



Bachman Sports Complex & Randazzo Softball Park

2012 Sessions Information

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www.aacounty.org/recparks

1. All leagues are governed by the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks Guidelines and Reference Manual. USSSA rules will apply except as noted below. The USSSA Approved Bat List will be used for all leagues. **The pitching arc will be 6 feet to 10 feet. Pitchers must adhere to "standard" pitching regulations. Illegal pitches will not be called.**
2. **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED IN THE PARK.** Offenders will be required to leave the park **IMMEDIATELY and receive an automatic 2-week suspension from ALL leagues.**

Teams found to have/had alcohol in their dugouts will receive an **automatic 2 week team-suspension from ALL leagues.** They will also forfeit all games scheduled during that 2 week suspension, **including games that are cancelled due to weather.** Repeat offenders will be barred from the Park.

Tobacco products are allowed in the parking lot areas **ONLY!**

3. Adult Sports Players Pledge:
 - I understand the importance of sportsmanship and fair play.
 - I understand the importance of respect for players, game officials, and league organizers.
 - I understand the importance of leaving the playing field in the same condition as I found it.
 - I understand the importance of league rules and guidelines as necessary components of the game.
 - Therefore, I will, at all times, respect the decisions of the game officials, park personnel and league organizers. I will not publicly criticize a game official's ruling during or immediately after an athletic contest. I will through my words and actions display a high level of sportsmanship and fair play.

General League Rules:

1. Rosters are due no later than the 1st day of your league play. The 5th week of play for a 9-week league and the 6th week of play for an 11-week league will be the deadline for roster additions. Dates will be listed on league schedules.
2. **UNIFORM RULES:** Shirts of the same team identity. Cut-offs and jeans are not allowed. Teams purchasing new uniforms should have a 6" number on the back of each shirt. We have experienced problems in April because of cold weather, consequently the wearing of additional clothing (sweatshirts & jackets) will be allowed at the player's discretion
 - Metal spikes are not allowed in Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks sponsored leagues or tournaments.

3. When writing line-ups, teams **must** use the first name or first initial, the last name and jersey # of each player. This applies to substitutions also.
4. When taking batting practice, teams are not allowed in the batters box. Absolutely NO hitting the balls against the fence at any time. A player may be ejected from the game(s) by the park staff for hitting balls against the fence.
5. Each team shall provide one new restricted flight ball for each game (**.44 core/ 400 compression or less balls ONLY**). A team that hits the ball out of play shall have the responsibility of retrieving the ball or replacing it with a new ball or a used ball in good condition.
6. **Bachman:** The following Home Run Rules will be in effect: 1 for "E" Leagues, 2 for "D" Leagues, 3 for "C" and Co-Ed Leagues. Any ball hit over the fence in excess of the specified limit shall be ruled an out and will also end the inning. **Randazzo: 1 for "E" 2 for "D" and 3 for "Seniors". The inning ending home run rule does not apply at Randazzo. All homeruns are walk-off for all leagues.**
7. Games will start at 6:00, 7:10, 8:20, and 9:30 p.m. or as indicated on your schedule. There will be an hour or an hour and 10-minute limit on all games, depending on the league composition. **All tie games will be completed if they fall within the time limit. Tie games that exceed the time limit will end in a tie. For determining the league winners the point system will be applied, 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and 0 points for a loss.** A 15-minute grace period will be allowed for the 6:00 p.m. game only. A team that has 9 players (Co-ed 5 & 4) at 6:00 p.m. **must** start at 6:00 p.m. **Forfeit time for all other games will be scheduled game time; 7:10 is forfeit time for 7:10 game, 8:20 is the forfeit time for the 8:20 game and 9:30 is the forfeit time for the 9:30 game.** A **20-run rule** will be in effect **after the 3rd inning, 15 runs after the 4th inning** and **12 runs after the 5th inning**. The home team has the right to bat if they are behind by 12 or 20 runs or more.
8. A team may start with 9 players, with an out recorded when the 10th player is due up. The 10th player may be inserted in the lineup when he/she shows up, but must bat in the 10th batting position. **A team may bat the entire lineup. In the event of an injury and there is no available sub an out is recorded in that spot for the remainder of the game. If there is an ejection and there is no available sub the game is a forfeit at that time.**
9. A double bag will be used at 1st base in all leagues. If there is a play on a batter/runner going to 1st base, the batter/runner **must** touch the portion of the double bag (orange portion) extending into foul territory. He/she will be called out if he/she fails to do so. **EXCEPTION:** If a defensive player has to move onto the bag in foul territory to make the play, the runner may touch either bag if, in the judgement of the umpire, the runner touched the inside bag to avoid a collision. **IMPORTANT:** The defensive player must use the white base inside fair territory to make the putout. Players may advance from the orange bag.
10. A 1 + 1 count will be used in all leagues. A courtesy 3rd strike foul ball will also be implemented.

11. Strike Mats - If the ball strikes any part of the mat, it will be ruled a strike.
Seniors – A ball that touches any part of the plate or mat is a strike.
12. To determine if games are cancelled, please call the appropriate Rain Line **after 4:00 P.M.:**
Bachman Sports Complex – 410-553-8996
Randazzo Softball Park – 410-553-8953
13. Make-up games will be posted on the Internet. In addition, teams may be notified by e-mail, handouts or phone with schedule changes.
14. Each team is responsible for paying the umpire on the field prior to each game. The fee is listed on the league schedule. If a team forfeits, that team is responsible for both umpire fees for all forfeited games. If a team decides they need to cancel a game, the team canceling must first get the opposing team to agree to the cancellation. Next, both teams involved must contact the Park Office personnel. Then, the team requesting the cancellation, must notify the Park Office personnel **at least six calendar days in advance**. The games will be rescheduled only if time permits. If the Park Office personnel are not notified six days in advance, the team canceling the games will be charged with forfeits and will be responsible for paying the forfeit fees. These games will not be rescheduled.
15. Cancelled games will be made up using 1 or more of the following formats.
 - As part of a 5 game format
 - Added to the end of the session
 - On other nights during the week
 - Last make-up games for Session I will be the week of July 23, 2012, including weather cancellations. Last make-ups for Session II will be the week of October 22, 2012, including weather cancellations.
 - **Lightning Rule:** As a matter of safety and precaution, all activities must come to a stop upon the first sound of thunder or sign of lightning. Activities may be resumed only after the thunder has stopped or after a **30 minute delay beyond the last sign of lightning**.
16. A team that **forfeits** 6 games for any reason may be disqualified. Not only is the team disqualified for the rest of the session, but may also be disqualified from playing the next session.
17. Sponsor trophies for 1st and 2nd place will be awarded in each league. 1st place teams will also receive t-shirts. Individual trophies will not be awarded. League champions will be decided by; 1.)best record, 2.)head-to-head, 3.)playoff game (if time allows) or 4.)best winning percentage (if an unequal number of games were played).
18. **All players other than the 1st & 3rd base coaches and the on deck batter must remain in the dugout. Children under 16 years of age are not allowed in the dugouts.**

Co-ed League Rules

- When playing with 10 players, 5 males & 5 females must be in the line-up. 6 males & 6 females when playing with an E/H, and 5 & 4 (5 males & 4 females or 5 females & 4 males) when playing with 9 players.
- Male and female must alternate in the batting order.
- When there are less than 2 outs; if a male walks, he will take 2nd base and the female must bat. When there are 2 outs; if a male walks, he will take 2nd base and the female may choose to either bat or take the walk. Runners awarded 2nd base may go there directly.
- Batter is out after the 2nd foul ball with two strikes on him or her.
- A man may pitch and a woman catch or vice versa but there must be one person of each sex in those two positions. The league does not regulate where the remaining players play in the field.
- Each team must have one new 11 inch restricted flight ball and one new 12-inch restricted flight ball for each game.

Suspensions/Protests/Illegal Players:

1. Cursing, bat throwing, use of illegal bats, harassment of umpires or park personnel before, during, or after games will not be tolerated. The penalties have been and will continue to be harsh. Please note that when the players signed the Adult Sports Roster form, they agreed that they have read and understand the Adult Sports Players Pledge, which is part of the roster form and noted in rule 3 above.
2. Flagrant misconduct may result in a suspension for the session or longer.
3. A player, coach or spectator who makes or attempts to make physically aggressive contact with a game official will automatically be suspended from all County-sponsored sports for a minimum of two (2) years from the date of the incident.
4. A player, coach or spectator who makes or attempts to make physically aggressive contact with another individual, other than a game official, will automatically be suspended from all County-sponsored sports for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of the incident.
5. Anyone ejected will automatically receive a **two-week** suspension from all scheduled games in all leagues. The second occurrence by the same person will result in a **three-week** suspension from all leagues, and the third occurrence will result in **suspension from all leagues for one year from the date of the third ejection**. Any coach that refuses to supply an umpire or park personnel with the full name of a team member that has been ejected will also receive a **two-week** suspension from all leagues.
6. Anyone suspended for **any** reason will not be permitted on the premises of the Bachman Sports Complex and Randazzo Softball Park. This rule applies to all activities at either park, including tournaments.

7. In accordance with the Mid-Atlantic Recreation & Parks Sports Alliance, Anne Arundel County will uphold any suspension of 1 year or longer from various jurisdictions. For a complete list of the jurisdictions, please visit our web site, www.aacounty.org/recparks , and view the “Disciplinary Actions” section of the “Guidelines and Reference Manual”.

Protests:

1. If a player is challenged for eligibility and/or age anytime during the game, the manager must present the Anne Arundel County Roster Sheet, and the suspected player must sign their name in the protesting teams’ scorebook when requested by the umpire, and produce a valid Maryland State Drivers License.
 - Failure to do so is an admission of guilt, and the game is forfeited at that point.
2. When ineligibility is discovered, all games the suspected player played in and including the game discovered will be forfeited.

Illegal Ball Players:

1. Penalty:
 - Automatic forfeiture of all games the illegal player(s) participated in.
 - Any player that is discovered playing illegally will be **suspended for a minimum of 30 days from all leagues**, from the date of discovery.
2. An illegal Ball Player is someone who:
 - Is not legally on the roster.
 - Plays for 2 teams in the **same league**.
 - Plays while suspended.
3. Any manager or team representative that plays an illegal ball player will receive an **automatic 2-week suspension** from all leagues.
4. Any employee of the Recreation and Parks Department employed at the Bachman Sports Complex or Randazzo Softball Park will have the responsibility and authority to suspend and forfeit any game in which they observe an ineligible player participating.

Injuries & Blood Rule:

1. Neither the Department nor members of its staff will be responsible for injuries incurred during softball leagues, championship or exhibition games.
2. A player, coach, or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on his uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time considered reasonable is left to the umpire’s judgement. Uniform rule violations will not be enforced if a uniform change is required. The umpire shall:
 - Stop the game and allow treatment if injured person would affect the continuation of play.
 - Immediately call a coach, trainer, or other “Authorized person” to the injured player.

- Apply the rules of the game regarding substitutions, re-entry, and short-handed player if necessary.
- Request park personnel to call “911”.

Senior League “Speed-up” Rules:

1. **Pre-Game:** Pre-game batting practice, if time is available, will be completed at least 10 minutes before game time. Also, if time is available, infield/outfield practice will be completed 5 minutes before game time. This will allow managers and umpires to conduct their pre-game conference in a timely manor.
2. **55 Minute Time Limit:** 55 minutes after the start of a game the umpire will announce that the inning being played will be the last inning of “5-run limit” play and the next inning will be the “unlimited run” inning. **All games, unless tied, are still limited to a 70-minute time limit.**
3. **Flip-Flop Rule:** If the home team is behind by 10 or more runs after the last “5-run limit” inning, they will take their at-bats in the top half of the “unlimited” inning. Only if they tie or go ahead will the visitors bat in the “unlimited” inning.