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## LEAGUE RULES 2.1

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**OFFICIAL LEAGUE JERSEY:** All players must wear an official Healthy Buffalo league jersey during league play. During the regular season, you will be allowed to have up to two players on your team without penalty. There will be a one (1) run penalty awarded to the opposing team for every player thereafter without the official league jersey. Once the playoffs begin, a one (1) run penalty will be awarded to the opposing team for every player without the official league jersey.

**EJECTIONS:** Players can be ejected from the game at the umpire's discretion. If a player is ejected they must automatically serve a one-game suspension. If the player is ejected another time in the same season, that player will be suspended for the rest of the season and possibly longer based on the circumstances.

**FIGHTING & BANNED PLAYERS:** If a player throws a punch or verbally threatens or intimidates a player, official or other staff member they will be banned from all Healthy Buffalo activities for a minimum of three years in addition to whatever punishment they face from the host facility. After serving the three-year ban, a player may submit a written letter to the Healthy Buffalo board of directors explaining what happened and why they should be considered for readmission to Healthy Buffalo activities. At this point their readmission into Healthy Buffalo is at the discretion of the board of directors.

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** We expect more out of our players than just not punching someone in the face. Players that display poor sportsmanship and engage in excessive taunting, trash talking, complaining and arguing with the umpire and are just an overall net negative for the overall league experience will be removed from the league.

**SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS:** Anyone can sub for your team at any point in the regular season as long as they are not currently on another roster. Therefore, if you are short players call your cousin, your uncle, or your best friend, just don't ask the best player on the team that played in the game before yours.

**PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY:** All players must play in at least half of the regular season games to participate in post season play.

**FORFEITS:** As a courtesy to the opposing team and staff, forfeits are absolutely *not* permitted in Healthy Buffalo leagues. If your team does not show for a scheduled league game, you are responsible to pay both your umpire fees and the opposing team's fees. If you are unable to field a team please contact Healthy Buffalo as soon as possible and we will do our best to schedule accordingly to avert the forfeit. If we get a game together with a mix of subs and/or players from the forfeiting team, the opposing team cannot refuse the game or they too will be assessed a forfeit.

## **LEAGUE FORMAT & GAMEPLAY:**

This is a slow-pitch softball league. The maximum arc of a pitch must lie between 6 and 12 feet above the ground.

Rosters breakdown should be as follows: 6 male players / 4 female players.

Each team can field a maximum of 10 players in the field.

Batting lineup can have up to 12 players.

If your batting lineup is 12 players, you must have a minimum of five female batters.

Batting lineup cannot have three male players in a row, except on the back end of the lineup (b-g-b-g-b-g-b-b).

Must have male/female pitcher/catcher combo.

Must play at least one female player in the outfield.

Batting lineup must alternate male/female, except the back end of the lineup based on roster makeup.

Teams must provide their own bats. All bats must be certified American Softball Association (ASA) bats.

Base runners cannot leave the base until contact is made by the batter, if they leave early, they are out.

52 core softballs are used for games.

Memorial Field only with fence (4 home run rule per team, then double/2 bases for each runner after that)

If a male player walks and there is a female player after him, the male player gets 2nd base and the female player has the option to hit or walk.

Start with 0-0 count. If a batter has two (2) strikes, they will have one (1) courtesy foul, after that it is an out.

Three (3) courtesy runners per game

Mercy Rule (20 after 4 innings, 15 after 5 innings, 12 after 6 innings)

Plate and Mat a strike

.52 core, 12-inch ASA/USA Certified softballs are used for games.

**ALL OTHER RULES, QUESTIONS OR ITEMS NOT ADDRESSED IN THIS RULESET REMAIN AT THE DISCRETION OF THE UMPIRE AND LEAGUE ADMINISTRATORS.**