



## Welcome to the 2021 Season!



Dear League Manager:

Welcome to the upcoming softball season at the Canton Sports Center. We're excited about the upgrades to the fields including a laser grade, field crown, dura-edge red clay infield mix, and fresh sod on the sidelines. Our staff is dedicated to organizing fun and competitive leagues, keeping the complex safe and clean, and creating a family-friendly atmosphere! It is important that all managers share the schedules, rules and facility information with all players on your team.

Some great places to get up-to-date information, scheduling, standings, and more, visit Canton Sports Center website at: [csc.canton-mi.org](http://csc.canton-mi.org) or on Facebook by searching @CantonSportsCenter.

We expect players in our programs to compete with class at all times. Please only register players on your roster that respect the game, the rules, the opponents, the staff and the efforts made to share quality times through softball. Please contact our staff by phone anytime with questions or concerns at 734/483-5600.

Enjoy your Season!

***Ann-Marie Carravallah***

Recreation Coordinator

***Steve Robb***

Softball Supervisors

***Kelly Dandy***

Clerical

### ***IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE 2021 SEASON***

- Spring Session Managers Meeting: Thursday, April 8 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Opening Day Spring Session: Wednesday, April 14 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Monday-Thursday Game Times: 6:30/7:45 p.m. with make-ups as necessary
- Sunday Game Times: 5/6:15pm, 5:30/6:45 p.m., 7:30/8:45 p.m., 8/9:15 p.m.

**Please Note:** Covid-19 Guidelines & Protocols are still in effect at the Canton Sports Center. For the most up-to-date COVID-19 information, visit [csc.canton-mi.org](http://csc.canton-mi.org).

### **Kickers All-Star Grill**

**734/482-1600**

Kickers All Star Grill is a full-service restaurant and party facility. Kicker's hours of operation: Monday-Friday from 4:30 p.m. - 2:00 a.m., and Saturday & Sunday from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. Kickers can host your party up to 300 people. Please call for more information.

## 2021 Rules and Regulations

Rules are also available online at [csc.canton-mi.org](http://csc.canton-mi.org)

Welcome and thank you for registering your team at the Canton Sports Center (CSC). Every manager should read and become familiar with the following rules and regulations. As a manager, it is your responsibility to be sure that your players have read and understand these rules. We hope these policies will contribute to a safe and enjoyable season for all teams.

### **Section One – Park Regulations**

#### **1.1 Office Hours**

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Saturday & Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (weekend hours may vary). Please contact the office with any questions at 734/483-5600. **Due to the tremendous volume of calls during inclement weather, information cannot be given out over the office phone. For up to date information, please call the Weather Line at 734/483-2913 or use our RainedOut feature (see section 3.4).**

#### **1.2 Beverages, Alcohol and Food**

Beverages, alcohol and food purchased outside of the Canton Sports Center, including the parking lot area are not permitted. Bringing these items in is prohibited by Michigan law regulating liquor, beer and food service. No glass containers are allowed on the premises. Drinking fountains are located by all diamonds. **Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the dugouts or on the field of play at any time.** Anyone purchasing alcoholic beverages must be 21 years of age. Anyone attempting to purchase/consume alcohol under the legal age limit is subject to indefinite suspension from the complex and prosecution to the full extent of the law. Any individual buying alcohol for a person under the legal drinking age will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law and will be indefinitely suspended from the complex. Please cooperate with our personnel if they refuse to serve you alcohol for your own safety and others. Anyone considered intoxicated will not be served and may be asked not to participate in a game. Please notify management if restaurant staff are serving anyone who appears intoxicated.

#### **1.3.1 Parking Lot**

No bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, motorcycles, or unauthorized motor vehicles are allowed beyond designated parking areas. Canton Sports Center is not responsible for damages or theft from vehicles parked in our lot. We are not responsible for cars left in the parking area overnight. Cars left overnight may be towed the following day at the owner's expense.

#### **1.4 Pets**

Sorry, pets are not allowed on the premises. Service Animals are permitted access to all facilities and programs if they are trained and required to be there to assist a person with a disability.

## 1.5 Smoking

Smoking of any kind is not permitted within the complex by umpires, managers, players, or fans. We are a smoke free and drug free facility. The consumption of marijuana is not permitted anywhere at the Canton Sports Center complex, including the parking lot.

## Section Two – General League Rules

### 2.1 Manager's Responsibility

Managers are the primary link between their players and the Canton Sports Center management. It is the manager's responsibility to attend the managers meetings, obtain and read all information and rules, and to make this information available to their players. Manager's must inform our office of changes in address or phone number. Managers must insure that all players read and sign the liability waiver and are eligible to play. Managers are responsible for their behavior while at the Canton Sports Center, in Kicker's All Star Grill, and in the parking lot. If your behavior is deemed unsafe, dangerous, or unsportsmanlike, it will affect your playing eligibility.

### 2.2 Player Conduct

Players are responsible for their behavior while at the Canton Sports Center, in Kicker's All Star Grill, and in the parking lot. There will be zero tolerance towards players who use inappropriate language, verbal abuse, and any conduct that is deemed to be unsportsmanlike, and it will affect playing eligibility. The Canton Township Code of Conduct is in the manager's packet.

### 2.3 Rosters

Managers are required to complete their team roster. The online team roster form is available on the Canton Sports Center website [csc.canton-mi.org](http://csc.canton-mi.org). The roster may consist of a maximum of 20 players. All rosters must be finalized by the third week of league play or the sixth game; at this time rosters will be **FROZEN**. Only in the case of an injured player may a person be substituted on the official roster. Please, contact the front office to discuss replacement for the injured player. NO additions will be made once playoff games begin. A player must have competed in a minimum of four games (M-Th & Sun Leagues) to be eligible for any playoff game and a minimum of two games for Friday Leagues. Any protest made against a team without a roster or player on file, the protest will be upheld. USSSA Major Players are not permitted in any Leagues

## Softball Division Definitions

Class	Skill Level	HR Limit
Men's D Rec	Men's teams looking for highly competitive play – unlimited D/E – four C + max	4
Men's E Open	Men's upper recreational teams – unlimited D or E – two D Elite max	3
Men's E Rec	Lowest level of men's play – unlimited E players – two D max – no C or above	2
Co-Ed Comp	Co-Ed teams looking for highly competitive play for upper recreational and competitive teams – Open rosters	4
Co-Ed E Rec	Co-Ed recreational – unlimited E players – two D men's max – open women	2

### 2.4 Payments

The Canton Sports Center accepts cash, checks, MasterCard, or Visa payments. Please make **all checks payable to Canton Township**. Include on all checks: phone number, address, and driver's license number. If the bank returns any checks, your manager is responsible to repay balance and bank service fees before your next scheduled game with cash or a cashier's check. You are responsible to cover any checks provided to us by a sponsor.

**Your team is responsible for umpire fees of \$15 per game, payable at game time.**

### 2.5 Injuries – Continued Participation

Any player, manager, or umpire who is bleeding or has an open wound will be prohibited from participating further in the game until the bleeding is stopped and the wound covered. If treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time, as judged by the umpire, the individual doesn't have to leave the game. If excessive time is involved, the re-entry rule would apply. If there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform/bandage, the umpire may rule that the uniform/bandage be changed before the individual may participate. **Any player, manager, umpire, or spectator that *sustains a hit to the head* with a softball or bat, **must** be examined by Canton Public Safety.**

### 2.6 Scoring

The home team is responsible for keeping the official score sheet. If, for any reason the home team is unable to do so, the umpire must be notified so that another scorer can be designated. Teams may flip flop during innings and keep score for their own team if both teams agree to it. It is both managers' obligation to confirm that the score is correct before each half inning starts and that the final score is also correct. Please, also review your copy and make sure all of the information is correct and readable before you leave your diamond. Incorrect or unreadable score sheets result in incorrect standings! Be sure the final score is written clearly at the bottom of the score sheet and that the correct scores are listed under the correct teams! **\* DO NOT use nicknames or abbreviations on score sheets. Please, use proper name only.**

\*Score sheets will feature Team Sportsmanship Ratings. Managers are responsible for filling out their opponent's sportsmanship rating after each game.

## 2.7 Standings

All standings will be posted outside the Sports Center Office and available online on the USSSA website. All game scores will be recorded and a team will receive a [7-0] win as a result of a forfeit or default. Final league standings will be based on total wins, head to head, and total runs given up throughout the season. In the case of a 1st place tie based on total wins only, final standings are based upon the team's **head to head record**, if a tie is not broken by the head to head games, a single game championship will be played.

## 2.9 Insurance

Players, managers, coaches, and spectators may not be protected by their own private medical or liability insurance while on Canton Sports Center property. Therefore all participants and spectators are encouraged to purchase insurance independently or through the USSSA team insurance plan. Insurance information is available in the manager's packet. Canton Sports Center does not cover individual players under its insurance policies.

## 2.10 Official Electronic Individual Waiver and Team Roster

To participate in league or tournament play at the Canton Sports Center, all players, managers, and coaches must agree to the following team contract. In addition, any injured player who remains in a game, despite being injured, assumes all liability for any additional injury or damage that may result. The following release appears on the Canton Sports Center Official electronic Release of Liability Waiver Form and agreement of such is a Release of Liability Waiver Form for participation at Canton Sports Center.

*"I do hereby acknowledge, agree and understand that:*

- 1. I am 18 years or older and voluntarily and of my own free will elect to participate as a member of the softball team and league as indicated at the Canton Sports Center.*
- 2. Playing softball is hazardous and may result in injury.*
- 3. Sliding is dangerous to me and other players. I will slide at my own risk.*
- 4. Other aspects of softball are dangerous and may result in injury. I will observe all fences, barriers and obstructions prior to the game.*
- 5. Metal spikes are prohibited.*
- 6. I will not fake tag players. I will not crash into other players. I will not throw my bat and/or equipment or conduct myself in a hazardous manner.*

*Further in consideration for the right to play softball at Canton Sports Center, I agree by signing the Canton Sports Center Official Team Roster, Players Contract and Release of Liability Waiver:*

- 1. I assume all risks of injury incurred or suffered while on the premises of Canton Softball Center.*

2. *I hereby release, hold harmless, and agree not to sue the Charter Township of Canton, its officers, all parties involved, servants, associations, employees, USSSA, advertisers or sponsors for any claims, loss, damage or injury sustained while on the premises of Canton Softball Center whether caused by its negligence or otherwise.*
3. *I am aware and understand that copies of the Canton Sports Center rules and regulations were furnished to each team's manager at the start of the season and that copies are available in the softball office. I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to read, understand, and abide by these rules."*

### **2.11 Radio/Music during Play**

The batting team will have the option to play their music during that half inning of play. After the completion of the half inning, the new team at bat will be able to play their music. There should be no use of explicit/derogatory language in the music being played, if so, the Facility Staff and Umpires will have the discretion to turn it off.

## **Section Three – Schedules, Make-ups, Forfeits and Rainouts**

### **3.1 Scheduling**

Your first game time will be available on day of registration. Please, do not print schedules, fore they are subject to change. It is the manager's responsibility to lookup the league schedule, verify scheduled games, and inform players regarding game times and field. A nightly schedule will be posted outside of the office each night. Please, verify game times and fields on the posted schedule in case of last-minute changes. League schedules may include single, double header, and in special circumstances, tripleheader games. You can utilize USSSA for the most up to date schedules. To be fair to all teams, we do not honor any special requests for league schedules, but will help with situations when they come up in advance.

### **3.2 Make-Up Games**

If league games have to be rescheduled, new schedules will be available on USSSA within 48 hours of the cancellation. Make-up games may be rescheduled on any day of the week. It is the manager's responsibility to inform their players of make-up games. If a team drops from your league early in the season, we will make every attempt to reschedule the rest of the season's games involving the dropped opponent.

### **3.3 Forfeits**

After a team forfeits their 2<sup>nd</sup> game they will be removed from the league for that season, unless they pay an additional \$30 within 48 hours of their 2<sup>nd</sup> forfeit. Paying this \$30 is the **only way** a team will be able to stay in the league.

### **3.4 Rainouts/Field Condition Information**

Any information regarding field conditions, rainouts, delays, and more, please call the **Canton Sports Center Weather Line: 734/483-2913**. The Weather Line will be updated M-F at 4:00 p.m., with further updates as needed. Sunday leagues will be updated by Noon, with further updates as needed.

You may also sign up for **RainedOut** to receive a text message for field updates, rain outs, and delays. Simply follow these steps to sign up:

- 1 – Visit [www.rainedout.net](http://www.rainedout.net)
- 2 – Search – Canton Sports Center – Softball Leagues
- 3 – Type in your cell phone number, agree to terms, and submit your number
- 4 – Verify your cell phone number with the code sent to your phone
- 5 – Choose the league(s) that you play and subscribe to them

**\*Facebook** – You can find field updates, delays, and rainout info by searching @CantonSportsCenter

## **Section Four – Playing Rules**

### **4.1 Official Game**

The USSSA 3-2 count ruling will be in effect. A batter will be allowed 3 balls and 2 strikes. A regulation game is 7 innings. In the event of inclement weather, games are official after 3½ completed innings, if the home team is ahead. If the game is called prior to 3½ innings, the league coordinator will schedule make-ups based on games left in the season and tie-breaker results. If incomplete games are made up at a later date, all games will start over with a new 1<sup>st</sup> inning. If the team at bat is losing and ties at the time of the cancellation and the game is later than the fourth inning, the game will revert back to the last complete inning. **NOTE MANAGERS:** We only ask that you be in the office requesting information on delays/cancellations – please know there is a difference. It is your responsibility to see what decision has been made. In the event of a delay, keep your players ready to resume play at a moment's notice. **Umpires do not cancel games**, only CSC staff may cancel games.

### **4.2 Game Time**

Game time is forfeit time. Team managers may choose to give the opponent a **maximum of 10 minutes** to field a team. This rule is applicable to the first game only. Time will still start at the scheduled game time and the time delayed will be deducted. A team must start with a **minimum of 7 players** (except Coed; see section 6.1). A team may add an 8th, 9th or 10th player at any time to the bottom of the lineup when play is dead. **Exception:** 1. If the entire team is completing a game on another field, the umpire may delay the game. If a team loses a player for any reason and cannot fill their spot, they become an automatic out. The spot may be refilled at any time. 2. When an umpire deems that a player may not continue, due to application of the Continued Participation Rule (see 2.5), the spot will be passed without penalty. *We reserve the right to modify this rule at any time.*

### **4.3 Time Limit**

**1 hour 10 minutes. No new inning shall be started after the time limit.** The inning must be completed unless both teams agree to terminate the game at any time. It is not mandatory for an umpire to notify teams the amount of time remaining in a game. **In the event of a tie game after the 7<sup>th</sup> inning, teams may play extra innings, however, no new inning may be started with less than 5 minutes left in the time limit.**

#### 4.4 Mercy Rule

A 20-run mercy rule will be in effect after 3 ½ innings. A 15-run mercy rule will be in effect after 4 ½ innings. A 10-run mercy rule will be in effect after 5 ½ innings.

#### 4.5 Pitching

Pitching arc is **3 ft to 10 ft**. The ball must be pitched underhand at a slow speed with a minimum arc of 3 feet before it crosses any part of home plate and a maximum arc of 10 feet above the ground. The speed and the height of the ball are left entirely to the judgment of the umpire. The umpire shall warn a pitcher who delivers a pitch with excessive speed. Repeating such an offense will cause the pitchers removal from the pitching position for the remainder of the game. A pitch that does not arc the full 3ft, may not be an excessive speed pitch! The pitched ball must be released within 5 seconds from the time the pitcher has the ball and the batter has taken their position in the batter's box. Once the pitcher begins the delivery motion, the batter may not request time out. The pitcher may pitch from the Pitching Plate or from the Pitching Area, an area the width of the Plate and up to 6ft behind the Pitcher's Plate.

#### 4.6 Home Run Limits (NEW)

Men's D Rec: 4      Men's E Open: 3      Men's E Rec: 2  
Co-Ed Comp: 4      Co-Ed E Rec: 2      Men's 40+: 2

- Any homerun after the allowed amount will result in an inning ending out.
- Teams are responsible for retrieving their own home run balls hit over the fence and returning them to the umpire before the end of the inning!

#### 4.7 Foul Ball Rule

The foul ball rule is as follows: the batter is out if the batter hits two foul balls after one strike. If the second foul ball after one strike is caught, base runners may not advance. Teams are responsible for retrieving foul balls and returning them to the umpire.

#### 4.8 Additional Hitter

This rule is optional and applicable to **only Men's Leagues!** A team may insert 1-2 additional hitters into the line-up before the start of the game. The batting order must remain constant; however, any 10 of the 11 or 12 players may take a defensive position throughout the game. The A.H. is part of the re-entry rule and may re-enter once. Failure to declare an A.H., prior to the game, precludes the use of the A.H. for that game. If the A.H. is appealed and not officially in the game, this results in an EJECTION of that player. No previous at bats will be penalized.

#### 4.9 Re-Entry Rule

Any of the **starting** players (including additional hitters) may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position. A substitute who has withdrawn may not re-enter! All re-entries must be reported to the umpire and the official scorer. There is no penalty for an unannounced proper re-entry. **Illegal re-entry will result in the original player and substitute player being ejected from the game.**



#### 4.10 Courtesy Runner

If a manager requests a courtesy runner, the opposing manager has the option to grant or deny it on each occasion. If granted, any player may become the new runner. In Co-Ed, the runner must be of the same sex. **Please remember, that this is a “courtesy” granted by the opposing team.**

#### 4.11 Substitution

All substitutes should, as a courtesy, be reported to the umpire and the opposing team before such player enters a game. There is no penalty for unannounced substitution.

### **Section Five – Protest, Eligibility Protest, and Ejections**

#### 5.1 Protest

Umpire judgment calls are not subject to protest! Umpire will discuss disputes on the field with the **manager only**. Players are not to question an umpire’s call or ruling. Only when there is a difference of opinion between the protesting team and the umpire regarding the application or interpretation of a specific playing rule, may a protest be lodged. The protest must be made to the umpire **BEFORE** the next pitch or the protest is **invalid**. In the event of a protest, the game shall be halted to note all of the specifics (team offended, situation, exact rule protested, and any other important information), then the game shall continue. At completion of the game, the protesting manager will bring a copy of the score sheet to the office and inform the office manager of the protest with a \$20 protest fee for investigation of the protest. The office manager will review the protest and make a decision. If the protest is upheld, a date will be selected by the office to continue that game from the POINT of PROTEST. In instances where teams advance to another game that evening (playoffs, tournaments, etc.) the game shall be halted at point of protest and shall continue until a decision has been reached. **WHEN A PROTEST IS UPHELD, the \$20 PROTEST FEE IS RETURNED TO THE TEAM; WHEN A PROTEST IS DENIED, THE FEE WILL BE FORFEITED.**

#### 5.2 Eligibility Protest

No protest will be accepted after the final out of the game. Any eligibility protest must be brought to the attention of the umpire before the game ends. At notification of protest, the umpire will circle and note the protested players name and sign the score sheet along with the protested player. It is the protested manager and player’s responsibility to appear at the office immediately following the game with a copy of the score sheet. The protesting team must post a \$20 protest fee for each player being protested. If a protested player fails to appear after a game, his team will be charged with a forfeit. Players are responsible for having PROPER PICTURE IDENTIFICATION (Drivers License, etc.) in their possession while playing at the Canton Sports Center. All eligible players must be on the team’s roster with a valid signature.

#### 5.3 Ejections

Fake tags, bat throwing, crashing, unsportsmanlike conduct (on or off the field),

use of vulgar language, alcohol in the dugout, consumption of drugs, and/or smoking on the field of play, may result in ejection from the game. **If you are ejected for touching, striking or punching an umpire, opponent, teammate, or CSC staff, there will be an immediate suspension with the assurance that other actions will be taken through the Public Safety Department as deemed necessary.** Teams ejected from the complex for any reason will not be eligible for a refund! The circumstances of their ejection will be reported to the USSSA Michigan & National offices. **Note:** There will NOT be a mandatory warning given to the team before each game. Managers, this is your warning! Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players and fans and are subject to suspension for failure to maintain these responsibilities. **If a player is ejected from the game, they must leave the quad and they may be suspended from future games.** The Sports Center staff will determine player and/or team penalties.

## **Section Six – Coed Rules**

### **6.1 Coed Rules**

**Batting Order:** Co-Ed teams may have any combination of male and female players listed on their roster. Teams must start with a minimum of eight players which requires 4 males & 4 females. Once an 8-team roster is established, a 9<sup>th</sup> player may be added with the 10<sup>th</sup> spot being an out. The 9<sup>th</sup> player addition may be male or female. A team may start with a maximum of 12 players which requires 6 males and 6 females. Once the game begins, the addition of an 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> player is not allowed. If teams start with less than 10 players, they may add players, up to 10, throughout the game. Male and female players must alternate in the batting order. There are no distance restrictions to the fielding positions of any players and there are no restrictions as to the rotation of fielders.

**Balls:** A USSSA licensed 12" mid-compression softball will be used will used.

**Base on Balls:** When a male batter receives a base on balls or intentional walk, he will be awarded first and second base with the next female batter in the line-up having the option to walk or to bat.

**Other Co-Ed Rules:** All playing rules not specifically covered in the above rules shall be governed by Canton Sports Center Rules and Regulations and USSSA rules.

## **Section Seven – Equipment**

### **7.1 Bats, Warm-up Bats, Diamonds, Bases, Gloves, Shoes, Masks, Contact**

#### **Bats**

**Bats must be USSSA approved and require the USSSA stamp.**

USSSA marks and other graphics of the bat must be applied permanently and must be applied by the USSSA licensed manufacturer. **All bats must have the USSSA logo in order to be approved for our leagues.** Please follow the Michigan and National rules at the USSSA websites for details.



**Bats will be requested for testing when:**

1. Any batted ball that is hit up the middle and makes contact with the pitcher qualifies for immediate removal of the bat used. Competitive leagues will use the expanded pitching area of 3 ft on both sides of the mound as the bat safety zone. The bat will then be subject to testing for USSSA compliance. Recreational leagues will use the reaction of the Pitcher and regulation pitching rubber as the testing qualifier. If the bat is found to be altered or illegal, a punishment can include a ban from all USSSA leagues, tournaments, etc. for both the bat owner and the player who hit the ball.
2. Any time a USSSA Umpire or Director asks to test a bat **for any reason**.

### **Bat compression test**

Anyone can have their bat tested at any time Monday-Friday 4:00-9:00 p.m. and all day Saturday and Sunday, to see if it is in compliance with USSSA compression standards. There is no risk of suspension, but if the bat fails it will be recorded into the database by taking a picture and recording the serial number. You will then be warned never to use it in any USSSA play again. If the bat is ever sent in for testing or has ever hit a pitcher, the owner/user will be suspended for an automatic 2 years with no appeal.

### **Penalties of a NON-Conforming bat:**

- A. The owner/user of the bat will be asked to relinquish the bat for testing. If the owner/user refuses, he will receive an automatic TWO-YEAR suspension from USSSA tournaments and leagues with no right to appeal.
- B. If the owner/user agrees for it to be tested, it will be sent into the office for the compression test.
- C. If the bat passes, it will be logged as hit up the middle and returned to the player. If this player hits another ball up the middle that qualifies for compression testing, with the logged passed bat it will be an inning ending out. If this happens again on the same night that player would be ejected for the night and possibly face more suspensions.
- D. If the bat fails **SLIGHTLY**, it will be held until the owner/user participation in a tournament or league game (s) is over, and then returned. However, the bat will have the serial number recorded. The owner/user will be warned never to use it again in any USSSA play. If the owner/user is found to use said bat and is caught in either league or any USSSA play you will receive an automatic (2) two-year suspension.
- E. If a **player is injured with an un-defendable batted ball and the bat fails significantly**, the owner/user will be out of the game, you will be required to give up the bat to be sent out to the manufacture for testing and you will be subject to suspension, length of time determined by Canton Sports Center management. You will also be subject to a 2-year suspension from all USSSA play.
- F. Any Player that touches a bat that injures a player is automatically removed from the game. (Only an Umpire can touch the bat.)
- G. If the bat that injures a player makes its way to the dug-out, the team will forfeit the game.

### **Warm-up Bats, Diamonds, Bases, Gloves, Shoes, Masks, Avoiding Contact**

**WARM-UP BATS:** No donuts, lead bars or fins allowed. Warm-up with bats are only allowed in the on-deck area. No swinging of bats allowed outside of the playing area.

**THE OFFICIAL DIAMONDS:**

**A.** 70-foot baselines shall be used in all adult programs.

**B.** Pitcher's distances of 50 feet for both men and women along with a pitching area the width of the pitcher's plate up to six (6) feet behind the back edge of the pitcher's plate.

**THE BASES:** other than the home plate shall be 15 inches square and not more than 3 inches high. They shall be made of canvas bags, plastic or other suitable materials filled with soft padding. They shall be WHITE, RED or ORANGE in color. All BASES must be securely fastened at their designated places.

**LEGALLY ADOPTED GLOVES:** May be worn by any fielder.

**A.** Catchers and first basemen may wear a glove or mitt of any size; all other players are restricted to a finger type glove with the space between the thumb and forefinger not exceeding more than 4-1/2 inches at the top. The webbing shall not be constructed to form any type net or tray.

**B.** Multicolored gloves are legal.

**SHOES:** shall be considered legal if it is made with either leather or canvas uppers or similar materials. The soles may have soft or hard rubber cleats. Metal cleats are prohibited. Shoe sole or heel projections other than the standard shoe plate are prohibited. The all-purpose molded cleat softball shoe is legal. All players must wear shoes.

***Catchers may wear MASKS:*** EFFECT Sec. 9 **TO PREVENT INJURY**, it is strongly recommended that all protective equipment be worn.

**BASE PATH:** refers to an imaginary line 3 feet to either side of a direct line between two bases. The runner is restricted to the 3-foot line in some cases

**AVOIDING CONTACT:** Whenever the catcher or any fielder clearly has the ball and is waiting to tag the runner, the runner **must slide or attempt to avoid contact**. If, in the umpire's judgment, the runner deliberately and forcefully runs into the defensive player, the runner is declared out and shall be ejected from the game. The ball is declared dead and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.

## **7.2 Uniforms**

**Shirts must be worn while at CSC.** Teams are encouraged to wear jerseys; however, it is not mandatory.

## **7.3 Game Ball**

Each game is given one new ball and a back-up ball before each game.

## **Section Eight – Playoffs & Awards**

### **8.1 Playoffs**

All teams are eligible to compete in the playoffs. Team Managers will be issued a "Playoff Card" the week prior to the last night of league play. This card must be turned into our office by the designated date to compete in the playoffs. Failure to do so will result in the team missing the playoffs. Playoff brackets will be formed once all league play has concluded.

### **8.2 League Awards**

Team and Individual Awards are issued for 1st place. Fifteen individual awards per team. League Team award for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Playoff Winner Awards.



## **Canton Sports Center Player Code of Conduct for Adult Softball Leagues**

Canton Sports Center has adopted the following Player Code of Conduct. These rules will be strictly enforced. Participation in the Adult Sports Program is a privilege and it should be treated as such.

### **Disciplinary Policy**

In our effort to provide fun, safe, and fair competition and quality league play. Our Department has adopted the following disciplinary policies. Each manager/coach should be familiar with the procedures as they will be accountable for informing their team of the rules. Any questions regarding league rules should be addressed prior to the start of the season. Disciplinary problems that occur before, during or after league play involving any coach, manager or player will be addressed immediately and handled in the following manner:

- A. Game officials have complete authority over the game and the players.
- B. Managers (actual or acting) of any ejected player will be notified by the plate umpire that the ejected person has two minutes to leave the playing area. The player must leave the quad and areas immediately surrounding the playing area. The ejected player **must** contact Canton Sports Center staff that evening, either in person or by phone.
- C. Some offenses will carry with them both individual, as well as team punishments.
- D. The following penalties will be in effect:

**Offense Category #1 – Ejection and up to Two Week Suspension\*\***

- **Profanity**
- **Inappropriate Gestures**
- **Excessive Arguing or Poor Sportsmanship**
- **Any flagrant breach of the Field Conduct Rules**
- **Violation of Alcohol Policies** (i.e., alcohol within the dugout area or bringing in outside alcohol)
- **Incomplete Roster / Illegal Participation**
- **In-game use of a failed bat per compression test**
- **Any other behavior determined inappropriate by an official or the League Director**

**Offense Category #2 – Ejection and up to Four Week Suspension\*\***

- **Verbal/Physical Threats to an official or player**
- **Any 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense from Category #1**
- **Any other behavior determined inappropriate by an official or the League Director**

**Offense Category #3 – Ejection and up to One Year Expulsion\*\* from Canton SportsCenter**

- **Any 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense from Category #2**
- **Any 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense from Category #1**
- **Consuming Drugs**
- **Falsifying roster information**
- **Physically Touching a Player in an aggressive manner (Push, poke, bump, hit, etc.)**
- **Swinging at, striking or fighting with another individual**
- **Any action that endangers the safety of any player, coach, official or bystander**

**Offense Category #4 – Ejection and up to Lifetime Ban\*\* from Canton Sports Center**

- **Physically Touching an Official in an aggressive manner (Push, poke, bump, hit, etc.)**
- **Use of an altered or illegal bat; resulting in an injury to a player, coach, official or bystander**

Note: All players should be aware that in any circumstance deemed necessary, Canton Sports Center staff will contact Canton Public Safety. This may result in prosecution, fines, and other legal ramifications including arrest and incarceration.

\*\* All suspensions or expulsions are applicable to the entire facility. A player that has been suspended or expelled from any given night may not participate in other leagues, tournaments or sanctioned activities until the disciplinary period ends.

- E. All offenses require written acknowledgement to be signed by a Canton Sports Center Staff Member as well as the player. League Director will make final decision regarding punishment within 2 business days of the incident.

- F. If a player chooses to appeal the League Director's decision, the following is required:
- \$25 Fee (refundable if the decision is in favor of the player)
  - Player's written account of the incident
  - Two written eyewitness accounts of the incident – one from a teammate and one from an opponent
  - The fee and reports must be filed with the League Director within 2 business days of the final decision.
- G. The player will be suspended from **all play** during the appeal process.
- H. A final decision will be reached by the League Director with due process.

## Special Notes – Appeals Policy

- A. Any player being placed on probation and reported again for violation of the Player Code of Conduct will be suspended for a period of time as determined by the Canton Sports Center Staff and League Director.
- B. Any player removed from a game must leave the playing area immediately. Failure to do so will cause the game to be forfeited and carry a minimal penalty of suspension for the remainder of the season.
- C. Any individual or team that is suspended will have the right to appeal. The individual/team must follow the guidelines set forth in **Part E of the Player Code of Conduct**. There upon an appointment will be setup with the Facility Supervisor and League Director or designee for review. Players/teams notified of reprimand will remain suspended from participation in all leagues until the appeal is finalized. If the suspension is for duration of one week or less (suspension of greater than one week due to a team having a bye or holiday are considered a one week suspension) individuals are allowed to request an appeal process only. This request is to be communication via written correspondence only. A representative of the appeal committee will review the written request and determine if an appeal is warranted. If the committee representative feels that an appeal meeting is warranted, the suspension will be delayed until an appeal decision is heard. It is the player/team's responsibility to appeal in a timely manner (2 business days). Requests for an appeal will be reviewed if submitted to the League Director within two (2) business days after the incident. Individuals/teams waiting longer than two (2) business days before appealing will be denied an appeal request, due to time constraints. Any individual who violates the suspension prior to written confirmation and who claim ignorance of the rules may receive harsher punishments of up to and including permanent suspension. All players are responsible to be aware and abide by all policies. Appeals should include a primary contact phone number. Appeal meetings will be scheduled during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.



## **Canton Township Code of Conduct**

The Charter Township of Canton strives to provide premier facilities, programs and services so that community members have the opportunity to participate in the highest quality of diversified fitness, recreation, social and educational opportunities. Guests and participants are entitled to responsive service in a welcoming, safe and enjoyable atmosphere. At the same time, Canton Leisure Services expects a reasonable and proper behavior from those who visit the facilities and attend programs.

To meet this goal Canton Leisure Services has established this code of conduct. It is the key to good conduct and proper consideration for other people.

### **A. Zero Tolerance**

A zero-tolerance stance will be taken as it relates to criminal behavior.

### **B. Guidelines**

1. Individuals will be advised of their inappropriate behavior or action. If behavior continues the individual may be asked to leave the premises and is subject to suspension. If behavior is severe or potentially life threatening, the individual will not receive a warning and shall be subject to an immediate one-year suspension from the facility or program with no refund of any fees paid. Canton Leisure Services also reserves the right to confiscate annual/daily passes or program registration of anyone whose behavior creates a disturbance for others or for repeated behavioral offenses.
2. If the offending individual is a minor (under the age of 18) the parent/guardian will be contacted for removal from facility or program and suspension.

### **C. Refusal of Admission**

Canton Leisure Services reserves the right to deny admission or service to anyone who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance or in violation of any facility/program rules and regulations.

### **D. Discretionary Rights**

Canton Leisure Services Management reserves the right to make discretionary adjustments to misconduct penalties depending upon the circumstances.

### **E. Appeals**

Individuals may appeal the suspension within two days of notice of the written dated suspension and per the Suspension Review Policy.





## EXAMPLES OF MISCONDUCT AND RESULTING ACTION

NOTE: This list is intended to be used for example only is not all inclusive and subject to discretionary adjustments.

### EXAMPLE MISCONDUCT

### POSSIBLE RESULTING ACTION

Discharge Of Fire Extinguisher  
False Fire Alarm

Up to one year suspension from facility, contact of legal authority (issuance of ticket and trespass notice), financial restitution to recharge or replace extinguisher and to repair any damage to facility.

Punching, Hitting, Fighting,  
Assault and Battery

Minimum of one-year suspension from facility, contact of legal authority (issuance of trespass notice).

Vandalism

One year suspension from facility, contact of legal authority (issuance of tickets and trespass notice) financial restitution to repair damage to facility, equipment or grounds.

Verbal Abuse  
Insubordination Towards A Staff Member

Up to one year suspension from the facility, contact of legal authority (issuance of tickets and trespass notice).

Smoking

Immediate daily suspension from the facility, contact of legal authority if a minor.

Loitering

Contact of legal authority (issuance of trespass notice).

Possession, Sale, Or Distribution  
Of A Controlled Substance

Contact of legal authority (issuance of trespass notice, legal action) permanent suspension from facility.

Unauthorized Entry

Contact of legal authority (issue of trespass notice, legal action) possible suspension from facility.

Unauthorized use of recording device.

Contact of legal authority (issue of trespass notice, legal action) suspension from facility.

### **F. Suspension Policy and Review Procedure**

Violation of the Leisure Services Code of Conduct may result in a suspension from a Leisure Services facility/program. The suspended individual shall receive a written notice of

suspension citing the reason for suspension and a trespass notice. If the individual visits the property/program during the notice, a warrant will be issued for their arrest.

The suspended person (or their guardian) shall have the right to an appeal via telephone or scheduled meeting within two business days of the date of the suspension notice. The appeal shall be made to the applicable management representative. If the appeal is denied, then the appeal process shall continue to the next management level within two business days of each denial in the following order:

- a. Full Time Supervisory Staff Member issuing the suspension
- b. Applicable Division Supervisor
- c. Applicable Division Manager
- d. Leisure Services Director

Failure to request an appeal within the specified time will terminate the appeal process. If the suspension is upheld through this appeal process, the individual may request a hearing before the Suspension Review Board as a final resort as follows:

### **Suspension Review Board Procedure**

1. Suspended individual (or their guardian) shall submit a written request for review within seven business days from the Leisure Services Directors decision.
2. A meeting with the Review Board shall be scheduled within five business days of the receipt of the request. The Review Board shall consist of any three citizen members from the Leisure Services Advisory Committee with any one member presiding as chairperson.
3. Leisure Services staff shall provide a copy of all reports, data, and documents surrounding the incident and verbally present the facts in support of the suspension.
4. The suspended individual (or their guardian) shall have the right to present facts in opposition to the suspension.
5. The Review Board shall review all information and announce their decision within two business days.
6. Review Board may decide to:  
Uphold the original suspension  
Uphold the suspension with a modification  
1.3.3 Overturn the suspension
7. All decisions of the Review Board are final.
8. The suspension shall remain in effect pending the appeal and review board process. The suspended individual may not visit the Canton Leisure Services facility/program from which they were suspended.