

Odessa Softball Association

Men's League Rules

odessasoftball.com

1. City ordinance section 12-15, prohibits the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages or being intoxicated at UTPB Softball Complex or any other ballpark, parking area or playing area. Any player found in violation of this city ordinance during any sanctioned event will be ejected from the ballpark and automatically receive a fifteen (15) game suspension.
2. OSA league rules will supersede (USSSA) rules when necessary.
3. The manager/coach is responsible for all operations and actions of the team on the field.
4. Only the manager/coach is to discuss or dispute any call or ruling of the game with the umpire. The umpire will notify the manager of any warnings or disciplinary actions against a player(s) and the manager is to ensure that the player(s) comply. One minute will be given for an ejected player(s) to leave the ballpark, failure to do so will result in forfeit of the game.
5. The manager/coach is responsible for the eligibility of all players on his team. Each player is responsible for signing his own name, initials, and information on the roster. Player's fees must be paid prior to playing. All players on the team's roster will be required possess a photo I.D. during games. Each player must be able to provide a form of photo I.D. when his eligibility is in question. Any ineligible player(s) found playing will result in forfeit of the game. The ineligible player(s) and manager/coach(s) will be suspended for two games, and the team will be placed at the bottom of the standings for the first offense. Subsequent violations will result in stiffer penalties. Opposing team's manager/coach(s) may only protest player(s) eligibility during and before the game has ended. Any OSA member may protest a player. Any Men's board or Executive board member may enforce this rule without a team's protest.
6. New players may register any time up until two weeks prior to the start of that league's end of season tournament. Players transferring from another team must obtain a written release from their original team manager, pay the new player fee (if applicable) and sign the roster of the new team prior to playing.
7. Player(s) must be at least 17 years old.
8. No one under 17 is allowed in the dugout.
9. Players may only play on one team in a league. Leagues as follows: **a)** Weeknight, **b)** Sunday Night, **c)** Mixed, **d)** Church, **e)** Church Mixed. Players may only play on one weeknight league (Mon/Wed or Tue/Thu).
10. Eligible players must wear shirts with a 6" printed number on the back. Any player without a numbered shirt will be considered ineligible with the exception of obtaining a shirt token. Shirt tokens are designed to verify player's eligibility, the player must purchase a shirt token from the upstairs office and surrender it to the umpire before playing. The shirt token must be retrieved from the umpire to play any additional games that same night. EXCEPTION: Teams will be allowed a one week grace period at the beginning of the team's first round of play for the year provided that the team can furnish a copy of an invoice from the establishment where the shirts were purchased or ordered. TAPE AND PERMANENT MARKER NUMBERS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

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11. Jewelry removal is at the discretion of the umpire but the association recommends that jewelry not be worn.
12. Electronic devices such as cell phones, pagers, I-pods, etc. are not allowed on the field at any time and should be left in the dugout.
13. Ball caps are the only acceptable form of headgear and must be worn forward or backward. No sideways.
14. Teams will be required to purchase all softballs from the Odessa Softball Association. Those softballs will be legal for play as long as the OSA stamp remains visible.
15. No illegal or altered bats will not be allowed in the league.
16. A coin flip will determine home team prior to the game. Time will be start at the completion of the coin flip. Games will be fifty (50) minutes long. Managers have one minute to respond to umpire's request for a coin toss. If a manager doesn't comply, the umpire may award home team and start the clock. If a team is not ready to play at game time, the umpire may allow the home team to pitch every ten (10) seconds. Each pitch will be called a strike.
17. Lineups must be complete with all information requested on the form. This includes first and last name, shirt #, team name and manager's signature all of which must be legible. Twelve players may be included in the batting order and any ten of the twelve may take a defensive position. Substitute players do not have to be listed for league play as long as they are on the team's roster. Players can be switched defensively during or between innings. Umpire must be informed of any substitutions in the batting order.
18. Teams must have at least 7 players to begin and continue a game.
19. SCOREKEEPING: Each team is responsible for keeping its own score and must verify score with umpire at the end of each half inning. Score may not be changed after the next half inning. A team not keeping a score book may not contest the score. If a team keeps a score book on their own team but not on their opponent, that team may contest scorekeeping involving its own team but may not contest the opposing team's score.
20. A tied game at the start of a new inning with less than three minutes on the clock (with a 2 showing on the clock) will be played as a 3-2 game. An inning begins as soon as the last out is recorded from the previous inning.
21. Emphasis is placed on USSSA safety rules. Bad sportsmanship and profanity will not be tolerated. Any attempt to injure another player will be cause for ejection from a game and subject to further disciplinary action if deemed necessary.
22. No METAL CLEATS are allowed.
23. Ties in the final standings will be decided by rule IX of the OSA by-laws.
24. Run rule: 20 after 3, 15 after 4 and 10 after 5 innings.

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25. Home run limit: 3 home runs per team per game. Any home runs over the limit will count as an out.
26. Any player(s) ejected from any game twice in one season will automatically be suspended until the executive board meets to determine the length of the ensuing suspension.
27. NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Sponsor company checks, money orders, cashier's checks, and cash only. Any returned check will be subject to a \$30 fee and must be paid before that team will be allowed to play. Forfeits will be declared in the interim. Any returned checks covering additional player fees must be paid in full before that player(s) will be eligible to play.
28. RAINOUTS: For rainouts, schedule changes, etc. will be posted on the website odessasoftball.com or call the ballpark at 550-7811. Rainout schedules will be posted at the complex and/or emailed to you or announced on the league phone. Teams will not be called except in special circumstances.
29. Awards are given for each session and will be determined by the Executive Board.
30. Managers/coaches may complete umpire evaluation forms if desired. Umpire evaluation forms can be obtained from the upstairs office.
31. Base stealing is not allowed in league play.
32. No courtesy (pinch) runners are allowed. USSSA substitution and re-entry rules will apply.