

**HALF MOON BAY  
CALIFORNIA  
ADULT SOFTBALL RULES & REGULATIONS**

**1.0 OBJECTIVE**

To offer a wholesome competitive program that is primarily concerned with safety, fair play and sportsmanship.

**2.0 ADMINISTRATION**

The administrative duties and final authority shall be vested in the City of Half Moon Bay Recreation Department, whose representatives will be responsible to set forth and maintain such rules and regulations as are necessary to govern recreation leagues.

**3.0 LIABILITY**

1. As participants in the Adult Softball League, and in consideration of the value received as participants in the league, each participant agrees to exonerate, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Half Moon Bay and its officers, agents, employees and game officials from all claims and actions, based upon or arising out of any damage or injury, to persons or property caused by or sustained in connection with their participation in the Adult Softball League.
  
2. All participants understand and accept the fact that USA Softball, Inc. nor the City of Half Moon Bay and their respective agents, employees, contractors or insurers provide any form of medical or accident insurance for bodily injury or death sustained while participating in the Adult Softball League.

**4.0 TEAM ROSTER**

1. Each team may roster a maximum of (16) players.
2. **ALL PLAYERS MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE.**
3. Players may be added at the field up to the first pitch of the fifth league game.
4. Roster additions can be made by the scorekeeper. Inform the scorekeeper of any roster additions PRIOR to the start of the game.
5. The player MUST sign the Player Waiver, Release of Liability BEFORE playing.
6. Emergency additions after the fifth game deadline must be approved by the Half Moon Bay Softball League Director/Recreation Coordinator at 650 750 2026.
7. Using a player not officially on the roster may result in the player and the team's manager being suspended from playing.

**5.0 EQUIPMENT RULES**

- a) **SHOES** Metal cleats and open toed shoes are never allowed in adult softball
- b) **UNIFORMS** Matching tops are not required in Half Moon Bay Adult Softball programs

- c) **BATS** All bats must meet the approved League Requirements. These requirements may change at the discretion of the Half Moon Bay League Director.

**FIRST** All BATS MUST HAVE AN ASA or USA STAMP to be eligible for use. NO STAMP – NO PLAY. Before purchasing a new bat look for the approval stamp.

**SECOND** USA Softball periodically and randomly tests samples of bat models bearing the ASA and USA approved certification mark to verify compliance with the USA bat performance standards. Occasionally even a stamped bat may be deemed ILLEGAL. To verify the legality of a bat please refer to the USA Website LIST OF APPROVED BATS.

**THIRD** All bats must comply with the USA Softball rule book. If a make or model can not be determined due to wear and tear OR if the Umpire or League Director suspects modification of any kind (sanding, filing, shaving, lengthening, shortening, weight-altering, heating and cooling, etc.) he/she WILL REMOVE THE BAT FROM PLAY

**FOURTH** NO BASEBALL, Youth or Little League Bats are allowed.

**FIFTH** COED PLAY BAT RULE

MEN SHALL NOT USE THE FOLLOWING BATS:

ALL MIKEN MODELS (Freaks, NRG's, Ultras, Maniac, Recoil, Halo, etc.)

ALL EASTON COMPOSITES (Stealth, Synergy, etc.)

ALL WORTH COMPOSITES (Mayhem, Mutant, etc.)

## 6.0 PROTESTS

If there are any types of issue, complaints or questions, please notify the City of Half Moon Bay Recreation Coordinator in writing (e-mail accepted) by the Monday Morning following the game in question by 9:00 am. Please state the facts clearly. Protests of judgement calls are not allowed.

## 7.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. EACH PLAYER IS REQUIRED TO PERSONALLY SIGN THE OFFICIAL PLAYER WAIVER RELEASE OF ELIGIBILITY BEFORE THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY IN THE HALF MOON BAY SOFTBALL LEAGUE.
2. The Manager is responsible to ensure that all players are eligible.
3. In the event that a team changes its manager at any time during the season, the new manager must notify the Half Moon Bay Recreation Coordinator before a game is played.
4. All players must be able to produce some form of positive picture identification at each game. In the event a manager wants to protest a game because he believes the opposing team is fielding a player or players that are not legally rostered, he/she may request an identification check as follows:

- a) Any time before the last out of a game is recorded, a manager must notify the umpire that he/she wants an I.D. check
- b) The manager must clearly specify to the umpire which player's I.D. he/she would like to have checked. A manager may request to have any number of I.D.'s checked.
- c) The umpire, with the scorekeeper; will conduct the I.D. check by requesting positive picture I.D. from each player specified by the protesting manager. The I.D. must match the name on the roster. Players who cannot produce a positive picture I.D. will be disqualified from play by the umpire.
- d) Any team using an illegal player will automatically forfeit their game. The player in question will not be allowed to be added or play for any team in that league for the remainder of the season.
- e) **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY HALF MOON BAY PARK AT ANY TIME!**

#### 8.0 GAME TIME AND LEAGUE RULES

1. The Half Moon Bay Softball League will follow the schedule published by the Half Moon Bay Softball League Director. No changes can be made without his/her approval.
2. A game will consist of seven (7) innings or one (1) hour. The official scorekeeper shall be responsible for keeping the game time and notifying the umpire(s) and teams when a half inning ends after fifty (50) minutes of play.
3. No new inning will begin after the time limit has elapsed. Games tied after seven (7) innings will only be continued if five (5) or more minutes remain on the one (1) hour time limit.
4. A team that does not submit its line-up card to the official scorekeeper at least five (5) minutes before the game time may be subject to forfeiting the game.
5. Each team must have eight (8) players to start. There will be a GRACE PERIOD of ten minutes for each game. Any grace time consumed waiting for the eighth player will be deducted from the game clock. The offending team, whether home or away; will forfeit their first inning at-bats but still start batting at the top of the order.
6. Any team that is unable to finish the game with a minimum of eight (8) legally rostered players will forfeit the game.
7. The Umpire(s) and Scorekeepers will not work forfeited games.
8. NO INFIELD PRACTICE or BATTING PRACTICE will be allowed prior to game time. Pitchers are allowed up to five (5) warm-up pitches before the first inning and one (1) warm-up pitch after the first inning. No warm-up balls are allowed in the infield or outfield after the first inning.
9. Each batter will begin each plate appearance with a 1 Ball, 1 Strike Count. A Courtesy Foul is granted each batter after the 2<sup>nd</sup> strike.
10. A legal pitch will have a perceptible arc and reach a minimum height of the top of the batter's head and no higher than twelve (12) feet.
11. Whenever there is a possibility of a close play AT ANY BASE, the runner must slide or avoid contact with the fielder. It is the runner's responsibility to avoid contact.
12. The Mercy rule will be as follows:
  - 20 runs or more after 4 completed innings
  - 12 runs or more after 5 completed innings

## 9.0 PLAYER EJECTIONS

1.0 **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY HALF MOON BAY PARK AT ANY TIME.** A player violating this rule before, during or after a game may be subject to being disqualified from playing any game in Half Moon Bay for a period determined by the Half Moon Bay Softball League Director.

2.0 All questions and grievances shall be conducted by the team manager. Any player ejected from a game will be automatically suspended for a minimum of one additional game (byes do not constitute a game.) If a player is ejected twice during a season he/she will be suspended for the remainder of the season; including playoff games. Ejected or suspended players will not be allowed at the park while serving his/her suspension.

3.0 In the event that a player is ejected any time after the conclusion of a game, he/she will automatically be suspended for the next two (2) games, including playoff games.

4.0 Any player or manager who physically threatens or abuses an official, player, park supervisor or scorekeeper shall be banned from any and all City of Half Moon Bay sponsored events forever. In addition, any player or manager who is guilty of such abuse will be subject to criminal prosecution as per the State of California Penal Code.

5.0 In cases of spectator harassment, the umpire(s) and scorekeeper will take the following course of action:

- a) First warning the manager will be asked to take care of the problem spectator
- b) Second warning the spectator will be asked to leave the park. If the spectator refuses to heed this request, the manager will be subject to ejection from the game if the umpire(s) and scorekeeper determine that the spectator is associated with one of the two teams.
- c) Final solution in the event that the spectator or manager do not leave the park in a reasonable amount of time, the game will be declared a forfeit.

## 10.0 COED LEAGUE RULES

1. A standard team will consist of three (3) or more women and up to seven (7) men.
2. Only ten batting positions are allowed but players may share a batting position. The players sharing a batting position will bat in alternating turns and any eligible batter is allowed to play in the field.
3. Three (3) or more women must participate at all times.
4. Each team must have a female player at either pitcher or catcher, a female player at any of the infield positions (first base, second base, third base or shortstop) and one female player in any outfield position.
5. A male batter that is walked with a female player batting next shall be awarded second base.
6. **COED PLAY BAT RULE:**

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ALL EASTON COMPOSITES (Stealth, Synergy, etc.)

ALL WORTH COMPOSITES (Mayhem, Mutant, etc.)

11.0 PLAYER PICKUP RULE

1.0 A team may start and finish a game with eight (8) players. A team may pick up 1 or 2 players but only if the "pickup players" bring the total number of players to eight (8) or nine (9).

2.0 If a regularly rostered team member(s) arrive then the corresponding number of "pickup players" must leave the game.

3.0 "Pickup players" must sign the team roster for the team they are participating for. They do not count against the sixteen (16) player roster limit.

4.0 "Pickup players" may only play catcher and/or right field.

5.0 "Pickup players" must bat last and/or second to last in the batting position in the lineup.

6.0 "Pickup players" may only participate one time for any particular team.

7.0 The intent of this rule is to minimize or prevent forfeited games. The Half Moon Bay Softball League Director will have the right to forfeit the result of any game if he/she determines any team is attempting to utilize this rule for a competitive advantage.

# PLAYER WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT ROSTER

I, the undersigned player, acknowledge, agree and understand that:

1. Voluntarily and of my own free will, I elect to participate as a member of the softball team and league indicated below.
2. I understand that there are certain risks and hazards involved in participating in softball that may result in injury or death to me or other players including, but not limited to hazards associated with weather conditions, playing conditions, equipment, and other participants.
3. I understand that sliding into bases is dangerous to me and other players and may result in serious injury or death.
4. I understand that the very nature of the game of softball is hazardous and risky, including, but not limited to, the acts of pitching, throwing, fielding and catching of the ball, the swinging of the bat, running, jumping, stretching, sliding, diving, and collisions with other players and with stationary objects, all of which can cause serious injury or death to me and other players.

Further, I, the undersigned player, agree that in consideration for the right to play as a member of the team designated below and in consideration for permission to play on the fields arranged for by the team or league.

· I voluntarily elect to accept and assume all risks of injury incurred or suffered by me (a) while practicing as a member of the team so designated, (b) while serving in a non-playing capacity as a team member during practice or play by other teams or by other players on my team, and (c) while on or upon the premises of any and all of the fields arranged for by my team or league for practice or play

· I release, discharge and agree not to sue the team and league designated below, the field owner or other entity designated below, the Amateur Softball Association of America, or their owners, officers, agents, servants, associations, employees, or any person or entity connected with the team, league, field, or Amateur Softball Association of America for any claim, damages, costs or cause of action which I have or may in the future have as a result of injuries or damages sustained or incurred by me from whatever cause including but not limited to the negligence, breach of contract or wrongful conduct of the parties hereby released.

_____	HMB ADULT SOFTBALL	THE CITY OF HALF MOON BAY
<b>NAME OF TEAM</b>	<b>NAME OF LEAGUE</b>	<b>FIELD OWNER OF OTHER ENTITY</b>
_____	_____	_____
<b>TEAM MANAGER NAME (print)</b>	<b>MANAGER SIGNATURE</b>	<b>MANAGER PHONE NUMBER</b>

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INDEMNIFICATION  
AGREEMENT ROSTER**

