

# Program & Rules 2022 Season

We welcome you to the 2022 Wausau Area Softball Association, Inc., season. We look forward to seeing you all on the fields this summer and hope that if you have any concerns, feedback, or questions, feel free to contact us. All of WASA's contact information is located at [www.wausauareasoftball.com](http://www.wausauareasoftball.com).

## WASA IMPORTANT DATES

<p>February or Early March</p>	<p><b><i>Annual Membership Meeting</i></b>            Look for announcements in posts on Facebook and notices on our website at <a href="http://www.wausauareasoftball.com">www.wausauareasoftball.com</a>. At this meeting, members elect league representatives for the upcoming year, WASA shares financial status information, rule changes are discussed, and we welcome members to share feedback, suggestions, and concerns to allow for open discussion and possible overall league improvements.</p> <p>The Annual Membership meeting also serves as a season kickoff where Team Entries will be accepted starting on this date. The TEAM ENTRY can be found on TeamSnap, and the Team Entry Fee payment can be made there or by check to WASA at PO Box 285, Wausau WI 54402. Any special requests will be taken in the order they are received.</p>
<p>April</p>	<p><b><i>Team Manager's Meetings</i></b>            Each team manager or a representative of each team should attend. Discussions will include final league alignments, awards for the season, and any other league issues or concerns as they arise.</p>
<p>First or Second Sunday in May</p>	<p><b><i>Team Day</i></b>            This day serves as a supply and schedule distribution day. On this day, schedules and any other new information for the manager is passed out. Team rosters with player signatures on TeamSnap and player fees are due. Payment is to be in the form of a check, no cash please. Team Day will be the last meeting scheduled prior to the start of play in May. Players not signed on your team roster can be added throughout the season at the concession stand or through your league director or association officer.</p>
<p>September 2022</p>	<p><b><i>Season Finale Membership Meeting</i></b>            We have received a lot of feedback from various managers and players that could result in some great program improvements. WASA wanted to create a forum in which all of these ideas can be discussed in detail and work towards some possible changes to be implemented for seasons to come.</p> <p>This meeting would be open to all members similar to the Annual Membership Meeting. The reason we want to plan this meeting for September is because the season will conclude in August and all of us will be fresh off the season making it an opportune time to share and discuss ideas. We hope to see you all there. Keep an eye open for emails, texts, facebook posts, and/or website posts for announcement of the date for this meeting.</p>

## **CONCESSION STAND**

The concession stand operations help WASA sustain financial soundness along with manager and player participation. Your support is key and critical in allowing us as an organization to keep the concession stand open during the season. To encourage your patronage, we try to offer a variety of items on our menu at reasonable prices. Because the concession stand is centrally located at Sunnyvale Park, players and their fans can pick up snacks and refreshments before, during, and/or after games. Any requests or suggestions are welcome and anyone can do so by contacting the concession operator, league directors, and/or the association officers.

We will continue to offer the "Pitcher Special" throughout the season. If you purchase a pitcher of any Pepsi or beer, you will receive a card. Get this card stamped by the concession stand operators every time you purchase a pitcher. After you have collected 7 stamps, your 8<sup>th</sup> pitcher is FREE. This is our way of saying "Thank you" for your patronage and for joining WASA.

**The Sunnyvale Concession Stand is for your convenience.**

**MARATHON COUNTY ordinance restricts CARRY-INS.**

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE WASA CONCESSION STAND during your time out at Sunnyvale.**

**COUNTY ORDINANCE #19.07 PROHIBITS PETS at the softball grounds.**

## **RAINOUTS**

### ***INCLEMENT WEATHER***

In instances of wet ground and/or rainy weather, the designated WASA Official will make the decision as to whether or not the grounds are suitable for play. Team MANAGERS will receive a text message from a WASA Official one hour before each day's scheduled games for RAIN OUT or RAIN DELAYED start times. Rainout information will also be posted on the WASA Facebook page and [www.wausauareasoftware.com](http://www.wausauareasoftware.com) as soon as possible. Delayed starts are possible, so if the weather is questionable, please check with your team manager or online. Once games have started, the umpire will make the determination on the safety of continuation.

### ***RAINOUT RESCHEDULING***

When a game is rained-out, team managers of both affected teams have up to one week to reschedule the game on their own. CHECK THE CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR OPEN TIMES TO RESCHEDULE YOUR RAINED OUT GAMES. The team managers can pinpoint a day and time that will work for both teams and then should contact their league director to confirm suitability of the date and time selected. If not done so, a league director will contact you after a week to reschedule your rained out game. The games can be scheduled for any day of the week, but every effort will be made to play the games on the same night of the normal league.

Games that have not been replayed for any reason as of August 1<sup>st</sup> will be rescheduled as soon as possible with those affecting standings given the priority. Any rainout or other make-up games after August 1<sup>st</sup> will be rescheduled by the league director or WASA Board immediately.

### ***NOTIFICATION OF MAKE-UP GAMES***

These notifications will be posted on the bulletin board at Sunnyvale on a regular basis and on TeamSnap. Postings of such games will also be made on the website and Facebook page. Direct notification to the team managers will not/may not happen, so it is the team managers' responsibility to keep their teams informed. If a team plans to forfeit a rain make-up game, they must give the league director at least 48-72 hours' notice prior to the game date to avoid a forfeit fee. If it should rain on the make-up game date, then the voluntary forfeit will stand. FORFEIT FEE is \$50.00.

### **TORNADO**

For the safety of all players and fans, EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT & PARKS DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES will be posted at all times on the bulletin board at Sunnyvale Park and in the Concession Stand. A tornado WATCH puts the public on alert. A tornado WARNING, if accompanied by sirens, will result in ALL ACTIVITY CEASING IMMEDIATELY at Sunnyvale and the Concession Stand will close. Anyone and everyone at Sunnyvale Park during the issuance of a tornado WARNING will be advised to take cover immediately. It is strongly advised that in this situation, you do not leave the park in your car. Please familiarize yourself with the directions for these types of situations. YOUR SAFETY is our #1 concern. When the storm has passed, exercise extreme caution just in case the storm has resulted in downed power lines, shattered glass, splintered wood, and any other dangerous objects that may litter the grounds.

## **GENERAL RULES OF PLAY**

### ***DELAY OF GAME***

The first game of the night will be allowed a 10-minute grace period to make an 8 player team. Subsequent games thereafter shall be ready immediately after conclusion of the preceding game if the game end time surpasses the next scheduled game time.

To prevent delay of game start times, games that reach a league established time limit will be considered complete regardless of the number of innings played. If the score is tied when the time limit is reached, then the game will continue beyond the time limit until a winner is determined.

Injury Delays – If an injury occurs on the field during play, the umpire will make the determination if the injury is serious enough to allow game stoppage or if the injury is such that the injured player can be removed from the field. Play should continue if the injured player can be removed from the field and a replacement player can be provided. Discretion will be used to allow a reasonable amount of time to offset any delay of this nature.

Rain or Inclement Weather Delays – If games are delayed due to rain, the umpire(s) are required to wait at least 30 minutes unless, prior to the conclusion of 30 minutes, the fields have in their opinion become unplayable as a result of the rain. At that point, the game will be suspended and will continue at a later date from the exact point in which the game was originally suspended. Exception to this rule will be when the home team is leading at the conclusion of 4 ½ innings to which then the game will be considered complete. Full games will be played in any tournament or playoff game.

For weather related game delays and/or games delayed for other reasons such as light failure, the umpire(s) can delay a game for a maximum of one hour. For any other game delays caused by situations determined to put the players and/or fans in danger, umpires are empowered to suspend the game. Similarly, games will be played from the exact point of the suspension when resumed. Games delayed as a result of a Tornado Warning, when sirens sound at Sunnyvale, are considered suspended games and the same rules apply.

## **FORFEITS**

Other than stated above, no league games may be postponed for any other reason. If conflicts arise for any other reason, games can be rescheduled by submitting minimally a three days' notice to the League Secretary and if the game is played in advance of the originally scheduled game date. The only exception to this rule is if a team has members playing in the WIAA State Tournament. No exceptions to this rule will be granted in the cases for the end of the season or playoff games.

If a team decides to forfeit any scheduled league game, they must advise the Secretary in writing at least three days before the scheduled game to eliminate playing a forfeit fee. If sufficient notice is not given, penalties will apply.

The penalty will be \$50.00 per forfeit. If any forfeit fee is not paid before the affected team's next game, the team will be dropped from that league. Fees still due by the conclusion of the season will carry over by that team and/or rostered players to the next season.

Any team who forfeits a game in any tournament will be barred from competing in that tournament the following year, and if a member of one of the WASA leagues, they will also be barred from competing in the WASA league the following year. This action is appealable through the WASA Board of Directors.

## **OFFICIAL GAME BALL**

Two game balls will be provided by the scorekeeper at the start of every game, of which, one new and one gently used ball. The home team no longer is required to provide a ball. At the conclusion of the game, both balls will be returned to the scorekeepers to be stored in the scorekeepers box at each field.

## **PRACTICES & WARM-UPS**

Teams are allowed to conduct practices, warm-ups, and/or batting practices prior to games in the OUTFIELD ONLY. There is to be no activity conducted on the infield until the game officially starts. Teams can also warm-up in the designated areas between the fields. This is to ensure the safety of the fans in the bleachers and other areas.

Pitcher Warm-ups – All slow pitch pitchers in both men and women's leagues will be allowed one warm-up. Fastpitch pitchers will be allowed three warm-ups. Relief pitchers in slow pitch will receive three warm-ups and fast pitch will receive five warm-ups.

## **LEAGUE RULES**

1. In the WASA league or tournament play, use of bats on the USA softball banned list will not be allowed. The list of banned bats can be viewed on [www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/certified-equipment](http://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/certified-equipment) . Penalties for violations will be assessed per USA softball rules regarding illegal bats.
2. A division will consist of a minimum of four teams and a maximum of twelve teams. If entries for any division exceed twelve teams, the division will be divided. The league director with the help of the WASA Board will make assignments to divided divisions. Any exceptions must be approved by the WASA Board.
3. Winners will be determined by a win/loss record. Ties will be resolved by Runs Allowed, then Runs Scored, then a coin flip.
4. The official USA Softball Rule Book will govern any area not specifically mentioned in the WASA Rules.
5. The WASA Board may draw additional rules on a year-to-year basis for specific leagues as warranted.

## **MISCELLANEOUS RULES**

Other than the batter on deck, all other players and team equipment must remain in non-game playing areas.

Batters and all players on base must run the bases after a home run is hit, except in Men's 12" Slow Pitch in 2019 and beyond for home runs hit over the fence.

Line-ups must be ready and managers are required to exchange line-ups upon request before game time.

Teams must start with a minimum of eight players and not have less than eight players on the field at all times. Any players arriving late must go to the bottom of the batting order. Team line up can expand or contract freely within league limits. No delays are allowed unless a single night add-on must be used to reach the eight player minimum. Those games must be played in their entirety with the eight players.

Casts and other such items with solid or mechanical components must be covered by soft material and taped.

## **ALCOHOL**

Consumption of alcoholic beverages by participants, playing or not, is not permitted during any game. This rule includes those players in the dugout. Players, whether actively playing, subs in the dugout, and/or coaches/managers, and scorekeepers are not permitted to consume or have in their possession any alcoholic beverages at any time in the dugouts, areas adjacent to the dugouts, or in the stands during any game. Umpires will use discretion, but will hold firm to these rules for everyone's safety. Any warnings issued will be reported to the scorekeeper who will record the warning for possible action by the WASA Board of Directors.

## **PARTICIPANT ETIQUETTE & BEHAVIOR**

The goal of every WASA season is to have some fun, friendly, and competitive play, so in order to do so, everyone involved, including the players, managers, coaches, umpires, and fans, need to conduct themselves in a respectful manner to each and every one.

Keep mindful of the following:

1. This is a game.
2. Umpires are human. NOBODY is perfect.
3. Players, Managers, and Fans are here because they enjoy softball.

## **PROFANITY**

WASA has adopted a CASUAL PROFANITY RULE. This rule provides a lesser penalty for those situations in which profanity was used in a non-directive manner. These types of violations occur when expletives are not directed at an umpire or opposing team player, but spoken by a player, manager, or coach out of frustration with themselves, a teammate, or a fan.

Penalty for such instances are as follows:

- If the offending team is at bat, the umpire will declare a team out and play will continue.
- If the offending team is on the field, the umpire will declare a team out to be assessed at that team's next at bat.
- It is possible to incur more than one team penalty resulting in multiple outs per inning. In this case, the offending team could come to bat with more than one or two outs as a result, or lose their at bat entirely for an inning.
- Team outs will be treated as delayed dead ball situations.

## **EJECTIONS & SUSPENSIONS**

Unacceptable behavior punishable by ejections and/or suspensions are as follows, but not limited to profanity and fighting.

Players, managers, coaches, and/or scorekeepers for teams that are swearing boisterously, will be ejected from the game if playing, or from any area associated with the team if other than a player. Imposing a penalty of this nature can be done so without any warning. Anyone ejected must leave the field and its surrounding area immediately. This and other ejections will require an umpire's report. Multiple ejections due to profanity during a single season will result in additional penalties:

- SECOND Ejection – two game suspension, umpire's report, WASA Board notification.
- THIRD Ejection – suspension for the season, if this offense occurs after the ninth game of the season, then the player is suspended for the entire next year's season, umpires report, WASA Board notification.

Ejections and suspensions can be the result of other unacceptable behavior by players, managers, coaches, umpires, scorekeepers, and/or fans.

- Fighting between players will result in a suspension for the subsequent two games, carry over into the next season may apply.
- Any altercation that results in the physical contact to umpires will result in suspension from all WASA events and activities for one calendar year from the date of the offense.

WASA considers team managers responsible for the actions of their players and fans. Managers should do everything in their power to address any of their fans who use abusive language and should try to bring a stop to that type of behavior. Umpires can eject fans from the fields if deemed necessary. If any disciplinary action is met with resistance, umpires will file a report to the WASA Board of Directors and the proper measures will be taken to stop this behavior, prevent this behavior in the future, and/or take any necessary further action.

## **ELIGIBILITY RULES & REGULATIONS**

WASA is operated as a non-profit organization, chartered under the laws of the State of Wisconsin. A constitution and by-laws have been adopted and approved by the members of the association. A membership fee is required to play, coach, and/or manager for each team associated with WASA. All non-playing coaches in all divisions of play must pay a \$5.00 membership fee to be allowed to participate in WASA games. Non-playing coaches must be listed as such on the team roster.

**EXCEPTION:** Membership fee for opposite sex coaches in the Women's Slow Pitch League and Men's Slow Pitch Leagues has been eliminated, IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A WASA MEMBERSHIP in another WASA league. They must be listed on the rosters noting that fact.

For players added after the season begins, an add form must be filled out and payment must be made to the Secretary, League Director, or Concession Manager. A three-part form is available for this

purpose. The same form is used to drop any member. Exchanges to replace inactive members may be made, but no refund will be allowed and the replacement must pay the full membership fee. If a member is listed on more than one roster within the same league, the team the member plays with first will be the governing factor. EXPECTATION: In 12" Men's Slow Pitch and Church Fast Pitch, a member may play on more than one team, see rules to follow.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Any player is eligible to play in any league provided he or she meets the eligibility requirements described in these rules. A player may play in more than one league by paying an additional membership fee for the league.

WASA leagues include: Men's Fast Pitch, Women's Fast Pitch, Co-Ed 12' Slow Pitch, Men's 12" Slow Pitch, Men's Masters and Grand Masters, Women's 11" Slow Pitch, Modified Pitch all open play.

Men's 12" Slow Pitch players playing on more than one night are subject to the following rules:

1. A player may not play on more than one team in the same division or on the same day.
2. The league director will have the final decision to deny any roster addition if it would result in a change of the classification of the team.
3. The standard add/drop slip should be used to add players to any roster. Payment of the full league membership fee is required for each additional team.

A member must be at least 14 years of age to participate in WASA leagues, except special youth divisions. A parental signature on each roster is required for any player under the age of 18. Grand Masters, 40 and older members are eligible to play in the year they reach the required age, not the exact date of their birthday.

### **UNPAID MEMBERSHIP**

Any team found to have a player playing without a paid membership for that division in the Wausau Area Softball Association will forfeit that game. The forfeit fee of \$50.00 per game will not be waived. This infraction must be brought to the attention of the umpires in the form of a protest during the game (by rule no protest can be filed once a game has ended. See USA Softball rule 9). At the time of the protest, the umpires will request verification of identity, a driver's license or picture ID, and proof of paid membership, roster or add-on slip. It is the responsibility of each player to verify his or her identity and it is the responsibility of the manager to have verification of paid memberships for each team member. If the player in question cannot verify his or her identity, the game shall not continue and be deemed a forfeit. The game will continue under protest if the identity of the player in question is verified but no proof of paid membership is available. The umpires will note the player's name and give this information to the scorekeeper to be forwarded to the League Director for review by the officers of the Association.

Violations of membership rules can result in forfeits of affected games



## FEES

FEE TYPE	12" Men's Slow Pitch	Women's Slow Pitch	Co-ed Slow Pitch	Men's Fast Pitch	Church Fastpitch	Modified Pitch	Men's GM
Team Fees	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Player Fees	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$45.00
Non-player Coach Fees	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00

## ROSTERS

Entries into all leagues are due as announced by the Board, accompanied by a roster of at least 8 players, plus the appropriate team entry fee. Player membership fees are due when supplies are distributed on Team Day. Coaches, managers, whether playing or not, and players are required to have a membership or games will be forfeited. However, see exceptions for opposite sex coaches under Eligibility Rules & Regulations). All others are eligible for membership if they so desire.

Each team will be limited to a maximum of 20 playing members, five non-playing coaches or managers. The regular add/drop form is to be used. Games started with eight players must continue and/or end with a maximum of eight players. In Church League or Fast Pitch, no pitchers may be added. League Directors may deny an addition that would change the classification of a team.

Players may be added or dropped at any time, subject to eligibility rules. Players may not transfer within the same league within the same season. New players may be added at any time up to roster maximum, but cannot be added for playoffs. The League Director will have the final decision to deny any roster addition if it would result in a change to the classification of that team. Violations could also result in a forfeit.

A single night player addition has been allowed as follows:

Up to two players may be added to play **ONE NIGHT ONLY** to have the required eight players needed to start a game (beginning in 2019, you may add up to two players to have 9 players on your team) for a fee of \$10.00 per player. If this player(s) is an existing WASA member, this player **MUST BE** from another division of play, and cannot play on any other team on the same night and same type of play as the for which he or she are substituting. For example, a Sunday slow pitch player cannot play on another Sunday slow pitch team. The regular add/drop form is to be used and you can get these in each score box. A team that starts a game with 8, or 9 players must continue and/or end with a maximum of 9 players. In Church League or Fast Pitch, no pitchers may be added. League Directors may deny an addition that would change the classification of a team. Add-on players must be turned in before a game begins.

Service personnel on leave from military service or active duty may be added to the roster (if within the 20 limit) with a **FREE** membership.

## FIELD SETUP

League	Bases	Pitcher's Plate	Ball Used
12" Men's Slow Pitch	70'	50'	Worth Hot Dot 52/300
Grandmasters	60'	50'	PN14
Fastpitch/Church Fastpitch	60'	46'	C12RYLAH Dream Seam
Women's Fast Pitch	60'	43'	C12RYLAH Dream Seam
Co-ed Slow Pitch	65'	50'	Worth Hot Dot 52/300
Women's Slow Pitch	65'	50'	YS44RSA3 Green Dot

The Slow Pitch Strike Zone Mat is 17" wide and 27" long.

## LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES OF PLAY

### MEN'S 12" SLOW PITCH

Players & Batting	10 players can be fielded, minimum of 8 is required All team players may bat as long as batting order is followed
Game Duration Limits	7 innings, NO TIME limit
Run Rules	20 runs after 4 innings <u>OR</u> 12 runs after 5 innings, leading team declared winner
Strike Zone	Mat only ( <i>a pitched ball hitting home plate is <u>not</u> a strike</i> )
Walk/Strike/Out Count	Walk = 3 balls Out = 2 swinging strikes OR 1 strike hitting the mat ( <i>2 fouls balls equals an out</i> )
Pitching Arc	Between 6 to 10 feet ( <i>measured from the ground; umpire's call/judgment is final</i> )
Pitching Warm-ups	3 warm ups to START 1 warm up BETWEEN INNINGS ( <i>For all Pitchers; Starters &amp; Relievers</i> )
Substitutions	Each starting player may reenter the game for the player that substituted for him, per USA Softball rule.

\* Beginning in 2019, all Men's 12" Slow Pitch games will have a limit of 3 home runs hit over the fence. However, after 3 home runs are hit, the "One Up Rule" will go into effect for all divisions of play.

- A. Teams may only hit a maximum of +1 home runs relative to their opponent's home run totals.
- B. Any batter that hits a home run for a team that is already +1 in home runs will immediately be declared out. Runners cannot advance.
- C. If a team is -1 in home runs relative to their opponent, that team may hit two consecutive home runs, moving them from -1, to even, to +1.
- D. The "One Up Rule" does not apply in the bottom of the 7th or final inning if the teams are tied in home runs.

\* Beginning in 2021, all Men's 12" Slow Pitch does not have to run the bases after a home run is hit over the fence.

- A. Batter and all other runners on base must return to the dugout as soon as the home run is hit over the fence. (runs score accordingly)

Batting orders will be shared and agreed upon by the managers prior to the start of a game. The umpire is not responsible for enforcing the batting order rotation. If a player is injured and drops out of the batting rotation, it is reduced by that number. The injured player is not counted as an out.

Metal Spikes are allowed in Men's Slow Pitch.

Any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner may be used once per inning. Beginning in 2022, a 2nd Courtesy Runner may be used in the event of a team battering around in an inning. The runner would have to be the exact same runner as earlier in the inning. In the event of an injury, if a courtesy runner has already been used, the team can either remove the runner from the base paths and take an out or a 2nd runner may be used as a substitute off the bench, but the runner must not be already in the line-up and the person being ran for will not be allowed to re-enter the game.

Teams will play in a 10 game season to determine seeding for the tournament. The two week tournament to follow will determine who wins the awards for each division. 1st and 2nd Place teams in each division will receive a team credit for 2023. 1st Place = \$125 and 2nd Place = \$50

Full-Time add-ons will not be allowed after Game 10. Only One Night add-ons for \$10 to get up to 8 players will be allowed for the tournament games.

## WOMEN'S SLOW PITCH

Players	10 players can be fielded, minimum of 8 is required
Batting	All team players may bat as long as batting order is followed

Game Duration Limits	7 innings, NO TIME limit
Run Rules	20 runs after 4 innings <u>OR</u> 12 runs after 5 innings, leading team declared winner
Strike Zone	Mat only ( <i>a pitched ball hitting home plate is <u>not</u> a strike</i> )
Walk/Strike/Out Count	Walk = 3 balls Out = 2 swinging strikes OR 1 strike hitting the mat ( <i>2 fouls balls equals an out</i> )
Pitching Arc	Between 6 to 10 feet ( <i>measured from the ground; umpire's call/judgment is final</i> )
Pitching Warm-ups	3 warm ups to START 1 warm up BETWEEN INNINGS ( <i>For all Pitchers; Starters &amp; Relievers</i> )
Substitutions	Free subs of all defensive players

Batting orders will be shared and agreed upon by the managers prior to the start of a game. The umpire is not responsible for enforcing the batting order rotation. If a player is injured and drops out of the batting rotation, it is reduced by that number. The injured player is not counted as an out.

Metal spikes are not allowed. Violation is automatic removal from the game.

Any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner may be used once per inning.

This league will play a 12 game season to determine 1st Place. The 1st Place team will receive a team credit for 2023. 1st Place = \$125

## CO-ED SLOW PITCH

Players	10 players can be fielded, 5 males & 5 females Minimum of 8 is required, 4 males & 4 females <b><i>IF</i></b> only 9 players are present, 5 males & 4 females are allowed, however, an out must be taken at the point in the batting order when 2 males bat consecutively. If the preceding male makes the final out of an inning that team will start the next inning with 1 out.
Batting	12 players may bat, alternating male & female. If a male batter is walked, the following female batter has the option to also walk.  *Men must use wood or bamboo bats in 2022.

Game Duration Limits	7 innings, NO TIME limit
Run Rules	20 runs after 4 innings <u>OR</u> 12 runs after 5 innings, leading team declared winner
Strike Zone	Mat only ( <i>a pitched ball hitting home plate is <u>not</u> a strike</i> )
Walk/Strike/Out Count	Walk = 3 balls Out = 2 swinging strikes OR 1 strike hitting the mat ( <i>2 fouls balls equals an out</i> )
Pitching Arc	Between 6 to 10 feet ( <i>measured from the ground; umpire's call/judgment is final</i> )
Pitching Warm-ups	3 warm ups to START 1 warm up BETWEEN INNINGS ( <i>For all Pitchers; Starters &amp; Relievers</i> )
Substitutions	Free subs of all players will be allowed

Beginning in 2019, Metal spikes are allowed.

All games will have a 3 home run rule. Each succeeding home run will be declared an out.

Any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner as long as a male runs for a male, female runs for a female. A courtesy runner may be used once per inning.

This league will play a 12 game season to determine 1st Place. The 1st Place team will receive a team credit for 2023. 1st Place = \$125

## **MEN'S GRANDMASTERS**

Player's Age	Must be 40 years old or older (during the current calendar year)
Players	10 players can be fielded, minimum of 8 is required
Batting	All team players may bat as long as batting order is followed
Game Duration Limits	9 innings, NO TIME limit
Run Rules	12 runs after 7 innings, leading team declared winner
Strike Zone	Mat only ( <i>a pitched ball hitting home plate is <u>not</u> a strike</i> )

Walk/Strike/Out Count	Walk = 3 balls Out = 2 swinging strikes OR 1 strike hitting the mat ( <i>2 fouls balls equals an out</i> )
Pitching Arc	Between 6 to 10 feet ( <i>measured from the ground; umpire's call/judgment is final</i> )
Pitching Warm-ups	3 warm ups to START 1 warm up BETWEEN INNINGS ( <i>For all Pitchers; Starters &amp; Relievers</i> )
Substitutions	Free subs of all defensive players
Balls / Bats	14" PN14 / Wood and Bamboo Bats are allowed

Batting orders will be shared and agreed upon by the managers prior to the start of a game. The umpire is not responsible for enforcing the batting order rotation. If a player is injured and drops out of the batting rotation, it is reduced by that number. The injured player is not counted as an out.

All games will have a limit of 3 hit over the fence home runs. Each succeeding hit over the fence home run over the limit will be declared a single.

Metal spikes are not allowed. Violation is automatic removal from the game.

Courtesy Runner will be allowed subject to:

- Runner must enter prior to the first pitch to the next batter.
- Must be the player who made the last out.
- Any runner may run only one time per inning with the next runner being the previous out.
- In the 1st Inning, if you have no outs, the courtesy runner will be the last batter in the lineup.

Runners may overrun any base without being tagged out as long as no attempt to advance is made.

Beginning in 2019, Men's Grandmasters teams are eligible to add new players during games 8 through 12 at a cost of \$25 a player. During games 1 through 7, new players must pay the original \$45 for each player as stated in the Fees section above.

This league will play a 12 game season to determine 1st Place. The 1st Place team will receive a team credit for 2023. 1st Place = \$125

\* Playoff rules for Divisions playing a 12 game season only:

- a. Two teams tied: One game will be played; coin flip to determine the home team.
- b. Three teams tied: Numbers are drawn to determine team order. Team one plays team two with the winner of that game to play team 3. If one team wins both games, the losers of those games will play for second place.

- c. Four teams tied: Numbers drawn to determine team order. Team one plays team two and team three plays team four.
- d. In all league and division playoffs, all regular league rules apply.
- e. Playoffs will be played only in the case of ties for individual team awards. No playoffs for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **MEN'S FAST PITCH, WOMEN'S FAST PITCH, & CO-ED CHURCH FAST PITCH**

Game Duration Limits	7 innings and/or 1 ½ hour maximum
Run Rules	15 runs after 3 innings <u>OR</u> 8 runs after 5 innings, leading team declared winner

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Men's Fast Pitch</b>	<b>Women's Fast Pitch</b>	<b>Church</b>
Players	9 players can be fielded, minimum 8 is required	10 players can be fielded, minimum 8 is required	10 players can be fielded, minimum 8 is required
Batting	10 batters plus designated hitter (DH) allowed to bat		
Pitching Warm-ups	5 warm ups to START 3 warm ups BETWEEN INNINGS <i>(For all Pitchers; Starters &amp; Relievers)</i>		

In all Fast Pitch and Church Fast Pitch, if a game is tied after seven innings, the team batting first in the 8th inning will put a player on second base who will be the last completed batter of the prior inning, with the same procedure for the team batting in the bottom of the inning. This will continue until a run is scored. (Rule 5.11.A)

Men's Fast Pitch teams will be allowed the use of an additional outfielder when playing games on long fence fields. Both leagues will use the USA Softball DP and SP rules.

Throat protectors for catchers are required in Fast Pitch (men and women) and Church League. Also, helmets are mandatory in all Fast Pitch games for men or women on base, batter, or on deck batter. Base Coaches are exempt unless under the age of 18.

No pitcher is allowed to pitch in more than one division in a league.

Metal or plastic spikes are allowed in all fast pitch leagues.

Women are allowed to play in the Men's Fast Pitch league.

Teams will play in a 10 game season to determine seeding for the tournament. The two week tournament to follow will determine who wins the awards for each division. 1st and 2nd Place teams in each division will receive a team credit for 2023. 1st Place = \$125 and 2nd Place = \$50

## **PROTESTS**

**PROTESTS:** **Must be sent to WASA, PO Box 285, Wausau, WI 54402** within 48 hours, explaining reason for protest and section of ASA Rule book applicable with \$25.00 Protest Fee. See Rule Book Rule 9 for proper protest procedure.

A protest committee **MUST** act on a legal protest within one week after protest is received by the Secretary. The President is to appoint a committee of 3, nonmembers. Committee should identify teams involved as A and B and eliminate team names. Decision is appealable to the WASA Board.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Address: WASA  
PO Box 285  
Wausau, WI 54402-0285

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