

## Christian Fellowship Softball League 2020

1. The purpose of the league is to allow churches to come together in fellowship of Christ. The league also encourages churches to use it as an aid to encourage the unchurched to attend.
2. All games will begin with both teams meeting at home plate for prayer led by a member of the home team.
3. All games will be played at Pierce Field at the corner of Montgomery road and Jackson Street in aurora Illinois.
4. No metal cleats are allowed.
5. All players must be 13 years or older as of the last game of the season.
6. Each team shall identify their respective team captains to the home plate umpire before the start of the game. If a dispute arises, only the captains will address the umpire. After discussing the call the umpire has final say and his/her call stands. A team shall receive one warning for a player other than the team captain arguing a call. After this warning, any player, other than the team captain, who argues with the umpire shall be ejected.
7. A legal team will consist of a minimum of eight players, including two female players and/or two youths between the ages of 13 to 16. A team can field a maximum of ten players at any given time. Two female players, two youths, and/or one female player and one youth between the ages of 13 and 16 must play on defense each inning. All males must use the 14" ball. Also, extra hitters may be used if a team chooses. Extra hitters are those not playing a position in the field.
8. Teams may borrow players from a league team not participating in the game to field a regulation team in regular season games. In the playoffs you have to have your own team you cannot borrow from another team.
9. If one team cannot field a legal team at the scheduled starting time, they will be allowed five minutes to wait for the minimum number of players. After five minutes, they may use other players from the other team; however, if this occurs, that team officially forfeits the game.
10. For regular season games, the team batting will supply the umpire for the half inning they are batting. For the playoffs, two experienced umpires will be supplied by teams not participating in the game being played. All umpires shall be at least 18 years of age by the date of the first game of the season and shall be familiar with the rules of softball and the rules of this league.
11. A pinch runner shall be the player that made the last out for that team in either the current inning or the previous inning. A pinch runner may be used for a player who is injured during the game, but that player must run for himself/herself at his/her next plate appearance or that player will be out. Exceptions to this rule will occur if the player designated for a pinch runner at the beginning of the game runs for himself/herself or if the injured player is removed from the game as long as the team still has the minimum number of players.

12. Teams will use a brand new 14-inch Ball. The home team will supply the 14-inch ball and a 12-inch softball which may be used at the option of any female hitter.
13. A regulation regular season game consists of nine innings. Extra innings for the regular season shall be limited to the maximum of 12 innings or 15 minutes after the scheduled start time for the succeeding game. The extra inning rule is waived for the last game of the day until it is too dark to play safely. For the playoffs there is no limit.
14. A legal pitch is one that is between six feet high and 16 feet high. Pitches outside of the legal range may be called a ball, unless of course the batter swings at the illegal pitch.
15. A regulation strike mat will be used. Any legal pitch that hits any part of the plate or mat will be a strike.
16. A pitcher shall also have one foot in contact with the pitching rubber at the beginning of a pitch or a fake pitch and at the time the ball is released from the pitcher's hand.
17. Males will start an at-bat with a 1 and 1 count. Females will start an at bat with a 0 and 0 count. All batters will walk after 4 balls.
18. A batter will be given one foul ball after his/her second strike. A second foul ball will be counted as a strike (out).
19. Base runners will be allowed to leave the base after the pitch has left the pitcher's hand but must return to the base if the batter does not hit the ball into fair territory or reach safely by a walk. A pitcher is allowed one fake per inning which counts as a ball. If any runner leaves the base on a fake pitch he is automatically out. If the base runner leaves the base, the defensive team can force out the runner if he/she does not get back to the base. This will be a force out. If the ball is thrown down by the catcher to try a force out and it is an overthrow. Ball either thrown into the outfield or over the fence then each runner can attempt to advance one base.
20. If a fielder happens to be out of position while a base runner is running the bases, the offensive player should do their best to avoid contact with the defensive player. The umpire shall use his/her discretion to award safe passage to the base the umpire determines the runner would have reached safely had the interference not occurred. This is a recreational league and every effort should be made to limit any injuries.
21. Every player shall sign an injury waiver.
22. For anyone to be eligible to play in the playoffs, they must have played in at least half of the scheduled games.
23. All teams will participate in playoffs.