



# *County of Middlesex*

## *Office of Parks & Recreation*

### 2015 Pancreatic Co-Ed Softball Tournament Rules & Regulations

#### **Rule 1- Tournament Administration, Organization and Structure**

##### **Section 1. Tournament Management**

**A.** The Co-Ed Adult Softball Tournament is operated under the direction of the Middlesex County Office of Parks & Recreation.

##### **Section 2. Team Registration**

**A.** Suggested donation is **\$250.00** per team. Donations should be made out in the form of a CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO THE FOLLOWING:

**“CINJ” (THE CANCER INSTITUTE OF NEW JERSEY)**

**B.** To be eligible to participate in the tournament, all players must be at least eighteen (18) years of age or older.

**C.** Teams are accepted on a **first come, first serve basis only** and space is limited. The Parks & Recreation Office will not and cannot verbally reserve a place in the tournament for any team.

**D.** The County of Middlesex reserves the right to reject any team names we feel are inappropriate.

##### **Section 3. Rosters**

**A.** Teams must have the application section completed at the time of registration. All teams will have up until **Monday June 22, 2015** to submit their team roster and player information. It is the responsibility of the each team manager to make sure that everyone who will be playing on their team is listed on their roster. There is a limit of twenty (20) players per team roster.

##### **Section 3. Scheduling**

**A.** A minimum of (3) three games will be played at **William Warren Park (Florida Grove Road in Woodbridge)**.

**B.** Game Day Information Hotline (*Saturday after 7::00AM*).

The phone number is **732-745-4222**.

## **Rule 2- Playing Rules, Regulations and Points of Emphasis**

### **Section 1. Supplies & Equipment**

**A.** All teams must check in prior to the start of their first game which will be located in between fields one and two. Check in will be open at 8:00am.

**B.** All catchers **must** wear a **catcher's face mask**. Female catchers must also wear a helmet. Metal spikes and bat "doughnuts" are prohibited.

**C.** **Only ASA Approved Aluminum Bats are permitted. No composite or titanium bats**

**whatsoever may be used in league play even if they are ASA approved. Composite Handles**

**are OK as long as it appears on the ASA approved bat list as either Single-Wall or Multi-**

**Wall. Please check the following website if you are questioning your bat**

( [http://www.asasoftball.com/about/certified\\_equipment.asp](http://www.asasoftball.com/about/certified_equipment.asp) ).

### **Section 2. The Game**

**A.** The umpire shall conduct a pre-game conference with the team managers to discuss ground rules.

**B.** Umpire fees are **\$23.00** cash per game per team for each game. Each team will pay the umpire **prior** to the start of the game (excluding semi-final and final).

**C.** Middlesex County will supply one (1) new softball per game. There is a 70 minute time limit per game with the exception of the semi-final and final games.

**D.** In order to start a game each team must have at least nine (9) players present and ready to play at game time. Less than nine (9) players will result in a team forfeit. Teams may use a maximum of ten (10) fielders and may bat up to twelve (12) players. Teams must continue to maintain at least nine (9) players on the field. If a team has started with nine (9) players, other players may enter the game and be added to the batting order on the condition that his/her team has not batted through the order. Those players must be added to the bottom of the batting order. If the team has batted through, additional players may only be added as substitutes.

**E.** The pitcher must deliver the ball at moderate speed, underhand and with an arc of **at least six (6) feet (from ground) and no more than 12 feet** from when it leaves the pitchers hand to when it reaches home plate. The umpire will indicate eligible pitch, but the batter has the option to play pitch. A legal pitch that hits any part of home plate and/or the softball mat will be considered a strike.

**F.** Five (5) warm up pitches are allowed in the first inning. No warm up pitches are permitted after the first inning with the exception of a substitution for a new pitcher. A new pitcher will be permitted five warm up pitches.

**F.** Only the on deck batter is permitted in front of the dugout area.

**G.** Runner(s) may not leave the base until after the ball has been hit by the batter. Violation will result in the runner(s) being out. The pitch will count as called by the umpire.

**H.** All batters will start with a one (1) and one (1) count. A batter is out on the third strike **(including a foul ball)**. However, if the foul ball is caught, the ball remains in play and runners may advance at their own risk.

**I.** There is a three (3) over the fence home run limit for each team per game. Any subsequent home run ball hit over the fence will be called an "out".

**J.** Courtesy Runners are permitted. The courtesy runner **must** be the last player to make a **batted** out. The only exception is if the game is in the first inning and there are no outs. In that case the last player in the batting order will become the courtesy runner.

**K.** All runners will be awarded two bases from the start of play on a ball thrown "**out of play**". Players positioning when the ball is thrown out of play will govern base advancement.

**L.** **Hit and Sit Rule:** Batters and runners **DO NOT** run the bases on any home run ball that is hit over the fence.

**M.** Re-entry rule will be in effect. Substitutions must be reported to the umpire. Re-entry is allowed only one time per player and batting order must remain the same.

**N.** **Double First Base.** A double first base will be used. All batters who have committed to overrunning first base must proceed to and touch the orange base. All fielders **MUST** have possession of the ball with their foot on the white base in order for an out to be recorded.

**O.** There is to be no contact on the basepaths. All runners must either slide or surrender in order to avoid a collision on any play on the basepaths.

**P.** Run Ahead (Mercy) Rule. The following Run Ahead (Mercy) Rule is in affect: Twelve (12) runs after 5 innings of play (4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead by Twelve (12) runs or more).

**Q.** All games (including playoffs) are considered regulation after 5 innings (4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead). **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.** If a game is called after five (5) innings but before (7) seven innings, the final score will revert back to the last completed inning.

**R.** **RAIN DATE:** We will have a rain date on a Saturday in June (TBA). The times of the games will remain the same.

### RULES SPECIFIC TO CO-ED

**A.** All teams must have a minimum of four (4) female players to start the game and must continue to play with four (4) female players in the field.

**EXCEPTION:** If a team has six (6) male players and four (4) female players and a female gets injured and can no longer continue and there is no female substitute available that team can play with 6 males and 3 females in the field. The injured female player's spot in the batting order will become an automatic out.

**B.** **An alternate male-female batting order must be used until you run out of females. (Example: m/f/m/f/m/f/m/f/m/m). If extra batters are used, you must bat both a male and female.**

**C.** All male batters who walk will be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base. Runners will move up two bases only if forced.

**D.** When courtesy runners and substitutes are used a male player can only replace a male player and a female player can only replace a female. Regular re-entry rules apply for substitutes.

## **Section 3. Game Formats**

**A.** There will **be** a three game Guarantee with a 12 team maximum.

**B.** The schedule will be posted via a blind draw on our website once registration has ended.

**C.** All teams must check in prior to the start of their first game which will be located in between fields one and two. Check in will be open at 8:00am.

**D.** There will be a 70 minute time limit for each game with the exception of the semi-final and finals.

## **Section 1 Player and Team Code of Conduct**

**A.** This is a Middlesex County sponsored Tournament is strictly for recreation, and as such unsportsmanlike conduct does not belong. ***Foul and abusive language towards other players, spectators, umpires and township officials will not be tolerated.***

***Physical threats and/or actions will result in expulsion from the league, and other possible Recreation Department activities.***

**B.** Any player ejected from a game will receive a **minimum** one (1) game suspension. **A second ejection will result in expulsion from all Middlesex County Parks & Recreation Leagues & Tournaments for the remainder of the season.**

**C.** ***Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the field or surrounding area as per Middlesex County Parks Rules & Regulations.***

***Any team found violating this policy will have their game stopped without warning and forfeited to the opposing team. A second offense will result in the team's removal for the tournament.***

**D.** Each team is responsible for their players, and spectators, leaving the field and surrounding area clean and free of debris.

**E.** Smoking is prohibited on the playing field.

**F.** **It is recommended that each team carry insurance to protect players in case of injury.**

THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX  
DOES NOT PROVIDE THIS COVERAGE.

**IT IS THE MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITY THAT ALL PLAYERS ON HIS/HER  
TEAM ARE MADE AWARE OF ALL OF THE  
RULES & REGULATIONS OF THIS TOURNAMENT !!!!**

### **PHONE NUMBERS & CONTACTS**

**PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE**  
**732-745-4222 or 732-745-4484**

**GAME DAY WEATHER LINE**  
**732-745-4222 AFTER 7:00 AM**

The Middlesex County Parks & Recreation Office  
is located on 1030 River Road in Piscataway

**Our Mailing Address is:**  
Middlesex County Office of Parks & Recreation  
P.O. Box 661  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Thank you for your participation in the  
Pancreatic Adult Co-Ed Softball Tournament.