

# Victory Park Softball

## Rules and Regulations

### Victory Park

All Victory Park Athletes, Staff, and Officials will abide by all State, County, and Local Health Department guidelines as we begin to open for business. Our Goal is to keep everyone healthy and safe, as well as giving everyone the opportunity of going back to doing what we all love.

Revised 03/20/2026

#### I. General Park Rules

##### A. Parking Lot

Please drive slowly in our parking lot. **WATCH FOR CHILDREN!** Only vehicles with handicap stickers/placards may park in the designated handicap spots.

##### B. Admission Policy

Victory Park requires that all patrons, players, managers, spectators, etc. over the age of twelve (12) pay an admission fee of \$3.00. Discounts for Senior Citizens and Military/Police/Fire will be given. Please be sure to let your players and fans know about our admission policy. There are No Refunds.

##### C. Food & Beverages

- \* Victory Park does not allow food or beverages to be brought into the park.
- \* We reserve the right to stop and inspect all bags that are brought into the park.
- \* Anyone caught consuming alcohol that was not purchased from the park will be ejected from their game and asked to leave.
- \* We will not tolerate outside food and beverages to be brought into our park. \* Additionally, consumption of alcohol in our parking lot is strictly prohibited.

#### **D. Bicycles, Skates and Pets**

\* **Absolutely no bicycles or skates are permitted in the complex or on the grounds.**

\* **Patrons with a pet must fill out a Victory Park Waiver Form before entering the park. All forms will be kept on file for the 2026 season. There are no exceptions to this rule.**

#### **E. Dugouts**

\* Only managers, players, and coaches are permitted in the dugout. Smoking is not permitted in the dugout area. Additionally, **alcohol** abuse will not be tolerated in the dugout or on the field. Smoking **Marijuana is not permitted at Victory Park.**

#### **F. Warm-up Areas**

\* Victory Park has specified warm-up areas. These are the only warm-up areas in the entire park.

\* Warm-ups on the field are permitted only when time allows. Warm-ups during the game, between innings, are not permitted to ensure that all seven innings are played.

\* Balls are not to be hit into the fence.

#### **G. Injuries/ First Aid**

\* Victory Park has a limited first aid supply, which is kept in the main office.

\* Paramedics, Fire Department, and Police Department services are within minutes of the facility.

\* A completed injury report must be filed with the main office for any injury sustained while on the grounds.

#### **H. Sanction**

\* One Nation rules will govern all play unless otherwise stated in these rules. All leagues, teams, and umpires will be sanctioned with ONE NATION.

#### **I. Authority of Rules Committee**

\* The Committee reserves the right to interpret rules and all situations.

Furthermore, the committee reserves the right to insert, delete, or change rules at anytime. Additionally, the committee is empowered to make decisions retroactive, should it deem necessary for the benefit of the league. The committee will be the final authority on all plays, rules, and situations.

## **II. Playing Rules**

### **A. Umpires**

\* Umpires will always oversee the game.

\* The umpires will review the ground rules at the managers meeting before the

game with both managers. It is the responsibility of each manager to advise their players of the ground rules.

\* A coin flip will determine home and visiting team. If a team starts short handed (8 or 9 players), then they are automatically the visiting team.

### **B. Metal Cleats**

\* Metal cleats are strictly prohibited for all Adult Softball Leagues at Victory Park.

\* Any player entering the playing field with metal cleats will be asked to change his shoes. If he refuses, he will be ejected from the game.

### **C. Softball Bats**

\* All softball bats used **MUST** conform to the guidelines set forth by Victory Park.

\* **All bats must have a legible organizational stamp on them. (i.e. NSA, USSSA, USA, etc.)**

\* **If we cannot read it or it doesn't have one, it will be deemed illegal. No Senior Bats are allowed to be used.**

### **D. Softballs**

\* One new softball per team per game is provided with your game fees.

\* If the ball goes out of play, it is the offensive team responsibility to throw in another Victory Park softball and retrieve the ball hit out of play.

\* The team that hits a home run must retrieve the ball or provide an official Victory Park softball as a backup ball.

\* All back up balls do not have to be new but must be an official Victory Park softball.

\* **All Victory Park softballs are 44/400.**

### **E. Base Running**

\* Victory Park prohibits players from attempting to jar a ball loose or colliding with the defensive player.

\* If the defensive player clearly has the ball, is waiting for the runner, and the runner intentionally runs into or crashes into the defensive player, the runner is declared out.

\* The offender is ejected, the ball is dead, and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.

\* **This rule is subject to the interpretation by the umpires.**

### **F. Batters**

\* All batters in men's, women's, or coed leagues will come to the plate with a one (1) ball and one (1) strike count on them.

\* This rule is adapted to these programs by Victory Park and batters will not receive an extra foul after two strikes.

\* If a foul ball is hit with two strikes the batter is out. Runners may advance if the foul ball is **caught** with two strikes.

#### G. Run Rules

- a. **20 runs after 3 innings**
- b. 15 Runs after 4 innings
- c. 10 Runs after 5 innings

#### H. Time Limit/ Length of Game

\* The scheduled length of any game played at Victory Park is **seven (7) innings or sixty minutes (60) minutes.**

\* No warmups between innings and games are permitted to ensure that a full seven innings may be played.

\* No new inning may start after the time limit has expired. An inning is over, and a new inning has started when the last out is recorded.

\* If the time limit has expired in the middle of an inning the inning must be completed.

\* If the time limit expires during the home teams at bat and they are winning the game, then the game is over.

\* In case of rain or any act of God, the game becomes official when the losing team has batted four (4) times.

\* If the visiting team scores to go ahead in the top of the inning, the home team must get a chance to complete the inning.

\* If the home team is losing and the game is called before they have a chance to complete the inning in which the visiting team went ahead, then the score reverts to the end of the previous inning. **GAMES may end IN A TIE.**

\* If a game finishes after the start time of the next game. There is no break.

\* If a game finishes early before it's game time. You may take a 5 minute break.

#### I. Courtesy Player

The courtesy runner can be used once per inning in men's and once per gender in coed. The courtesy runner can be any player on the roster. In coed a male must run for a male and a female for a female. **If a courtesy runner is on base and comes to bat while on base, the team can replace the runner with no penalty.** Also, if the same player that had a courtesy runner comes up to bat again in the same inning, they can use another courtesy runner.

#### J. Home Run Limits

All Victory Park home run limits are **3 Home Runs & 1 up**

#### K. Pitching

1. Pitcher's plate is 50' You have 6 feet behind the pitcher's plate to pitch the ball.

2. Pitchers have 5 seconds to deliver the next pitch once they receive the ball from the catcher.

3. Pitching Arc is 5-10' from the ground.

**4. No FAKE PUMPING, PITCHING BEHIND THE BACK, or BETWEEN THE LEGS is permitted.**

**5. Pitch must be underhand.**

**6. No excessive speed on a pitch.**

#### **L. Game Times**

\* Managers are responsible for having their team ready to play at the scheduled game time. A ten (10) minute grace period will be given for the first game on each diamond for that day. The ten (10) minute grace period will be deducted accordingly from the sixty (60) minute time limit. The game will officially begin when the umpire calls the managers out for the ground rules and the coin flip. At this time, the official Victory Park game clock will begin.

#### **M. Adding Players**

\* Each team must have eight (8) eligible players to start the game. A team may add the ninth (9), tenth (10<sup>th</sup>), eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>), or twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) player at any time during the game. When adding the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth player, they must be entered at the bottom of the batting order.

\* If a team begins with 9, 10, 11, or 12 players and one is injured, ejected etc., they may be replaced. If a team does not have a replacement, an out will occur in the batting order spot of the player who left the game.

#### **N. Protesting Player Eligibility**

**\* Starting players may not be protested after the first pitch of the fourth inning. Any added player must be protested before their first at bat.**

Substitutes may be checked anytime as they enter the game, but before they complete their turn at bat. The following is the proper way to handle a player protest:

1. Indicate to the umpire the player or players who are being questioned.

**Give the umpire \$25.00 per player questioned to lodge the protest. Limit of two (2) players per game.**

2. The umpire will then bring both managers and the players in question to the office where the roster will be checked. Players must have their driver's license or government issued ID with them.

3. The protest will then be decided by management. If a roster position has been completed for that player, the game will continue. (Management must be able to identify the player as the person on the ID).

**If the protest is upheld the \$25.00 will be returned to the protesting team.**

**4. illegal player and the acting team manager will be ejected for the remainder of the day. The game will continue from the exact point when the protest was lodged. If the protest is upheld the \$25.00 will be returned to the protesting team.**

#### **O. Ejections**

**\* If any player is ejected from a game, they are not eligible to play for the remainder of that game. Ejected player will also sit out the next game he plays for that team. This is automatic** regardless of the circumstances.

\* Victory Park Rules Committee will review every ejection immediately after it takes place. Our review may result in further suspensions. Managers will be advised of the Rules Committee decisions.

**\* Any fight that takes place anywhere in the complex will result in the automatic suspension for the individual(s) involved for the remainder of the season.**

#### **Three Strike Ejection Rule**

- 1. If you get thrown out of a game, you will have to sit the next game your team plays.**
- 2. If you get thrown out of a second game, you will have to sit out the following weeks doubleheader games.**
- 3. If you get thrown out a third game, you will have to sit out the remainder of the season.**

### **III. Team Rules**

#### **A. Website**

\* Our league website is [www.victoryparkohio.com](http://www.victoryparkohio.com). Check out up to the minute league standings and schedules on the World Wide Web.

#### **B. Schedules/Standings**

**\* Managers are responsible for attaining the schedule from our website three days prior to the start of the season. Furthermore, managers are responsible to check their schedule for changes following any rain out or cancellations. Schedules and updated standings are listed on our website and posted at the main gate.**

#### **C. Uniforms**

\* Matching team shirts are highly recommended in all leagues. They are not required.

#### **D. Rain Out Information**

\* Games will be called at the fields or earlier if possible. **Call the weather hotline for rain out information. The Weather line is 216-732-2966.** Often the hotline will have information pertaining to the makeup date for the rain out. Decisions, if possible, will be made at 4:30 pm on the weekdays and 7:30 am on the weekends and not before then. **Please don't call the office for any rain out information.**

#### **E. Make-Up Games**

We will try to play all make up games on the same day your league is played at the end of the current session. However, it is sometimes not possible to do so. Manager's will receive at least one week notice on all makeup games.

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#### **F. Save the Date**

**Spring Session – April 2nd, 2026**

**Summer Session – May 29th, 2026**

**Fall Session – August 21st, 2026**

#### **G. Rosters**

**\* You have one week to turn in your roster. You can add players later.**

**\* All rosters must be downloaded from our website or pick one up at the park and should be completed by the manager.**

**\* There are 25 roster spots per team.**

**Managers are responsible for entering all player information before the player takes the field.**

**\* You may add players to your roster at anytime during the current session.**

**You may only play on 1 team per division.**

#### **H. Protesting Rules**

**\* Protests must be filed with the umpire and opposing manager before the next thrown pitch. The specific protest must be noted on the score sheet at the time the rule in question is raised. **The team protesting must then give the umpire \$100.00 cash to lodge the protest.** The umpire will then bring both managers to the main office.**

**\* The protest will then be ruled on immediately, if possible.**

**\* If the protest cannot be ruled on at that time, the game will be completed.**

**The protest will then go before the Victory Park Rules Committee. If the protest is upheld the \$100.00 will be returned to the protesting team and the game will be resumed from the point of the infraction. If the protest is denied, the \$100.00 will be forfeited by the protesting team and the game will stand as played.**

#### **I. Forfeit Fee**

**\* Due to the increasing number of forfeits, every team that forfeits is required to pay a \$70.00 forfeit fee in order to play in their next scheduled game.**

**\* To avoid being charged this fee the manager must give the office at least five (5) hours notification to call the other team within a reasonable amount of time. Do not email or leave a message on our voice mail. You must talk to a live person.**

#### **J. Final Standings**

**1. Two (2) way ties for first place – Head-to-head competition (won/loss record). If teams split, a one game playoff will be held.**

2. Three (3) way or more ties for first place – Head-to-head competition between teams tied. If teams have identical record through head-to-head competition, then a playoff will be held.

3. Ties for position other than first place will be determined by the following:

- a) Record against each other.
- b) Total runs scored against each other.
- c) Least runs allowed by a team for the season.
- d) Coin Flip

#### **K. End of the Year Tournament**

**\* All teams in each league will advance to a single elimination tournament at the end of the season if time permits. Tournament games will have one or two umpires. You will have a (60) minute time limit except for the championship game. Championship games will have no time limits. Game fees will be \$30 per game collected by Victory Park. All run rules do apply. The higher seed is the home team automatically for all games. You must play in at least 4 games during that current session to qualify to play for a team in the end of the year tournament.**

#### **L. Awards**

**\* Awards will be presented to the first-place team in each individual division with separate end of the year tournament awards.**