

**THE WADENA AREA CO-ED CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE
SUMMER 2026 SLOWPITCH RULES**

Games start June 1, 2026 at 7:00pm (\$115 payment due before first game covers fee & balls)

Please read these to all your players before the first game of the season!

1. The fee this year is \$87.00 per team due BEFORE your team can play. The check can be made out to "VFLC." Include in the check an additional fee of \$28 for 2 new red stitch softballs and a score book.
Checks should be mailed to: Verndale Family Life Church, 402 Clark Dr. NE, Verndale, MN 56481
2. In case of inclement weather (Lightening and heat over 100 degrees real feel) on the Monday in question. A message to the **Text Group** will be sent by Pastor Amos by 5:00 pm to all coordinators in the group. As a general rule, we play!
3. If your team is unable to make a game, you are responsible for letting your opponent's coach know of your need to forfeit by 5:00 pm on the day of the game.
4. The HOME TEAM is the first team listed for each game on the schedule. The Home team is responsible for
 - Smoothing out the bad spots around the bases before the game (rake, if necessary).
 - Providing the game balls.
 - Leading prayer at home plate before the game begins.
 - Turning off the lights after the late game. Keep shed locked during game.
 - Making sure that all garbage is picked up after game.
5. The COACHES are responsible for reminding players:
 - NOT to use foul language
 - NO steel spiked shoes
 - NOT to slide aggressively or run into the catcher or others covering bases. Excessive roughness will result in an automatic out for a runner or warning for a fielder.
6. Age limit for the league is 13 years old or entering 7th grade at the end of the summer. If a team is short players, they can borrow players from an opposing team. Consider fielding younger players in safer positions based on ability for their safety.
7. There can be no more than 7 males in the field at any time for the defensive team. This rule is not subject to negotiation.
8. We will have a rubber mat behind home plate to determine balls and strikes. If a pitch hits any part of the mat, it is a strike. If it does not hit the mat, it is a ball. The catcher will call balls and strikes, fair and foul balls unless otherwise agreed upon. The catcher should understand the rules and be able to make calls.
9. In the case of a dispute over a call, there shall be a coin toss to determine safe or out. If it is heads, the runner will be safe (ball). If it is tails, the runner will be out (strike). ROCK PAPER SCISSORS can also be used between the two players involved in the difficult call.
10. If your team is ahead and scores 10 additional runs in one inning, the inning shall end there, and the opposing team will bat. If you are behind, you can score as many runs as it takes to get ahead by 10, even if you exceed the 10-run rule. Teams ahead by 15 or more are not eligible for a "walk". If you hit a home run, you need to retrieve your own ball.
11. Games are 7 innings.
12. A team may bat as many batters as they choose as long as they remain in a batting order of 10 players plus an optional Designated Hitter. Additional batters may be substituted in the batting order only after fielding an inning.

13. A team must have a minimum of 3 women in the batting order. If the defensive team is short on females, they will have to play less players in the field and take an automatic out at the 1st batting spot for 1st missing female, 5th batting spot for 2nd missing female and 8th batting spot for 3rd female the team is short. This rule can only be waived to the point that both teams have equal number of female players.
 14. Designated runners must either start at first base after batter gets on base or stand behind catcher while batter is batting. No running until contact is made. Designated runner is the last person who got out.
 15. The pitcher must release the ball from the pitching rubber. The pitch must have some arc. The arc must be over the batter's head and under 12 feet high. If the coach, from the team that is up allows, the pitcher may step off the rubber to encourage contact with the ball. A pitch too high or too low should be called as a ball.
 16. To allow every hitter a better opportunity to get a hit, the outfielders on the defensive team must remain at least 30 feet behind the back edge of the infield gravel while all of the people on the other team are batting.
 17. The batting team provides the umpire for making the calls at base. The 1st and 3rd base coaches may act as umpires. **USE INDIVIDUALS WHO UNDERSTAND THE RULES AND ARE CAPABLE OF MAKING GOOD CALLS.** If not, assign someone to do this duty. Please be sure that the 1st and 3rd base coaches are in position before the 1st pitch of the inning is thrown. **THE 1st BASE COACH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HOME PLATE CALLS.**
 18. There is concern about small children being inside the fenced field. Children, for safety reasons, should remain outside of the playing field. Please keep children off the fences.
 19. There will not be any formal rescheduling of games that are rained out. If two teams wish to reschedule the game themselves, it will be up to the coaches.
 20. Be sure to inform your players if the local church insurance policy does not cover injuries in league sports (many do not cover these injuries).
 21. **IN SOME CASES, COACHES CAN AGREE TO A CHANGE IN THE RULES!** Playing fair and by the rules **IS** having fun for both teams. You cannot force change to give your team an unfair advantage.
 22. **Balanced Play Rule:** Two out of the park home runs are allowed per team per game. Additional out of park hits result in an automatic out for the batter.
 24. **Banned bats** are not allowed in the Wadena Softball Complex. Bats must be ASA approved.
(See the banned bats list)
 25. If two strikes, you can foul and get a courtesy, next hit needs to be fair, or you will be out.
No unlimited foul balls
 26. **Late Game:** 1st Game ends at 8:15pm so 2nd game can start at 8:20. No new innings to start after 8:10. If the inning is only partially completed at 8:15, the **SCOR REVERTS** to the last **COMPLETED** inning. The late game needs to finish by 10:00pm and lights turned off before leaving.
 27. **Play ball, enjoy the summer and HAVE FUN!** This rule **CANNOT** be changed.
- **Special Needs, let batter get to first at least once per game, all other base runners are fair game. At Bat: Strike Outs count against the team and batter can score. ****

Concessions will try to be provided each week

Encourage the final game to be an ice cream social and "fun" game.

USA Softball Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Marks

3/12/2024

Bass	Quake		Combat	VIRSP3 Lady Virus		Data Driven Athletics 314159 PI		
Easton	SCN1		Easton	SCN11BH		Easton	SCN1B	
Easton	SCN2B		Easton	SCN3		Easton	SCN4B	
Easton	SCN5		Easton	SCN5B		Easton	SCN6B	
Easton	SCN7		Easton	SCN7B		Easton	SCN8	
Easton	SCN8B		Easton	SCN9		Easton	SCX14	
Easton	SCX14B		Easton	SCX2 Synergy		Easton	SCX22 Synergy 2	
Easton	SCX24B		Easton	SCX3		Louisville Slugger	FP136	
Louisville Slugger	FP1368		Louisville Slugger	FP1369		Louisville Slugger	FPC305 Catalyst (-8)	
Louisville Slugger	SB304		Louisville Slugger	SB34 Genesis		Louisville Slugger	SB404	
Louisville Slugger	SB73V TPS Voltage		Miken	MSF Freak		Miken	MSU Ultra	
Miken	MSU2 Ultra II		Miken	MSUM Ultra Maxload		Nokona	Tomahawk	
Onyx	Battle Ground - ESBCA242		Onyx	First Born - ES2P21		Pure	SkyBolt - MFE6	
Schutt	Red/Silver Schutt Bat		Suncoast	SBFPB-10		Worth	EST9	
Worth	QESTFP		Worth	SBWK(Wicked)		Worth	SBWKA	
Worth	WWSC Wicked Comp. (SP Only)		Worth	WWSCA		Worth	XEST9X	
Worth	XGold		Worth	XPST4		Worth	XRed	
Worth	XWICKX Wicked (SP Only)							

New