



Adult Sports Office

Fact Sheet for 2008 Softball League End-of Year Tournament of Champions

A. Date & Time

Saturday, November 15 – Sunday, November 16, 2008 (depending on number of teams entered). Games will start at approximately **8:30 a.m.**

B. Format

Double elimination format will be used. All teams will be guaranteed two games.

C. Game Fields

All games will be played at the Heritage Yards at Plano Softball Complex, 4525 Hedgcoxe Road.

D. Entry Fee

Fee will be **\$180.00** per team payable at the time of registration. The City of Plano will accept cash, personal or business check, money order, MasterCard, VISA, and Discover.

E. Registration

Registration will open on **Tuesday, May 27, 2008**, and will close at the end of business on **Tuesday, November 11, 2008**. A check should be made out to the **City of Plano** and should include your **driver's license number**. A receipt will be sent or given to you upon receipt of your payment. Choose **one** of two ways to register:

Download registration form from our website at www.planoparks.org (click on Sports link, then Adult Sports, and scroll down to the Softball section). Print out form and fax it with credit card information to **972-941-7469**. It is strongly recommended that you call **972-941-7278** to verify our receipt of your fax.

Bring in registration form with cash, check, money order, or credit card to the Adult Sports Office, Municipal Center South, **1409 Avenue K** in Plano, **Monday – Friday, from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** or to **Heritage Yards Softball Complex** from **6:30 – 10:00 p.m.** on nights when league games are being played.

F. Eligibility

League champions from the **Spring, Summer, and Fall 2008** City of Plano adult softball leagues and the **End-of-Season Tournament** champions of the **Spring, Summer, and Fall 2008** seasons are eligible to register for the **End-of Year Tournament of Champions**. Teams must have a **league** roster on file in order to register for the tournament.

G. Divisions

Men's AA, Men's A, Coed AA, and Coed A divisions will be offered. Teams must register for the Tournament of Champions in the highest division in which they qualify.

Example: If a team wins a Men's A league in the Spring and a Men's AA league in the Fall, this team must register in the Men's AA division of the Tournament of Champions.

H. Uniforms

Teams must wear jerseys of the same color with permanent numbers on the back at least 6" high.

I. Rosters

Teams will be bound by the league roster. Team rosters will be frozen upon completion of their sixth (6th) league game. Adult Sports staff will file the completed rosters of all league champions at the end of each season.

Random I.D. checks will be performed throughout the tournament. All participants must be able to produce picture identification issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety when asked by the Tournament Director.

If a player is not able to produce proper identification when asked, that player will not be allowed to participate in the tournament until he/she is able to do so.

If a player is participating in a game and is not able to produce proper identification when asked, that player will not be allowed to continue to participate and will have until the end of the game to provide proper identification. If the player still cannot provide proper identification once the game has been completed, the player will be considered an illegal player.

Any team found using an illegal player will be immediately disqualified from the tournament and will forfeit any and all remaining games.

Any team found using an illegal player will forfeit any and all awards it may have received. All forfeited awards will be given to the next highest finishing team in the tournament.

J. Pick-Up Players

Teams **will** be allowed to add up to **two (2) players prior** to the Tournament of Champions. Teams may not add players until the completion of league play, and all Player Addition Forms must be filed **prior** to the team's **first** game of the tournament. Managers may get a copy of the tournament Player Addition Form from the Heritage Yards Office.

K. Manager's Meeting / Tournament Draw

Teams are strongly encouraged to have a representative at the rule meeting and tournament draw scheduled for **7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12, 2008**, at the **Heritage Yards at Plano Softball Complex**.

Tournament brackets will be available the afternoon of **Thursday, November 13, 2008**. Staff will e-mail a copy of the tournament bracket to all participating team managers.

L. Rules

Amateur Softball Association rules will govern all tournament games subject to modifications stated in the City of Plano Adult Softball League By-Laws.

Games will be 55 minutes in length. Games will start on time. Teams and players must be ready to play at game time. The championship games will be seven (7) innings in length with no time limit.

One (1) home run will be allowed in the Men's AA and Coed AA divisions. Zero (0) home runs will be allowed in the Men's A and Coed A divisions. All home runs (over the fence) in excess of home run limit will result in a dead ball, the batter will be out, and no runners may advance.

M. Game Balls

The City of Plano will NOT furnish ANY game balls.

Each team will supply a playable game ball to the umpires at the home plate meeting. **Umpires must be able to read the specs on the ball.**

Coed teams will play with 12-inch (men's) **and** 11-inch (women's) balls. Men's leagues will play with 12-inch balls.

Each team will hit the ball it provides.

Balls must be **COR .44** and **375 compression** and **ASA approved**. **Stitching can be any color.**

N. Protests

All protests will be handled on the field prior to the continuation of the game. All rulings of the Umpire-in-Chief are final and non-reversible.

1. Rule Interpretation Protests

- a. Protests will **not** be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of a judgment on the part of an umpire.
- b. Only protests involving the **misinterpretation** of a playing rule will be allowed.
- c. Teams wishing to protest the misinterpretation of a playing rule must:
 1. Notify the home plate umpire stating the reason for the protest prior to:
 - a. the next pitch **OR**
 - b. all infielders having left fair territory, if on the last play of an inning **OR**
 - c. the umpires having left the playing field, if on the last play of the game.
- d. All protests will be ruled on by City Staff and the Umpire-in-Chief at the time of the protest.

- e. It is recommended that both teams keep a scorebook. The home team's book will serve as the official scorebook from which standings and records will be recorded.

2. Eligibility Protests

- a. Eligibility protests will **not** be accepted before, during, or after the tournament. Tournament staff will perform random ID checks throughout the tournament (please see Section I – Rosters).

O. Forfeits

Games will begin at the scheduled time, and the clock will be started. **In the event a team does not have the required number of players to begin the game, that team will automatically become the visiting team and will bat first.** The game will continue to be played until such time as there are no longer any eligible batters **or** the team does not have the minimum number of required players upon the completion of the third out. At that point the game will be forfeited.

P. Rainouts

Call the rain-out phone number at **972-941-7278 after 7:30 a.m.** in the event of inclement weather **or** check the **Message Board** on our website at www.planoparks.org (click on Sports, Adult Sports, Schedules/Standings and Message Board).

Q. Make-Ups

In the event that the tournament is canceled due to inclement weather, it will be rescheduled for **Saturday, November 22, 2008**, depending on field availability. Teams will be given the option of obtaining a refund or leaving the money on account if the tournament is rescheduled or canceled.

R. Awards

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| Champions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Team trophy or plaque2) 15 custom-made long-sleeved t-shirts3) 12 Worth bat bags4) One free entry into a City of Plano Adult Softball League during the 2009 Spring, Summer, or Fall seasons only |
| Runner-up | <ul style="list-style-type: none">1) One team trophy or plaque |

S. Questions

Contact the **Adult Sports Office** at **972-941-7278** between **8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday** **or** the **Heritage Yards Office** at **972-712-3930** between **6:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.** when games are being played. You may also send an e-mail to Gregg Gagnon, Adult Sports Supervisor, at gregg@plano.gov.