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GARY JOHNSON
Parks and Recreation Director

BRENDAN BOYD
Athletic Programs Supervisor

January 30, 2023

Dear Pastor / Church Representative,

It is that time of year to begin planning for the upcoming **FUN & FELLOWSHIP SOFTBALL LEAGUE**. Enclosed you will find a packet of information that includes everything you will need to register and participate in this year's league. It is important that you register early this year. Due to budget restraints and field availability, we can only accept the first 16 teams to register.

Team registration will begin on Monday, January 30th. Again, we will only be able to accept the first 16 teams to register. To be registered, a team must turn in the Team Registration Form and pay **all** league fees. Due to limited space, spots cannot be held.

Team entry fees for this year's Fun and Fellowship Softball League will be \$475.00 per team. Again, teams **will not** be placed on the schedule until their Team Entry sheet has been turned in and league fees have been paid.

The last day to register is Friday, February 24th. A coach's meeting will be held in mid-March with a Pre-Season Tournament in late March. Regular season play should begin 2nd week of April. Teams should expect to play two games per week on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Fridays depending on field availability.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact me at (919) 934-2148.

Sincerely,

Gary M. Johnson

Gary M. Johnson
Parks and Recreation Director



ADULT ATHLETICS

TEAM ENTRY FORM

LEAGUE:

- FUN AND FELLOWSHIP SOFTBALL
- MEN'S OPEN LEAGUE SOFTBALL
- MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE
- OTHER _____

NAME OF TEAM

MANAGER

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

EMAIL

TELEPHONE

HOME

WORK/ CELL

2ND CONTACT

TELEPHONE

HOME

WORK/ CELL

EMAIL

OFFICIAL USE

CHECK (NO: _____)

CASH

CREDIT CARD

ENTRY FEE: \$ 475.00

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID \$ _____

BALANCE \$ _____

RECEIVED BY _____

SMITHFIELD PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

FUN & FELLOWSHIP SOFTBALL LEAGUE



RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Fun and Fellowship Softball League will play by USSSA rules with the following exceptions:

The team roster must be filled out **completely**, signed and dated by the minister of the church. The purpose of this rule is to make the church leaders aware of all players representing their church. The Parks and Recreation Department may call the ministers to verify their church team.

Each church may have no more than four (4) non-members of the church on their roster. (Regular attendees as deemed by the minister and women players do not count toward the church's non-members.)

COMPLETED team rosters will be due at or before the first game and there will be no additions to the roster after the second game. (Church members and women may be added at anytime.)

There is no minimum number of games that a player must play in order to be eligible for the post-season tournament. (If a tournament is played.)

If a team is found playing an ineligible player, all games that he/she played in will be ruled a forfeit.

The only protest allowed is one involving the use of an ineligible player.

Any coach or player that starts a fight or threatens an umpire or a Parks and Recreation Department Staff member will be suspended for the remainder of the season and may face further sanctions as deemed necessary.

Any player ejected from a game will be suspended for at least the next two games. A second ejection of the same player will result in that player's suspension for the remainder of the season.

Games will last: Seven Complete Innings
One Hour Time Limit, or
If a team is ahead by 20 or more runs after 3 innings,
15 or more runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings.

If a game is being played and it gets rained out, the game will be considered Official after 2 and a half innings of play if the team winning is up 10 or more runs. If less than 5 innings have been played and it gets rained out and the team winning is not up 10 or more runs, a new game will be played from the beginning.

Forfeit time is 10 minutes after game time for the first game of the night only. Game time is forfeit time for all other games. A team may begin a game with as few as **eight** players. (If a team only has eight players, the opposing team must provide a courtesy catcher to return the ball to the pitcher only. The catcher will not be required to assist the other team in put-outs.) **There will be no borrowing of players from other teams.**

Teams may bat as many players as they have present. It is highly recommended that teams use a continuous batting order.

Defensive substitutions may be made freely provided players are in the batting line-up.

New players may be added to the bottom of the line-up at any time during the game.

Teams must match up to two women in the line-up. If a team cannot match the women in the opposing team's line-up, the opposing team may select a man to bat opposite handed for each woman they cannot match and must play one man down on defense. (Example: Team A has 2 women, Team B has 1 woman. Team A may choose 1 man from Team B to bat opposite handed and Team B must play with 9 players defensively.) **A team that does not field at least 1 female will forfeit.**

If a male walks (intentionally or not) and a female follows him in the lineup, she has the option of hitting or walking. The male batter will go to second base regardless if the female walks or hits.

When a player comes to the plate to hit, a 1 strike, 1 ball count will be used. Once the Batter has 2 strikes on them, they will have one courtesy foul ball to hit. After a foul ball with 2 strikes, the next batted ball must be fair or batter is out.

Each team will be allowed one base runner per inning. It will be the last batted out and has to be a male for a male or a female for a female.

Each team will provide their own ball. Men will hit a 12" yellow ball that has a .cor of 52 and a maximum compression of 400 and is USSSA, ASA or NSA approved. Women will hit an 11" yellow ball that has a .cor of 44 and a maximum compression of 400 or less and is USSSA, ASA or NSA approved. Each softball must be properly stamped with the cork, compression, and approved organization. Women can hit either size ball.

Teams will be allowed 3 homeruns per game. Additional homeruns will be ruled an out.

Line-ups are due to the opposing team at least 10 minutes prior to game time.

You must drop the Bat to the ground before you touch first base, or you will be called out.

Minimum age to play is 15 years old as of the first game of the season. Exceptions must be approved by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Both teams will keep score with a scorebook, but the home team scorebook will be the official book.

There will be line painted in the outfield 200' from home plate. When a female batter is at bat, all of the outfielders must remain behind that line until the ball is hit. If an outfielder encroaches the line before the ball is hit, the team at bat will have the choice of taking the play as it happened or the batter will be given first base and all runners, regardless of location, will advance one base.

A 5-Man infield will not be allowed this season. The standard 4 infielders (not including the Pitcher and Catcher) are allowed for the Defensive Infield. All infielders must be in the dirt when a female is hitting.

Bats must be USSSA or ASA certified and approved along with a BPF of 1.2 or less.

Senior League Bats are NOT allowed. The Miken Ultra is NOT allowed as well.

No new inning will begin after 55 minutes of play.

In the regular season, if the score is tied after time has run out or the minimum number of innings have been completed, one additional inning will be played. If the score remains tied after the additional inning is played, the game will end in a tie.



OFFICIAL CHURCH ROSTER FORM

COACH: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 EMAIL _____
 HOME PHONE: _____
 WORK / CELL PHONE: _____

TEAM NAME: _____
 LEAGUE: _____
Fun and Fellowship Softball

By signing this roster, I give my permission to the player listed to represent our church. I understand that of the total number of players on this roster, only four may be non-members.

PASTOR: _____ DATE: _____

I understand in sports activities there are incidents of accident and injury. I voluntarily participate in these activities. I have read this agreement and understand it's contents. I release and agree to hold harmless the Town of Smithfield, the Town of Smithfield Parks and Recreation Department, it's employees, agents and heirs harmless from any claim that arises due to accident and/or injury.

I agree that I have read the league rules that I am participating in and will follow the rules and their intentions.

I agree that I have read the Code of Conduct Policy as adopted by the Town of Smithfield and the Smithfield Parks and Recreation Department. I will follow this code and conduct myself in a manner that is sportsmanlike. I understand that if I fail to conduct myself in such a manner, my privilege to participate may be suspended and/or revoked from these and future activities.

NAME	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	AFFILIATION MEMBER / NON-MEMBER REGULAR ATTENDEE	RESIDENT		SIGNATURE
			YES	NO	
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					



Code of Conduct

The intent of this policy is to ensure, to the best of our ability, that a safe, wholesome and encouraging environment be provided for all who are involved in the activity, whether they be a coach, player, spectator, or official.

According to the *“Code of Ordinances of the Town of Smithfield, Section 12-97., ‘No Person shall conduct himself in a disorderly or obscene manner or commit any nuisance upon the grounds of any park or recreation area.’”*

Based on this ordinance, the Town of Smithfield’s Parks and Recreation Department and the Smithfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee have adopted the following policy to deter such behavior:

Any spectator, participant or coach who conducts themselves in a disorderly manner as described above may be suspended, or banned from all further Smithfield Parks and Recreation activities, programs and/or events. This type of unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to, foul, abusive or profane language and/or gestures demonstrated toward other persons in attendance.

If in the event of such an occurrence, a formal complaint is filed with the Parks and Recreation Department, a special hearing will be scheduled with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to decide what action, if any, shall be taken. Options will include, but not be limited to, temporary suspension, expulsion from all future programs, or legal action.