

# Citrus Park 50+ Softball League

## Men's Player Placement Regulations

### Amended December 10, 2024

#### Player Placement – Player Rating Committee

The Player Rating Committee begins its work before a new season by holding sessions to rate new players as they register and to re-rate players coming off an injury/illness, a part season or a missed season. The re-rating process is continued throughout the playing season by the Committee and near the end of the season when the team managers become involved in adjusting the master list.

1. New players who register before November 15<sup>th</sup> will have to be evaluated by the Player Rating Committee and placed on the master list when it is compiled by the Player Rating Committee and may be placed on a team. Players registered after November 15<sup>th</sup> must be rated and will not be placed on a team but rather on the reserve list.
2. Player rating is an ongoing activity in the Men's League. Players may have to be re-rated before the new season begins because the Board may request it or a player may request it. Rating, when required, should take place ASAP. Player rating should take into account speed, skill in fielding ground balls, catching fly balls, batting, baseball knowledge and know-how, and eagerness to play!
3. Near the end of each season, between the last game of the regular schedule and the last game of the playoffs, each manager will submit to the Player Rating Committee a list of the players on his team, rated from one to eleven, one being the best. It is understood that there may be more than one player at each rating level and none at some. Managers will use all information at their disposal to complete this task. Players should be assessed on their defensive skills as well as their offensive skills.
4. The Player Rating Committee will compile and print a list of the ratings exactly as submitted by the managers.
5. The managers will meet with the Rating Committee, chaired by the Rating Committee Chairman, discuss each player, and further rate all the players grouping them into ratings. There can be any number of players in each rated group. **After the rating sessions, the Player Rating Committee will integrate players onto a master list ranking all the players from the best to the not-so-best.**
6. Before the teams are picked by the Team Selection Committee for the new season, the Rating Committee may have to adjust the master list (players skills may have changed, some players may not be available to play, new registrations may have occurred, etc.)
7. When the list is finalized, it should be given to the Team Selection Committee.
8. A player's rating may change (up or down) during the season. If this happens, his new rating will apply only when he is used as a substitute player. The Player Rating Committee must notify the Player Substitution Committee of any new ratings.

#### Player Rating Guidelines

1. The Player Rating Committee should preview the rating master list prior to the season and make necessary adjustments to player rankings, giving consideration to players medical/health changes or obvious playing changes during preseason play
2. Players may be rated for the following reasons:
  - a. New to the league
  - b. Re-rate due to injury or illness
  - c. Re-rate due to a season or more of inactivity
  - d. Board/Player request (see #2 above).
3. Players will be rated in five (5) categories:

- a. Throwing
  - b. Running
  - c. Hitting
  - d. Fielding
  - e. Softball awareness
4. Players must meet the following minimum requirements:
    - a. Must be able to throw from home plate to pitcher's mound in the air.
    - b. Must be able to run from home plate to first base after hitting a ball in 6 seconds or less unless covered by the pre-2008 exemption.
  5. Players meeting above minimum requirements shall be placed on the 'active' reserves and will be eligible for team selection or team substitution.
  6. Players not meeting the above minimum requirements shall be placed on the 'non-active' reserves and will not be eligible for team selection or team substitution. Non-active reserves may still play in reserves practices and games.
  7. Non-active reserves may request to be rerated for 'active' reserve status when they are able to complete the minimum requirements stated above.

## Player Placement – Team Selection Committee

### Committee

The V.P. Player Placement will chair the Team Selection Committee. The committee will consist of the V.P. Player Placement, the President Elect/Secretary, the Registrar, the Player Ratings Chair and two or more persons chosen at the V.P. Player Placements discretion. The Committee may access the Registrar and possibly past committee members for information and process continuity.

### Note - Family Members:

Men who have members of their families who would like to play on the same team must formally send a request (letter) signed by the requesting family members, to the Selection Committee before the Selection Process is begun (November 15). The Selection Committee will consider the request, given that the players making the request are not of the same rating, the request is workable within the "weave" process and the request would not negatively impact other teams.

### Selection Process

1. The Team Selection Committee should get the master list compiled by the Player Rating Committee after November 15<sup>th</sup> (the last day of registration for the coming season) and the information from the Registrar collected at registration before beginning the selection process.
2. The first step is to recommend to the Executive, for approval, the number of teams that will be formed for the coming season. When this number of teams is finalized, notify the scheduler.
3. This committee will be responsible for creating the reserve list. Players put on the reserve list who did not request it at registration must be those that registered most recently and must be new players to the League. **All players in their second year or more should be placed on a team!**
4. When the number of teams is determined, the Master List is then divided into the same number of rated groups as there are teams e.g. if there are 20 teams, the first 20 names on the Master List will be number 1's, the second 20 names on the Master List will be number 2's and so on. Each player is then assigned to a team by the Committee using the following method:
  - a. the #1 players are placed one to a team on the first line from left to right, the #2 players are placed one to a team from right to left on the second line, the #3 players are placed one to a team from left to right

on line three, and so on until all players have been placed. As an example, the placement for 9 teams with 11 on a team is below.

	<u>T1</u>	<u>T2</u>	<u>T3</u>	<u>T4</u>	<u>Y5</u>	<u>Y6</u>	<u>T7</u>	<u>T8</u>	<u>T9</u>			
→	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	←		
→	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	←		
→	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45			
	54	53	52	51	50	49	48	47	46	←		
→	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63			
	72	71	70	69	68	67	66	65	64	←		
b. An	→	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	←	exception to the above
method is in		90	89	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	←	the selection of the 11 <sup>th</sup>
players for	→	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99		each team. Because there
is an uneven												# of players on a team,
this method												of selection may give
some teams an advantage, therefore, the selection of the 11 <sup>th</sup> players should be made by a process of allocation by the Committee.												

5. When all players have been assigned, the committee should adjust the teams to ensure that each team has a balance of talent e.g. overall skill (speed, batting ability, etc.), outfielders, infielders, pitchers, catchers, and managers.
6. Teams are matched to sponsors as follows. Repeat #1 rated players/ Managers will be assigned the same sponsor they had the previous season unless they request a change. Sponsors will be assigned to new #1 rated players/Managers or previous #1 rated players/Managers requesting a change by the Team Selection Committee.
7. The teams will then be presented to the Men's Executive for final approval. If accepted, the Teams Selection Committee's work is done.
8. The teams will be announced immediately following Board approval!
9. Initially each team's manager will be the #1 rated player. He will organize a team meeting and ask if there is any other team member who requests to be considered as manager. If there are two or more players asking to be considered as manager, a vote of all team members will be required. If no member of the team requests the managers position, other registered members of the league may be nominated. A vote of all team members will be required to approve the nomination. All voting will be done by secret ballot. If a manager other than the original #1 rated player is elected as manager, the selection must be submitted to the Men's League Board for approval.

## Player Substitution

The Player Substitution Committee is responsible for the substitution of all players who are not available to play due to injury, illness, absence, etc. It is the responsibility of each team manager to request a substitute when needed. At no time shall the manager of a team attempt to make those substitution arrangements or to influence the selection of a substitute player. The Player Substitution Committee and the Field Player Substitution members have the authority to assign subs. Once a substitute player has been assigned, the manager shall accept him. All players are requested at the beginning of the season to indicate their willingness to sub at the time of registration. Substitutions will be made from the list of those who have agreed to sub. Players may at any time be added to or removed from the substitution list.

The process for determining an appropriate sub follows. This process will be adhered to, if possible, when selecting replacement players; however, there may be occasions when this process must be tempered to facilitate the playing of the game. The important thing is to play the game.

### **Substitution Rules**

These rules will be followed whenever possible when selecting substitute players, however, there may be occasions when these rules must be tempered to facilitate the playing of the game. The important thing is to play the game.

1. Substitute players are assigned for one game at a time.
2. A substitute player may not sub in more than one game per day.
3. A substitute player may not sub in two consecutive games for the same team.
4. A player substituting for a non-runner will become a non-runner for that game.
5. Once a substitute player has been assigned, he will play, even if the player being replaced is able and willing to play.

### **Substitution Prior to Game Day**

1. It is important that managers notify the Player Substitution Committee as soon as they know that they will need a sub.
2. Substitutes will be selected from the closest rated available player; a rule of thumb of 8 up or 8 down is suggested. This process will apply to the following pools of players, in order;
  - a) Reserves
  - b) Teams that are idle on game day
  - c) Teams that are playing on game day.

Finding no substitutes, a player closest to the rating from any pool will be selected.

### **Substitution on Game Day**

1. Once a player is determined to be unable to play, or unable to continue playing, the manager shall ask the umpire for a substitute.
2. The umpire shall inform the Field Player Substitution member assigned to the game.
3. A player of the closest lower rating will be assigned from those in the vicinity. The goal is to get the game underway as soon as possible.
4. Game play will resume once the umpires, managers and official scorekeepers have been informed of the change by the Field Player Substitution member.
5. Field Player Substitution members should be organized so that;
  - a) there is always someone at the field to provide subs
  - b) Player Substitution members who are playing do not provide subs; and
  - c) there are not two people assigning subs for the same game.

### **Playoffs**

1. Reserves may only be used as substitutes during the first two rounds of the playoffs, i.e., until some teams have been eliminated.
2. Stand-bys will only be assigned during the playoffs.
3. During the playoffs, no player may substitute for the same team twice during the same playoff series.

## **Permanent Replacement**

When a manager determines that a player cannot continue playing for the remainder of the season, he will request a permanent replacement. If the Player Substitution Committee is satisfied that the request is legitimate, they will assign a permanent replacement to the team from the Reserves, matching a player as close as possible to the rating of the player being replaced.

Players who are in the park, but unable to play due to injury, will be allowed to miss up to 6 consecutive games and remain on their team. After missing a 7th consecutive game, they will be placed on the Reserves and a replacement player will be assigned to the team. Injured players returning after a 6 game absence must play a full game to restart the clock. Players who are not playing because they are absent from the park for personal reasons will be allowed to miss up to 4 consecutive games. After missing a 5th consecutive game, they will be placed on the Reserves and a replacement player will be assigned to the team.

## **Pitching**

When requesting a replacement for a pitcher, if a manager has another player on the team who can pitch, he may request that the replacement need not be a pitcher. This may result in the replacement being closer to the rating of the player being replaced. If this occurs on game day, it may also result in the substitution being made more quickly.