

HC RP

S P O R T S

Standard Rules for Adult Sports Leagues 2026



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STANDARD RULES FOR ALL ADULT SPORTS LEAGUES

LEAGUE DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary proceedings handed down by League Commissioners are enforced across the Sports and Facilities Division (unless otherwise specified). A player who is suspended by a League Commissioner for a specific period of time is ineligible for all Department-sponsored sports activities. Those persons who have disciplinary actions will have their name added to the HCRP Player Suspension List and shared with all Department Sports League Commissioners.

Additional information provided in League Rules for the specific league your team is registered in.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Rosters are to be submitted on the official online roster form through SportsEngine by the league deadline. Players listed without electronic signature and age are ineligible.

Managers of adult teams submitting rosters have the freedom to include any eligible 18 or older male or female adult that they have determined has the skills, knowledge and abilities to play at the level of their assigned division. Some sports leagues have age exceptions. Please check the league specific rules for details.

Any individual who has been subject to disciplinary action(s) by the Department may be placed on a the Suspension List maintained by the Department of Recreation and Parks. The list shall include the name of the individual suspended and the release date. The League Commissioner will notify team managers if any of their rostered players are on the Suspension List. Any individual on this list will be ineligible to play.

Any team using an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit each game in which the player participated. If a team uses a suspended player or a player under an assumed name, that team shall automatically be dropped from the league without refund and/or be subject to disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Department. Each game played with that player and all scheduled games not played shall be forfeited to the opponents.

Protests as to the use of an ineligible player must be made within 48 hours of game time and no protest fee is required. The protest must be submitted in writing to the Department by the team manager.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

A player, coach or manager who is ejected from a game by an official shall be suspended from any participation for at least 1 game (not including the game from which they were ejected). Any further ejections during the current season shall be dealt with more severely by the League Commissioner.

Anyone who strikes, shoves, pushes, bumps or otherwise physically or verbally threatens an official or a member of their team or any other team or spectators shall automatically be suspended from all Department-sponsored activities for at least 1 year from the date of the incident.

A player, coach or manager found conducting unsportsmanlike behavior before, during or after the game could result in suspension.

Any misconduct or inappropriate behavior on Howard County property could result in suspension.

Suspensions carry over into the next season.

The use of vulgar or profane language may result in the ejection of that player from the game.

The team manager is responsible for the conduct of their team and spectators.

A team member and/or spectator may be removed from the immediate field/court area when deemed necessary by the game official or HCRP staff. Failure to leave the area when requested may result in immediate forfeiture of the game.

The Howard County Employee Manual requires the Department to take action against anyone who harasses any Department of Recreation and Parks staff.

Substance abuse by player personnel during the game shall be subject to ejection by game officials and/or disciplinary action to be taken by the League Commissioner.

Players or coaches/managers who receive disciplinary action from the Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks may request a review of the decision. All requests for reviews must be made within 48 hours of the decision. Any such request should be made in writing to the League Commissioner. Individual player protest can only be received through the team manager. All team or individual disciplinary actions are communicated to the team manager. It is the team manager's responsibility to notify their team/player of disciplinary action taken by the Department.

Contact Information

Howard County Recreation and Parks
7120 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, MD 21046

www.howardcountymd.gov/rap

General Information: 410.313.4700

Registration: 410.313.7275

TTY (Hearing Impaired): 410.313.4665

Sports Website: www.hcrpsports.org

Field Reservations: 410-313-4626

EMERGENCY: 911

HCRP SPORTS


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Recreation & Parks



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