

CHESAPEAKE PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM

ATHLETIC DOCTRINE

- I. TO PROMOTE SPORT PROGRAMS THAT ARE SAFE, FUN AND ENJOYABLE. Competition encourages cooperation, self-discipline and motivation while enhancing the development of life-lasting traits. Remember, that competition is a process and not a product. The score is a product of competition. Therefore, our athletic leagues will strive towards the process instead of the product.
- II. TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL FITNESS THROUGH SPORTS. Exercise allows the body to develop in the manner for which it was designed.
- III. TO PROMOTE RESPECT IN ONE'S SELF AND OTHERS THROUGH GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP by emphasizing the development of cooperation and respectful behavior towards teammates, opponents, referees, and coaches.

GENERAL ADULT RULES

I. RECREATION LEAGUES

A. General Purpose

1. To inspire the citizens of our city to take part in the programs sponsored by the City of Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department.
2. To bring the citizens closer together through a common interest in sportsmanship, fellowship, and athletic competition.
3. To encourage adults to set a good example when supervising the youth of our city, and to keep the welfare of youth foremost in mind.
4. To promote programs in athletics that are well balanced and supervised by competent adults.

B. Sponsor - The City of Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department, sponsor of the leagues, shall have the authority to act on any question arising as to the successful conduct of the leagues, and on questions not covered herein.

C. Governing Authority - The Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department will govern the leagues. The Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Chesapeake is the official interpreter of all rules and policies. His or her decision will be final.

II. ASSOCIATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND ATHLETIC CLUBS

A. Responsibilities

1. **List of Officers** - Association officials must submit a current list of officers, with phone numbers and addresses, to the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. **Communications** - Organizations must designate a contact person for communication purposes with the Department. Agreements, suggestions, questions, and complaints should be in writing. The Department should be notified of all meeting dates of the organization.
3. **Concession Stands** - Organizations operating stands are responsible for the maintenance of them and for cleaning the grounds following each use.

B. General Purpose

1. To assist department staff in all phases of the program operation.
2. To assist the department in furnishing equipment and uniforms, if possible.
3. To provide a public address system, if possible.

C. Memorandum of Understanding - Two weeks prior to the first scheduled practice of each sport, a letter of agreement will be written outlining the responsibilities of each association and the Parks and Recreation Department. Otherwise, the department will assume that the association does not wish to assist with that particular sport.

III. FACILITIES

A. Alcoholic Beverages - The drinking of alcoholic beverages is not allowed on or around recreation facilities. Parks ordinance 17-B.18 prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages on or at Parks and Recreation facilities. Anyone caught will be subject to arrest and suspended from the league. Also, any player who has been drinking must not be allowed to participate.

B. Since the use of tobacco products is harmful to ones health and sends a negative message to our youth, the use of tobacco products will not be allowed by anyone at outdoor athletic facility playing areas, in the bleachers, in the restrooms or in and around concession stands. If someone must use tobacco products they must do so away from the public in the parking lot or away from the bleacher/spectator areas.

Penalty: 1st offence – verbal warnings
 2nd offence – request person to leave the athletic area.

C. Domestic Animals - Park ordinance 17B - 21 places the following restrictions on domestic animals.
 No person shall bring or be responsible for the entry of a dog or other domestic animal into areas other than automobile parking concourses and walks immediately adjacent thereto and in such other areas as may be clearly marked by signs. Nothing herein shall be construed as permitting the running of dogs at large. All dogs in those areas where such animals are permitted shall be restrained at all times on adequate leashes not greater than five feet in length. (10/13/92)

D. Collections - Collections of any type will not be made at or in the vicinity of any Parks and Recreation facility without prior permission from the Parks and Recreation Director.

- E. Repairs - Any repairs to the playing fields, other than minor ones, must be approved by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- F. Ball Field Lights - The Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director will designate which field lights may be used on Sundays. All field lights must be turned off within ten minutes following the last ball game or practice.
- G. Field Reservations - Fields may be reserved in accordance with department policies and procedures.

IV. FRANCHISE AND REGISTRATION FEES

- A. Fees - A franchise or registration fee established by the department will be paid by each adult team registering to play in a Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department league. A team that has not paid their franchise fee by the designated date will not be eligible to participate in the league.
- B. Franchise Fee Refunds - Teams will receive full refunds of their paid franchise fees, provided they give the department written notification no later than five working days after the established deadline for payment of fees. Otherwise, the entire fee will be forfeited.

V. GAME OFFICIALS

- A. Payment - The Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department will schedule and pay for the officials (and basketball scorekeepers) for each game. The rate of pay will be set by the department.
- B. Number of Officials Per Sport
 - Adult Basketball - Two referees, one scorer, one timer
 - Adult Softball - One umpire
 - Adult Volleyball- One umpire, one referee
- C. Absent Officials - If one official is absent when two or three are scheduled for a game, the game will be played.
- D. Authority - The game officials have authority to suspend/terminate games prior to their scheduled start and during the contest in the event of bad weather conditions, lighting problems or other difficult situations that make the athletic facilities unplayable. The Parks, Recreation and Tourism staff has the final authority which may overrule a game official's decision pertaining to safe or unsafe field/gym conditions. Parks, Recreation and Tourism staff does not have the authority to overrule a game official's decision on judgment calls or interpretations of game rules. Terminations of any game prior to its normal conclusion for unsportsmanlike

conduct issues will result in forfeiture of the game in favor of the team not at fault.

VI. MANAGERS AND COACHES

A. Adult Program

1. Knowledge of Rules - Managers will advise their players of the rules of their respective sports.
2. Agreements Outside of Rules - There shall be no agreement between team managers that conflicts with any article of these official rules. Managers will be expected to enforce all rules and support the officials.
3. Payment of Participants - No player or manager in a Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department athletic activity shall receive pay for coaching or playing. Any player or manager who violated this rule will be expelled from the league.
4. At the conclusion of games, officials are off limits to coaches, players, and spectators.

VII. LEAGUE REQUIREMENTS

A. Adult Leagues - Adult leagues must consist of four teams.

B. Play-off Games - Format will be established by the department. If two teams are tied for 1st place in the division, a head-to-head tie breaker rule will determine 1st place. A one game playoff game will be played only if the head-to-head format doesn't break the tie. If two or more teams are tied for 2nd place or below, the tie will be broken by using head to head competition initially and runs allowed versus team(s) tied with to determine team placement. A one game playoff will be held if the tie is not broken by this method.

C. Team Names – The department will approve all team names and reject any that are deemed inappropriate.

VIII. AWARDS

A. Adults - Each adult team will submit a fee determined by the Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department to provide trophies for the championship team in each league.

IX. GAME SCHEDULES AND POSTPONEMENTS

- A. Once a game schedule is prepared for printing, there will be no changes for special considerations from coaches or participants.
- B. Conditions for Postponement - The Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department will not postpone any regularly scheduled game, except in the case of bad weather, poor field conditions, or extreme emergency.
- C. Rescheduling - When a scheduled game is postponed for any reason whatsoever, the game will be played in the order of its postponement, as nearly as possible. The Parks, Recreation and Department will set a date for the game to be played and the managers are responsible for calling the recording and getting their rescheduled games. The recorder will be updated weekly, giving teams at least 48 hours notice.
- D. Non-league Conflicts - Games will not be postponed because of conflicts with non-league games or practices.

X. PENALTIES

- A. Penalties assessed to players or coaches as deemed appropriate by the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department may include probation, suspension, or dismissal.
- B. Suspension - The Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department and authorities thereunder have the authority to suspend any player, coach, or manager for any action detrimental to the success and welfare of the league. Players or coaches who lose their tempers or go out of their way to unnecessarily cause injury to other players, are hereby warned that such actions will not be tolerated in a recreation league. Any player or coach suspended from an adult league will be prohibited from coaching, scorekeeping, or participating in any way, in the youth recreation program while the suspension is in effect.
- C. The department has a no tolerance policy towards the use of profanity. Any coach or player identified by staff or officials as using profanity will be immediately ejected from a game and will be subject to the automatic one game suspension.
- D. Ejection - Any player, coach, or manager ejected from a game because of fighting, profanity, arguing with an official, or any other reason, may not return to the game and will automatically be suspended from the next game played, unless the action calls for a more severe penalty. A one game suspension may be appealed to the Department prior to the next played game, and the appeal decision will be final.

The penalty for violation is forfeit. A second violation within the season will result in the player, coach, or manager being suspended indefinitely or such other penalty deemed necessary by the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department. This rule applies also to postseason games and will carry over to the next season. Officials are responsible for reporting ejections, including the person's name, number and reason for ejection on back of game scorecard.

- E. A one game or more suspension may be appealed to the Department. The Department may be unable to address an appeal prior to the next played game if key parties are unable to be reached. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Athletic Section office by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Verbal appeals may be accepted under special circumstances. An appeal decision will be final.
- F. Striking an Official or Department Representative - Any player or coach who strikes an official or department representative will automatically be suspended from the league and the recreation program for a period of no less than 3 years. Striking is considered physical abuse and is defined as any physical contact or attempt to strike prior to, during or after an athletic activity. Depending on the severity of the offense, this period could be longer or permanent.
- G. Forfeits - An adult team that forfeits three games will be dropped from the league. (Adult Softball - when using double header format, a team that forfeits 4 games will be dropped from the league.) If a team drops out, all games played to the point when they have played every team an equal number of times will be counted in the league standings. With the approval of the department, the team may continue to play but the remaining games will not be counted in the standings. However, if the last two (2) games of the regular season are forfeited they will not effect the league standings in the event this constitutes the team being dropped from the league.
 - 1. If the first game of a double header is forfeited, the second game is automatically forfeited 15 minutes after the scheduled time of the first game, unless a team representative is present within 15 minutes and stipulates to the umpire that they will participate in the second game.
- H. Games Forfeited - When a game is forfeited, the team not at fault has the option to use its scheduled game time to practice alone or with members of the team that forfeited. If they give up their option, the team that forfeited may use this time at the facility. In either situation, only team members of the teams involved may use the facility during the scheduled game time.
- I. Players must remain seated on players' bench during any altercation or incident. Violators will receive at least a one game suspension.
- J. The Chesapeake Department of Parks, Recreation and tourism reserves the right to deny an individual or team from participating in our programs or revoke an

individual or team's privileges to participate in our programs if the player or team is suspended from participating in any other area recreation department's programs or tournament associations' programs or officials' associations for abusive behavior. Furthermore, in the event any individual or team is suspended from participating in our programs for abusive behavior, a written notice of that suspension will be forwarded to all area recreation departments and tournament associations immediately. This action does not apply to one or two game suspensions, but does apply to severe cases where abusive behavior warrants further suspension.

XI. PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

- A. Adults - An adult player who registers to play in a league may not play with, or be registered to, any other organized league team of the same sport in the City of Chesapeake. Tournament participation is not considered league play. Exception: Coed League. Coed players may also play in another league other than on another coed team.
- B. All players must have in their possession a legal identification during games. Lack of identification will result in forfeited games. Examples of identification that will be accepted are as follows: driver's license, military I.D., State I.D., birth certificate, or passport.
 - 1. A player's identification verification must be handled by staff after receiving a request from a coach. No more than two identification checks will be allowed in any given game.
 - 2. **Player's numbers are required on the roster but an individual player's number will not be an eligible protest.**
- C. Eligibility Protest – Only coaches may submit protests. Protests regarding the eligibility of players must be submitted in writing, including the individual's name, team name, and all other pertinent details within two working days after the protested game. The department will investigate and take necessary actions. A fee of **\$50.00** (payable to the Chesapeake Treasurer by check or money order) must accompany each protest. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. If the protest is overruled; the fee will be deposited into the general fund of the City of Chesapeake.
- D. Forfeiture Due to Ineligible Players – Any players who are determined to be ineligible by the adult player roster form or other pertinent verification will result in the forfeiture of the protested game. Ineligible players will be suspended from the league for the remainder of the season.
 - 3. The head coach will receive a one game suspension in the event an ineligible player was verified by the Department as a participant in a

league game(s). A second offense during the season will result in the coach being suspended for the remainder of the season.

E. Tournament Protest- Rule interpretation protests for softball will be decided before the next pitch. For all adult sports written ineligible player protests that do not involve a player's identification requirement will be addressed the next working day. The protest must be submitted in writing to staff with the \$50.00 protest fee before leaving the site.

XII. DEPARTMENT'S OBLIGATION

It should be understood that any financial obligation implied in this document in support of the department's activities, is contingent upon funding in the City of Chesapeake Operating Budget of the year concerned.