

INTRODUCTION

The Temple Baptist Softball League is an extension of the Recreation Ministry of Temple Baptist Church. Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for members of Temple and other churches to enjoy softball in a Christian environment with Christian friends.

Your Help Is Needed

Coaches, players and spectators should always conduct themselves in a Christian manner showing respect to teammates, opponents and officials as you enjoy playing softball. Remember, you are representing your church and the Lord in all walks of life including your participation in softball.

PARK GUIDELINES

Coaches/Leadership Cooperation and leadership is essential to achieve a Christian atmosphere. Discourage arguing and temper flare-ups (players and spectators) Review rules with all players.

Smoking/Drinking There will be NO smoking on the church grounds by players or spectators. (Repeat violators will be suspended from the ballpark activities for the season) NO alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs of any kind will be allowed on the church grounds. (Violators will be suspended from the ballpark activities for the season)

Playground/Ball Field Areas / Church Grounds Please provide adult supervision for younger children. Please make sure your children are aware of and obey playground rules. The Sanctuary and Family Life Center area is out of bounds, unless accompanied by Temple church member. NO PETS are allowed on the church grounds.

Parking/Cars Only approved vehicles (concession workers, scorekeepers, umpires) should travel beyond the designated parking lot. Observe “No Parking” signs along the curb or fire lanes.

RULES

These rules supersede any rules that are found in the ASA Rules of Softball. If a rule is not covered here, please refer to the ASA rule book.

Rosters All players listed on the roster must be church members on the church roll. EXCEPTION: three nonmembers are allowed on each roster for outreach purposes. There will be no additions to the roster after the league begins. EXCEPTION: new church members may be added to the roster anytime during the current season. All male participants must be 16 years old prior to September 1 to participate in an adult division. All female participants must be 15 years old prior to September 1 to participate in an adult division.

Line-Ups Team managers should submit their line-up to the scorekeeper 10 minutes before game time. You must have at least 8 roster players to begin and/or finish a game. When playing with 8 players, the 9th position of the batting order is an automatic out. There is no penalty when starting with 9 players. Late arriving players must be added to the bottom of the line-up as they arrive. Inform the scorekeeper, umpire and opposing coach when this is necessary. Line-ups may take one of three forms:

- 1) 10 player regular lineup
- 2) 10 players plus Extra Player (EP)
- 3) Round Robin

Inform the scorekeeper which method is used.

If a player leaves the game for any reason other than injury in a round robin line-up, results in less than 11 players in an EP line-up, or results in less than 10 players in a regular line-up, an out will be declared for each at-bat of the missing player.

Player's Dress All jerseys must be of the same background color. Numbers are required and must be visible at all times. Duplicate numbers are not allowed. Caps: Refer to rule 3, section 6A of the ASA Rules of Softball.

Warming Up No infield practice is allowed before games. Players should warm-up in the designated area behind the first base line fence near right field.

Forfeits A forfeit will be declared if there are not 8 properly uniformed players ready “on the field” at game time. Continued unsportsmanlike conduct will be reason for forfeit, if deemed necessary by the umpire.

Game Balls The League will provide game balls for all regular season games.

Ejected Players The umpire has the authority to eject a player from the game for unsportsmanlike behavior. A player ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior must leave the church grounds for the evening. If an ejected player does not leave the church grounds, the umpire may declare a forfeit on the ejected player's team.

Home Team The team listed second on the schedule will be considered the home team and will lead in an opening prayer. In tournament games, a coin toss will determine the home team.

Time Limit The game clock starts when the opening prayer ends. No inning will start after 55 minutes of play, the exception being a game with a tied score. This rule applies to all regular season and tournament games.

Home Run Limit There is a limit, depending on the division of play, to the number of “unassisted, over the fence” home runs that are allowed. Any home run hit thereafter will be considered an out.

Men's Division – 2 home runs allowed.

Ladies Division – unlimited home runs allowed.

Practice Reservation Policy

Contact the League Director to schedule the field for practice. Practice time is 1.5 hours. If you need the lights for practice the cost is \$15.

Game Cancellations: Games will not be cancelled until 4:30 pm of the day of the game. Please do not call the church office to inquire about cancellations. The League Director will make every attempt to contact the affected teams' coaches when a game is cancelled.

Important Phone Numbers

League Director (James Shuffield) home 501-847-2602
..... cell 501-960-0707
Assistant Director Val Little 501-993-1412
Temple Field 501-565-2394 ext. 28
Temple Baptist Church Office 501-565-4966
Temple Baptist Church fax 501-565-2394



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TEMPLE BAPTIST SOFTBALL 2009



LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

(revised 4/20/09)