



Greenville Recreation Department

53rd ANNUAL DANISH FESTIVAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Welcome to the 53rd Annual Danish Festival Tournament. This packet contains important tournament information including tournament rules, scheduling information, directions, and other important information. Please read the enclosed information carefully. If you need any other information relating to the Danish Festival Softball Tournament, contact the tournament committee at (616) 754-8887, Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The tournaments shall be governed by the 2017 Official A.S.A Softball Rules, unless otherwise stated on the Danish Festival Softball Tournament rules below.

2. **ELIGIBILITY**

Players must be registered on the team's 2017 Danish Festival Softball Tournament Roster (including signature).

- Players must sign the liability on site prior to play.
- All participants must be at least 18 years of age.
- Players may only play on ONE team per division.

Additional eligibility requirements for each division are listed below. A player not meeting the eligibility criteria may NOT participate in tournament. The tournament supervisor, director and designee are permitted to review player/team eligibility any time if deemed necessary. Failure to meet the eligibility requirement may result in player ejection or team disqualification from the tournament.

Men's Lower (ASA D & Below) Tournament: Teams are NOT required to be ASA registered/sanctioned but they must meet tournament eligibility standards as listed below:

- Teams must meet tournament eligibility standards as determined by the committee not to exceed ASA D/NSA Gold & below status.
- Roster changes WILL NOT be permitted after the registration deadline, August 4, 2017.

Co-Ed Tournament: Rosters must be submitted at the registration table prior to your first game. Absolutely no players may be added to a team's roster after the start of their first game.

Women's Open Division Tournament: Rosters must be submitted at the registration table prior to your first game. Absolutely no players may be added to a team's roster after the start of their first game.

3. All rosters will be available on site for public view throughout the tournament. Men's Tournament: The eligibility of individual players' classification may NOT be appealed. All rostered players have been reviewed using www.gosoftball.com and www.playnsa.com and teams have been deemed eligible by the Danish Festival Committee.
4. **Each player must register at the tournament site prior to play. Valid picture ID's are required to register.** If there is a problem with player identification, that player may not be allowed to play until proper identification is provided.
5. Teams must be present and prepared to play at the conclusion of the previous game. The game time on the schedule is approximate; game times may vary dependant on the previous game(s).
6. All teams have three line-up options to choose from prior to the start of each game. A team may not switch to a different line up option after the line up has been turned in to the umpire.
 - 10 Player Line Up
 - Extra Player Line Up
 - Rocket Rule:

- a. All players present will be listed in the batting order and cannot be taken out of the batting order except for injury.
 - b. Late arriving players must be added to the bottom of the line up.
 - c. Free defensive substitutions are allowed, but all players must maintain the same batting order throughout the game.
 - d. If any player (offensive or defensive) gets injured and elects to leave the game, they cannot re-enter the game. The injured player who is scheduled to bat will be skipped over in the batting line up without penalty. If the player chooses to leave the game after resuming play following an injury, the penalty will be an out each turn at bat.
 - e. If a player's name is listed in the line up at the start of the game, and does not play, it is considered an out each time the absent player is to bat.
7. Home team will be decided by coin flip prior to game time.
 8. All batters will start with a 1 and 1 count with NO grace foul.
 9. Courtesy Runners: One courtesy runner will be allowed per inning unless the player is injured. Injury related courtesy runners are permitted but must be as a result of that day's game(s) and must be entered prior to the first pitch to the next batter. **The injured player cannot reenter the game as a defensive player.** In either situation, any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner whose turn at bat comes while on base will be called out. The courtesy runner will be removed from the base and take their turn at bat. A second courtesy runner is not permitted to take their place.
 10. Stealing is NOT permitted.
 11. Infield practice is NOT permitted.
 12. There shall be a 10 run mercy-rule after five complete innings. (Does not apply to championship game(s).)
 13. One-hour time limit for all games. No new inning may start after the one-hour time limit. There will be no time limit for the championship game(s).
 14. **HOMERUN LIMIT**
 - **Men's Lower, Co-Ed and Women's Division Tournament:** 2 homerun limit per game. After the limit has been reached, each homerun will be considered an out. Batter-Runners are not required to run the bases on an over-the-fence home run. **THE TEAM THAT HITS A HOMERUN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RETRIEVING THE HOMERUN BALL.**
 - A homerun is considered a ball hit over the fence. A ball that is considered 'assisted' over the fence will be a 4-bag award.
 15. Extra inning games will be started with a runner on second base with one out. This runner will be the last batter from the previous inning.
 16. **Double Bag First Base:** The Double Bag Rule is only in effect for games at Alan G. Davis Park.
 17. **Pitching Rule:**
 - ALL DIVISIONS: The ball must hit the pitching mat/carpet to be considered a strike. If the ball does not hit a portion of the carpet or hits any portion of the home plate, including the black trim around the plate, it will be considered a ball. A pitching mat/carpet will **not** be implemented in games held at the Greenville High School fields.
 - Alan Davis: The pitcher may deliver the pitch from the 50-foot pitching plate or anywhere up to 55-feet however; they must stay within the boundaries of the 24-inch plate width and must adhere to all other pitching rules as specified by ASA rules. The distance may alternate between each pitch and batter.
 - The pitch must range between 6 and 12 feet at the peak.
 - The pitcher must always attempt to pitch the ball in the strike zone. Any pitcher judged to be abusing this rule shall be warned by the umpire, and if offending again shall be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.
 - The pitcher shall deliver the ball toward home plate on the first forward swing of the pitching arm past the hip with an underhand motion. The palm of the pitcher's hand may be over or under the ball.

18. Equipment - the following rules apply:

- **Official Ball:** Each team must provide at least 2 game balls (new or used) per game; teams will hit their own balls. If a team is discovered using an illegal ball, the last batter/runner will receive an automatic out and all runners must return to their original base. **Balls will be available to purchase at the concession stand for \$7.00 per ball.**
 - a. Men's Division – 12", 52 COR, 300 Compression, optic yellow ball with a synthetic or leather cover.
 - b. Women's Division - 11", Green Dot, 44 COR, 375 Compression, optic yellow ball with a synthetic or leather cover.
 - c. Co-Ed Division - alternate balls between male and female players (must meet all of the respective specifications listed above).
- **Bats:** All bats must meet ASA certification requirements and must NOT be listed on the ASA Banned Bat List. For the most recent list of legal bats, visit www.asasoftball.com.
 - a. Bat testing: ALL DIVISIONS! Bat compression testing must be performed on all bats for all divisions; exception - co-ed men's aluminum bats will not be compression tested but must be checked and stamped. Each bat will be labeled with the 2017 Greenville Recreation Department Softball League customized tamper proof sticker. If a bat is tested and fails, the bat will be confiscated until the TEAM is eliminated from the tournament. **Bats previously tested and stickered for the 2017 Greenville Recreation Summer Softball League do not have to be re-tested.**
 - b. The Tournament Supervisors, Umpires and/or Tournament Director have the right to test any bat throughout the tournament.
 - c. Failure to comply with this rule will result in an automatic out. Subsequent violations will result in player disqualification from the tournament.
 - d. Prior to the pitch, if the batter is discovered using an illegal bat, the batter will be declared out.
 - e. If a batter-runner swings an illegal or altered bat, the player will be disqualified from the tournament. Subsequent team violations will result in team disqualification from the tournament.
 - f. If you have any questions or concerns, the site supervisor will have a complete list of legal bats throughout the tournament.

19. All players must try to avoid contact at all times; failure to do so will result in an out on the offensive player or obstruction on the defensive player. The judgment is at the umpire's discretion. If any player is believed to intentionally run over a fielder at any base or home plate, that player will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) full year from the time of the offense.

20. CO-ED ADDITIONS

- Walking a male batter: When a male batter is walked, that player is awarded second base and the female player MUST bat. EXCEPTION: If a male batter is walked in front of a female batter with two outs, the female batter has the option of taking an automatic walk or batting. In either case, the male batter is automatically awarded second base. If this occurs, the male batter is not required to touch first base before progressing to second base.
- A team shall consist of ten (10) players, with a maximum of five (5) male and (5) female players in the game defensively at all times. However, a game may be played without forfeit with seven (7) rostered players with no less than three (3) men and four (4) women. (You may **not** play more male than females; you may play more females than males.)
- Batting order: **The batting must alternate male-female**, etc... The females should have their own rotating batting order and the males should have theirs. For example, if all female batters have batted, and there were more male players yet to bat, the female batting order would continue by starting at the beginning again. Example: F1-M1-F2-M2-F3-M3-F4-M4-F1-M5-F2-M6...
- Position on the field: Co-ed positioning must be divided as equally as possible between the infield and outfield positions **and at least 1 female** must be in the pitcher or catcher position. (The pitcher and catcher combinations do not count toward the infield position requirements.) Ex: 2 males and 2 females in the outfield, 2 males and 2 females in the infield and a female catcher or pitcher.

- Courtesy Runners: The same courtesy runner rule applies in the co-ed division as explained above however, in the co-ed division, one male and one female runner will be allowed per inning however the runner must be of the same gender.
 - A male outfielder may NOT throw a female batter/runner out at first.
 - Base coaches are responsible for throwing the alternating men's and women's balls to the pitcher between batters.
 - Teams may choose to have all players hit the men's ball rather than alternate balls however, the umpire must be notified prior to the start of the game and may not change for the duration of the game.
 - **Bat use by male players in Co-Ed League:** Composite bats are permitted at Alan G Davis fields.
21. All protests must be made at the point of violation. When a formal protest arises during a game, which requires an immediate decision, the umpire shall stop the game and present the protest to the Supervisor, Director, or designee. A \$25 protest fee must be paid immediately by cash or check for any protest to be considered. Player eligibility protests will be charged \$25 per player. A decision will be made on the spot and the game will then resume. The protest fee will be returned if upheld. Decisions are final. Protests will not be allowed on judgement calls.
 22. In the event of inclement weather, the committee reserves the right to change the format of the tournament. Possible changes include time limit for games, changing starting times and field locations, playing remaining games in single elimination format or canceling the tournament altogether. Every effort will be made by the committee to complete the tournament in a fair and appropriate manner for all the participants. In the event the tournament is modified due to weather, if a team has played 2 games, no refunds will be issued. The tournament director will make a reasonable attempt to communicate tournament format changes by contacting the designated team representative as indicated on the tournament roster however, the tournament director will not be held responsible if a team misses a game due to schedule changes.
 23. If a player is ejected or a team is disqualified from a game, they shall be considered ejected from the tournament. Team and/or players ejected from the tournament for unsportsmanlike conduct will result in suspension from the 2017 Danish Festival Tournament as well.
 24. No alcoholic beverages within 20 feet of the players' bench or bleachers will be allowed at Alan Davis Park.
 25. The City of Greenville, the Greenville Recreation Department, the Director, Recreation Supervisors, umpires, employees or volunteers are not responsible or liable for injuries sustained while playing in or watching the Danish Festival Softball Tournament.
 26. **The home team is the official scorer throughout the tournament.** The on site supervisor will be responsible for posting the results of each game on the tournament board.
 27. Once the tournament bracket has been drawn, there will be no refunds of the entry fee.

Any player caught violating player rules more than once throughout the tournament may be ejected for the remainder of the tournament.