XAVIER UNIVERSITY SUMMER SOFTBALL

GENERAL RULES

1) Any team failing to report and ready to play within five (5) minutes of the scheduled starting time shall forfeit to their opponents.

2) Any unsportsmanlike conduct, including arguments with officials (the captain is the only player permitted to talk with the officials) by any coach, manager, or spectator, flagrant fouling, fighting, etc. will result in expulsion of that individual and/or team from further participation in that scheduled game.

3) A PLAYER SUSPENDED FROM THE GAME FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT MUST LEAVE THE FIELD IMMEDIATELY, AND WILL BE DECLARED INELIGIBLE FOR HIS/HER TEAM’S NEXT PLAYED GAME. FAILURE TO LEAVE RESULTS IN AN IMMEDIATE FORFEITURE. ANY SECOND OCCURRENCE OF UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT BY A TEAM WILL RESULT IN THAT TEAM BEING ELIMINATED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON.

4) Any disputed discussions based on rules (not judgment) will be solved on the field at the time the dispute occurs even though it involves checking the official rule guide and/or getting an official interpretation from the Assistant Director. Read The Xavier University Intramural Handbook for proper time and methods of protesting.

5) Only officials, players (including substitutes) and one coach per team wearing proper attire are permitted on the field. NO TOBACCO USAGE AT XU EVENTS. Failure to comply with all Rules and Regulations for Softball by spectators will result in immediate expulsion of the spectators and possible forfeiture of the game.

6) Teams are not permitted to be on the field until 10 MINUTES BEFORE their game time. Any team failing to comply will be penalized 1 run and the game will begin with the opponent being awarded their choice of field or at bat. Continued disregard for this regulation will result in the team being eliminated for the remainder of the season.

7) Any unnecessary horseplay or dangerous actions will not be tolerated at any time during intramural softball. The violator will be SUSPENDED from playing in the game that night and the next scheduled game. If the violation is after the game is over, a like penalty will carry over to the next game. Continued disregard for this regulation will result in the team being eliminated for the remainder of the season.

8) No alcoholic beverages will allowed on the playing field. Excessive alcohol consumption will not be tolerated. Any violator will face the penalty listed in #7 and posible police action.

9) Equipment provided for use in XUIM Programmed events is very expensive; therefore, any unnecessary abuse will result in the team being charged replacement costs for new equipment and must be paid before the team may continue to play.

10) PLAYER EQUIPMENT: Head decorations, headwear, and/or jewelry of any kind (rings, watches, necklaces) are illegal. Headbands no wider than two inches (2”) made of nonabrasive, unadorned, cloth, fiber, soft leather, or rubber are legal. Headbands (just described) and rubber (elastic) bands to control the hair are the only legal pieces of equipment on the head. Barrettes or any other soft hair control devices, including ribbons are illegal. NO METAL SPIKES!

11) Be sure your team has a copy of The Intramural Rules and Regulations and follows it. If you do not have a copy, ask for it at The Recreational Sports office.
GENERAL SOFTBALL RULES

THE GAME WILL BE PLAYED ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL FEDERATION SOFTBALL RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS/MODIFICATIONS:

1) The game will consist of seven (7) innings or 60 minutes. Any inning that has been started will be finished prior to being called final based on the time limit.

2) If any team is ahead by more than fifteen (15) runs after the fourth (4th) inning the game will be called final. If any team is ahead by more that ten (10) runs after the fifth (5th) inning the game will be called final.

3) Unlimited substitutions are allowed, but must be reported to the umpire.

4) Stealing and bunting are not allowed. Runners may not lead off the bases or they will be called out.

5) A runner must slide on closely contested plays at all bases (except first) or they may be called out for interference and/or unsafe play.

6) The pitcher must deliver the ball underhand. All pitches are limited arch and must be between six (6) feet and twelve (12) feet above the ground. Any pitch that does not fall within this height requirement will be called “illegal” by the umpire and be automatically counted as a ball. The batter may swing at an “illegal” pitch, but the automatic ball rule will no longer in effect.

7) An at bat consists of 4 balls and 3 strikes, with every at bat starting with a 1-1 count.

8) A team can bat through the order more than once in an inning. However, there will be a 15 run per inning maximum per team, except for the last inning where there will be no maximum.

9) Ground Rules will be covered prior to each game.

10) No Double or Triple Wall Bats are allowed. All bats must be ASA or USSSA Softball Certified with a 1.20 bpf rating.

11) Balls will be provided by the XU Intramural Department.

12) Each team in the Alumni League is responsible for a $10 per game Umpires Fee. This fee must be collected BEFORE the game can start and payment must be in cash.

13) Each team in the Intern League is responsible for a $10 per game Umpires Fee. This fee must be collected BEFORE the game can start and payment must be in cash.

14) Each team in the Faculty/Staff League is responsible for a $10 per game Umpires Fee. This fee must be collected BEFORE the game can start and payment must be in cash.

RULE CHANGES AND CLARIFICATIONS

1. When applicable, ground rule doubles will be called at the discretion of the umpire, provided a strong play for the ball has been made.
2. For a player to be eligible for playoffs, that player must be on the roster and have played in a minimum of two regular season games.

COED MODIFICATIONS

TEAM: A team shall be composed of five (5) men and five (5) women. A team can start with no less than eight (8) players, and must be four (4) males and four (4) females. A team can never have less than six (6) players or else the game will be declared a forfeit. At no time can there be more males than females on the field.

HITTING: Batting orders must be in alternating order (i.e.: male-female). Each team may only field 10 players, however, 10 or more players can bat in an inning as long as those players are a male and female and the number of batters is still an even number. If there is an uneven number of batters the following rules apply: 1) If there are at least 8 batters, then batters must alternate male/female. 2) If there are less than 8 batters, then the at-bat team must take an out each time the missing batter comes up in the order. No designated hitters are allowed. If a male batter is issued a walk, the following female batter may elect to take first base.

BASE RUNNING: All batters must run the base-path until that play is dead. Pinch runners are allowed and shall be the last player to have been put out. Pinch runners must be the same sex as the player they are running for (i.e.: male for male, female for female).

FIELD POSITIONS: Each team must have three (3) males and three (3) females positioned in the infield. The pitcher and the catcher must be of the opposite sex. Each team must have two (2) males and two (2) females in the outfield. Infield and outfield positions must also alternate male and female.

SOFTBALL IS A CONTACT SPORT AND INJURIES ARE A POSSIBILITY. PARTICIPATION IN ALL XUIM EVENTS IS VOLUNTARY. THE RECREATIONAL SPORTS DEPARTMENT & THE XUIM PROGRAM ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR PHYSICAL and/or MENTAL INJURIES.

ALL PARTICIPANTS: PLAY AT YOUR OWN RISK