



TOURNAMENT RULES –
PLAY FOR THE CURE™ AUGUST 14 - 16, 2009
LINDA L. VLADYKA BREAST WELLNESS FOUNDATION

1. Games will be played according to the 2009 Official Slow Pitch Rule Book and National By-laws rules and regulations of the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) except as listed below. **ALL TEAMS MUST BE REGISTERED AS A USSSA TEAM PRIOR TO START OF TEAM FIRST GAME. IF YOUR TEAM IS NOT REGISTERED YOUR TEAM MAY NOT PLAY AND YOU WILL FORFEIT UNTIL YOU REGISTER. You must register prior to your first game.**
2. **TIME:** All games will be a maximum of 65 minutes in duration. Umpires timepiece is official time. No new innings will start after 60 minutes. If a game is not completed within 65 minutes officials will go to "drop dead" with the current inning to be completed and score to stand at the end of that inning.
3. **EQUIPMENT - BATS:** Only USSSA approved bats are to be used. In the event of any controversy, final decision will be up to the head umpire and tournament director. NO METAL CLEATS.
4. **Team Roster/Line Ups:** Teams may bat their submitted official rosters. Any player listed on the lineup may enter defensively without penalty (not considered a substitution) as long as team maintains an equal number of males and females on the defensive field. Rosters submitted on Saturday are final except for: Only during tournament play, 2 pick up players (non-rostered) may be used per game and **ONLY in order to avoid a forfeit for lack of a legal line up.** Players may be picked up from teams who have been eliminated, but not from teams who are still in contention. This rule applies to women's and coed teams. If a women's team is still in contention and her coed team has been eliminated, these women may be picked up for coed play, but not for a women's team. You must fill out the USSSA add/drop form if you pick up players. **Short handed rule:** Teams must have 8 players to start, may add the 9th and 10th player at any time; may only add additional players after 10 if the line up has not batted through, otherwise they may only enter the game as substitutes. **INJURY OR EMERGENCY:** Game will continue with less than 8 players due to an injury or emergency, but team will take an out whenever batting males back to back. Females may bat back to back at the bottom of the order with no penalty. **Ejection:** If an ejection causes a team to drop below 8 players, they must take an out for the ejected player even if there is a sub available, but may choose to finish the game. An offensive ejection substitute may not bat, but may play defense. Coed rules will use the appropriate rulebook with the exception of the following:
 - There is not a restriction to where males and females are put on defense.
 - There is no creep line.
 - There is no overplay rule in effect.
 - Teams may bat their rosters.
 - If you start with at least 8 players, then no outs will be taken.
 - The 12" ball will be used when males hit and the 11" ball when females hit. If the wrong ball is used, the batting team has the option to take the result of the play or to bat again resuming the ball and strike count prior to the pitch resulting in the play.
 - The batting order must alternate sexes until all males are used. An out will be taken when an odd number is used and two males bat back to back. No out will be taken for women at the bottom of the order that bat back to back.
 - When using an odd number of players, a team may only have one more male than female but may have as many females as desired. Example: 6 male, 5 female or 6 male and 10 female is acceptable. However, 7 male and 5 female is not acceptable.
5. **NO** uniform or number requirement.
6. **Coed Walk Rule** – A male batter who is walked with three balls and no strikes gets second base and the woman who follows him in the line up does **NOT** have a choice to walk. She must bat. A male batter who gets three balls and one strike is only awarded first base.

7. **Homerun Rule: COED: 2 per gender. WOMEN: 3** over the fence homeruns. Batter is ruled **OUT** for any over the fence homeruns in excess of allowed number. For a fair fly ball hit over the fence for a homerun, batter and any runners on base do not need to touch the bases and should go directly to the dugout area for the sake of time.

8. **ZERO TOLERANCE for unsportsmanlike conduct.** The Code of Conduct is in effect (see attached). Coaches inform your players!

9. **Mercy Rule – 15 runs after the 5th inning. No flip flop in pool games. Flip flop option in bracket play is up to the home team and will be determined at plate talk prior to game start.**

10. All team officials and players and umpires participating in the tournament will do so at their own risk. Tournament Officials, Oregon USSSA, Wallace Marine Park, the City of Salem, or The Linda L. Vladyka Foundation will not be held responsible for any injuries during the tournament.

11. Teams will play 3 pool games which will seed into brackets.

Seed from pool to bracket will be based on your win/loss record first, then **least number of runs allowed**, and finally by a coin toss. Ties will be based on this order: Win/Loss record, head to head, **least number of runs allowed** and coin flip. Tournament play is SINGLE ELIMINATION.

12. **HALO RULE** – The local halo rule **IS** in effect. A batted line drive passing within 12 inches of the left or right side of the pitcher or over the pitching rubber or within 12 inches of the pitcher's head is an out. This is an umpire's judgment call.

13. Please make sure that the sponsored game balls are returned to the umpires at the end of each game and that your scorekeeper or manager checks to make sure that the umpire recorded your scores correctly.

Code of Conduct

League and tournament play in Salem operates under a code of conduct. All participants and spectators are expected to abide by this code of conduct while at Wallace Marine Park or any event put on by Play for the Cure™. This is a fundraising event and unsportsmanlike conduct, violence, threat of violence and profanity will not be tolerated.

Organized softball in Salem will apply the profanity rule. This rule is endorsed by USSSA.

Umpires have the authority and are encouraged to control their games by enforcing the code of conduct and by ejecting a player from the game and potentially from the park. Outlined below are behaviors that will not be tolerated:

- Endangering other people such as throwing bats, ball or any other equipment.
- Inappropriate physical contact with anyone.
- Inappropriate gestures to anyone.
- Intoxication.
- Intentional delay of the game.
- Excessive arguing.
- Profanity.
- Violence.
- Disturbing the peace.

Additionally, Play for the Cure™ may permanently suspend a participant from playing in future tournaments, special events or facilities for fighting, striking or threatening an umpire, competitor, spectator or any City of Salem employee or Play for the Cure™ volunteer.

Anyone who removes, alters, vandalizes or destroys any equipment, property or record belonging to the City of Salem will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and required to pay for damages. These actions will also result in permanent expulsion from future participation of any kind with which Play for the Cure is involved.

Refunds will not be given to tournament, special event, individual event spectators, coaches, manager or players if any Code of Conduct rules are broken.

In protecting the City of Salem of any liability, if the code of conduct is broken, the violator will be asked to leave immediately and the police will be called. The violator will be suspended and granted a one time appeal that will involve members of the Play for the Cure Advisory Board, the victim, the coach and/or manager and the team sponsor. Upon, this input the Executive Director will make the final decision.

Wallace Marine Sports Complex Rules

- All games are being played at Wallace Marine Sports Complex in Salem – 200 Glen Creek Rd. NW, Salem, OR 97304
- Team warm up area is in the foul territory only. No infield BP unless authorized by Tournament Director
- No outside alcohol is allowed in the complex.
- Beer is available to purchase at the concession stand; however, it must be consumed within the complex.
- No animals are allowed in the complex.
- No scooters or bicycles are allowed in the complex.
- No cooler/ ice chests, cans or glass bottles allowed in the complex (One Team Cooler is allowed).
- No overnight parking is allowed. Gates will be locked at end of play.

From the City of Salem Softball City USA website <http://softballcityusa.com/>:

Wallace Marine
Softball Complex Rules
Please observe the
following:

- **No Outside Food**
- No Coolers / Ice Chests
(One team cooler allowed.)
- No Smoking within Complex
(Designated areas provided.)
- No Cans and Glass Bottles
- No Fireworks
- No Overnight Camping
- No Animals and Pets
- No Bicycling
- No Skateboarding
- No Rollerblading
- No Large Riding Toys
- No Noise Making Toys