

# Bucknell University Recreation Services Intramural Softball Rules



## The Playing Field and Equipment

- The Lit and Graham Fields will be used accordingly.
- Any ball touched by a player wholly or partly in fair territory is automatically in play.
- Athletic shoes are required. Metal cleats are not allowed.
- Players may wear protective equipment providing it does not offer the wearer an unfair performance advantage.
- The uniform is an extension of the player.

## Teams

- Teams may start and play a game with a minimum of 8 players. If a team cannot meet the 8-player minimum for any reason, the game will be declared a forfeit.
- Teams may field with 10 players, and must have a catcher (included in the above 10 player limit).
- Teams playing with less than 10 players must maintain an even balance of male/female players (within 1).

## Game Rules

- A regulation game shall consist of six (6) innings, or no new inning shall begin after 50 minutes has elapsed from the start of play.
- Two (2) complete innings constitutes a complete game. During regular season and playoffs, games called prior to two (2) complete innings due to occurrences beyond our control may be replayed in their entirety upon consent of both team managers and the Sports Supervisor.
- Games with a score differential of **10 or more** runs after 3 ½ complete innings for the home team or 4 complete innings for the away team will be terminated.

### **Pitching**

- A pitcher must pitch to at least two consecutive batters.
- Pitches must reach a minimum height of six feet and a maximum of twelve feet.

### **Batting**

- At-bats will begin with a one ball and one strike count.
- When a batter has two strikes against them, they are allowed one foul ball. The second will result in an out.
- Each batter is allowed only **THREE** strikes.
- The batting team is responsible for retrieving the game ball, which go out of play. Failure to do so will result in an out being called.
- Men's and women's teams may bat 11 players.
- In Co-Rec games there is alternating sex batting order. In the field, either gender may play any position.
- Co-Rec teams may bat 12 players.

### **Running**

- No sliding will be permitted on Graham Field. Players may not leave a base until the ball is batted.
- No collisions will be permitted. Runners must slide (on grass field) or secede the base to the fielder.

### **Ball In Play**

- Once the pitcher has the ball in control and on the mound, the play ends.
- If a runner while not on base intentionally touches or stops the ball, the play ends and the runner is out.
- Interference is when any non fielder, runner on base, or non permanent object touches or is touched by a ball in play in fair territory. Upon interference, the ball is dead, play automatically ends and runners proceed to the base to which they were headed.
- A dead ball occurs when any permanent object touches a ball in foul territory. Upon a dead ball, play automatically ends.
- Overthrows (out of play): On an overthrow that goes out of play each runner shall be awarded two bases from the point at which the ball was released by the defender. (ex. the batter hits a ball to the SS, who throws the ball out of play. The batter-runner is awarded first and second base.)

### **Ghost Men**

- Ghost men are not allowed.

### **Injury and Substitutions**

- In cases of injury or illness, a time-out may be requested for participant removal and replacement with a substitute. If the participant later returns to play, the participant must be inserted in the same position previously held.

**Revised 11/05/10**