

City of Bullhead City
Recreation Division
Softball League General Information

Recreation Division Office:

2355 Trane Rd, Bullhead City, AZ 86442

(928) 763-9400

Hours: Monday - Friday: 8am - 5pm

◆ **Recreation Manager – Derek Sedler**

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◆ **Softball Coordinator – Jessica Ellis/Larry Gonzalez**

◆ **Spring UIC – George Radovich**

◆ **Fall UIC – Lee Terrian**

The purpose of this league, sponsored by the Bullhead City Recreation Division, is to combine the interest of the community's women's, men's and co-ed softball teams into friendly rivalry, wholesome recreation, and good sportsmanship.

The official rule book will be the 2019 Amateur Softball Associating (A.S.A) Rules of Softball. All rules will follow A.S.A. Guidelines except where amended herein by Local League By-Laws.

Leagues will be divided into the following divisions:

Recreational – Men's: A League - B League - C League, Co-Ed League: Upper and Lower, Social League: Men's and Co-Ed. Teams in these divisions will be assessed by the Recreation Division and will have past playing experience taken into account when it is decided which league they will play in. The Recreation Division has the final say in what division teams are allowed to play.

Office Procedures:

- The team manager is the team liaison to the Recreation Division and staff. Players having any concerns regarding the league should notify their manager. The manager will represent the team. The manager will have the final authority on all matters concerning the team.
- Managers wishing to meet with BHC Rec staff should make an appointment.
- After 5:00pm the field coordinator will determine if the playing field is safe for play. Prior to 5:00pm on weekdays, the Recreation Division staff will make the determination. On questionable days feel free to call the Recreation Division.

Spring/Fall League Dates, Locations and Times:

League Dates

- Monday-Thursday (depending on amount of teams per division signed up)
- January - December
- Holidays: The league will either play on other designated days of that scheduled holiday week or use the makeup week.

Location:

- Ken Fovargue Park: 2255 Trane Rd, Bullhead City, AZ

Time:

- 6:15pm, 7:25pm, 8:35pm, and occasionally a 9:45pm game if we have to reschedule due to weather.

Game Schedules:

- Schedules will be emailed to the manager and posted on the Web at <http://www.bullheadcity.com/departments/recreation-division/adult-softball> before league play begins. Schedules are subject to change.
- Teams must be able to play at the time, place and date specified on the schedule.

2019 League Fees:

Each team in the Bullhead City Softball Program will be required to pay a team entry fee based on the League they are registering for. **All team fees are due by the advertised deadline of that season.**

- Co-Ed Open League: \$300.00
- Men's B League: \$300.00
- Co-Ed B League: \$300.00
- Men's Open league: \$300.00

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SECTION 1 - Local Slow-Pitch Softball Rules

1. Game Length:

- A) All games will be **seven (7) innings** or **sixty-five (65) minutes**, whichever comes first except when a run-rule is in effect.
- B) Mercy-Rule is **twenty (20) runs** after **four (4) innings** and **fifteen (15) runs** after **five (5) innings** will be in effect on all league games.
- C) Visiting team will automatically start the game with a $\frac{1}{2}$ **run**. This will eliminate the extra innings if the game results in a tie at the end of the seven (7) innings or sixty-five (65) minute game.

2. Game Balls:

- A) Games balls will be provided by the league. We will be using the Trump Rock.
 - Men's leagues will use a twelve-inch softball
 - Co-Ed Leagues: it is mandatory that men use a twelve-inch softball and women use an eleven-inch softball.
- B) If you hit a homerun or foul ball, **you must retrieve it.**

3. Bats:

- A) Men's and Co-ed Leagues are to use the City Issued bats.
- B) Social Leagues – Please see Section 8
- C) Open Leagues – Please see Section 9

4. Forfeits/Rescheduling:

- A) The game is officially forfeited after five (10) minutes. Teams need to have a minimum of eight (8) players; Co-Ed Leagues need four (4) females, in order for the game to start. For a forfeit to be waived, all players must be on the fields before the grace period is over, no exceptions.
- B) Once a team has contacted the Recreation Division to forfeit a game, the forfeit will be upheld, no exceptions.
- C) A team will be removed from the league and no refund will be issued, after forfeiting **six (6)** during the course of the season.
- D) Games cancelled due to inclement weather will be rescheduled by the Recreation Division during the implemented make up week.

- E) If a team knows they will be unable to play a game in advance, we ask that they notify the Recreation Division as a courtesy so other teams can be notified.

5. **Courtesy Runner:**

- A) There will be one (1) courtesy runner allowed per team, per inning for men's league. Co-Ed will allow one (1) courtesy runner per gender per inning. The replacing runner can be any player in the lineup (of the same gender in Co-Ed).

6. **Home Runs:**

- A) Men's A League- 8, Men's B League- 4, Co-Ed Upper League- 4, Co-Ed Lower League- 4, or unless otherwise specified.
 - 1. All games will have the "one up" rule in effect. Once **BOTH** teams have their maximum number of home runs, one team may hit an additional home run to go "one up". If that team hits another home run before the opposing team has caught up, it will be ruled an out.
 - 2. In the event of an 'Over the Fence' home run, the batter and base runners do not need to advance one (1) base, can go directly to dugout to speed game up. Homeruns are walk offs.
- B) If you hit a homerun or foul ball, you must retrieve it. Each team will receive six (6) balls for game play. If all balls are used, teams will need to collect the balls then with the time running.

7. **Pitcher Safety:**

- A) All City of Bullhead City Recreation Division Slow-pitch softball leagues will utilize a mat to determine the strike zone for pitches. When a runner is coming home to score he must touch the mat. Pitchers will be allowed to pitch from a **six (6) foot** lane directly behind the pitchers rubber.
- B) In all division of play, pitchers will have the option of using the pitchers safety screen. If a batter hits the net, it will be ruled a 'dead ball/strike.' If a batter hits the net a second time in the same at bat, the batter will be called out. If the Pitcher elects to use the screen, he or she must move behind the screen after the pitch. The pitcher may not make a play on the ball until another member of the defense touches it.

8. **Scorecards:**

- A) Umpires will be the official scorekeeper at all fields.
- B) Both home team and visiting team is strongly encouraged to keep a scorebook each game in the event of a discrepancy. If your team chooses to keep a book, let the score keeper know and they will give you lineup for the opposing team prior to the start of the game.

SECTION 2 - Registration, Rosters, New Players

1. All team's registration is due by 5pm the day of the advertised deadline.
2. Rosters must contain the team name, the manager's name, address, phone number, email and the LEGIBLE printed full name of each player. Changes can be made to the roster after it has been turned into the Recreation Division. Failure to turn in a roster before the roster deadline will result in no participation that season.
3. Teams must consist of a **minimum of eight (8) players** with a **max of twenty (20) players**.
4. Added or removed players must be reported to the Recreation Division. The Add/Drop form must be filled out and turned in to the Recreation Division for approval **BEFORE** the added player participates in their first game. A team caught playing a player before the Add/Drop form has been turned in will result in the player in question not getting credit for game(s) played. Teams found guilty for the 2nd time of playing an illegal player will be charged a **\$25.00 per offense fine** and will be ineligible to participate in league play with **any** team for 6 games and until the fine is paid. Upon their return, the offending player is eligible to play with the team they first played with that season only.
5. The team manager or co-manager may make additions by phone or in person, but the player cannot play until the form is turned in to the Recreation Division.
6. A team may add players up until the midpoint of the season to be eligible for the playoffs, unless accompanied with a Doctor's note. The added player cannot play until the form is turned in to the Recreation Division.
7. Once a player(s) has participated in one (1) league game, they are ineligible to play with another team in that division for the remainder of the season.

8. Players must be 18 years of age to participate in the Bullhead City adult softball leagues. Players 16-17 years of age require a parent's signature on the participation release (available from the BHC Recreation office) to play in the City league. Proof of age will be required.
9. All players must sign a 2019 Participation Release and turned into the Recreation Department before a player can participate in their first game. Participation Releases are good for a calendar year, January to December. Participation Releases are available at City Hall, on the City's website, as well as at the fields. Any player caught playing before the 2019 Participation Release has been signed and turned in to the field coordinator will result in an ejection from games until it is turned in.

SECTION 3 – League Development

1. For the 2019 Softball Season all Men's Uppers and Loweres will play straight up and finish the season with playoffs. Coed teams will play the season straight up and finish the season with playoffs.

SECTION 4 – Protest

In order for a rule interpretation protest to be official, the following actions must occur:

1. The coach of the protesting team must **immediately** notify the plate umpire that the game is being played under protest.
2. The plate umpire will in turn, notify the opposing coach, scorekeeper, UIC, and Field Coordinator.
3. The protesting manager must log a written protest to the Recreation Division **before 5:00pm the following business day**. The written protest must include the date, time, and place of the incident, the names of the umpire and scorers, the rule section of the official rules or the Local By-Laws under which the protest is being made, the information, details and conditions relevant to the decision of the protest, and all essential facts concerning the matter protested. Without **ALL** the mandatory information listed, the protest will be rejected. Protest forms are available on the website and at the fields.
4. A **\$50.00 cash, check or credit card protest fee** must be included with the written protest the Recreation Division by 5:00pm the following business day. Refunds will be issued only for protests which are upheld.

SECTION 5 – Ejected Players

1. Any player or coach ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended from that game and the next league game in which his team is scheduled to play, as well as leave the park grounds within **5 minutes**. **Depending on the severity of the misconduct in question, a player or coach may be suspended from league play for longer than the prescribed two games. The Recreation Division will have the final say on suspensions.** If a player or coach is ejected for a second time due to unsportsmanlike conduct, he or she will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
2. **Unsportsmanlike conduct:**
 - A) Includes, but is not limited to the following either on or off the fields
 - i. Foul language directed to Recreation Division staff, officials, players, or spectators
 - ii. Disrespect towards to Recreation Division staff, officials, players, or spectators
 - iii. Taunting and/or baiting Recreation Division staff, officials, players, or spectators
 - iv. **“F” word** audible to by standards will result in an ejection
 - v. Unnecessarily rough behavior
 - vi. Throwing bats
3. At no time will a player, coach or spectator put their hand on a member of the Recreation staff. This includes Umpires, scorekeepers, field supervisors, concession staff, field maintenance crews or anyone else acting as an agent of the City of Bullhead. Violators of this rule will be suspended indefinitely from all Bullhead City activities, and full criminal charges will be pressed against the offenders.
4. At no time will a player, coach or spectator damage Bullhead City property. This includes but is not limited to the fields or park. Violators of this rule will result in a suspension and criminal charges will be pressed against the offenders.
5. A player or manager who is ejected **two (2) times** in a calendar year will be suspended from play for the following season.

6. **MANAGERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TAKING CARE OF THEIR RESPECTED TEAMS. PLEASE DO SO TO PREVENT GAMES FROM BEING FORFEITED DUE TO POOR TEAM CONDUCT. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED THIS SEASON.**

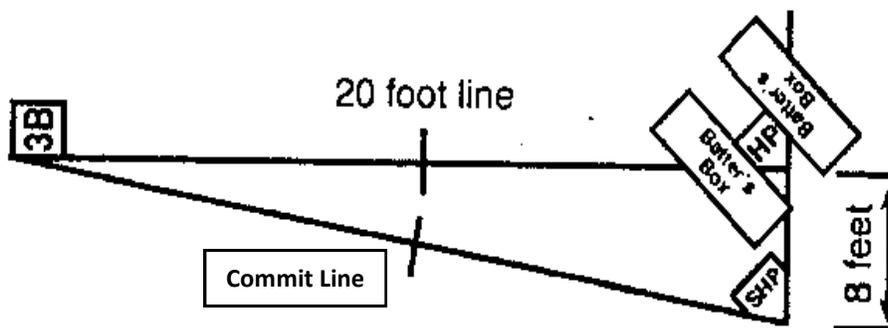
- ❖ **Rostered Player:** a player who is on the official team roster.
- ❖ **Illegal Player:** a player who is not on the official team roster.
- ❖ **Ineligible Player:** a player who is on the official team roster, but has not played the allowed amount of games to participate in the Tournament.

SECTION 6 – Tournament Rules

1. In the event of a tie record, the results of head-to-head play will first be used to determine top seed. If a tie remains, the total runs allowed in common games will be determined. In the unlikely event that a tie still remains, the total runs allowed throughout the season will be the tie breaking factor. During the first round of tournament play, the team with the higher seed will be designated the home team. After the first round, the teams in the winner's bracket and higher seed will be home team. Team coming from the loser's bracket will be visitors. The home team for the "If" game is determined by a coin flip.
2. A team may add players up until the midpoint of the season to be eligible for the playoffs, unless accompanied with a Doctor's note. The added player cannot play until the form is turned in to the Recreation Division.
3. Games are played using standard ASA and By-Laws
4. During tournament play all games will be played using standard scoring. No handicap runs will be awarded to any team.
5. **Championship Game** is an untimed seven inning game. The mercy rule is **twenty (20) runs after four (4) innings and fifteen (15) runs after five (5) innings** is still in effect.

SECTION 7 – Additional Co-Ed Rules

1. Co-ed shall utilize the separate home plate with a commit line, described in the graph below. Runners advancing home MUST veer to the separate, temporary home plate, NOT the original permanent home plate. If a runner advancing home from 3rd base touches the original permanent home plate, that runner will be called out. Once a runner crosses the 'commit line', they are now forced to go home and a 'force out' situation is automatically in effect. If the runner stops or retreats back towards 3rd base AFTER crossing the commit line, the runner will immediately be call out. The defensive player must only touch the original permanent home plate for the 'force out' at home. The defensive player may not tag the runner advancing home.
 - Pitcher and catcher **MUST** be male/female, not female/female or male/male



SECTION 8 – Social Leagues

1. **Bats:**
 1. All bats must be approved/labeled by ASA.
 2. Players can only use composite bats
 3. Any ASA labeled bats may only be used if it is **not** listed on the unapproved ASA bat list provided by ASA and displayed in the league's web site.

SECTION 9 – Open Leagues

1. Open to all Men's and Co-Ed A and B teams
2. Local bylaws and A.S.A. Rules
3. No 5 run rule; straight 3 outs
4. 6 homeruns then the one up rule (*see Section 1.9*)
5. **Bats:**
 1. All bats must be approved/labeled by ASA.
 2. Players can only use composite bats
 3. Any ASA labeled bats may only be used if it is **not** listed on the unapproved ASA bat list provided by ASA and displayed in the league's web site.

SECTION 10 – Managers/Coaches Responsibilities

1. Must address staff in a respectful manner or you will be ejected for rude conduct.
2. Must ensure that their lineups are submitted with legal first and last names to the scorekeeper at least **5 minutes** prior to the start of the game. (*see Section 1.7*)
3. Must inform all team members of game times, dates and locations.
4. Must insure that all team members are familiar with the bylaws and official rules.
5. Must be responsible for the actions of your team while participating in this program.
6. Must be responsible for the actions of your team's spectators while participating in this program.
7. Must be responsible for disposing all trash in and around your dugout area, **INCLUDING YOUR TEAM LINEUP.**
8. If you hit a homerun or foul ball, you must retrieve it.
9. No alcohol is allowed in the dugouts or on the fields.
10. No glass or hard alcohol is allowed in the park.

SECTION 11 – Team/Player Responsibilities

1. Each team is responsible for its own equipment, including bats, etc.
2. Follow all Official Rules and By-Laws.
3. All players and teams should try to wear shirts of matching color (preferably with numbers). Slacks or shorts are permitted and need not match.
4. You must have I.D. with you. Umpires will request to see your I.D. if there is any question of your identity. If you do not have your I.D., you will not be allowed to play that game. Refer to an umpire for any I.D. disputes
5. Children may be allowed in dugouts for the safety of young children who cannot, for whatever reason, be left in the stands with another adult. Children **must** be supervised at all times, or they will, along with the parent, be asked to leave. Parents must also sign a legal release for the child to be inside the dugout. Children will not be allowed outside the dugout at any time.
 1. **First Offense:** Warning to parents
 2. **Second Offense:** Parent and Child/Children are asked to leave the facility. If the parent does not cooperate, the team the parent is associated with will automatically forfeit game.
6. Players are allowed to play music – no profanity and the music has to be low enough that staff and players can hear the umpire. If you are caught disregarding these rules:
 1. **First Offense:** You will be asked to change the station or turn it off.
 2. **Second Offense:** You will not be able to bring your speaker to the fields.
7. If you hit a homerun or foul ball, you must retrieve it.

SECTION 12 – Free Agent Players:

1. If a team is looking for additional players, they can find a list of participants who are interested on our website.
2. Players looking to be on a team:
 1. Completely fill out the Free Agent form at City Hall
 2. The info on the form will be posted on the website, as well as sent out to all the managers.
 3. If a manager/team is interested then they will ask for your contact info.

Please help keep the parks clean!
This means in the dugouts, as well as on and off the fields.