed for the season.**
- Alcoholic beverages of any kind will not be allowed anywhere on the bench, playing field, or spectator area during game times. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on Town owned property. The umpire has the right and is empowered to stop the game and the team/player(s) will be ejected without warning.
- No smoking anywhere on the playing field. No alcohol! The umpire has the right to remove any player who he deems to be intoxicated.

Post Season

- In the event of a tie in the standings, tie breakers are head-to-head, points against, coin toss.
- All teams qualify for the playoffs.
- Play-offs are 2 out of 3. Final is 3 out of 5 games.
- Team trophy will be awarded to winning team.

Equipment

- ONLY Bats allowed by NH USSSA will be allowed in this league. For a list of bats, go to www.NHusssa.com.
- No metal cleats allowed.
- One case of softballs per team will be provided by P&R at the start of the season. A second case of 12 softballs will be given to each team midway through season. If any team requires additional balls, they can contact P&R to purchase those at the team's expense of \$68.00.
- Teams are responsible for providing their own team shirts if they so choose.

Sanctioning Body

- All other rules, not listed above, will be governed by the NH USSSA rule book (see website). A copy can be found in the shed at Newcomb Field at 321 Newcomb Memorial Parkway in Golden Brook Park, Pelham NH. See scorekeeper for access.