



**Killeen Parks and
Recreation
Adult Softball
By-Laws**

CITY OF KILLEEN
PARKS & RECREATION

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Article I. The Killeen Parks & Recreation Philosophy

Section 1.01 KPR Mission Statement

The Killeen Parks and Recreation Adult Softball League under the auspices of the Killeen Parks and Recreation Department (KPR) constitutes an Adult Softball league designed to build, develop, and nurture athlete's abilities and love of the game.

KPR Mission Statement

The KPR structure and regulations are based on three (2) primary objectives.

(a) To provide as many Killeen adults the opportunity to participate and enjoy the Adult Softball experience.

(b) To provide those adults who want to improve their softball skills the opportunity to do so through solid league play opportunities.

Section 1.02 Sportsmanship

The KPR regards bad sportsmanship as unnecessary and completely intolerable.

What Is Good Sportsmanship?

Good sportsmanship is when people who are playing or watching a sport treat each other with respect. This includes players, parents, coaches, and officials.

- Have a positive attitude
- Give their best effort
- Shake hands with the other team before and after the game
- Support teammates by saying "good hit" or "good try". Never criticize a teammate for trying
- Accept calls and don't argue with officials
- Treat the other team with respect and never tease or bully
- Follow the rules of the game
- Help another player up who has fallen

- Take pride in winning but don't rub it in
- Accept a loss without whining or making excuses

What's a Spectators Role in Good Sportsmanship?

Show your good sportsmanship:

- Keep sideline comments positive and encouraging
- Don't bad-mouth coaches, players, or officials
- Applaud good plays, no matter who makes them
- Congratulate the winners, even if they're on the other team

(a) Coaches

(i) All KPR coaches are required to demonstrate positive sportsmanship in respect to their players, team parents, opposing team players, parents, coaches, and game officials. Coaches who are unable to demonstrate the proper sportsmanship will be suspended from further coaching in the KPR. Any coach who is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be required to leave the field of play/facility and will be unable to coach in the next scheduled game. This includes post-season play. The continued demonstration of improper sportsmanship may constitute suspension from any number of games KPR deems necessary. Coaches are also responsible in assisting referees with the sportsmanship of all playing and non-playing team members, as well as spectators and assistant coaches.

(b) Participants

(i) Sportsmanship is a priority in the development of KPR athletes. All participants must demonstrate positive sportsmanship at all times. Those who cannot may be dismissed from the game, by the game official. The continued demonstration of improper sportsmanship will constitute suspension from any number of games that KPR deems necessary.

(c) Spectators

(i) All spectators must remain seated throughout all KPR games and are expected to demonstrate positive sportsmanship. Spectators, who fail to do so, will be required to leave the game site and will not be allowed to attend the next game. The continued demonstration of improper sportsmanship will constitute suspension from any number of games that KPR deems necessary.

Article II. KPR Adult Softball Program

Section 2.01 Definitions

- (a) KPR. Killeen Parks and Recreation Department.
- (b) Coordinator. Designated Recreation Coordinator for KPR will serve as the KPR Coordinator.
- (c) Director. Director KPR/ or his designee will serve as the KPR Director.
- (d) Pronouns. The personal pronoun of either gender (him, her, he, she, etc.) shall apply equally to males and females.

Section 2.02 Rule Administration

KPR Staff acts on the behalf of players, coaches, and parents as representatives. Any approved modification or changes from KPR will be distributed in writing to the effected teams as soon as possible.

Section 2.03 League Structure

The Director is responsible for overseeing the administration of the Adult Softball program. The Coordinator manages the day to day operations of each team(s) in each division(s). Divisions are separated into three separate divisions based gender.

Section 2.04 Player Eligibility

All players, ages 18+, are eligible to participate in the KPR Adult Softball league.

Article III. KPR Operations

Section 3.01 Team Registration

- a. In order for a team to be officially registered, his/her: fees must be paid in full.
- b. Registration will be held at the Park and Recreation Office, 1700 E Stan Schlueter Loop, Killeen, TX 76542, Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm or online at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/killeen>
- c. Completed roster will need to in before first regular season game. Roster need to be filled out completely. 20 player max on a roster. Can add or drop until week 3. Players can only play for one team per division.

Section 3.02 Contact Information

KPR Office Number: (254) 501-6390 KPR Office Location: 1700 E Stan Schlueter Loop, Killeen, TX 76542 and 2201 E Veterans Memorial Blvd Killeen, TX 76543

In addition, the KPR communicates with coaches regularly via e-mail. This helps keep everyone informed and updated about the program. KPR staff can also be reached via email:

Joe Brown, Executive Director of Recreation Services	jbrown@killeentexas.gov
Pete Vento, Parks Manager	pvento@killeentexas.gov
JD Dyer, Athletics Superintendent	jdyer@killeentexas.gov
Dusty Perez, Recreation Supervisor	dperez@killeentexas.gov
Brian Gardner, Recreation Supervisor	bgardner@killeentexas.gov

Inclement Weather Number: Please call the KPR Office during normal business hours Monday–Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm or visit the Athletics website at www.teamsideline.com/killeen . Coaches should call the Hot line or check website on any day that may have a chance of cancellation due to dangerous weather or unplayable field conditions for games and practices.

(i) These numbers should be disseminated to parents and the public as widely as possible.

(ii) Inclement weather decisions are normally made after 3:00 PM on weekdays and by 7:30 AM on Saturdays.

Section 3.03 Liability

The KPR and KPR are not liable for any injury to players, officials, cheerleaders, coaches, spectators, media, sideline personnel, or any other persons attending a KPR or KPR event.

Article IV. Adult Softball League Operations

Section 4.01 Scheduling of Games

KPR will schedule all games for the KPR Adult Softball league in each Division KPR has a team represented. KPR will make all efforts to alleviate conflict dates/times in the scheduling of games. There are no guarantees. Schedules and standings will be posted on teamsideline.com/Killeen.

Section 4.02 Players per Team

- a. A max of 20 players can be placed on roster.
- b. Player can only be on one roster per division.
- c. Roster Closes after 3rd week.

Section 4.03 Loss of Players

If at any time, a team loses a player, (whatever the reason) the Head Coach must contact the league office via email within forty-eight (48) hours after realizing this loss and inform KPR of the loss.

Section 4.04 Uniforms

Teams will provide their own uniforms or shirts. Uniforms must be in good taste and not offensive or have profanity.

Section 4.05 Equipment

All teams will provide their own equipment.

- a) Bats must be on the approved bat list and stamped. 1.20 or Below
- b) 52/300 balls ASA, GSA Tattoo
- c) No Metal Spikes
- d) Pitching nets will be on field at all times

Section 4.06 Practices

- (a) Practices scheduled by KPR will be held at **KAC 1-4**, or other designated KPR fields. Each team will have field for 50 mins.
- (b) Only registered players may participate in a practice, and only certified volunteer coaches can run/participate in practice.

Article V. KPR Game Mechanics

The following regulations apply to the KPR program's Game Mechanics.

Section 5.01 Game Play

KPR will follow all rules as outlined in the USA with local modifications. KPR will provide one copy of the Adult Softball By-Laws to the Head Coach of each team and publish them to www.teamsideline.com/killeen.

Section 5.02 Game Length

- a) Games are 50 mins or 6 innings.
- b) Run Rule is in affect 12/3, 10/4 and 8/5
- c) Regular season games can end in a tie. End of year tourney will use USA Softball tiebreaker rules.

Section 5.03 Pregame Coaches Meeting and Equipment Inspection

- a) Coaches' meeting will take place at the plate.
- b) Lines up will be turned to umpire.
- c) Home or Away determined by team sideline.

Section 5.04 Game Play Rules

- a) 1 and 1 count
- b) No stealing
- c) 1 courtesy runner per inning for men's and women's, coed 1 per gender
- d) Game time is forfeit time
- e) Team are allowed to start with 8 or 9 in men's and 8 in coed
- f) 5 homeruns per game (any homeruns hit after 5 will be an out)

Special Rules

- a) Pitching Safety nets will be on the fields at all times with zero exceptions. The Leg of the net must be touching the rubber at all times. Pitchers are instructed to go behind the net after pitch is released or can stay and field the ball. If the ball hits the pitcher that is not behind the net it is a live ball. If the ball hits any part of the net the batter is automatically out.
- b) Fighting: Player(s) involved will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of 1 game. If a team fight occurs, the teams involved will be ejected from the tournament and denied participation in any league play or tournament.

Player Conduct

- a) If the umpire witnesses any acts of unsportsmanlike conduct, the game will be stopped and the player will be ejected. Foul play will not be tolerated.
- b) Trash talking is illegal (from players, parents, and coaches). The umpire will give one warning but if it continues, umpire is entitled to eject players from the game.

Section 5.06 Injuries

All injuries will need to be assessed by officials, coaches, and staff.

Injuries that require medical attention will be handled by the coaches or KPR staff.

Section 5.07 Hazardous Weather

The protection of Killeen Parks & Recreation participants is of paramount importance. Every participant should recognize the danger presented by lightning, tornados and other hazardous weather. The following items represent generally accepted principles regarding the dangers involved with lightning and tornados.

Over the past century, lightning has consistently been 1 of the top 3 causes of weather-related deaths in this country. It kills approximately 100 people and injures hundreds more each year. Lightning is an enormous and widespread danger to the physically active population. Practice and training increase recreation performance. Similarly, preparedness can reduce the risk of the lightning hazard. Lightning is the most frequent weather hazard impacting athletics events. Baseball, football, lacrosse, skiing, swimming, soccer, tennis, track and field events...all these and other outdoor sports have been visited by lightning. Education is the single most important means to achieve lightning safety. The following is the lightning safety plan for Killeen Parks and Recreation as suggested by the National Lightning Safety Institute:

1. If the athletic area should need to be cleared the following is a list of SAFE lightning evacuation sites. SAFE evacuation sites include:
 - a. Fully enclosed metal vehicles with windows up.
 - b. Structurally sound buildings.
 - c. The low ground. Seek cover in clumps of bushes.
2. UNSAFE LIGHTNING SHELTER AREAS include all outdoor metal objects like flag poles, fences and gates, high mast light poles, metal bleachers, golf carts, cars, machinery, etc. AVOID trees. AVOID water. AVOID open fields. AVOID the high ground.

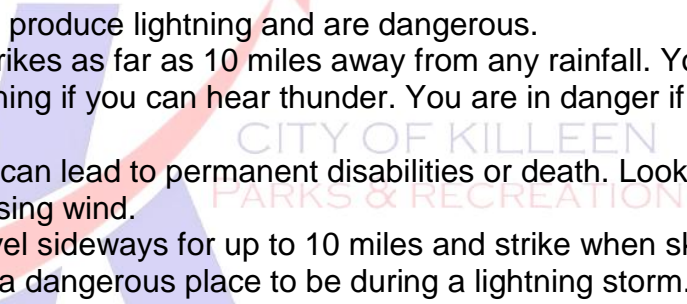
3. Lightning's distance from you is easy to calculate: if you hear thunder, it and the associated lightning are within auditory range...about 6-8 miles away. The distance from Strike A to Strike B also can be 6-8 miles. Ask yourself why you should NOT go to shelter immediately. Of course, different distances to shelter will determine different times to suspend activities. A good lightning safety motto is: "If you can see it (lightning) flee it; if you can hear it (thunder), clear it."

4. If you feel your hair standing on end, and/or hear "crackling noises" - you are in lightning's electric field. If caught outside during close-in lightning, immediately remove metal objects (including baseball cap), place your feet together, duck your head, and crouch down low in baseball catcher's stance with hands on knees.

5. Wait a minimum of 30 minutes from the last observed lightning or thunder before resuming activities.

6. People who have been struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge and are safe to handle. Apply first aid immediately if you are qualified to do so. Get emergency help promptly.

LIGHTNING:

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- i. All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
 - ii. Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder. You are in danger if you can see lightning.
 - iii. Lightning injuries can lead to permanent disabilities or death. Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind.
 - iv. Lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles and strike when skies are blue.
 - v. Soccer fields are a dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. When lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or when dark threatening clouds are observed, quickly suspend the game and/or practice and move to a safe location.
 - vi. Avoid standing in an open area, near soccer goals, under a tent, near trees or in water. The safest place during a thunderstorm with or without visible lightning is in a car, but not a convertible.

TORNADOS:

- i. Watch for rapidly darkening skies.
- ii. The sound of an approaching tornado is often described as that of an approaching train.
- iii. The funnel of a tornado does not have to touch down to cause extensive damage and injuries.
- iv. Tornadoes can produce winds of 300 miles per hour or more.
- v. Most people who are hurt during a tornado are hurt when they are struck by flying debris.
- vi. Seek safety in a solid structure, preferably in a basement or in an interior room. If no building is available, lay down in a ditch.

LIGHTNING DETECTORS:

KPR staff will carry a “Personal Lightning Detector” during any outdoor event, open swim, or field competition. The “Strike Alert HD” has 360-degree lightning strike detection and detects lightning up to 40 miles away. This device serves as further security against lightning storms.

GAME SUSPENSION REQUIREMENTS:

In any of the circumstances outlined above occurs, KPR staff or referee(s) should immediately suspend the game:

1. If thunder is heard, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
2. If lightning is seen, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
3. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains.
4. Wait a minimum of 30 minutes from the last observed lightning or thunder before resuming activities.
5. The game will be cancelled by the decision of KPR staff if lightning continues for an extended amount of time, or if the forecasted weather is unsafe for participants and spectators.
6. If a game is suspended with 5 minutes or less on the clock or it is after the 5th inning the score will be final. All other games will be rescheduled and started from the stoppage point of the game.

Anything not covered within these by-laws falls under our youth sports policies and procedures manual