



2024 Softball Rules & Roster
Department of Public Works, 24 South Street, Auburn, New York 13021
315-255-4737 (office) 315-255-4119 (hotline)
Visit our website at: auburnny.gov

The 2024 Auburn Recreation Program is scheduled to begin on May 6, 2024. Rosters are due by 3:00 PM on Friday, April 12, 2024.

1. All managers and players are responsible for knowing the rules. Once a roster is completed and filed with the Recreation Department, that manager is agreeing that he/she has read the rules, is acceptant of the rules, and has informed his/her players of the content and application of those rules.
2. All entry forms accompanied with the proper fee are to be submitted to the Department of Public Works office by Friday, April 12, 2024. Each entry will be numbered upon being submitted. You will need separate checks for the forfeit fee. Both checks should be made payable to the City Treasurer. Both of these fees will be paid with the entry forms at the Department of Public Works & Recreation.

3. ENTRY FEES:	All Leagues	\$250 per team
	Nonresident Fees: Out of City	\$30 per player
	Out of County	\$60 per player
	Forfeit fees: Vary by League	See page 3 for Forfeit Fees

4. Roster:
 - A. A typed or printed roster, nonresident fee and forfeit fees must be submitted on or before April 12, 2024. Checks for entry/nonresident fees must be made payable to the City Treasurer. All rosters will be closed with all player names included on or before April 12, 2024. Any changes to the roster after April 12th must be reviewed and approved by the Superintendent of Public Works and Sports Coordinator. Each roster must include at least twelve names. Managers are solely responsible for the accurate completion and maintenance of their roster. Any violations may result in suspension and termination of players or teams.
 - B. A responsible team manager must be designated on the roster prior to submittal. It is required that cell phone number, home phone number, a valid e-mail address (this will be used as an initial contact), and work number (if possible) and complete addresses of the managers be supplied. Be advised that no schedules, standings, rain out schedules etc. will be mailed via regular mail. ALL of that will be supplied on the City's website www.auburnny.gov and/or the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Facebook page.

5. Player Eligibility:

The 2024 Summer Softball Program will bring many changes to player eligibility. Player representatives have been selected from the various leagues to closely monitor player status. All efforts have been made to ensure players are given opportunities to play on multiple nights and provide a way to avoid potential forfeits.

Those managers who witness violations will now bring the violation(s) to the attention of a Player Representative and if the complaint is validated, the Player Representative will collaborate with the City Softball League Coordinator and penalties including fines, suspensions and forfeiture of the game where the player was participating will be declared, as in past practice.

Player eligibility is as follows:

 - A. Anyone residing within the City of Auburn city limits.
 - B. Residents of Cayuga County, not residing within the city limits of Auburn, will be assessed a \$30 fee per player. Non-county residents (only contiguous counties permitted at this time) will be assessed a \$60 fee per player. THESE FEES MUST ACCOMPANY TEAM ROSTER. This fee will not be refunded for any reason.

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- C. ALL players must be able to show proof of residence (drivers license, registration, school I.D., etc.) within 48 hours upon request of the Sports Supervisor or the Department of Public Works.
 - D. All players must be at least 18 years of age by July 1, 2024, to participate in any league.
 - E. Player Representatives:
 - Scott Hesse 315-246-0090
 - Nate Short 315-406-4767
 - Zack Martin 315-416-1737
 - Alex Artese 315-481-8640
 - Mike McNabb 607-423-1110
 - Jacob Turner 315-283-2838
 - Mike Currier 315-406-2190
 - F. In an effort to entice more teams in to the A-League, any B-League player or players may put together a roster for inclusion in the A-League which plays on Wednesday nights. Those players may participate in their regular B-League night.
 - G. Any two (2) A-League rostered players may now play on any B-League team; however, the names of those players must be placed on the B-League roster prior to the season beginning.
 - H. Any B-League player may play on another B-League team; however, that player will not be permitted to play in the same Division or night that he is rostered on.
The names of players who, play on multiple B-League nights (Monday, Tuesday), must be included by that manager on the team's score card and submitted in the box attached to the backstop.
 - I. In order for players to be eligible for playoffs, those players must participate in at least five (5) regularly scheduled games of that team and must be verified on the score cards. All managers will be responsible for filling out a score card. Once the game is completed, those score cards will be placed in the locked box attached to the screen on each field. *Please note, score cards will be handed out at time of registration.
 - J. Player Representatives will maintain a spreadsheet with all players listed, in addition to the subs, to ensure that all players are credited with playing that game in order to meet the five (5) game minimum required for playoffs.
6. The Sports Supervisor will decide on which teams are placed in the Men's or Women's "A", "B" or "C" leagues for the 2024 season. The City of Auburn Recreation Department reserves the right to place teams in the various leagues depending on skill level of the players. Previous year records, roster evaluation and player representatives will be methods that will determine placement and classification of teams in the various leagues.
- The City of Auburn Recreation Department reserves the right to cancel leagues and refund registration fees if the leagues are unable to form in the appropriate classification of skill level. The City of Auburn also reserves the right to determine how many players from a refunded team may join another team to compete in a different league.
7. Teams may purchase softballs through the Parks and Recreation Department (office located in the basement of City Hall). Softballs to be used for the 2024 season are COR 52 compression. They will be available for purchase when filing your roster and fees. Score cards will also be distributed at that time.
8. Schedules will be posted to the City's website: www.auburnny.gov sometime during the week of April 22, 2024. Please be advised that schedules will only be e-mailed to team managers. The team managers will be responsible for checking the website and/or email and providing copies to teammates.

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9. Due to the extensive list of changes this year, all managers or team representatives are required to attend a mandatory meeting at Casey Park on April 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
10. In Men's Divisions, the mat has been expanded by 1" on each side of the plat, plus 2" off the end of the mat. Any pitched ball conforming to the 6 to 12 foot arc and falling between the highest shoulder and lowest knee on the player from the ground and hitting the mat, will be called a strike by the umpire. In the Women's Division, no mat will be utilized; however, normal strike zone will be enforced.
11. Beginning in 2024 for the Men's Division, a 1 - 1 count will be assumed by each batter. If the ball is hit foul on the 3rd strike, an additional pitch will be allowed. If another foul ball is hit, the player is declared out.
12. In an effort to reduce serious injuries to the pitcher from batted balls, a chalked line 6 feet from the back of the pitching rubber will be designated. The pitcher will be allowed to choose at the beginning of the game which pitching distance they wish to pitch from. Pitchers will not be allowed to switch the pitching lengths once the length has been determined for that game. A new pitcher entering the game will be allowed to select his/her pitching distance. This rule can only be altered under the discretion of the umpire and only in the best interest of the game. It is recommended that pitchers wear face masks to prevent serious injury from batted balls.
13. The base paths will remain at 70 feet for the Men's 2024 season as indicated in the 2024 USA of NY rule book. The base paths will remain at 65 feet for the Women's 2024 season.
14. Games must start when scheduled as long as any nine rostered players are present. No out shall be declared if a team begins a game with nine in the absence of a tenth player. A tenth player, whose name is already on the roster, may enter the game prior to the completion of the fourth inning.

Without the appropriate number of players, teams may wait ten minutes, after which the game is forfeited.

- A. A team may play with an extra player (EP) who may enter the game as a defensive player. That player who leaves the defensive position then becomes the (EP). No alterations to the batting order will be permitted unless a player enters the game as a fresh substitute.
 - I. Once a team starts with the 11 player (EP) they may finish with 10 or 9 players. However, an out will be declared in that player's spot that leaves the game.
 - II. Once a team starts with 10 players and loses player(s) to an injury or ejection, that spot in the batting order will be declared an out.

No team will be allowed to play with less than 9 players.

15. HOME RUN RULE:

All A and B Men's Leagues will be permitted to the 3 Home Run Rule as listed below. Each team will be allotted three home runs per game. Once team A hits the 4th home run, team B must match their 4th home run. If team A hits the 5th home run before team B hits their 4th home run, it will be declared an out. Teams will be allowed to match each other with unlimited home runs.

Teams are notified that the game will continue with a back-up ball after each home run. At no time should a game be stopped to retrieve the ball. The umpire will be responsible to enforce this rule.

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(cont'd)

If there is violation of this policy, the rule will be terminated and we will finish the season with the past home run policy.

16. FORFEIT POLICY:

All men's and women's leagues are required to pay forfeit fee to the *City of Auburn*.

All Men's Leagues: \$88

Women's League: \$72

This forfeit fee will be refunded at the completion the season barring any forfeits during the season. In the event of a forfeit, the umpire fee will be deducted from the offending team's forfeit fee. The non-offending team will NOT be responsible for payment of the umpire on that evening. A second forfeit will result in payment of the remaining forfeit fee and suspension from further league play.

17. A. Each player participates at his/her own risk. Any injuries sustained or medical care required are the responsibility of that injured person.
- B. Blood Rule: Any player who is injured during the contest and is bleeding from said injury will be removed from the game until such time as the bleeding has stopped. That player must remove all clothing which has been bloodied by the injury prior to re-entry into the game.
- C. Failure to adhere to the Blood Rule will result in ejection of the player from the game.

18. PROTESTS:

- A. Protest must be made to the umpire at the time of the discrepancy. Protests must be written and forwarded with a \$25 deposit to the Recreation Department within 24 hours of the discrepancy. If protest is upheld, the fee will be returned.
 - B. Protest must quote section, paragraph, and number of rule violated, as it appears in the 2024 USA of NY Rule Book.
 - C. The Sports Supervisor and the Player Representatives Board will decide all protests.
19. Any conduct not considered sportsmanlike will not be tolerated. Such players will be ejected from the game, and possibly from the league if the Sports Supervisor deems necessary. Ejection will mean automatic one-game suspension. Any/all players ejected from a game are required to pay a \$50 re-entry fee to the Recreation Office prior to the next scheduled game. Any player ejected a second time will be suspended from league play for the season OR will be suspended for an indefinite amount of time. The above applies to individuals as well as teams. Unsportsmanlike action includes any verbal or physical abuse directed at another player, fan or umpire (i.e., swearing, pushing, intimidation, etc.). This rule will be in effect before, during, and after games. Violations of this rule will be automatic forfeiture of games involved. Those ejected players must leave the facility immediately. If the player remains at the location the game will be declared a forfeit.
20. The 2024 USA of NY Softball Rules will prevail, unless otherwise stipulated, with ground rules stipulated by umpires. Any rules violation will result in games being forfeited. Any changes regarding rules and regulations must come from the Sports Supervisor.

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21. Balls:

- A. The Trump COR 52 compression ball will be utilized this season.
- B. Ball Rotation - All Men's Divisions: Two new balls shall be delivered to the umpire at the beginning of the game. The umpire will enforce the USA of NY ball rotation policy.
- C. Women's Divisions - one new ball and good back up ball shall be delivered to the umpire at the beginning of the game. Quality of back up ball will be left to the discretion of the umpire. If the back up ball is deemed unacceptable, a new ball must be provided.

22. Scorekeepers - all teams will be responsible for obtaining a scorebook. The home team designated on the schedule will be required to maintain the official score.

23. Bats:

The official bat governing the City of Auburn Softball League play will be modeled after the USA Softball Championship play and will meet the specifications and requirements of Rule 3 Section 1 of the USA Rule Book. The bat must bear the appropriate certification as shown below. The bat and model must be included on a list published by USA Softball. Please ask the Recreation Department for a copy of that list.



Allowed in all games

24. In case of inclement weather, the Department of Public Works will be responsible for cancellation of games up until 3:30 p.m. of the day in question. The decision will NOT BE MADE UNTIL AFTER 3:00 P.M. Please do not call the Recreation Office prior to 3:00 P.M. If the game has not been cancelled by 3:30 p.m., teams must report to their scheduled field site at game time, at which time the umpire will determine if the game is to be played or not. THE UMPIRES DECISION WILL BE FINAL. At any field with multiple games per night, once a game is cancelled, the remainder of that night's games are cancelled. The softball hotline number is 315-255-4119. Cancellations can also be found on the City website: www.auburnny.gov.

25. All recreation softball games must be played as scheduled or declared a forfeit. Games will not be rescheduled for any reason, with the exception of rained-out games. Teams who cancel games on their own by contacting the other team will be given a loss by forfeit.

26. A player must play in five (5) games to be eligible for playoffs, unless otherwise stipulated by the Sports Supervisor.

27. PLAYOFFS:

In the past, schedules have been supplied by the Recreation Office. We have experienced many problems with inaccurate, unidentifiable and unintelligible standing recordings by the teams. In addition, many playoff berths were not settled until games are played on the last night of the season. This caused many problems as teams were not prepared to begin playoffs the following Monday.

To address and possibly resolve these problems, playoff schedules will be determined during the weekend (following the final night of the season) and supplied to the Department of Recreation early

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(cont'd) Monday morning. Team managers will be responsible for securing the schedule by contacting the Department of Public Works. There will be no calls made by the Department of Public Works to those team managers who failed to secure the schedule! The playoff schedule will begin the following week promptly giving all teams an opportunity to make arrangements with their individual players.

28. Playoffs will be determined at a later date.
29. The ten run, five-inning rule, will prevail in all slow pitch games. In slow pitch, if either team leads by ten or more runs after five innings, the game will be awarded to the team with the most runs. The ten run rule will be in effect for the playoffs.
30. The consumption of alcoholic beverages or use of tobacco and/or marijuana products by any player or spectator on the grounds of the Casey Park facility is STRICTLY forbidden and in violation of City Ordinances. Any violators of this policy are subject to police arrest, suspension from the league and forfeiture of the game by the offending team. This policy is in effect prior to, during and subsequent to the game. This policy also includes the parking lots. Team managers or captains are responsible to see that this rule is enforced.
31. Schedules will NOT be altered! Early schedule distribution will allow you to avoid any/all schedule conflicts. Inability to conform to this master schedule is a concern of yours and will not be the concern of the League. The early release of said schedule is a convenience for all teams so arrangements can be made in advance of scheduled games.
32. The enclosed rules and USA of NY rules will govern league play.
33. UMPIRE FEES:
The Umpires Fees for the upcoming season will be based on a sliding scale and will be determined by proficiency of the league.
 - A. Men's A and B Major : \$44.00 per game; \$22.00 per team
Men's B League : \$44.00 per game; \$22.00 per team
Women's Leagues: \$36.00 per game; \$18.00 per team
 - B. This fee must be paid to the umpires prior to the start of the game.
 - C. In the case of a game starting and getting suspended due to rain or any other act of God, the umpire will keep the fee. That umpire will be scheduled to work the incomplete game or prorate a fee with a substitute. The teams will not be responsible for any further payment to the umpire.
34. IN ALL SOFTBALL LEAGUES, metal cleats or football shoes will not be permitted. Anyone violating this rule will be subject to ejection from the game.
35. All existing preceding rules and regulations are subject to change, modification, and/or alterations by the Sports Supervisor ONLY! These changes, modifications and/or alterations are made in conjunction with the Board of Arbitration. The Board of Arbitration will consist of the following:
 1. Softball Coordinator
 2. Superintendent of Public Works
 3. Executive Board (Umpire)
 4. Player Representative

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2024 SOFTBALL ROSTER - AUBURN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ENTRY DEADLINE: Friday, April 12, 2024

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE CITY TREASURER – **INCLUDE SEPARATE CHECK FOR FORFEIT FEE**

Please PRINT LEGIBLE Valid EMAIL REQUIRED

Do Not Write in box – for office use only.

ENTRY FEE: \$250 PER TEAM NON-RESIDENT FEES: Non-city- \$30. Non-county- \$60.

FORFEIT FEE: (Separate check) \$88.00 \$72.00 (circle one)

CHECK LEAGUE REQUESTED: (Please Print Legibly)

A SLOW PITCH B MAJOR SLOW PITCH B SLOW PITCH

WOMEN'S: A LEAGUE - \$250 B LEAGUE - \$250 C LEAGUE - \$250

2024 TEAM NAME: _____

NAME LAST YEAR: (if applicable) _____

MANAGER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ (HOME) _____ (CELL) _____ (WORK)

Roster #	_____
Entry Fee:	<u>\$250.00</u>
Non-res. Fee:	_____
Total:	_____
Forfeit Fee:	\$ _____

NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	Office Use Only	
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PLAN AHEAD! Indicate future dates your team is unable to play due to weddings, parties and special events. Once the schedules are sent requests will **not** be honored and scheduled games are played!

Return Forfeit Fee to: _____