

# GORHAM PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

39 Railroad Street - Gorham, NH 03581 - 603-466-2101 - jstewart@gorhamnh.org

## ADULT COED SOFTBALL ~ 2016 SEASON

### **LEAGUE LAWS, RULES & PLAYER RESPONSIBILITY**

1. **There is absolutely NO ALCOHOL on the town property! (town ordinance 119-1)** Teams must adhere to all laws and rules regarding alcohol on town property. Any one caught with alcohol will be banned from the facilities for the rest of the 2016 season. No league fees will be refunded. The Town of Gorham and the Gorham Recreation Department will not be responsible for any fines or actions taken against league members. This will be strictly enforced by the Gorham Police Department and the league.
2. **There is absolutely NO SMOKING on town property! (town ordinances 35-B: 3 and 126K: 7)** Teams must adhere to all laws and rules regarding smoking on town property. Any one caught smoking will be banned from the facilities for the rest of the 2016 season. No league fees will be refunded. The Town of Gorham and the Gorham Recreation Department will not be responsible for any fines or actions taken against league members. This will be strictly enforced by the Gorham Police Department and the league.
3. **There are no pets allowed on town property! (town ordinance 172-1)** For the health and safety of everyone, pets are not allowed on any town property. PLEASE LEAVE YOUR PETS HOME. . The Town of Gorham and the Gorham Recreation Department will not be responsible for any fines or actions taken against league members. This will be strictly enforced by the Gorham Police Department and the league.
4. **Teams are responsible for their spectators as well as their behavior!** Spectators must follow all the rules that apply to the teams, such as, but not limited to; no alcohol, no smoking, no pets, improper language, etc. If spectators get out of hand or do not abide by the rules set by the league and the Gorham Recreation Department, then the violating team(s) may forfeit their game.
5. This is a “carry in, carry out” league. It is not the responsibility of the Gorham Recreation Department to “pick up” after the league. There are trash cans through out the facility so please use them.
6. The parking lot at Libby Recreation Complex and Promenade Field are the only areas you may park a vehicle. There is no parking on the grass, along the fence (no parking signs) and in the cemetery. Violators may be ticketed by the Gorham Police Department. The Gorham Recreation Department is not responsible for fines, accidents or any other incidents involving cars. No cars through any gate.

### **LEAGUE EQUIPMENT & ROSTER INFO**

7. It is the responsibility of the teams to turn on and off the lights (if used), return all equipment (scorebook, bats, etc) to the storage building behind home plate and ensure the storage building has been secured.
8. No more than two (2) new balls will be used per game. If both “new” balls are lost or unusable, then older balls must be used. The number of balls the league has is limited and must last the season and playoffs. If all the new balls have been used then the teams will be responsible to purchase additional balls.
9. It is not necessary to have matching uniforms; however, all players must wear shirts at all times. No metal cleats are allowed.
10. The Gorham Recreation Department will supply aluminum bats for the league to used (by females only). Females may use their own aluminum bats, but the bats must be “ASA approved, single wall, fast pitch” bats. The Gorham Recreation Department has a limited number of wooded bats for the league to used (males must use wooden bats). **Only “official softball” wooded bats will be allowed.** Any player found using an illegal bat may be ejected for the remainder of the game. Two (2) violations by the same player may result in expulsion from the league. No fees will be refunded.
11. Players 16 & 17 years of age must have a waiver signed by a parent / guarding. 15 or younger are not allowed to play.
12. Rosters, waivers and full registration payment must be turned into the Gorham Recreation Department prior to start of the season.
13. Team rosters must have a **MINIMUM OF 15 PLAYERS** and a max of 25 players. Any changes to the rosters must be reported to the Gorham Recreation Department before Friday at 3:00pm. If changes are not reported before this time, no new players are allowed to participate. A player must play in at least four (4) games in order to be eligible to participate in the playoffs (tournament).

## **LEAGUE GAME RULES & PROCEDURES**

14. The start time for the games is the posted time on the schedule. There is no grace period therefore you should have your team ready to play prior to the posted start time. Forfeits may be called at the posted start time if a team is not ready to take the field.
15. There will be league scorebooks at each field (2 at Libbys and 1 at Promenade). This will give team a chance to add their lineups prior to beginning of their game. The team that is batting is responsible for keeping the book. It is important to have the scorebook filled out properly (no nicknames). The Recreation Department uses the scorebooks to determine standings for the end of season tournament.
16. If a male batter gets walked, and a female batter is next to bat (on deck), that male batter will automatically be rewarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base. All other runners will advance accordingly.
17. Balls and strikes will be called as be decided on called. Games must be officiated by at least one umpire. The head umpire governs all game play and issues all final rulings. Other officials may assist when available. Umpires have jurisdiction over play and may call off a game due to darkness, rain or other causes at the umpire's discretion. Abuse of the umpire will not be tolerated by the league or the Gorham Recreation Department. Only the team representative (captain/manager) may approach the umpire to ask questions.
18. There must be at least three (3) females in the field at all times. Failure to have three (3) females in the lineup at the start of the game may result in forfeiture of the game. Two (2) violations by the same team during the season may result in expulsion of the team from the league. No league fees will be refunded.
- A. EXCEPTION: If both teams are in agreement, the game may be played with less than three (3) females, but the lineup spot for the "missing" third female will be considered an automatic out, regardless of the game situation (i.e. bottom of the 9th, bases loaded, two outs and the next batter is the missing female player, which is considered the "automatic out"...the game is over).
  - B. If an eligible female shows up, she must be inserted into the lineup where the batting slot is empty.
  - C. Women will be allowed to sub on other teams if a team is shorthanded for regular season games, however a female can only appear on one roster and this may not occur during the playoffs.
19. No more than three (3) males may be listed consecutively in the batting line up. If substitutions are made, the batting order may not change. It may occur that more than four (4) males bat in succession, but only if there are less than three (3) females on the roster and there will be an automatic out (see rule #19 for details).
20. Games will be seven (7) innings or 1-1/2 hours long (which ever comes first). There is a **five (5) run rule** each inning except for the last inning and according to the time constraints.
21. No new inning shall start after the game is one hour and twenty minutes old. The game will end whatever the score is at that time.
22. A legal game will be five (5) innings long. A game may only last 4-1/2 innings if the home team is winning (rain/darkness). If the game does not go the 4-1/2 innings, it should be postponed. (To be made up in it's entirety). If a game is legal, and ends before the allotted time frame, it should be suspended (to be continued at another time). Games will be stopped immediately, and all team members and spectators will be directed to seek safe shelter, should there be lightning or thunder. Nobody will be allowed on the playing field for a minimum 1/2 hour from the last seen lightning or the last sound of thunder.
23. The De-Militarized Zone (DMZ) is a line 150 feet from the home plate connecting the two foul lines. All outfielders (with the exception of the short fielder) may not cross this line until a pitched ball reaches the plate. If an outfielder catches a ball inside the DMZ line and the umpire determines the outfielder was inside the line before the ball was hit, the batter will be awarded first base.
24. There is no bunting or stealing. The runner can not leave the base until the ball reaches the batter (if caught, an out will be called)
25. A courtesy runner may be used for injured players only. The male that made the last out may run for an injured male batter, and the female that made the last out may run for an injured female batter. The courtesy runner may only be utilized after the batter has finished running to the base.
26. Collisions at any time, is prohibited. To avoid a tag on close plays, a base runner may slide under, go over, around, or return to the previous base. If sliding, the base runner will not slide into the opposing player with either leg lifted. Defensive players must stay clear of the runner's path if there is no play. The base path can not be obstructed unless the defensive player has the ball in their possession. Any malicious contact will result in the immediate ejection from the game. Non-malicious contact will result in a warning.