



Granbury Parks and Recreation  
Adult Softball League Local By-Laws

**A. General League Information**

1. Granbury Parks and Recreation will use the following website for league schedule, updates, and any other important information : [www.quickscores.com/Granbury](http://www.quickscores.com/Granbury)
2. Only players, managers, coaches, trainers, sport officials or sponsors are allowed in the dugout, bench or on the field of play before, during and after a USSSA sanctioned activity. Absolutely no children on any field being played on or not in the clover, on any game night or adult league activity. Umpires and League Supervisors will be enforcing this rule strictly.
3. The clock will begin at the appropriate game time. Teams are allowed a five-minute 'grace period' if they don't have the required number of players to begin a game of their first scheduled game of the day. If a team has enough players to begin before the "grace period" expires, play will continue with the clock continuing to run. The team given the "grace period" will automatically become the visiting team, lose their first at-bat of the game and will start the next inning with the #4 spot in their lineup.
4. Time limit is 50 minutes or 7 full innings, whichever comes first. Official time is kept by the head umpire.
5. Alcohol is not permitted anywhere on city park property, City Ordinance 1.04.008 will be enforced by the Granbury Police Department.
6. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on city park property, City Ordinance 6.06.005 will be enforced by the Granbury Police Department
7. Game scores will be posted on [quickscores.com/Granbury](http://quickscores.com/Granbury) within 24 hours after the last game of the night has ended.
8. League winners will determine the champion of the league. The league winners will receive championship t-shirts, or free entry into the next upcoming league. The tournament following league is extra playing time offered. Only league winner will receive a prize.
  - a. Tie Breakers will be determined in the following ways:
    - i. The winner will be the team that defeated the others (head to head) involved in the tie after all games have been played.
    - ii. If still tied, the winner will be the total number of runs scored against all opponents.
    - iii. If still tied, the winner will be the team that has the highest Average Run Differential (ARD = total number of runs minus the total number of runs

scored by opponents; divided by the number of games played) for the entire season.

9. Any request for byes, or specific time slots for game times must be made before the registration period closes. However, Granbury Parks and Recreation cannot guarantee all request will be met, but an effort will be made to try.
10. Granbury Parks and Recreation reserves the right to reject any team name that is deemed not appropriate.
11. Warm up before the game must be taken off the infield, teams will **NOT** be allowed to hit before the game on fields that will be used. If a field is not being used that night, it is first come first serve to use that field.
12. Shorthanded rule for less than 10 Players: Teams are allowed to start with no fewer than eight players (Men's & Mixed). However, an out must be taken in the place of the first & second batter at the top of your order, or just the first batter if playing with nine. Players maybe inserted into the lineup at any time as they arrive. It is the team's coach's responsibility to inform the home plate umpire if their team is playing short-handed. Once the game starts, if it is determined by the umpire that the short-handed team failed to inform the home plate umpire about missing player(s), the game **WILL** be forfeited.
  - a. Mixed teams must have equal number of women as men (4 & 4) or more women than men, when playing shorthanded.
  - b. Mixed teams will also have the option to play with 6 women and 4 men, 3 women must bat in a row letting the home plate umpire know the woman that is filling in for the males spot in the lineup.
  - c. Hybrid League must start and finish with a minimum 3 women and 7 men. If shorthanded, a game can be played (start and finish) with 8 players on the field, with a minimum of 3 females. Outs will still be taken at the top of the lineup.
13. No digging in at home plate, an automatic strike will be issued for doing so.
14. Any batted ball that is a line drive up the middle that hits the pitcher (whether she/he catches it or not), and in the umpire's judgment, the pitcher did not have a chance to react, will be called an automatic out (final warnings will be issued to both teams). The second offense by either team will result in an ejection of the player. The third offense will result in a double-forfeit.

Options:

1. The player/owner will give permission to have the bat destroyed. If the bat is determined to be altered after it has been cut, the player/owner will receive a one (1) year suspension from all USSSA activity both league and tournament play.
- 2.) The player/owner will give permission to have the bat sent to the manufacturer. The player/owner will supply the bat's warranty and \$10.00 to cover postage within 7 days

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for further testing or the bat will be destroyed. If the bat comes back altered, the player/owner will be suspended for two (2) years from all USSSA activity, both league and tournament play. If the bat is determined not to be altered, the bat will either be given back to the player/owner or a replacement bat may be provided by the manufacturer. The bat in question will not be allowed in any USSSA sanctioned event ever again. If the bat is found to be used again in a future USSSA sanctioned event, a two (2) year suspension will be given.

15. If a bat passes the compression test but shows cracks and/or the decals are worn and can no longer be read, the bat will be documented and will not be allowed to be used in any USSSA activity both league and tournament play. If the bat is found to be used again in the future, the player/owner will face an immediate suspension of one (1) year.
16. If a player/owner of a bat refuses to give his bat to a USSSA official for testing, the player/owner will immediately be given a two (2) year suspension from all USSSA activity both league and tournament play.
17. Line up cards must be turned into the home plate umpire with the following information: First and last name. Team Name and Date must be submitted on the lineup card as well.
18. Any rules not covered in these by-laws will be played in accordance to USSSA guidelines.

**B. Roster and Player/Team Eligibility**

1. 20 player maximum on your roster. Rosters must be filled out in its entirety. Coaches may add players to their roster with the assistance of Tony Dawson, Toni Martinez, and Josh McGinnis.
  - a. All players must be on and have signed the official roster to be eligible to play.
2. Participants in adult leagues must be the age of sixteen (16) or older.
3. Men's teams will consist of ten (10) players playing the field wherever he wishes, on fair ground. Two extra hitters may be used in the lineup at any spot in the order.
4. Mixed teams will consist of ten (10) players playing the field. Lineups must alternate male and female hitters. Two (2) extra hitters may be used in the lineup but must consist of one male and one female; or both female.
  - a. Defensively, players can be stationed wherever he/she wishes on fair ground; there are no gender requirements for infield/outfield. However, the pitcher and catcher must be of different gender.

5. Hybrid teams will consist of ten (10) players playing the field. Lineups must alternate male and female hitters with females leading off. A minimum of three (3) females must be present in the playing field and on the lineup to begin the game. Two (2) extra hitters may be used in the lineup but must consist of one male and one female; or both female.
  - a. Defensively, there is no requirement of fielding assignments.

### **C. Playing Rules**

1. All players will come to plate with 1-1 count.
  - a. Extra innings will consist of 1 pitch only. The last out will be put on 2<sup>nd</sup> base to start the inning. A maximum of two (2) innings will be played, if at that point after two (2) innings the score is still a tie, the game is over and declared a tie.
1. Mercy rule will be in affect and is followed as: 25 after 3 innings, 15 runs after four innings, and 10 runs after five innings.
  - a. Home run limit for Men's leagues will be as followed: 5 Home Runs then everything after is a Single.
  - b. Men's Industrial – 1 Home Run then everything after is an out.
  - c. A home run is defined by any ball that is unobstructed and goes over the outfield fence in fair territory.
  - d. Once teams have hit the allotted number of home runs, batters that hit home runs after the maximum number of home runs hit will be an automatic out.
2. Home run limit for Mixed leagues will be as followed: two (2) home runs per gender per field.
  - a. A home run is defined by any ball that is unobstructed and goes over the outfield fence in fair territory.
  - b. Once teams have hit the allotted number of home runs, batters that hit home runs after the maximum number of home runs hit will be a Single.
3. Any substitutions must be reported to the umpire at the time the substitute enters the game. The consequences for not reporting the substitute is that the player subbed in automatically leaves the game and that spot in the batting lineup will be an automatic out for the remainder of the game.
4. Any player may be substituted and re-enter once; provided the player occupies the same batting position in the lineup. Players may not re-enter a second time. The starting player and their sub may not be in the lineup at the same time. The opposing manager

must protest violations of this rule before the next pitch. The penalty for using an illegal player will be disqualification of the illegal player.

5. Once a batter reaches any base and time has been called by the umpire, he may request a courtesy runner. Only one (1) courtesy runner may be used per inning and can be anyone in the starting lineup. In the Mixed program, the courtesy runner shall be a male for a male and a female for a female. Also, in the event the courtesy runner is on base and his turn comes to bat, he will be an out. The player will remain on base as the courtesy runner and the next batter in the lineup will come to the plate.
6. Stealing is not allowed in any Granbury Adult Softball League.

#### **D. Equipment and Uniforms**

1. Teams are required to have two playable balls on hand at all times. All balls must have the official USSSA stamp on them to be approved. Men will hit the "USSSA Hot Dot," yellow in color. This is the only acceptable Men's ball. Women will hit a USSSA Stamped, 11" yellow ball (Green Dot), with no other model restrictions. It is the opposing team's pitcher's responsibility to inspect the ball and bring any concerns to the umpire's attention before he/she pitches the ball. Umpires judgment is final. Each ball must have the Granbury Stamp Marking.
  - a. Teams caught using an illegal ball will be assessed an out, and have 1 minute to produce a legal ball.
  - b. A ball containing the opposing team's name or markings, will also be considered illegal if it is produced by the batting team, for the batting team to hit.
  - c. Granbury Parks and Recreation will have balls on sale for \$5 per ball at the concession stand during any GPRD adult league or they will be for sale at Granbury Service Center at 401 N Park St, Granbury, Texas 76048
2. Granbury Parks and Recreation are **NOT** requiring any type of uniform. However, it is appropriate that teams dress in the same color to be identified by opposing teams.
3. Metal Cleats of any kind are not allowed.
4. Exposed Jewelry will be judged by the home plate umpire as dangerous, if the umpire says to remove any piece of jewelry, please do so. If the player fails to do so, the player will be ejected from the game.
5. Bats: Players are responsible for knowing if their bat is deemed legal by the USSSA.
  - a. Any bat outlawed by the USSSA will also be outlawed by Granbury Parks and Recreation (Miken Ultra 1 and Miken Ultra 2).
  - b. All bats are **REQUIRED** to have the 2013 USSSA stamp.

- c. Batters suspected of using an illegal/altered bat will be an automatic out and the player using the bat will be ejected from the game. For the remainder of the game that spot in the lineup will be an automatic out.
- d. If a team is suspected of using an illegal bat a second time in the same game, the game will be declared a forfeit; and both the first bat used and the second bat used will be confiscated
- e. If the team is suspected of using an illegal bat in ANY subsequent game, the team will be suspended for the season (no refund).

#### **E. Disciplinary Action**

1. If a fight happens to break out on an adult league activity, the Granbury Police Department will be called to handle the situation. **For USSSA sanctioned tournament and league play, anyone caught throwing the first punch in an altercation will be suspended for a period of no less than 1 year from the date of the incident. In addition, anyone who retaliates by fighting will also be suspended for a period of 180 days, also from the date of the incident. The coach of the teams, if not involved in the fight, will also receive a 90 day suspension from the date of the incident. Any and all non-fighting players on both teams involved will be placed on probation, to last the remainder of the 2015 season. The USSSA Code of Ethics states that “each player is responsible for the actions of his or her teammates.” At the first incident of “smack talking” in a game, the umpire(s) will IMMEDIATELY warn both teams that ANY further instance will result in a player(s) ejection from the game.**
  1. **Zero Tolerance-** The umpires and/or League Supervisor **ARE REQUIRED** to eject a player, coach or spectator from a game and/or forfeit the game due to unsportsmanlike conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to: loud profanity; threats of any kind toward the umpires, opposing team, or staff members; fighting before, during or after the game; any intoxicated condition detected by the umpire before or during the game; arguing with the umpire; intentional bat throwing; mistreating the facility, equipment, or supplies of Granbury Parks and Recreation.
  2. Ejections due to unsportsmanlike conduct will result in that player immediately leaving the park. If the player refuses to leave the park or threatens an umpire at the time of the ejection, the game will be forfeited.
  3. Players ejected from a game will be automatically suspended for a minimum of 1 week. Additional suspensions may be warranted due to the severity of the incident. During the time of suspension, the individual will not be permitted in any Granbury Parks and Recreation Adult Softball Leagues. Bye weeks and rainout games do not count in the suspension period. Suspensions will carry over to the next season

4. If a player does not have a sufficient number of games remaining on his/her team schedule to complete the suspension. The team's coach will be contacted by the Recreation Coordinator within 48 business hours to discuss the situation and suspension of a player. A player being ejected a second time in any one season will be suspended for a period of 8 games from all Granbury Parks and Recreation Adult Softball Leagues. If a player does not have 8 games left in his/her season, the suspension will carry over to the next season.
5. To appeal a suspension, the coach of the player suspended must submit a handwritten request to the Granbury Parks and Recreation Coordinator. From that point the appeal of the suspension maybe upheld, shorten, or lengthen the decision. Judgment will be made by the GPRD Recreation Coordinator and decision is final and matter is considered closed.