

SNOWFLAKE/TAYLOR 2015 SOFTBALL
Snowflake/Taylor Recreation and Parks
81 West 1st South
Snowflake, Arizona 85937



REGISTRATION:

1. **Deadline - Monday - May 4, 2015 by 4:30 PM.** Team rosters and entry fees will be accepted at the Snowflake Town Hall. Checks should be made out to the Snowflake/Taylor Recreation and Parks Department. **Teams will not be registered without their registration fee. Teams will not be able to start play until their roster has been submitted.**
2. Open to Snowflake and Taylor teams having at least 50% of its players as residents. Teams from outside areas will be considered depending on registration numbers.

LEAGUE CLASSIFICATION AND FORMAT:

1. Teams will be divided into the following classifications:
 - A. Men's Open League A, B & C - (boys 15 years or going into 10th grade and older) (includes equalizer status - see Rules and Regulations)
 - B. Women's Open League A & B - (girls 15 years or going into 10th grade and older)
 - C. Coed - (girls & boys 15 years or going into 10th grade and older) - (there can not be more boys than girls on the field) - (includes equalizer status - see Rules and Regulations)
 - D. Church Division: Youth Girls, Youth Boys, Women's & Men's) (includes equalizer status - see Rules and Regulations) (All divisions: **No Shorts - No Tank Tops**)
 - E. The S/T Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right to adjust team ranking. Final team placement will be reviewed at the end of league play to assure proper tournament placement. A league will be discontinued should both registration and team ranking fail to establish a sufficient number of teams in any one league. Registration fees would then be refunded on a prorated basis.
 - F. Teams should use the highest ranking of its best 6 players to determine which division they should enter. If a team has 6 or more players that could be considered "A" then that team should enter the "A" Division.
2. Women's, Men's and Coed Leagues will have a double elimination tournament at the end of round-robin league play.

ENTRY FEE:

1. **Women's and Men's City League - \$350.00 (14 games and a double elimination tournament).**
2. **Coed League - \$215.00 (7 games and a double elimination tournament).**
3. **Church Division - according to services rendered.**

FORFEIT RULE:

1. Game time is forfeit time, with a minimum of 8 players to start league and tournament play. There will be no automatic out for teams with less than 10 players. Batting orders must be submitted in writing 10 minutes before game time. At game time, teams must be on the field or in the dugouts. The umpire will determine if both teams are ready for regulation play. In league play a regulation team can give a forfeiting team an additional 5 minutes to field a team. This time will be considered as part of the 55-minute game time. Batting orders can not be changed once turned in. Late players will be added to the end of the order. Home team will be the first team listed.

SCHEDULE:

1. Teams must be prepared to play during the evenings, Monday through Saturday.
2. Schedules are made for the whole season. Teams are required to play when scheduled. **No rescheduling - no exceptions.**
3. Rainouts will be rescheduled (time permitting) at the end of league play. **No rescheduling - no exceptions.**

INSURANCE:

Medical insurance is the responsibility of the team or individual. **The Snowflake/Taylor Recreation and Parks Department does not carry team insurance.** Insurance is available through the ASA upon request.

SEASON:

May 26th through mid August, (depending on team turn out, weather, etc.)

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

A player may play with three teams. One team would have to be in the Men's/Women's, the other in the Church League and the third in the Coed League. (Example: A player could play City A ball, Church ball and Coed ball, but not on another City B or C team.)

ROSTERS:

1. Fifteen player roster limit. Rosters must be submitted by deadline. Additions and deletions must be made in person at the ball fields.
2. To be eligible for tournament play, a player must have played with the same team for at least **3 games during league play**. **Field supervisors will be checking off games played on team rosters.** Teams that are forfeited to, or teams with canceled games, can count the missed games if the games are not rescheduled. In order for a forfeited game to count as one of the 3 games the team forfeited to must submit a line up so that names can be recorded into the score book. If a team is forfeited to and a roster is not filled out, then that team will use the last two game rosters as the roster for the missed game. A player who is not on the rosters will not be able to count the game for eligibility.
3. Players can only change teams once during the season.
4. A player from one team can play for another team if the game has been forfeited. If a player from one team plays on another team, in a game that has not been ruled a forfeit, then the eligibility rule has been broken and the game is forfeited.
5. **Player full name - first and last must be submitted on batting order line-ups.**

CONDUCT:

1. There will be a display of good sportsmanship at all times. Players, coaches, managers or other team members will not make disparaging or insulting remarks to or about opposing players, officials, spectators or commit other acts that could be considered unsportsmanlike conduct. The penalty for violations is prompt ejection of the offended from the game. The offender must leave the dugout. At the discretion of the umpire, a player committing a first offense may be benched from the point of the infraction and then for the next complete inning. A player committing a second offense will be ejected from the game. Ejected players must leave the dugout. A player, coaches, managers or other team members who continue with unsportsmanlike behavior shall leave the facility for the remainder of the game. A game will be forfeited if the player, coach, manager or other team member refuses to leave the facility. A player, coach, manager or other team members will be suspended from the league after their 2nd ejection from a facility. The umpire or field supervisor may forfeit a game if team payers or their supporters exhibit excessive public abuse in any form.
2. Unsportsmanlike penalties:
 - Fighting - Offenders are ejected from all further play and must leave the facility. Minimum suspension - one year. Length of suspension in all future programs to be determined according to the offender's involvement in the incident.
 - Pushing - Offender is ejected from game. (see Conduct 1, results in a fight - see Fighting.)
 - Swearing - see Conduct 1.
 - Intimidating an umpire - Offender is ejected from the game and must leave the facility.
3. There will be **no drinking of alcoholic beverages** on the premises. Violating team will forfeit the game.
4. There will be **no smoking or chewing tobacco** on the field or in the dugout. Violating team will forfeit the game.
5. Suspensions in the church leagues will be handled through church authorities.

PROTEST:

1. **All league and tournament game protests must be made by a team's coach/caption to the field supervisor before a game ends.** Players should be able to confirm their identification upon request by the field supervisors. Rulings will be made after the field supervisor has had a chance to check records and confer with umpires and the league director. Players, who are at question, must be cleared by the field supervisor before they leave the ball park or the protest could be validated.
2. All tournament game protests must be resolved before either team's next game. Umpires decision with possible consultation with league officials, (see # 3), will be final.
3. Ruling on City League protest will be made jointly by the field supervisor, umpires and the league director. Church protest will be reviewed with church authorities.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. Games will be **one hour long**. No new inning will start after **55** minutes of play. Time will be checked after the third out of the last inning. Games can be called after five innings if a team is ahead by 10 runs and after two innings if a team is ahead by 20 runs. Championship games - **seven innings**, with the ahead rule changed to 15 runs after five innings and 25 runs after two innings. If a game is tied in tournament play, the last out will go to second base at the start of the inning.
2. Batters will come to bat with a one and one count. They will be allowed **two strikes and three balls** per time at bat. Fouls will count as strikes. Strikes will be awarded if pitched ball hits any part of the base and its extension, and has a 6ft. to 10ft. arch measured from the ground.
3. Singles or doubles will be awarded to players hitting the ball over the right field fence in Snowflake. An out will be declared on the 5th over the right field fence single.
4. Games that are tied after seven innings will be played off if the 55-minute rule has not come into effect.
5. If a team elects to bat only players who take the field, (including EP), then that team can only substitute a player back in once, in the same batting order, for who ever took his/her place. If a team elects to bat all of its players on the roster, then the substitution rule does not apply.
6. Courtesy runners must be the last out, and are allowed for any reason at any point during the inning - 1 per inning per team.
7. Coed - Men that are walked go to second base. If there are two out they go to second and the female batter has the option to bat or go to first base.
7. **Equalizer Rule:** All teams in all leagues are playing equalizer games. In equalizer games no team can be more than 2 out of the park home runs ahead of an opponent. A third out of the park home run would count as an out.
8. **Picture Safety Zone:** Any ball that enters any part of the pitchers safety box is dead and the batter is out. The ball can not be played once it has entered the box, even if it only crosses the corner of the box. A pitcher may play a ball that is outside of the box while still standing in the box. Balls hit 2' above the pitchers head at the pitchers point of delivery will be considered a legal hit outside of the box. Rule does not apply if the picture is not in the safety zone.
9. A base runner is not required to slide at home plate. However if there is **ANY** contact between the base runner and the catcher than the base runner is out. Catchers can not deliberately cause contact in an attempt to subvert this rule.
10. Games will start with 5 ball provided by the league. If the balls are hit out of bounds and not returned then the game will stop until the balls are retrieved. The game clock will continue to run while balls are retrieved.
11. In case of inclement weather, playing conditions will be decided at the game site.
12. In the event of rain or any other cause, which prevents a tournament game from continuing, the game will be resumed from the exact point of departure and will be completed at the first opportunity,(unless 5 inning rule is in effect).
13. In games with only one umpire, the umpire may use the field supervisor to assist with "leaving the base early" calls.
14. No metal cleats allowed in any play.
15. Women's League will use an 11" ball and the men's will use the 12" ball. The Coed League will use both.
16. Bats must be ASA certified and must not be included in the ASA Banned Bat List. List will be posted at the fields.
17. Field supervisors and the league director shall have complete authority in all situations not herein covered.