

MEMORANDUM FOR

AREA SPORTS COORDINATORS (ASC)

ATHLETIC AND RECREATION (A&R) PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Fort Bragg Sports Program, 2021 Fort Bragg Coed Softball Program

1. Reference. Army Regulation 215-1, 24 September 2010, Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities.

2. Purpose. To provide policies and procedures to assist ASCs and A&R personnel with the implementation of the 2020 Fort Bragg Coed Softball Program.

3. General.

a. 2021 Fort Bragg Coed Softball Program will be conducted September 15 – October 12, 2021 at Pope Army Airfield/Hercules Sports Complex. **To enter, teams must submit an entry form (enclosed) and the \$50 league entry fee by signing up at www.webtrac.mwr.army.mil or at Leisure Travel Services office located in the mini-mall at Reilly and Normandy.** PLEASE NOTE: Team names must be in good taste and require the approval of Fort Bragg Sports office. Team names or mascots must not contain profanity, sexual innuendo, inappropriate misspellings, or a play on words which are deemed disrespectful/offensive to any gender, religion, race or ethnic background. Additionally, uniforms which are deemed offensive in any way will not be permitted and any cost for those uniforms will be the sole responsibility of the team. Registration deadline is 13 September 2021.

b. Games will be played on Monday through Thursday evenings.

c. Player eligibility.

(1) All military/government ID card holders, ages 18 and older, are eligible to participate. This includes active duty personnel, family members, retirees, and DOD civilians.

(2) If a protest results from the alleged use of an illegal player and the protest is upheld, the offending team will forfeit the game in question.

(3) Players may only play for one team. No exceptions.

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(4) For all games, team members must have their military identification (ID) card. ID cards will be checked against the roster and the scorebook prior to every game to confirm player eligibility. Players who fail to present their military ID card will not be allowed to participate.

d. Team rosters. All team members must be listed on the team roster. Rosters must include first and last names and team POC to include e-mail address and phone number. Each team must turn in a roster prior to their first game.

e. Protests. Misapplication of rules and player eligibility will be the only grounds for protests. Protests involving a rule misapplication must be lodged before play is continued. All protests will be resolved at the time of the protest by game umpires.

4. Rules. Current USSSA rules and the following amendments will govern all play. Rules can be located at <https://www.ussa.com/slowpitch/slowpitch-rules-and-legal-info>. Pitching screen will be available for everyone to use.

a. Games will have a 1-hour time limit; no inning will begin after 58-minutes has elapsed from the start of the game.

b. Game time is forfeit time.

c. Run Rules as follows: 10-run rule after 5 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings and 20-run rule after 3 innings.

d. Teams will be allowed to start and/or finish a game with eight players (minimum of four women). Any team not having at least eight players at the start or conclusion of a game will forfeit.

e. Should a team start a game with eight players, they will be allowed to add a ninth and a tenth player to the batting order upon his/her arrival. Five men will be allowed to play with four women; however six men will not be allowed to play with four women. For teams which start a game with eight or nine players, an automatic out will not be recorded for the ninth or tenth position in the batting order.

f. In the event of any injury or ejection which results in the batting order being depleted, an automatic out will be recorded in the batting position of the player or players who have left the game.

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g. Line-ups are to be submitted to the official scorer NLT 15 minutes prior to game time. The home team will be responsible for maintaining the official scorebook. Failure to provide a scorekeeper will result in forfeiture of the game.

h. Players in the field will consist of five men and five women. There are no positional restrictions with regard to gender. Extra hitters will be allowed; however, the lineup must include one male extra hitter and one female extra hitter.

i. 12-inch softballs will used for all play.

j. Male and female batters must alternate in the batting order.

k. When a male batter receives a base on balls or intentional walk, he will be awarded second base and the next female batter will have the option to walk or bat.

l. Teams are limited to six home runs (inside the park home runs are not included) per game. Any subsequent batted balls that are hit over the fence will be recorded as outs.

m. A protective pitching screen will be employed for all games under the following provisions:

(1) The pitcher will place the screen a reasonable distance in front of the pitching rubber with one edge of the screen inside the 24-inch pitching rubber.

(2) Upon release of the ball, the pitcher must step completely behind the screen before he/she can become a fielder. Failure to do so and then fielding the ball will result in a base hit with all baserunners advancing one base.

(3) Once the batter makes contact with the ball, the pitcher can then become a fielder and move out from behind the screen.

(4) Any batted ball which hits the pitching screen will be ruled as a foul ball (including those which result in a strike out).

(5) Any thrown ball which hits the pitching screen or any ball which hits the screen after caroming off a player will be remain in play.

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n. Any player or coach who is ejected from a game, will be suspended for his/her next scheduled game. Should that player or coach be ejected a second time, that player or coach will be suspended for three games. A third ejection will result in removal from the program. Any player or coach who intentionally makes physical contact with an official or Sports Branch representative, will be subject to immediate suspension for an indefinite period. Such an occurrence will be investigated by this headquarters and facts pertaining to the incident will be forwarded to the Garrison Commander for review.

o. League competition will include a minimum of 10 games, dependent upon the number of registered teams. A round robin format will be used; however, due to field exercises, weather complications, and other military commitments, it must be understood that a complete round robin or a balanced schedule may not be attainable for all teams. The league regular season champions will be determined by winning percentage.

p. League competition will be followed by a double elimination tournament.

5. League meeting. Teams must be represented at the league organizational meeting which is TBA.

6. Awards. The Sports and Fitness Branch will provide individual awards for the regular season champion and the first and second place teams for post season tournament play. Total number of awards provided to each team will not exceed 17.

7. Please contact the sports office for more details or information at 910-396-1217/1218.

**2021
Fort Bragg Sports
Coed Softball Program**

Team Entry Form

***Please submit this form along with the team entry fee of \$150 to the Leisure Travel Services Office located in the mini-mall at Reilly and Honeycutt Streets.**

Team Name _____

PLEASE NOTE: Team names must be in good taste and require the approval of Fort Bragg Sports and Fitness Branch staff. They must not contain profanity, sexual innuendo, inappropriate misspellings, or a play on words which are deemed disrespectful/offensive to any gender, religion, or ethnic background. Additionally, uniforms which are deemed offensive in any way will not be permitted and any cost for those uniforms will be the sole responsibility of the team.

Team POC

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Team rosters are not needed at this time and will be completed at the game site.