

APPLE VALLEY PARKS & RECREATION
SPRING / SUMMER SOFTBALL - 2016
*** GENERAL INFORMATION ***

1. **Men's** doubleheader leagues are offered on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Men's Recreational Church league on Tuesday evenings will be expanded to include Men's E Recreational teams. Two **Co-Rec** doubleheader leagues are played on Fridays. New in 2016- We will be offering end of the season play-offs for all teams, 11 weeks of double-header league play, followed by league play-offs!
2. Teams who want to play in the post-season region/state tournament must complete the Post Season Entry Form and give the Recreation Department cash or credit card payment for \$170.00 by June 10 (**DO NOT** include this along with your league fees). This payment will be used to buy a spot for the team in the USSSA State tournament. *The team is then committed to play.* At the end of the season, the highest finishing team in each league who submitted payment will be reimbursed the \$170.00. This gives them a "FREE" entry. All other teams who paid still get to play, but they will not be reimbursed the entry fee.
3. Games will be played with a 3-ball, 2-strike count and NO courtesy foul (with the exception in the Co-Rec leagues on Fridays where a courtesy foul will be allowed). Time limit is 55-minutes. One new and one used optic-yellow Dudley softball (men's .40 cor, women's .44 cor) will be provided by the Recreation Department for each game.
4. Team gift cards will be awarded to the 1st & 2nd place teams in each sanctioned league. The 1st place team will also receive Apple Valley "League Champion" shirts, and a team championship plaque. Play-off Champions and play-off consolation Champions will also receive team gift cards.
5. All games will be played at the Johnny Cake Ridge Park softball fields, located on the EAST side of Johnny Cake Ridge Road, south of 140th St. W. (Address is 5800 140th St. W.). There are five lighted, irrigated, completely fenced fields.
6. Completed team rosters will be due before each team's first game of the season. Everyone who is playing on the first night must be on this initial roster. **Late rosters will be penalized \$25.00 per day.** Until a completed roster is submitted, teams will also be subject to forfeits. Additions to the initial roster may be made until the June 10 deadline.
7. Home runs will be limited to the number of "Over-the-fence" home runs hit each game. After the limit has been reached, all other "Over-the-fence" homeruns are OUTS. All leagues will be allowed 2 home runs per game. The one up rule will also be in effect for all summer 2016 league play.
8. The consumption of beer is allowed at the softball fields, but it must be kept out of the team bench area and off the field of play at all times. (BEER IN CANS ONLY - No glass bottles, wine coolers, hard liquor or kegs). ***Players and fans that have glass bottles in their possession will be given a warning and must take all full and empty bottles to their vehicles. Teams in violation anytime during the season after a warning will be subject to additional penalties, which could include game forfeiture or expulsion from the league.***
9. The CASUAL PROFANITY rule will again be enforced. It will be reviewed at the managers meeting.
10. UMPIRES ARE ALWAYS NEEDED! Do you know a softball-minded individual who may be able to share their time by umpiring? We offer training clinics and great pay. Simply umpiring every other week would greatly help. We are holding an umpire clinic on **Saturday, April 9th at 9:00 a.m.** at the Apple Valley Community Center.
11. BEFORE YOU BUY A NEW BAT- Take a look at this notification from the USSSA National office. It also pertains to current bats too. <http://www.ussa.com/ussa/ussa-general/SoftballBat.pdf>. **As of 1/16/15 All USSSA bats will be required to have the USSSA tear drop 1.20 stamp in order to be legal for ANY league or tournament play in the State of Minnesota. This is a state wide requirement, no exceptions will be allowed.**

