

Enclosed is the registration information for the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services Adult Co-Rec & Men's Fall Softball program. After reviewing this information, you may register your team by:

1. Phone: 952-939-8203
2. Email: send registration form to recservices@eminnetonka.com
3. Fax: 952-939-8311
4. Mail or in-person: 14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345

LEAGUE STRUCTURE: The softball season runs for 7 weeks and begins the week of August 7th. Each team will be scheduled for 3 double-header weeks for a total of 10 games throughout the 7-week season. Games are scheduled to begin as early as 6:15 p.m. and as late as 9:15 p.m. and all teams are scheduled for an equal number of games. Byes may be scheduled depending on the number of teams in the league. All teams have the option of participating in the MRPA Fall State Tournament.

The dates of 2011 league play are as follows:

- Sunday Co-Rec League (Big Willow): August 7 – September 25 (no games September 4)
- Monday Men's League (Big Willow): August 8 – September 26 (no games September 5)
- Tuesday Men's League (Big Willow): August 9 – September 20
- Wednesday Co-Rec League (Big Willow): August 10 – September 21
- Thursday Men's League (Big Willow): August 11 – September 22

LEAGUE FEE: Payment must be made at the time of registration.

- Co-Rec & Men's Leagues: \$385 (10 games)

REGISTRATION START DATES:

1. June 13: Returning teams from the 2011 summer season (at least 6 players must be returning)
2. July 5: New teams

The registration deadline is July 15 or until the league fills.

REQUIRED FORMS:

1. Registration Form – Not required for phone registration
2. Team Roster – Must be submitted to the Recreation Services office by July 22nd.

ROSTERS:

- Teams must submit the official Recreation Services Team Roster form to the Recreation Services office by 4:30 p.m. on July 22nd. The Team Roster form is included in the softball registration packet or can be downloaded from the city of Minnetonka website: www.eminnetonka.com.
- Team rosters may have a maximum of 20 players and must include the name, full address, and phone number(s) for each player.
- Additional players may be added to the team roster up until the fifth league game, but a player must be on the team roster before they compete in a game.
- Players must be added to the team roster by the Team Manager or by the player who is being added.
- Game schedules and equipment will not be distributed to a team until a team roster has been submitted and approved.

GAME SCHEDULES: League schedules will be emailed to Team Managers the week of July 25th. The team's roster must be received before the team's schedule will be sent. Games that are rained out may be rescheduled on any available night, including Fridays. No games will be played on Sept. 4th or 5th due to the Labor Day holiday.

WEATHER HOTLINE: In the case of inclement weather, call the Recreation Services Weather Hotline for updates on the status of the evening's games. The Weather Hotline # is 952-939-8355.

PLAYOFFS: The top four teams in each league will advance to a one-day playoff round at the end of the season. Playoff game results will determine the league champion. In addition, all teams have the option of participating in the MRPA Fall State Tournament. Tournament dates and registration information are included in this packet.

CONDUCT VIOLATION POLICY: The following incidents will be assessed a \$20 per violation fee:

1. Unannounced Forfeit – To avoid a fee, forfeits must be reported to Ann Davy, Program Manager, by phone (952-939-8357) or email (adavy@eminnetonka.com) by 3 p.m. the day of game.
2. Player Ejection
3. Unrostered Player

Players will be notified by Recreation Services if they have been assessed a conduct violation fee. Payment of the violation fee must be made by 12 p.m. on the team's next game day.

EQUIPMENT: The league fee includes 6 softballs. An equipment bag will be assembled for each team and will be distributed at the field on the first night of league play.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Participants must have completed their freshman year in high school to be eligible for any adult softball league.
2. Players who are currently suspended from participating in other sports communities are ineligible to compete in Hopkins-Minnetonka leagues.
3. The participation of an unrostered player in any league or playoff game will result in forfeiting that game to the opposing team. The Program Manager shall determine whether other games the player participated in shall be forfeited also.
4. Opposing managers, as well as Recreation Services, may initiate checks on eligibility. Showing proof of a player's identity by photo id may be required at game time.
5. Players cannot play on more than one team in the same league or on the same night.

LEAGUE RULES: Official rules enforced will be those in the USSSA Official Rule Book and the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association State Tournament Rules and Guide Book. The following are Hopkins-Minnetonka rule exceptions:

1. A minimum of eight players are required to play a league game. Games will start precisely as scheduled when a team has eight players. A 5-minute grace period will be granted to teams playing in the first scheduled game of the night. All other games will start as scheduled with no grace period. A player must be on the field ready to play at the scheduled game time to be considered one of the eight players or the game will be ruled a forfeit. In the case that a team does not have the minimum number of players needed to start the game, they must inform the umpire that they will be forfeiting but will be permitted to pick up players in order to play a scrimmage. The scheduled umpire will be the game official. An umpire will not officiate a game forfeited due to the ejection of a player.
2. Game length is seven innings with a 1 hour time limit. Tie games will stand as a tie with each team receiving $\frac{1}{2}$ a win and $\frac{1}{2}$ a loss. A minimum of 4 innings or 40 minutes is required for a regulation game. Games not of regulation length due to interruptions by rain, darkness or protest, will be rescheduled and continued from the time of interruption. Teams must make their best effort to field the same team as the original game.
3. Run Rules:
 - a. Games will be automatically terminated when a team is 10 or more runs ahead after 5 innings, 15 or more runs ahead after 4 innings, and 20 or more runs ahead after 2 innings.
 - b. Flip-Flop Rule - When the visiting team has reached the run rule by the end of the inning prior to the run rule going into effect, the home team remains at bat and becomes the visiting team. If the new visiting team does not score enough runs to reduce the run difference below the designated amount, the game is over. If the team does score enough runs, the game will proceed as normal. If the situation reverses, the teams flip-flop again.
4. All leagues will use a three-ball/two-strike count – three balls constitute a walk and the second strike must be hit fair or the batter will be declared out. This ball is considered a “dead ball.” There is no courtesy strike.
5. All teams must choose one of the following methods of batting and inform the umpire which method they will be using:
 - a. Round Robin: All players present at game time are eligible to play using a continuous batting order. Teams may not add any late arrivals to this order, but they may substitute them for an original player. A player may be removed from the order only if due to an injury or having previously informed the umpire of the pending change. A player leaving without notification will be declared out. Teams may field any 10 players defensively as long as the batting order remains unchanged.
 - b. Additional Hitter: Teams may employ an additional hitter, allowing them to bat 11 players. Any 10 of the 11 players may play in the field as long as the batting order does not change. Teams must be able to complete the game with 11 players or the game will be forfeited.
 - c. Batting 8, 9, or 10: Teams may play with as few as eight players if that is all that is available at game time. Additional players may be added as they arrive, but a team may play with no more than ten.
6. Limited free substitutions will be allowed only when teams choose the additional hitter batting method or bats ten players. A starting player is allowed to be withdrawn then re-enter one time provided they occupy the same spot in the batting order. Violation of this rule is considered use of an ineligible player, causing a forfeiture of the game.
7. If a team is forced to play with less than 10 players as a result of the ejection of a player for unsportsmanlike conduct, the ejected player will be considered an out when it becomes their turn in the batting order. A team will not be penalized if they have a legal substitute for this player, or if the player is forced to leave a game due to injury or other circumstance.
8. A courtesy runner may replace an injured or handicapped base runner during a game (max of two per game). The courtesy runner must be a substitute from the bench who has not played, or if no substitutes are available, a team must use the player who has made their last out.
9. Teams are limited to two home runs per game (on fenced fields). Home runs over the limit are considered an out.
10. Teams that hit homeruns or foul balls over the fence must send a player to retrieve the ball and return it to play.

11. No player is allowed to disrupt the solid materials within the confines of the batter's box. Loose material may be spread with the foot, but no digging will be permitted. On the first offense, the umpire will warn the batter and the team. On each subsequent offense by any member of the team, the batter will be declared out.
12. Pitchers will be allowed to deliver the ball from a distance of 50' (pitching rubber) and up to 56' provided they stay within the dimensions of the rubber. The pitcher still must present the ball and pause before making their delivery.
13. Only rostered players and managers, as well as one bat person and one scorekeeper, are allowed on a team's bench during the game. No pets allowed.
14. The home team must supply a new official ball for each game and the visiting team must supply a good used ball for each game. A 3-run penalty will be assessed for failure to provide a new official ball.
15. A list of legal bats can be found at www.ussa.com. The listed bats are legal to use in the Hopkins-Minnetonka leagues. Any bats not listed are not legal in any USSA program. Players attempting to use illegal bats may be suspended from the league.
16. If a player develops bleeding during a game, the player must be removed from play until bleeding is controlled and dressed. In this case, the player may leave the game and return without penalty. Game time will not be stopped for injuries. It is the responsibility of the teams to bring first aid supplies to the field.
17. Umpires will determine if a player's physical condition and attire will enable them to be allowed to participate in a league game.
18. Should an umpire not show up for a game, teams should appoint a volunteer umpire, if possible. The volunteer umpire will be paid and the game will count. In this case, the game results must be phoned into the Program Manager at 952-939-8357 along with the name and phone number of the volunteer.
19. Batting practice is not permitted at Big Willow #5 or #6 or on the soccer field.
20. Big Willow Park closes at 10:30 p.m. Games will end and field lights will be shut off by this time.
21. Smoking is allowed on city property, however it is not allowed on the playing field or in the dugouts.
22. Teams finishing in 1st place in the playoff round will be considered the league champion and t-shirts will be awarded to these teams.
23. Teams forfeiting a game are assessed a \$20 forfeit fee if the forfeit is not reported to the Program Manager by 3 p.m. on the day of the game. If a fee is assessed to a team, the team's manager will be notified and payment must be made to the Recreation Services office by 12 p.m. on the team's next game day. Failure to pay by this time results in another forfeit. Any team with three forfeits will be dropped from the league.
24. League scores and standings will be updated and posted weekly on the city of Minnetonka website – www.eminnetonka.com.

PLAYER CONDUCT:

1. **Alcohol/Beer:** There shall be no alcoholic beverages, including beer, at any city of Minnetonka parks, Hopkins School District facilities, or Minnetonka School District facilities. This includes the playing field, bleachers, and parking lot area. Do not bring alcohol to these locations. The game officials have been instructed to stop the game until alcohol has been removed from the area, even if it belongs to spectators. Players may not drink any alcoholic beverages before or during the game. If the umpire detects alcohol on the breath of a player, the player will be expelled from the game.
2. The conduct of teams playing in Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services leagues must be above satisfactory. Managers must set examples of fair play and sportsmanship for their players. The Hopkins-Minnetonka Player Code of Conduct is as follows: *"At no time shall any person lay a hand on, shove, strike, use abusive language, or threaten an official of the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Department on park or school property."* Such incidents will require persons to be suspended until the Program Manager considers the case. Maximum penalty shall be suspension from local league play for one season or up to suspension for life. The umpire's authority at a game shall not be questioned. They have been instructed to enforce the league rules. The umpire has the authority to remove a player, coach, or manager from the game for violation of the rules. Players removed from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct will not be allowed to compete in the following game and a \$20 conduct violation fee will be assessed. A second ejection from a game by any one player will result in suspension for the remainder of the season.

3. Profanity on or around the playing field, even casual profanity, is not permitted. It is sufficient grounds for expulsion from the premises. Casual profanity pertains to expletives not necessarily directed towards an umpire or player, but made out of frustration for a bad play. In these cases, if the offending team is at bat and the player uttering the profanity has made an out, the following player will also be declared out. If the profanity is made by a defensive player, the first player to bat in their half of the inning will be declared out.
4. Please be respectful of the game facilities and remove all litter from your team's bench and the surrounding area before leaving the game site.

PROTESTS:

1. Notification of intent to protest must be made to the umpire immediately before the next pitch or the protest will be invalid.
2. Protests on rules of the game will not be considered unless they in some way affect the outcome.
3. Legitimate protests must be made in writing within 24 hours after the scheduled time of contest. A \$20 deposit is required for each protest filed. If the protest is won, the protesting team will be refunded the deposit.

REGIONAL/STATE TOURNAMENTS: All teams have the option of participating in the MRPA Fall Softball State Tournament. Teams interested in this post-season tournament must submit the state tournament registration form (included in the registration packet), and a check for the tournament registration fee, prior to the registration deadline of August 26, 2011. Once a team submits the post-season tournament registration form, they are committed to post-season play.

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Davy: adavy@eminnetonka.com, or call (952) 939-8357.



Adult Co-Rec & Men's Fall Softball 2011 Registration Form

I would like to register a team to compete during the 2011 session(s). If this registration is accepted, I will be responsible for my team's fulfillment of all rules and regulations established for the operation of the league by Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services.

League (check one)		Day (check one)		Location	Fee (# of games)
[]	Co-Rec League	[]	Sunday (D)	Big Willow	\$385 (10 games)
		[]	Wednesday (D)	Big Willow	
[]	Men's League	[]	Monday (D/E)	Big Willow	
		[]	Tuesday (D/E)	Big Willow	
		[]	Thursday (C/D)	Big Willow	

MRPA State & National Tournament Classification							
[]	Class B	[]	Class C	[]	Class D	[]	Class E

Team Contact Information					
Team Name:				Home Phone:	
Manager:				Cell Phone:	
Address:				City:	Zip:
Email:					
[]	No				
[]	Yes	Did your team participate in the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services 2011 Summer Softball league? (minimum of 6 returning players required)			
[]	No				

Payment Information			
[]	VISA	Credit Card #:	
[]	MasterCard	Exp. Date:	
[]	Discover		
Amount to be charged:	\$	Signature:	

Data Privacy Act	
The Minnesota Data Privacy Act requires that the registration information you provide on this form remain as private data. Private data is available to you but not the public. While you may choose to withhold this private data, there may be consequences that could limit the distribution of information to the participant (i.e., no managers list). By signing below, you are consenting to allow registration information to be shared with the coach, supervisor, or instructor and other registered program participants for purpose of administering the activity. This consent will expire upon completion of this activity.	
Release of Liability	
By signing this application form, I am acknowledging on behalf of myself and my organization or group ("the participants") that use of the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation facilities carries a risk of personal injury. The participants RELEASE and DISCHARGE Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services, the Cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka, and their agents and employees, from liability for injuries or damage, including any losses CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OR STRICT LIABILITY of the released parties. The participants agree not to sue or make a claim against those agencies and agree to hold them harmless and indemnify them from all claims and suits that may be brought as a result of use of these facilities.	
Signature:	Date:



MRPA Fall Softball State Tournament 2011 Registration Form

I would like to register my team to participate in the MRPA Fall Softball State Tournament. If this registration is accepted, I will be responsible for my team's fulfillment of all rules and regulations established for the operation of the tournament by the Minnesota Recreation & Park Association.

Tournament (check one)		Dates	Location	Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-Rec 11/12"- Recreational Division	October 8-9, 2011	Blaine (BeBop's)	\$150 (add an additional \$21 if your team is not registered with MRPA/USSSA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-Rec 11/12"- Competitive Division	October 8-9, 2011	Blaine (BeBop's)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Men's - Bronze Division (D/E teams)	October 15-16, 2011	Blaine (BeBop's)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Men's - Silver Division (B/C teams)	October 15-16, 2011	Blaine (BeBop's)	

MRPA State & National Tournament Classification							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class B	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class C	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class D	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class E

Team Contact Information						
Team Name:				Home Phone:		
Manager:				Cell Phone:		
Address:				City:		Zip: <input type="text"/>
Email:						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Is your team registered with MRPA/USSSA?				
<input type="checkbox"/>	No					
If yes, please list your team ID number:						

Payment Information
A check must be submitted in the amount of \$150. Checks should be made payable to: MRPA.
Payment and registration must be received by August 26, 2011.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Sport (select one)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball	<input type="checkbox"/> Broomball	<input type="checkbox"/> Wiffleball
<input type="checkbox"/> Football	<input type="checkbox"/> Kickball	<input type="checkbox"/> Softball
League (select one)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Men	<input type="checkbox"/> Women	<input type="checkbox"/> Co-Rec
League Type (select one, if applicable)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Open	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	<input type="checkbox"/> Church

Team Contact Information				
Team Name:		Sponsor:		
Manager:		H Phone:	W Phone:	
Address:		City:	Zip:	
Email:				
Asst. Manager:		H Phone:	W Phone:	
Address:		City:	Zip:	
Email:				

Manager's Affirmation: As the manager of this team, I understand that it is my responsibility to inform the team members of the rules and regulations that govern this activity and any consequences that may result if these guidelines are not followed. I obtained the following addresses and phone numbers and know that they are authentic. I certify that all listed players are fully aware of all rules and regulations and the penalties for any violations.	
Manager's Signature:	Date:

Minnesota Tort Claims Act Under Minnesota law, the cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka are not liable for injuries related to the operations and maintenance of facilities used for the provision of recreation programs.
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Team Name:		Sport:	
Manager's Name:			

1.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

2.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

3.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

4.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

5.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

6.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

7.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

8.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

9.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

10.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

11.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

12.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

13.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

14.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

15.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

16.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

17.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

18.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

19.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

20.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

21.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

22.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

23.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

24.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

25.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

26.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

27.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

28.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

29.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	

30.	Name:			
	Home Address:		H Phone:	
	Work Address:		W Phone:	