



City of Edina
Park and Recreation
4801 W. 50th St.
Edina, MN 55424

January 2012

Attached is the 2012 Adult Softball packet
Things to know in 2012

1. Each team will supply a first aid kit for their team and bring it with them to the field.
2. Leagues (with the exception of the double header leagues) will be given 10 league games (Monday night will get 20 games) and will be in a single elimination playoff for their league. If a league does not have enough teams for playoffs, you will be informed and you will be given 12 games and no playoffs. The Tuesday night Co-Rec may again be combined with Hopkins – Minnetonka Recreation and some games will be at Van Valkenburg and some at Big Willow ball field. Please note on your registration if you want C or D competition. The Tuesday night Co Rec league will not have playoffs if combined with Hopkins- Minnetonka Recreation and will begin April 24.
3. **Remember that alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the field, in the dug out and by the field.** We will not ask you for a \$100 check for “no drinking”, but we ask you to please watch your team. I want to make sure all teams are respectful to the other team and our officials. Coolers should not be by the playing area. Reserve this for after the game someplace else.
4. You can pay your league fees with a credit card, check or cash. Your league fee is due at the time of registration.
5. Thank you for participating in the 2011 season and we look forward to 2012!

We need some umpires for the leagues and for our sub list. If you know of anyone, please contact Donna Tilsner at 952-826-0432.

2012
Edina Park and Recreation Department
11"/12" Local League Rules

The League Director shall have the authority to interpret special situations as they arise. Each situation will be judged on individual merits. The current USSSA official softball rules will be enforced along with the following special local Co-Rec rules.

1. Any time a defensive player is switched from one position to another, he or she must be removed from the game for the remainder of that inning. Exception: one player must be designated a short fielder and this fielder may change positions without substitution as long as this fielder does not play in a position outside of the regular right or left fielder.
2. Players may re-enter the field as often as they wish; however, players removed from the game may re-enter only in their original batting order position. See re-entry rule in the 2012 USSSA Rule Book.
3. All Edina Co-Rec Leagues may use the continuous batting order rule as outlined in rule#11 of the local league rules, under game techniques. Teams may bat any rostered player who shows up for the game. However, teams wishing to bat everyone must notify the other team before the game how many people will be in the batting lineup. These additional people may, but do not have to play in the field. Otherwise, for batting purposes, only consider the number of "players" in the field as required for the batting lineup. Men and women must alternate in the batting order. However, if more women are playing than men, women would be allowed to bat back to back. Men are not allowed to bat back to back at any time.
4. Courtesy runners will be allowed, men for men, women for women, but only in the event of an injury, and the courtesy runner must be the last person out and of the same sex.
5. If a man is walked, intentionally or otherwise, he will be awarded first and second base, and it is the offensive manager's option to have the next batter (woman) put on base also. She does not have to report to the batter's box but can be waived on to first base.
6. In **all** Edina Co-Rec Leagues, no player from the defensive team, except for the pitcher, can be in front of the base lines until after the

- ball is hit. In other words, the shortstop, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd basemen must play behind the baselines until the ball is hit. Violation: No pitch.
7. A minimum of nine players are needed to start and continue a game. At no time shall the number of men in the game exceed the number of women in the game. In all Edina Co-Rec Leagues, as few as one-man and eight women constitutes a legal Co-Rec team. Five men and four women is not a legal team. (Minimum of 5 women, 4 men).
 8. When playing ten in the field, defensive positioning in **all** Edina Co-Rec Leagues must be: 2 males and 2 females in the outfield and 2 males and 2 females in the infield other than the pitcher and catcher. The pitcher and catcher cannot be the same sex. In the case where a Co-Rec team has only nine players in the field, at least five of them must be females. In the case of only nine defenders (only 4 men in the field), no more than 2 men may play in either the outfield or infield other than pitcher or catcher. At all times (regardless if nine or ten defenders in the field), for pitcher and catcher, one or both must be a female. At no time may a team have a male catcher and a male pitcher at the same time, or female catcher and female pitcher.
 9. Forfeit time is five minutes from scheduled game time.
 10. Street shoes, tennis shoes, or rubber cleated shoes may be worn, but no metal spikes.
 11. Women and men may wear gloves in all Edina Co-Rec Leagues.
 12. The co-rec league is a fun league. Avoid forfeitures whenever possible. If, as a team, you cannot attend a game, have the courtesy to call the other team at the phone number listed on the schedule and the Park and Recreation Department at 952-826-0367.
 13. Unsportsmanlike conduct and unnecessary roughness will not be tolerated. As an example, when a woman is covering a base for a force play, a man should not slide or run into her with the sole purpose of taking her out of the play. However, a woman blocking the baseline should expect to take her knocks if there is an obstruction on her part.
 14. Official pitching distance in Co-Rec Leagues is **50** feet. Base distance is **65** feet.
 15. All Co-Rec leagues will use the 3 ball 2 strike count with a courtesy foul.

If you need more eligible players, notify Edina Park and Recreation.
We generally have a list of interested players.

**To reserve a practice field:
Call the Edina Park & Recreation Department office at
952-826-0367**

**Activity Hot line for weather postponements
952-826-0368 after 4:30 p.m.**

**2012
Adult Summer Softball
Important Dates to Remember**

Friday, February 3, 2012	*Resident team registration opens.
Friday, February 10, 2012	*Registration deadline for resident teams.
Wednesday, February 15, 2012	*Non-Resident teams registration accepted on a first come first accepted basis.
Wednesday, March 7, 2012	*Final deadline, all registrations in!
Friday, March 23, 2012	*Begin taking reservations for practice.
Thursday, April 12, 2012	*Schedules will be emailed.
Monday April 30, 2012	*Season begins play.
Friday, May 25, 20112	*Deadline for making roster changes.

Practice Field Reservation Policy

The following are the adult softball fields available for practices:
Todd Park and Highlands Park.

Beginning Friday, March 23, 2012 teams may reserve one of the above fields for practice. Simply call the Edina Park and Recreation Department office at 952-826-0367, Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Teams may reserve one hour of practice field time per week during week days and an additional two hours of practice field time on weekends. Reservations may be made one week in advance. For example, managers may call on Monday and reserve one hour on any weekday of the week as well as one additional hour on any weekday of the following week. Field space is limited and is available on a first come first served basis.

*****Please see map for field locations*****

2012
Edina Park and Recreation Department
Local League Rules

ELIGIBILITY RULES:

1. The slow pitch and eligibility rules of the USSSA (United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association) and the MRPA (Minnesota Recreation and Park Association) will govern all play of the Edina Slow Pitch Leagues unless they are modified by Edina's "Local League Rules."
2. All players must live or work full time, year around in Edina before March 1, 2012; however, teams in each League (except the Industrial League) are allowed up to a maximum of four "non-resident players" per team for a fee of \$26.00 per non-resident player. Co-Rec teams must have 50% of their players meet the eligibility requirements. "Non-resident teams" need not fulfill the eligibility requirements.
3. Players who must meet the eligibility requirements and have moved or changed employment after March 1, 2012, may petition the Edina League Director. All players must be at least 18 years old by March 1, 2012.
4. All rosters must be in the Edina Recreation Department prior to your first league game. Non-compliance could result in forfeiture of games. Additions may be made to the team roster and submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 25, 2012. Players not entered on the roster will be ineligible to compete in games and will subject their team to forfeiture.
5. Corporate Teams
 - a) Teams must use players who are bonafide employees of their Edina firm working on a year around, full time basis in Edina. Full time implies standard work week for that industry plus receiving company benefits.
 - b) Once a player leaves the employment of the firm he/she is representing, he/she is no longer eligible to play, unless petitioned. Should there be a temporary lay off, a player is eligible if he/she has established seniority. Industrial leagues are not intended for part- time or temporary employees.
6. To be eligible to play in a Region or State tournament, a player must have played in at least four league games.
7. Players may only play in one Edina men's and one co rec league or one

open league plus one over 35 league. To play in an over 35 league, player has to be 35 or older.

8. No uniforms are required.

GAME TECHNIQUES:

1. Managers are requested to have their lineups, first and last names of players and positions two minutes before game time. Each team is requested to keep a scorebook. The home team will be designated as the official scorer.
2. If a team wishes to go to the MRPA region or state tournament, they will pay their entrance fee to be announced at a later date.
3. In case of ties at the end of the season, the team or teams with the greatest number of victories against other teams involved in the tie would be used to break the tie. Next, the greatest difference between runs scored less runs let in will be considered, first with teams involved in tie and second with all teams in your league. Finally, if necessary, a coin flip.

In a three or more way tie (in cases where there is no clear champion in head to head competition), ties will be broken by runs scored less runs let in, first with all three teams involved and second with all teams in the league.

4. In the Edina Adult Softball League, a team must have a minimum of **nine** (as opposed to ten as designated in the rule book) or more players to begin and continue a game. If a game is not started within five minutes of the official starting time, the team causing the delay will forfeit the game. A team starting with eleven players in their batting order may finish the game if someone is injured or must leave. However, they must have at least nine to finish the game.
5. 2012 Home Run Rules:
 - Men's Open C League - Three (3) home runs hit per game
 - Men's Open D & Corporate Bronze Leagues - Three (3) home runs hit per game
 - Men's 35, & 45 & over Recreational League - Three (3) home run hit per game
 - Co-Rec 11"/12" D League (male) - Two (2) home runs hit per game

*After a team has reached its limit of home runs hit, any fair untouched ball hit over the fence in that game is ruled out.

6. The use of masks is suggested for all catchers. Masks and chest protectors are suggested for women catchers. Masks are **strongly suggested** (no longer required) for all catchers wearing glasses, corrective or sun).

7. METAL SPIKES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN ANY LEAGUE.
8. All Edina leagues will use the 3 ball 2 strike rule with a courtesy foul. The batter is out on the second foul after the second strike.
9. In any games, if a team is ahead by 10 runs after 5 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings and 20 runs after 3 innings, the game will be considered completed.
10. **2012-** Most leagues will have single elimination playoffs. If there are a small number of teams in a league, you will be notified that there will be no playoffs and your league will be given 2 extra games.
11. As a guideline, unless there is a tie, 6:30 p.m. games cannot have an inning begin after 7:25 p.m., 7:30 p.m. games can have no innings begin after 8:25 p.m., 8:30 p.m. games cannot begin an inning after 9:25 p.m., and 9:30 p.m. games can have no inning begin after 10:25 p.m. Games will be considered complete if played within above guidelines and five complete innings are played or if the home team is ahead after 4 1/2 complete innings). Teams that start their games late due to a previous game's delay will be given their entire hour to get their game completed.
NOTE: No new innings will be allowed to begin after 10:40 p.m. at Van Valkenburg. The game shall be scheduled to be finished at another date.
11. CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER - Teams may bat all players that show up for the game. Players do not have to play in the field if there are more than 10. There is free substitution for any player going in or out of the field at any time; however, batting order must remain the same. Once a starter player is taken out of the batting order, he/she may re-enter the game once, provided such player occupies the same batting position. See re-entry rule in the 2012 USSSA Rule Book. Co-Rec teams please see addendum for Co-Rec play. A maximum of 20 players may bat in the continuous batting order at a given time.
12. Pitching distance is **50'** for all leagues. Bases distance will again be **65'** for all leagues.
13. The **NO DIG RULE** is in effect for all league and playoff games. Any player digging out the batter's box will be called out.
14. A courtesy runner may be used in place of an injured player. The injured player must make it to first base, at which time the last person out, of the same sex, would become the injured player's courtesy runner. Once a player uses a courtesy runner, he or she must use one for the remainder of the game.
15. Each team will supply a first aid kit for their team.

POSTPONEMENTS:

1. On days when weather makes play doubtful, managers are to call the Recreation Office recorded number **952-826-0368 after 4:30 PM** for a recorded message concerning cancellations. We will update the message as changes occur.
2. Where playing conditions are questionable, games may be called off at the playing field by the umpire.
3. If a game has been postponed, it will be rescheduled if possible. Games will be continued from the point at which the game was called due to bad weather. ***Teams should realize make-up games may be scheduled on any available night of the week.***
4. If an official umpire fails to show up, managers should mutually agree on an umpire and play the game. Please notify the Recreation Office the next day of this situation and the game results.

PROTESTS:

1. Protests on violation of eligibility, rules or regulations may be initiated by teams. A protest must be filed in writing within 24 weekday hours of day of game. Proof of protest must be furnished by protesting team.
2. Protest on rule interpretation must be lodged at the time the infraction occurs. Both the umpire and the other manager should be made aware that the game is under protest and a careful study of circumstances should be made. Judgment calls (balls, strikes, traps etc.) are not eligible for protest.
3. Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit of \$10. If the protest is upheld the \$10 will be refunded, otherwise it will be deposited in the league fund.
4. The protest board is the Park and Recreation Director and Recreation Supervisor.

PENALTY FOR INELIGIBLE PLAYERS:

If a player is found ineligible by either the Park or Recreation Department or by protest, or if a team member receives a written citation or warning from the Edina Police or Edina Park Ranger for drinking in Edina Parks, the maximum penalty could include:

b) Player(s) and manager may be suspended from all Edina Athletic Programs for one (1) year.

c) In the case of ineligible players, the team will forfeit the games played prior to date of infraction and if ineligibility is discovered during playoffs, the team shall be removed from the playoff tournament.

UMPIRE'S AUTHORITY:

1. Assaults and indignities to players or officials could result in suspension from participating in Edina Park and Recreation Department League competition.
2. Any player fighting or throwing a punch will be ejected from that game plus the next. Second offense results in suspension from all Edina Leagues for a minimum of one (1) year.
3. Umpires have authority to remove or ban a player and/or manager from the game and park should the situation warrant it.
4. No smoking on the playing field and in the dug out. The City of Edina does have a no smoking ordinance in all parks.
5. The team manager will represent and be responsible for all actions of the team he represents during or after any game. Only the manager should address the Umpire on judgment calls. The player may be suspended if he/she argues with the Umpire.
6. Swearing or cursing can be grounds for ejection from the game and park.
7. Only players will be in the dug out.

Umpires Wanted!

The number of umpires has not kept up with the number of games we have. We have been very fortunate in past years to have VERY reliable and dedicated umpires but we need more. If we cannot fill openings, it could result in shorter games, and more restrictive rules to keep games moving. Step up or if you know someone, let us know. There are umpire clinics to help train you and the pay is good. Call Donna at 952-826-0432 if you need more information.

**If you need more eligible players, notify Edina Park and Recreation.
We generally have a list of interested players.**

**To reserve a practice field:
Call the Edina Park & Recreation Department office at 952-826-0367**

**Activity Hotline for weather postponements
952-826-0368 after 4:30 p.m.**

2012
Edina Park and Recreation Department
Adult Slow Pitch Summer Softball Registration Procedure

To register your team for the 2012 Edina Adult Summer Softball Program, please do the following:

1. Fill out the **REGISTRATION FORM** indicating your first (1), second (2) and third (3) choice.
2. Return registration form with league entry fee. Please make checks payable to: "**City of Edina**"

2012 league entry fees are:

<u>FEE</u>	<u>LEAGUE#</u>
\$425	1-5
\$460	6-7
\$665	8-9

PLEASE NOTE: *Non-resident teams pay an additional \$160 league fee.
 *Non-resident teams will be accepted only after 8 a.m., Wednesday, February 15, 2012. Non-resident teams will be eligible to participate in the league only if leagues are not filled by Wednesday, February 15, 2012.

3. Managers must sign the "**PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**" **ENFORCEMENT SHEET**.
4. Rosters and additional non-resident fees (\$26 per non-resident up to a maximum of four non-residents) are not due until prior to your team's first league game, however, may be submitted at the time of registration.
5. Submit the registration form, league fee, signed "Player Eligibility" enforcement form (and roster and/or the additional non-resident fee if desired) to:
Edina Park and Recreation Department
4801 West 50th St.
Edina, MN 55424
Attn: Softball Registration
6. Resident team registrations will be accepted beginning Friday, February 3, 2012 at the above address.
7. The registration deadline is 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 7, 2012.
8. If you have any questions about the Edina Adult Softball Program, please call Donna Tilsner at 952-826-0432.

**Edina Park and Recreation Department
Adult Slow Pitch Summer Softball Team Registration Form**

<u>League #</u>	<u>League Day and Description</u>	<u>Start Times</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1. ____	Wed Men's Open Recreational (Class C)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$425
2. ____	Thu Men's Open Recreational (Class D)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$425
<u>35 AND OVER LEAGUE</u>			
3. ____	Wed 35 and Over (Class C)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$425
4. ____	Wed 35 and Over (Class D)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$425
<u>45 AND OVER LEAGUE (NEW)</u>			
5. ____	Wed 45 and Over (Class D)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$425
<u>11"/12" CO-REC LEAGUES</u>			
6. ____	Tue 11"/12" Co-Rec League (Class C and D))	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$460
7. ____	Thurs. 11"/12" Co-Rec League (Class D)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$460
<u>Men's Double Header League</u>			
8. ____	Mon. Men's Open Recreational (class C)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$665
9. ____	Mon. Men's Open Recreational (class D)	6:30, 7:30, 8:30 & 9:30p	\$665

Women's leagues are offered at Hopkins -Minnetonka Recreation. Call 952-939-8354 for information.

PLEASE NOTE: Non-resident teams pay an additional \$160 league fee.

PLEASE PRINT!!

Team Name _____ Team Manager _____

Street Address _____ Apt. or Suite # _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone (H): _____ Phone (W): _____

Email address _____ (This information will be used to email you communications.) If you do not want your email address used, check here _____

Was your team in an Edina league last year? ___yes ___no; If yes:

Team name: _____ Day _____ Time _____ League _____

Payment must accompany registration.

You can use your credit card for your registration fee:

__Visa __Master Card __American Express Number: _____

Exp Date: _____

Amount to be charged: \$ _____ Signature: _____

2012 Edina Adult Slow Pitch Softball Roster Form

Check one: Men's C Double header(C) Men's D 35 And Over
 Co-Rec 11"/12" Double header(D) 45 And Over
TEAM NAME _____ LEAGUE NO. _____ DAY _____

LEGAL PLAYING ADDRESS

Player's Name (Edina home or work address including zip code) Day Time Phone #

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____
- 13. _____
- 14. _____
- 15. _____
- 16. _____
- 17. _____
- 18. _____
- 19. _____
- 20. _____

MANAGER _____ PHONE (H) _____
(W) _____

Email address _____

THIS ROSTER IS DUE IN THE RECREATION OFFICE PRIOR TO YOUR FIRST LEAGUE GAME. Additions to this roster may be made up to Friday, May 22, 2012. MANAGERS MUST SIGN ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION ON BACK OF PAGE.

***** SEE BACK OF PAGE FOR SUBSTITUTE LIST AND "NON-RESIDENT PLAYER" LIST *****

**2012 SUBSTITUTE LIST
LEGAL PLAYING ADDRESS**

(Maximum of six substitutes allowed)

Player's Name	Home or work address including Zip code	Day	Time	Phone #
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

PLEASE NOTE: Substitute players are not eligible for M.R.P.A./U.S.S.S.A. Region III or State post season tournament play.

2012 "NON-RESIDENT PLAYERS" LIST

(Four "non-resident players" maximum allowed for a fee of \$26.00 per player)

Player's Name	Home address including zip Code	Day	Time	Phone #
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

For clarification, all of the above listed "non-resident players" must also be rostered either on the front page of this roster form or listed as a substitute on this back page. The maximum number of rostered players allowed on any team, including any "non-resident players," is twenty-six (26) players, however, only the twenty (20) players listed on the front of this roster are eligible to participate in post season MRPA/USSSA Region III or State Tournament play.

Each year the Edina Park and Recreation Department receives many requests from vendors and various organizations who are promoting tournaments to obtain a mailing list of our adult softball managers. Please let us know if you wish to or not wish to give us your permission to give your name and address to these vendors and organizations by signing one of the following two statements.

PLEASE SIGN ONLY ONE OF THE TWO STATEMENTS BELOW:

1. The Edina Park and Recreation Department has my permission to distribute my name and address to vendors and organizations involved in adult softball.

OR

_____ Manager's Signature

2. The Edina Park and Recreation Department may not distribute my name and address to any vendor or organization.

_____ Manager's Signature

2012
Edina Park and Recreation Department
Adult Slow Pitch Softball "Player Eligibility Enforcement Sheet"

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"PLAYER ELIGIBILITY" ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT

I understand that:

1. We will not use or have rostered any ineligible player(s) as defined by the Edina Park and Recreation Department (see eligibility rules).

AND

2. Will not use or have any rostered players who were issued a written citation or written warning by either the Edina Police or Edina Park Ranger for drinking beer or any intoxicating beverages just before, during scheduled games or practices in Edina's parks.

If my team is found to be in violation of one or both of the above rules, I understand the team and/or players in violation of the above rules may be ejected from the league.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Registration Form _____

Team Manager's Signature

Registration Fee _____
amount

Team Name

Received _____ / _____

NOTE: Your team will not be considered as registered in the league until this form is returned with the team registration form and league fee.

Co Rec League on Tuesday with Hopkins- Minnetonka Recreation

LEAGUE RULES: Official rules enforced will be those in the USSSA Official Rule Book and the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association State Tournament Rules and Guide Book. The following are Hopkins-Minnetonka rule exceptions:

1. A minimum of nine players are required to play a league game. Games will start precisely as scheduled when a team has eight players. A team may not have more men on the field than women. A 5-minute grace period will be granted to teams. After 5 minutes, a team must forfeit if they do not have nine players. A player must be on the field ready to play at the scheduled game time to be considered one of the nine players or the game will be ruled a forfeit. In the case that a team does not have the minimum number of players needed to start the game, they must inform the umpire that they will be forfeiting but will be permitted to pick up players in order to play a scrimmage. The scheduled umpire will be the game official. An umpire will not officiate a game forfeited due to the ejection of a player.
2. Games are limited to 1 hour in length. Tie games will stand as a tie with each team receiving ½ a win and ½ a loss. A minimum of 4 innings or 40 minutes is required for a regulation game. Games not of regulation length due to interruptions by rain, darkness or protest, will be rescheduled and continued from the time of interruption. Teams must make their best effort to field the same team as the original game.
3. Run Rules:
 - a. Games will be automatically terminated when a team is 10 or more runs ahead after 5 innings, 15 or more runs ahead after 4 innings, and 20 or more runs ahead after 2 innings.
 - b. Flip-Flop Rule - When the visiting team has reached the run rule by the end of the inning prior to the run rule going into effect, the home team remains at bat and becomes the visiting team. If the new visiting team does not score enough runs to reduce the run difference below the designated amount, the game is over. If the team does score enough runs, the game will proceed as normal. If the situation reverses, the teams flip-flop again.
4. Men and women must alternate in the batting order. Teams, after notifying their opponent, may use the Round Robin batting provided that the batting order alternates between men and women. A team must inform the other team before the game how many people will be in the rotation. These additional players may take the field, but are not required to do so. A team with an unequal number of men and women participating in the game may still use Round Robin batting by having a separate batting order for men and women, but they must still alternate between men and women.
5. All four outfielders (no short-fielders allowed) must be in a position behind an imaginary or marked line, which is 70 feet behind each base, until the ball is hit. All infielders must line up behind the baseline until the ball is hit. If there is a violation of this rule and an out is made, the batter will be given credit for a single or may choose to hit again.
6. When playing ten in the field, defensive positioning must be as follows: Two males & two females in the outfield; two males & two females in the infield other than the pitcher and catcher. The pitcher and catcher cannot be the same sex at any time. In the case where a team only has nine players in the field, at least five of them must be females. With four men in the field in this case, no more than two men may play in either the outfield or infield other than the pitcher and catcher.
7. All leagues will use a three-ball/two-strike count with one courtesy foul (dead ball) for league games. If the courtesy strike is hit foul, the ball is dead and runners may not advance.
8. When a male batter is walked, he will be awarded first and second base. The female batter who follows has the option to bat or receive an automatic walk.
9. The leagues will be allowed to use limited free substitution. Any player substituted for may re-enter the game, but only at a defensive position, and only for the person who replaced them. The player re-entering the game must assume their original position in the batting order. Removed players must remain out of the game for at least one inning (6 outs). A player may also re-enter the game if, due to an injury, a team would otherwise have fewer than 10 players.
10. If a team is forced to play with less than 10 players as a result of the ejection of a player for

unsportsmanlike conduct, the ejected player will be considered an out when it becomes their turn in the batting order. A team will not be penalized if they have a legal substitute for this player, or if the player is forced to leave a game due to injury or other circumstance.

11. Courtesy runners will be allowed (men for men, women for women), but only in the event of an injury. This must be the person of the same gender who has made the team's last out.
12. Teams are limited to two home runs per game (on fenced fields). Home runs over the limit are considered an out. Fair balls hit over the fence at Maetzold Field will be considered a ground rule double.
13. Teams that hit homeruns or foul balls over the fence must send a player to retrieve the ball and return it to play.
14. Defensive players may not switch positions during an inning unless there is a pitching change or injury resulting in a player substitution. Players may not physically overlap one another before the ball is hit. Fielding positions can only be changed between innings or whenever the lineup is altered for a pitching substitution.
15. No player is allowed to disrupt the solid materials within the confines of the batter's box. Loose material may be spread with the foot, but no digging will be permitted. On the first offense, the umpire will warn the batter and the team. On each subsequent offense by any member of the team, the batter will be declared out.
16. Pitchers will be allowed to deliver the ball from a distance of 50' (pitching rubber) and up to 56' provided they stay within the dimensions of the rubber. The pitcher still must present the ball and pause before making their delivery.
17. Only rostered players and managers, as well as one bat person and one scorekeeper, are allowed on a team's bench during the game. No pets allowed.
18. It is the responsibility of the home team to supply a new ball and keep the official score. The visiting team must supply a good used ball for each game.
19. A list of legal bats can be found at www.usssa.com. The listed bats are legal to use in the Hopkins-Minnetonka leagues. Any bats not listed are not legal in any USSSA program. Players attempting to use illegal bats may be suspended from the league.
20. If a player develops bleeding during a game, the player must be removed from play until bleeding is controlled and dressed. In this case, the player may leave the game and return without penalty. Game time will not be stopped for injuries. It is the responsibility of the teams to bring first aid supplies to the field.
21. Umpires will determine if a player's physical condition and attire will enable them to be allowed to participate in a league game.
22. Should an umpire not show up for a game, teams should appoint a volunteer umpire, if possible. The volunteer umpire will be paid and the game will count. In this case, the game results must be phoned into the Program Manager at 952-939-8357 or Edina Recreation Supervisor -952-826-0432 along with the name and phone number of the volunteer.
23. Batting practice is not permitted at Big Willow #5 or #6 or on the soccer field.
24. Big Willow Park closes at 10:30 p.m. Games will end and field lights will be shut off by this time.
25. Smoking is allowed on City of Hopkins and Minnetonka property, but not City of Edina property however it is not allowed on the playing field or in the dugouts.
26. If a team withdraws from the league prior to May 9, their past record will be canceled and will not count toward their opponent's record.
27. Teams finishing in 1st place in each league will receive league champion t-shirts and Minnetonka teams (not Edina teams) will have 50% of the region or state tournament fee paid for by the league (if they have registered for the tournament).
28. If two or more teams are tied for the league championship at the end of the season, the league champion will be awarded to the team with the best head-to-head record. Co-champions will be named if two teams are still even. In the instance that one team has played more games than another, final standings will be determined by overall winning percentage.
29. Teams forfeiting a game are assessed a \$20 forfeit fee if the forfeit is not reported to the Program Manager by 3 p.m. on the day of the game. If a fee is assessed to a team, the team's manager will be notified and payment must be made to the Recreation Services office by 12 p.m. on the team's next game day. Failure to pay by this time results in another forfeit. Any team with three forfeits will be dropped from the league.

30. League scores and standings will be updated and posted weekly on the city of Minnetonka and City of Edina website – www.eminnetonka.com.

PLAYER CONDUCT:

1. Alcohol/Beer: There shall be no alcoholic beverages, including beer, at any city of Minnetonka parks, Hopkins School District facilities, or Minnetonka School District facilities. This includes the playing field, bleachers, and parking lot area. Do not bring alcohol to these locations. The game officials have been instructed to stop the game until alcohol has been removed from the area, even if it belongs to spectators. Players may not drink any alcoholic beverages before or during the game. If the umpire detects alcohol on the breath of a player, the player will be expelled from the game.
Beer and wine is permitted in Hopkins Central Park, but only to teams having first obtained an approved Alcohol Permit. In these cases, alcohol is restricted to the picnic area only. No glass bottles are allowed in Hopkins parks and no alcohol is permitted in the parking lot or in the park after 10 p.m. Alcohol permits can be obtained through the Recreation Services office by calling 952-939-8203. The permit fee is \$25 and applicants must provide a copy of a form of state issued government identification with their application.
2. The conduct of teams playing in the City of Edina and Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services leagues must be above satisfactory. Managers must set examples of fair play and sportsmanship for their players. The Hopkins-Minnetonka Player Code of Conduct is as follows: *“At no time shall any person lay a hand on, shove, strike, use abusive language, or threaten an official of the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Department on park or school property.”* Such incidents will require persons to be suspended until the Program Manager considers the case. Maximum penalty shall be suspension from local league play for one season or up to suspension for life. The umpire’s authority at a game shall not be questioned. They have been instructed to enforce the league rules. The umpire has the authority to remove a player, coach, or manager from the game for violation of the rules. Players removed from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct will not be allowed to compete in the following game and a \$20 conduct violation fee will be assessed. A second ejection from a game by any one player will result in suspension for the remainder of the season.
3. Profanity on or around the playing field, even casual profanity, is not permitted. It is sufficient grounds for expulsion from the premises. Casual profanity pertains to expletives not necessarily directed towards an umpire or player, but made out of frustration for a bad play. In these cases, if the offending team is at bat and the player uttering the profanity has made an out, the following player will also be declared out. If the profanity is made by a defensive player, the first player to bat in their half of the inning will be declared out.
4. Please be respectful of the game facilities and remove all litter from your team’s bench and the surrounding area before leaving the game site.

PROTESTS:

1. Notification of intent to protest must be made to the umpire immediately before the next pitch or the protest will be invalid.
2. Protests on rules of the game will not be considered unless they in some way affect the outcome.
3. Legitimate protests must be made in writing within 24 hours after the scheduled time of contest. A \$20 deposit is required for each protest filed. If the protest is won, the protesting team will be refunded the deposit.

REGIONAL/STATE TOURNAMENTS: All teams have the option of participating in MRPA/USSSA Regional and State Tournaments. Teams interested in a post-season tournament must submit the regional/state tournament registration form (to be sent in early May), and a check for the tournament registration fee, prior to the registration deadline of June 16, 2011. Teams that do not submit the registration form by the deadline are ineligible for the regional/state tournament, even if they win the league. Once a team submits the post-season tournament registration form, they are committed to post-season play whether they win the league or not.

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Davy: adavy@eminnetonka.com, or call (952) 939-8357 or Donna Tilsner: dtilsner@ci.edina.mn.us or 952-826-0432.