

# Kenton County Parks & Recreation

## Recreational Slow Pitch Softball Leagues *RULES*

### 1. **League Fees:**

- a. \$250.00 per team plus \$15.00 tax totaling \$265.00. For a tax exempt entity, a Sales Tax Certificate must be received to have the tax waived.
- b. Includes league administration by KCP&R, regular season round-robin play, a single-elimination tournament, and one dozen U.S.S.S.A.-approved softballs.
- c. Teams will play round robin up to 8 games in each league/division.

### 2. **Regular-Season Team Rosters:**

- a. Team Manager MUST submit a regular-season team roster to Kenton County Parks & Recreation by Week 6 of the regular season.
- b. Roster limit at any given time: 20 players.
- c. Each player must personally sign the roster/liability waiver.
- d. Age restrictions: For Women, the youngest a player can be is 16 years of age during this calendar year; for Men, the youngest a player can be is 15 years of age during this calendar year.
- e. In Co-Ed, at least 9 players will constitute a team, of which at least 5 must be women. With 10 players, a team may have 5 women and 5 men or 6 women and 4 men.
- f. Team Manager will be responsible for keeping a copy of the signed, regular-season team roster in his/her possession. This document may be used to determine player eligibility regarding a protest during tournament play.
- g. If the regular-season team roster has not been received by the above date, that team (although they will be responsible for completing the regular-season) will be deemed ineligible for tournament play.
- h. No player may join a team if he/she has already played on another team in the same league in the same season.
- i. Additions and/or deletions to/from the regular-season team roster will be accepted at any time and up until four weeks before the respective league tournament is scheduled to begin.
- j. Rosters may be submitted in person, by e-mail, or by mail to: Kenton County Parks & Recreation, 420 Independence Station Rd., Independence, KY 41051, by fax to (859) 392-1923; or by e-mail to rhonda.ritzi@kentoncounty.org. Please call to verify that your roster has been received.

### 3. **Softballs:**

- a. One dozen U.S.S.S.A.-approved Worth Hot Dot™ Classic Plus softballs will be provided in your League Fee; Monday Men and Co-Ed men and women will use 12" softballs.
- b. Home team will be responsible for providing one new game ball and one playable second ball.
- c. KCP&R will provide all game balls during the tournament.
- d. Additional softballs will be available for purchase at \$50 per dozen.

### 4. **Bases:**

- a. KCP&R will provide 'throw-down' bases at all fields.
- b. All Monday Men's Leagues will have 70 feet bases.
- c. Co-Ed Leagues will have 65 feet bases.
- d. Safety Base will be used at 1<sup>st</sup> base. USSSA Rules apply.

### 5. **Home Team:**

- a. Home team will be listed *first* on the schedule.

## 6. **Shoes:**

- a. For safety, metal spike shoes are prohibited; soft or hard rubber cleats are permitted.

## 7. **Protests:**

- a. A Protest must be filed with KCP&R in writing within 48 hours of the game in question.
- b. A \$25 fee must accompany the Protest. If the Protest is allowed, the Protest fee will be returned.
- c. When a Protest NOT involving Umpire's judgment is registered with the Umpire on the field immediately, and before any succeeding pitch, the game will assume the status of a Suspended game until the Protest is either allowed or disallowed.
- d. If a player eligibility Protest is registered with the Umpire, an attempt to resolve the Protest will be made immediately by the Umpire. During the tournament, the Umpire will compare the signature on the regular-season roster with the signature on a picture ID of the player in question for irregularity. When an ineligible player is discovered during a game, the offending team will lose the game AND the team will be ejected from the tournament. If the Umpire is unable to immediately decide positively in favor or against the Protest, the game assumes that status of a Suspended game, until the Protest is either allowed or disallowed by KCP&R.

## 8. **Field Conditions and Field Conditions Hotline:**

- a. Statusfy telephone number is (859) 544-1700. You may also check the status of a field on our website under Parks & Recreation on [www.KentonCounty.org](http://www.KentonCounty.org) or download the Statusfy app on your smartphone and search for "Kenton County Parks & Recreation".

## 9. **Game Start Times:**

- a. Games will begin at 6:15 pm and 7:15 pm on Monday and Friday. The 6:15 pm game will be limited to 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- b. For EARLY games: If the Grace Period is used and the 6:15 pm and game gets underway at 6:30 pm, no new inning will start after 7:20 pm. The Umpire may also institute the Flip-Flop Format so that the second game will start at or before 7:30 pm.
- c. No Grace Period will be allowed before the second game.
- d. Please stress the importance of starting games on time.

## 10. **Mercy Rule:**

- a. No inning will begin after 4 completed innings if a team is losing by more than 15 runs, or after 5 completed innings if a team is losing by more than 10 runs.
- b. The current inning may be completed but no new inning will be started.

## 11. **Home Run Rule:**

- a. At Lincoln Ridge ~ A team will be allowed three (3) over-the-fence Home Runs per game. Each subsequent fly ball hit over the fence will be recorded as an Out. NO ONE PERSON CAN HIT TWO HOME RUNS IN ONE GAME OVER THE HOME RUN FENCE. SECOND ONE WILL BE AN OUT.
- b. At Middleton-Mills, Fields 1, 2, and 5 ~ A team will be allowed three (3) over the fence Home Runs per game. Each subsequent fly ball hit over the fence will be recorded as an Out. NO ONE PERSON CAN HIT TWO HOME RUNS IN ONE GAME OVER THE HOME RUN FENCE. SECOND ONE WILL BE AN OUT.
- c. At Pioneer Park, Field 2 ~ It's 350' to the wooded buffer zone along the creek in left field so it is also 'all you can get' for the baserunner.

**12. Tie Games:**

- a. If a regular-season 6:15 pm game only (see also KCP&R Rule 9a and Rule 9b: Game Start Times) ends in regulation in a tie and time allows, both Team Managers and the Umpire will immediately discuss and continue to play the game to completion if time allows.

**13. Replacement Base Runner:**

- a. One replacement base runner may be utilized per inning with the player having made the last out becoming that replacement runner. **In Co-Ed, a woman will run for a woman and a man will run for a man.**
- b. If the runner having been replaced bats a second time in the same inning, that player can be run for again.
- c. Team Managers may use a replacement runner for player injured; however, fairness, common sense and Umpire's judgment may come into play.

**14. Player Ejection:**

- a. Upon Umpire recommendation, the ejected player could be suspended from KCP&R Rec Slow Pitch Softball League play.
- b. Striking an Umpire will result in player suspension from all KCP&R Rec Slow Pitch Softball League play for at least one year.

**15. Game Scores Reporting:**

- a. View Schedule at <https://secure.rec1.com/KY/kenton-county-ky/leagues>.
- b. Winning Team Manager must report the winning team name and game score within 72 hours after completion of game **by texting to (859) 750-7257**.
- c. Failure by Team Manager to report scores within 72 hours of a completed game may result in loss of credit for a win.

**16. Conditions of Play:**

- a. Kenton County Fiscal Court assumes that all players are competing at their own risk and will not be held responsible for any injuries sustained while at the ball fields or within the boundaries of the park.
- b. All players participating in KCP&R leagues or tournament play agree to these conditions automatically and without exception.

**17. Weather-Related Postponements:**

- a. Up to two games postponed due to the weather or weather-related field conditions will be rescheduled at the end of the regular season.
- b. If both Managers agree to postpone a game either at game time because of weather or questionable safety-related field conditions, or when an unfinished game is suspended because of weather or darkness and Managers have already paid Umpire fees, KCP&R will pay Umpires fees for the rescheduled future game.

**18. Severe Weather Policy:**

- a. For safety, at the first sight of lightning, the Managers and Umpire may determine to delay the game and if so, teams will immediately clear the field.
- b. If it is anticipated that the storm will pass, the game may be resumed no sooner than fifteen (15) minutes after the last sight of lightning. If the severe weather is of great length or intensity, the Umpire has the authority to cancel the game for that night.

- c. Furthermore, should the delay occur during Game 1 with the one-hour time limit passing before the storm passes, in order to begin Game 2 on time, Game 1 will take on the status of either a Complete Game (if the home team is ahead after 4 completed innings), or a Suspended Game (with play to be continued at a later date).
- d. If a Suspended game is rescheduled to be completed at a later date, KCP&R will pay the Umpire fees when the game is resumed.

### 19. **The Count:**

- a. When a batter goes to the plate, the U.S.S.S.A. rule count of 1 ball and 1 strike will be utilized. (1 free foul after 2 strikes will be given.)

### 20. **Pitching:**

- a. The pitched ball must arc at least 3 feet after leaving the pitcher's hand.
- b. The pitched ball shall not rise higher than 10 feet above the ground.
- c. The speed of the pitch and the height of the pitched ball are left entirely up to the judgment of the Umpire.
- d. Pitching will be from the mound. KCP&R will provide pitching mounds at all fields. Pitching mounds will be placed by the Umpires.
- e. No faking pitches.
- f. Pitching distance will be 50 feet.

### 21. **Hitting:**

- a. In Co-Ed at the start of the game, the batting order may begin with either or woman or a man hitting first and then should alternate between woman and man.
- b. In Co-Ed, should the lineup require, two women may hit back-to-back; two men may not hit consecutively and an out must be taken.
- c. In Co-Ed, when playing with 9, an out must be taken when the 10th hitter's spot comes up.
- d. In Co-Ed, teams may bat as many players as they want.
- e. In Co-Ed, if a man is walked, intentionally or unintentionally, he will automatically go to 2nd base and the woman hitting next will have the option to walk or hit.

### 22. **Fielding:**

- a. In Co-Ed, women and men may play any position in the field; however, there must be at least 5 women in the field.

### 23. **Doctor's Approval:**

- a. If a player is knocked unconscious during a game, a doctor's "OK to play" certificate must be obtained by the player and submitted to KCP&R before that player will be allowed to play in any subsequent games.

### 24. **Adult Beverages Rule:**

- a. During Monday Men Church league games: NO ALCOHOL, at any time, will be permitted on the playing field, on the base paths, in the dugout area, or in the coach's boxes. *YOU are responsible for your players and your fans.*
- b. During Friday Co-Ed league games: NO ALCOHOL, at any time, will be permitted on the playing field, on the base paths, in the dugout area, or in the coach's boxes. *YOU are responsible for your players and your fans.*
- c. NO GLASS CONTAINERS of any kind are allowed in any Kenton County park.
- d. Due to FULL Concessions at Middleton-Mills, NO Coolers will be allowed in the Ballpark Complex.
- e. No smoking is permitted in the baseball park at any time.

**25. Umpires:**

- a. Umpire fees are \$15 per team and are to be paid to the Umpire BEFORE the game begins.
- b. RESPECT THE UMPIRE. Without Umpires, there will be no games and no leagues.

**26. Forfeits:**

- a. **In Co-Ed, fewer than nine (9) players will result in a Forfeit and if playing with 9 players, at least five (5) players must be women.**
- b. Should the occasion arise in which a team must forfeit a game, the team responsible for the Forfeit shall be responsible for paying BOTH teams Umpires fees, or \$30 for the forfeited game.
- c. If you are the recipient of a win by forfeit, please DO NOT pay the Umpire YOUR \$15 Umpire fee.
- d. Remember, the team responsible for the forfeit must pay BOTH fees. If you are the recipient of a loss by forfeit and you or a member of the team losing by forfeit is on site, go ahead and pay both Umpire team's fees (\$30) at that time. Otherwise, KCP&R will collect \$30 from you later and will handle paying the Umpire.
- e. *In Monday Men Church league, if a church has a mandatory church function, revival or conference, on a Monday night during the season, the coach will contact KCP&R to ask for the game to be moved to the end of the season. KCP&R will contact the other coach with arrangements and reflect this change in the schedule. This will need to be arranged prior to the season beginning.*

**27. Monday Men Church League – Regular Season Standings:**

- a. Based on the Regular Season Standings, the bottom 2 teams in the A League will move to the B League and the top 2 teams in the B League will move to the A League.

**28. Directions to Playing Fields:**

- a. Lincoln Ridge Park (420 Independence Station Rd., Independence, KY 41051)
  - i. From I-75, take Exit 180 (Florence/Union) and go east on KY 42 to Industrial Road. Turn right on Industrial Road and drive 2.9 miles to 1303/Turkeyfoot Road. Turn right on Turkeyfoot Road and drive .6 mile to Independence Station Road (just past the Marathon Food Mart). Turn left on Independence Station Road and drive for 2 miles. The park entrance will be on your left.
  - ii. From I-275, take Exit 82 (Turkeyfoot Road/1303). Go south on Turkeyfoot Road 4.3 miles to Independence Station Road (just past the Marathon Food Mart). Turn left on Independence Station Road and drive for 2 miles. The park entrance will be on your left.
- b. Middleton-Mills Park (3415 Mills Rd., Covington, KY 41015)
  - i. From I-275, take Exit 79 (Covington/Taylor Mill). Go South on KY 16 for seven miles to Mills Road. Turn left on Mills Road and drive for one mile. The park entrance will be on your right.
- c. Pioneer Park (3951 Madison Pike, Ft. Wright, KY 41017)
  - i. From I-275, take Exit 80 (Covington/Independence). Go south on KY 17 for 2.8 miles. The park entrance will be on your right.

**29. Questions or Comments:**

- a. If you have any questions or comments regarding Kenton County Parks & Recreation Recreational Slow Pitch Softball Leagues, please call (859) 525-PLAY (7529).