

MEMORANDUM FOR

AREA SPORTS COORDINATORS (ASC)

ATHLETIC AND RECREATION (A&R) PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Fort Liberty Sports Program, 2024 Women's Softball League

1. Reference Army Regulation 215-1, Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities, 24 September 2010.

2. Purpose. To provide policies and procedures to assist ASCs and A&R personnel with the implementation of the 2024 Women's Softball League.

3. General.

a. 2024 Women's Softball League schedules, regular season, and playoffs (divisional and post level), will be released one week prior to the start date.

b. League play will be conducted 27 May – 12 July.

c. League Tournament (double elimination) play will begin on/about 13 July. The projected ending date is 15 June however, the ending will be determined by the number of participating teams and possible delays due to inclement weather.

d. There will be an \$80 entrance fee per team.

4. Player eligibility.

a. All ID card holders age 18 & older are eligible to participate.

b. If a protest results from the alleged use of an illegal player during league competition, and the protest is upheld, the offending team will forfeit the game in question. If a protest is team will be eliminated from further softball competition during the 2024 season. If a protest results from the alleged use of an ineligible player during the league tournament, and the protest is upheld, the offending team will be eliminated from the tournament.

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c. For all games, team members must have their military identification (ID) card. All participants ID cards will be checked against the roster prior to every game to confirm player eligibility. Players who fail to present their military ID card will not be allowed to participate.

5. Protests.

a. Misapplication of rules and player eligibility will be the only grounds for protests. Judgment calls are final and not subject to protest.

b. Protests involving a rule misapplication must be lodged at the time of the apparent discrepancy and before play is continued. Unresolved protests must be annotated in the official scorebook by either an umpire or the site supervisor.

c. Eligibility protests must be brought to the attention of the umpires and/or the site supervisor prior to the conclusion of the game in question and be annotated in the official scorebook by an umpire or site supervisor. At that time, game officials and/or the site supervisor will gather all pertinent data from the player or players in question (check ID card and confirm name, rank, and SSN).

d. Team coaches are responsible for ensuring that the protest application process is completed correctly.

e. All protests will be reviewed by Sports and Fitness Branch Staff and a final decision will be rendered on the first duty day following the game.

f. The Sports Office will adjudicate any situations requiring due process.

g. A team not present at game time will forfeit.

h. Medical support, trainers and medics, are the responsibility of each team.

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6. 2024 Women's Softball League Play.

1. Team rosters.

a. In order to participate, personnel must be identified on a properly completed roster. Team roster forms will be available and completed at the game site.

b. Rosters will include the printed name and signature from each player. Rosters may be updated until the start of the league tournament. Once the post tournament begins, rosters cannot be amended.

c. Once a player starts with a team, the player must remain with that team during all intramural softball competition. Should a team fold, players may not join another team.

d. Teams which fail to notify the league commissioner of their unavailability to play prior to 1300 on the day of the scheduled game will be required to forfeit the game.

e. Teams forfeiting, no call or no call, two games during league play will be dropped from further competition.

7. 2024 Women's Softball League Tournament play.

a. For any 1 tournament game, a team will be allowed 17 members, including coaches. If a team has more than 17 players/coaches, they will be required to remove extra players from the designated team area. This requirement is due to the fact that only 17 awards are authorized for the women's intramural softball program.

b. Team POCs are responsible for submitting any dates a team will not be available to compete to the League Coordinator NLT 1400. For those teams which comply with this deadline, every effort will be made to accommodate all requests. After the deadline, rescheduling flexibility will be extremely limited and will require concurrence from all teams affected by any proposed changes. Conflicts involving consecutive days of unavailability will not be considered if rescheduling will adversely impact tournament completion.

8. Rules. Current USSSA rules and Fort Bragg bylaws will govern all play. Rules can found at <https://www.ussa.com/slowpitch/slowpitch-rules-and-legal-info>

a. League games will have a 1-hour time limit; no inning will begin after 57 minutes has elapsed from the start of the game. There will be no time limit for post tournament championship game(s).

b. Run Rule: 20 after 3 innings, 15 after 5 innings and 10 after 5 innings mercy rule for will be in effect for all games except the post tournament championship game(s). 10 runs is the max per inning.

c. Teams will be allowed to start and/or finish a game with eight players. Any team not having at least eight players at the start or conclusion of a game will forfeit.

d. Should a team start a game with eight players, they will be allowed to add a ninth/tenth player to the batting order upon her arrival. For teams which start a game with eight or nine players, an automatic out will not be recorded for the ninth and/or tenth position in the batting order.

e. In the event of any injury or ejection which results in the batting order being depleted i.e. no substitutes were available, an automatic out will be recorded in the batting position of the player or players who have left the game.

f. Line-ups are to be submitted to the official scorer NLT 5 minutes prior to game time.

g. Softball bats must be 2018- 2022 USSSA/ASA approved.

h. During league tournament play, the home team will be determined by the toss of a coin with the exception of the first championship game. For that game, the team which is undefeated will have their choice of being the home or visiting team.

i. There will be no practice on game fields prior to the start of any game.

j. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs by team members are prohibited before or during games.

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k. Any player or coach who is ejected from a league or post tournament game,

will be suspended for one game; they will thus be ineligible to participate in the next game which their team plays. Any player or coach who intentionally makes physical contact with an official or Sports and Physical Fitness Branch representative, will be subject to immediate suspension for an indefinite period. Such an occurrence will be investigated by this headquarters and facts pertaining to the incident will be forwarded to the Garrison Commander for review.

7. Awards. Sports Office will provide individual awards for first and second place tournament teams.

8. For more details please contact 910-396-1218 or 910-396-1217.