



**PROSPECT PARK BASEBALL ASSOCIATION  
KEY REGULAR SEASON RULES  
(Not Tournament Rules)**

**SOFTBALL**

REGULAR SEASON	MUSTANGS	BRONCOS	COLTS	HIGH SCHOOL
<i>Length of Game / Last Inning Start Time</i>	6 innings or no new inning after 1 hr 50 mins from start time; if inning began before 1:50 game must still end exactly 2 hrs from start time		7 innings or no new inning after 1 hr 50 mins from start time; if inning began before 1:50 game must still end exactly 2 hrs from start time	
<i>Mercy Rule</i>	5 Runs for 1st 3 Innings, Unlimited Each Inning Thereafter subject to 12 run lead after 4 innings			12 Runs after 5 inns
<i>Defensive Players (Total allowed)</i>	10 - 4 in outfield			9
<i>Balls if Bases Loaded</i>	5	4	4	4
<i>Stealing</i>	No	When catcher has possession of ball	Leading on release of pitch; stealing allowed	
<i>Steal Home</i>	No	No, except if ball is thrown to player not the pitcher	Yes, on release of ball by pitcher	
<i>Balk Rule Applies</i>	No	No	No	No
<i>Infield Fly Rules Applies</i>	No	No	Yes	Yes
<i>Play Ends: When Pitcher controls ball in 8' Circle:</i>	Runner more than half way get next base	Runner must immediately go to next base or return to prior base.		
<i>Pitching Limits</i>	3 Innings	4 Innings		
<i>Remove Pitcher as Pitcher after hitting batters</i>	2 in same inning, 3 in game			No Limit
<i>Pitching Motion</i>	All motions are allowed. Motion must begin with the pivot foot on the pitching plate. The other foot can be on or any distance behind the pitching plate as long as it is not outside the 24" length of the pitching plate. While the hands are separate, she can assume the pitching position. Once the hands come together it is the beginning of the pitch and the pitcher can only make a forward movement.			
<i>Bat</i>	Softball Bat so marked on the bat only (no baseball bats); max 2.25" barrel, 34" long, 38 oz			
<i>Batting Order</i>	Universal			9 + optional Extra Player
<i>Base Distance</i>	50'	60'		
<i>Pitching Distance</i>	28'	35'	40'	43'
<i>Must Use Courtesy 1st Base</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Balls Permitted</i>	11" Rif 10, Optic Yellow Red Stitch, Leather Cover	12" any brand optic yellow, leather cover, red stitch max .47 core, max 375lbs compression		
<i>Games Played on Grass</i>	No Stealing and No Dropped 3rd Strikes; No spectators or players within 60' of home plate			
<i>Dropped 3rd Strike</i>	No	No	Yes	Yes
<i>Sliding</i>	Not head first (except back to a previously acquired base); slide or avoid contact unless arrive same time at base			
<i>Run for Catcher if 2 outs</i>	Required, to be replaced by last batter to make out at bat or on base			
<i>Safety Rules</i>	Defibrillators must be at all practices & games on Parks Dept fields. All softball pitchers must wear a protective face guard.			
RAINOUT HOTLINE: 888 473-6864		4/5/25		WEBSITE: ppba.info