

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Information Sheet

Spring 2009

This information sheet is intended to provide basic information and rules for this activity. Please refer to the "Policies" link on the home page of the intramural web page for detailed information about policies and procedures of the Intramural Activities Program.

ENTRIES OPEN

April 28, 2009 (Entries are limited and are on a first come, first served basis.)

ENTRY FEE

A \$30.00 non-refundable entry fee will be required at registration for each team.

CAPTAINS' MEETING

A meeting for team captains (or a representative from each team) will be held **Thursday, April 30 at 4:00 PM in 267 Richards Building**. Intramural policies and procedures will be discussed during this meeting and it is important that all teams be represented.

ELIGIBILITY

Spring 2009 full-time students (6 credits), and faculty/staff are eligible. Part-time students, deferred students, non-students, and spouses of students must pay an intramural activity fee for each semester in which they participate. Non-students must be active members of a BYU ward and their membership records must reside in the BYU ward that they attend.

The intramural activity fee is paid at the HHP College Services Office in 112 Richards Building. The cost is \$20.00 per semester during fall/winter and \$10.00 for spring/summer. A BYU ID or BYU Net ID with valid picture ID is required at time of payment. This fee will enable a participant to compete in any intramural activity during the appropriate semester.

To participate in a team sport, each player must be added to his online team roster. Players need to be added to their team roster by 3:00 PM for weekday games and by 3:00 PM on Friday for Saturday games. Team rosters are limited to **twenty-one** players. Each participant may play for only **one Softball** team.

DAYS, TIME, AND LOCATION OF PLAY

Games will be played Tuesday through Friday 6:15 PM to 10:15 PM and Saturdays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The West Stadium fields will be used. These fields are located west of LaVell Edwards Stadium off of University Ave.

CHECK-IN

It is recommended that participants check-in with the activity supervisor at least ten minutes prior to game time. *All participants will need to show a valid (government, school, or work issued) picture ID before every game.* Picture ID printouts are not acceptable. Participants, whose privileges list "Fee Needed", will need to show their paid receipt for the intramural activity fee before they can be checked-in.

FORFEITS

Teams are encouraged to arrive 10 minutes before game time. **FORFEIT TIME IS GAME TIME!** A forfeit is given to teams having less than **eight** legal players at game time. Teams receiving their second forfeit will be dropped from regular season play and will not be eligible for tournament play. *Refunds will not be given for forfeited schedules.*

EQUIPMENT

The Intramural Office will supply softballs each night of play at every field. Teams wishing to acquire balls for practice can purchase the used softballs in the HHP Services Office at 112 RB for \$1.00 each.

The Office of Intramural Activities will not supply bats or gloves for game play. Only official bats, as described in the USSSA rulebook, will be allowed. The official bat can be no more than 34 inches long, not more than 2 1/4 inches in diameter at its largest part, and shall not exceed **32 ounces**. In addition, the Bat Performance Factor (BPF) shall be 1.20 or less.

UNIFORMS

Any appropriate, modest athletic uniform is permissible. Shirts and shoes must be worn. **No metal cleats will be allowed.** Sleeveless shirts are not allowed.

UMPIRES

The Office of Intramural Activities will provide all Umpires. Umpires and supervisors assigned to your game have the power to make decisions on any point not specifically covered by rules of the game or by intramural policies.

LIABILITY

All participants play at their own risk and must acquire their own insurance.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The decision to cancel activities due to inclement weather will be made by **4:00 PM on weekdays and 8:00 AM on Saturdays.** Participants may call the intramural rainout hotline at 801-422-3992 for this decision.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. We hope that everyone will conduct himself in a mature and friendly manner. Team captains are responsible for the conduct of their players and their spectators. Spectators may be asked to leave if necessary.

A yellow/red card system will be used to monitor unsportsmanlike behavior, rough play and improper conduct. A participant who receives a yellow card will be required to sit out for two minutes of game time. A participant who receives a red card shall be ejected from the game and will need to leave the field/court before play resumes. A team with a carded player will be required to play with one less player until the penalty time has expired (Yellow = one inning & Red = two innings).

The following are examples of yellow/red card offenses:

Yellow Card: Non-directional profanity; arguing; rough play; taunting opponents, fake tag.

Red Card: Illegal participation; directional profanity; flagrant contact; fighting; threatening behavior, dangerously throwing a bat.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

There will be two women's divisions (upper and lower) and two men's divisions (upper and lower) for regular season play. At the conclusion of regular season play, eligible teams will be re-evaluated and placed in the tournament division that best fits their ability. Important tournament dates are listed below.

- Tournament classification rankings will be posted by **4:00 PM on Monday, May 18.**
- Teams will have until **4:00 PM on Thursday, May 21** to challenge classification rankings.
- Tournament brackets will be posted by **4:00 PM Friday, May 22.**
- Tournament play begins **Tuesday, May 26.**

SOFTBALL RULES

Intramural softball abides by the 2009 USSSA rules with the following exceptions or points of emphasis:

1. *Team Composition:* A team must have at least **8** players to start the game. A maximum of 10 players are allowed in the field and a maximum of 14 players are allowed in the batting line-up.
2. *Game Duration:* Games will last seven (7) innings or 50 minutes. A team that is ahead by 10 runs at the end of five (5) innings shall be declared the winner.
3. *Overtime:* In the event of a tie game during regular season play, the game will stand as a tie and each team will be credited with a win. During tournament, a game that is tied at the end of seven innings shall be continued, by playing additional innings until one team has scored more runs than the other at the end of a completed inning, or the team second at bat scores more runs in their half of the uncompleted extra inning.
4. *Sportsmanship:* Any base runner crashing into a fielder in an attempt to dislodge the ball or prevent a double play will be called out and may be ejected from the game. Also any player who interferes with a throw may be called for interference.

Any incident of either throwing the bat or presenting a fake tag may warrant a warning, a yellow card, or a red card depending on the severity of the action.

5. *Strike Zone Mat:* If a legally pitched ball strikes any part of the mat, it shall be declared a strike, otherwise it shall be declared a ball.
6. *Balls and Strikes:*
 - 2 strikes, 3 balls
 - If the 2nd strike is an uncaught foul ball, the batter will be allowed another strike. The next foul ball is an automatic out.
7. *Homerun Rule:* All fair untouched fly balls over-the-fence will be ruled an out.
8. *Flip Flop Rule:* At the end of the 4th inning if the home team is down by ten runs, the home team will remain at bat and become the visiting team at the top of the 5th inning. If the team (new visiting team) does not score enough runs to reduce the run difference below the ten run rule, the game is over. If they reduce the run difference to below ten runs, then the new home team will bat. If they subsequently score enough runs to exceed the run rule the game will be over, if they do not the game will continue under that format.

***If you have any questions, contact Annie in 145 RB (801-422-7597) or access our web page.
<http://intramurals.byu.edu/> Have a fun season!***