

**CITY OF FORT WORTH
PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
UMPIRE GUIDELINES**

1. Check and make sure both line-ups are turned in at least 5 minutes before game time.
2. Look at uniforms and make sure all players have alike colored shirts with numbers.
3. **The new home run limit will be as follows:**
 - Men's C Competitive - 6**
 - Men's D Competitive - 3**
 - Men's D Recreational - 1**
 - Men's E Recreational - 0**
 - CoEd D Competitive - 3**
 - CoEd D Recreational - 1**
 - CoEd E Recreational - 0**
4. Run rule after 2 ½ or 3 are 20 runs.
Run rule after 3 ½ or 4 are 15 runs.
Run rule after 4 ½ or 5 are 10 runs.
5. On uniforms there is a two week grace period. On the third week everyone will have to have the same colored shirts.
6. All softballs used for league play must have the Gateway logo and be red stitched balls.
7. Game time is forfeit time. (If you have a forfeit on your field and another field has one umpire you need to go and help them out. If your game is a forfeit you are required to work either 40 minutes regular or 1 pitch. When the game is a forfeit, the only players allowed to play in the game or the players of the two teams which was scheduled to play. They are not allowed to get players from another team or out of the stands.
8. Teams can start with 9 players with an automatic out. If a team starts with ten players they are allowed to drop to nine. If a team drops because of ejection then the game is a forfeit.
9. Game time is 55 minutes.
10. If a team wants to protest a game they have 48 hours to turn it in at Haws Athletics. The fee is \$35.00.
11. Be sure if there is a game suspended because of the lights not working or rain that the scorekeeper has on the score sheet how much time was left in the game, who was up and how many outs.
12. All officials of the game need to be at the field 15 to 20 minutes before game time.
13. The officials need to walk the fields and make sure there is no obstructions where the ground rules need to change before the game starts. This is to help alleviate some injuries if possible.
14. The tie breaker system goes into effect beginning in the 8th inning or in the top of the first inning after the game time has expired. Each batter thereafter would begin with three balls – two strikes count.
15. When the hitter comes to bat they have a 1 ball and 1 strike count.
16. There is a possibility that a lady could be on a men's team. We do not recommend it to happen a lot but it does happen every once in a while.