

## GENERAL RULES

### ELIGIBILITY:

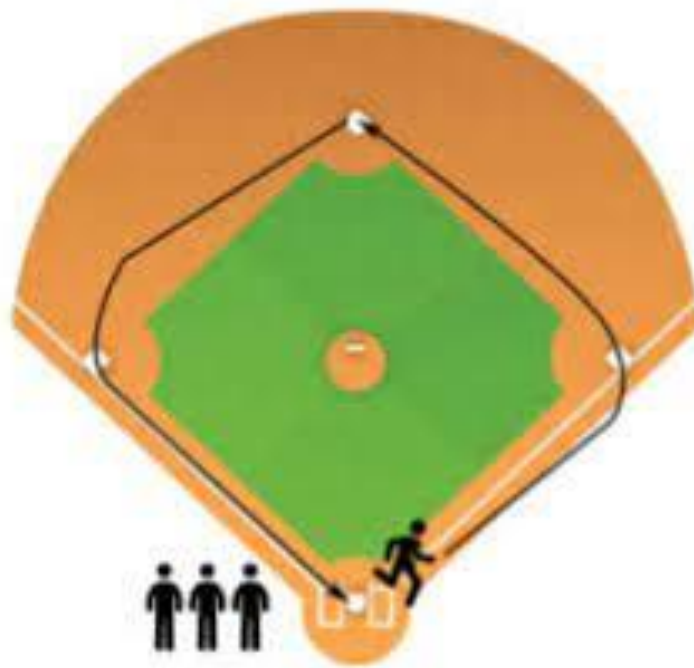
- Participation in the events is open to all RR residents, not just RRSA members.
- All participants must register to participate in the softball related events.
- Both Men and Women divisions will be held for each event.

### SCHEDULE:

- Softball Olympic events will take place Saturday, September 25, 2021 at the Field of Dreams Softball field.
- Events will include:
  - Baserunning (Timed)
  - Throws to Home Plate (Score)
  - Home Run Derby (Score)
- Order of events and starting times are **TBD**.

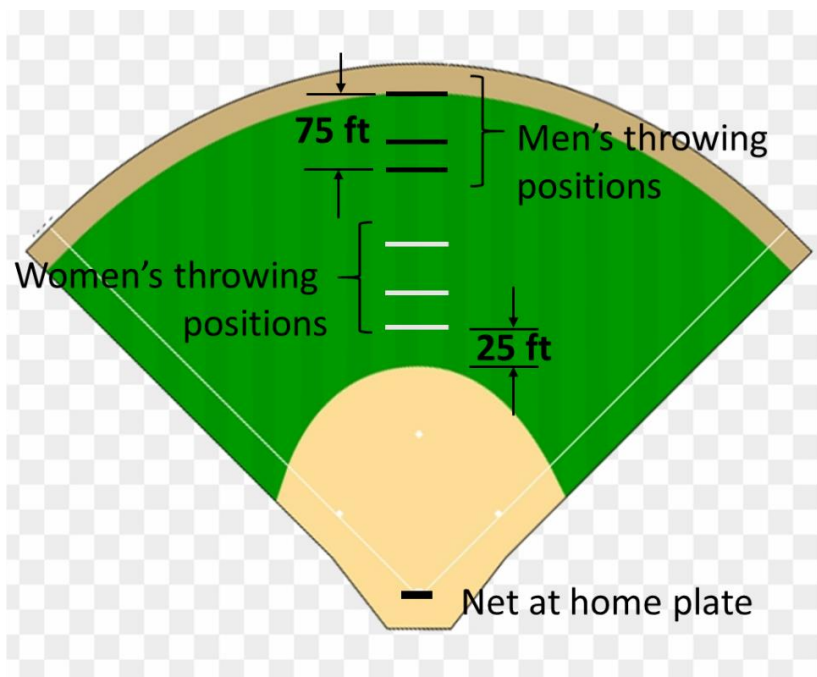
### BASERUNNING RULES:

- The Men's and Women's divisions will use the same rules for the Baserunning contest.
- The race will consist of running to the three bases and finishing at home plate.
- All participants will begin the race from home plate, in the left-hand batter's box.
- The order will be determined by a random draw, prior to the start of the race.
- Each runner will be timed individually.
- Runners will compete one-at-a time.
- The runner must step on each base (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) and home plate during their race.
- Missing a base is grounds for disqualification.
- Top three fastest times will be recognized in each division. (Gold, Silver, Bronze)



## THROWS TO HOME RULES:

- The contest will score players accuracy on throws to home plate from center field.
- A net will be placed at home plate, and players will make throws from defined distances in center field. (Either the Soft-Toss net or the Pitchers Screen could be used)
- Throwing order will be determined by a random draw, prior to the start of the contest. In the following rounds, lowest score will throw first with the highest score throwing last.
- Scoring;
  - One point will be awarded for each ball that makes contact with the net.
  - Balls must reach the net, to be counted in the player's score.
  - Balls may contact the net on a roll, bounce, or in the air.
  - Balls that sail over the top of the net, without making contact with the net, will not count in the score.
  - Each player will have five (5) throws, per round.
  - Scores from the first round will not carry over to the next round.
- The contest will consist of TBD (X) rounds. The top TBD (X) scores in the first round will advance to the next round and throw from a longer distance. (The number of rounds would be dependent on the number of participants)
- The final round will have the top four finalists from the previous round, throwing from a longer distance than the previous round.
- Top three scores will be recognized in each division.
- Warm-up throws (highly recommended) will take place in left or right fields.
- Distances (suggested distances for three (3) rounds)
  - Women's – 25' into the grass, from the edge of the infield behind second base, for the first throwing distance. The second throwing distance will be 25' farther into the grass (away from home plate) from the first throwing position. The final throwing distance will be 40' farther into the grass (away from home plate) from the previous throwing position.
  - Men's – the first throwing position will be 75' in from the warning track in center field. The second throwing distance will be 25' farther into the grass (away from home plate) from the first throwing position. The final throwing distance will be the grass edge of the warning track in center field.



## HOME RUN DERBY RULES:

- The contest will score players ability to hit a ball over the fence.
- Participants must supply their own bats. Bats must be regulation softball bats as determined by ASA. The bat must be stamped with one of the ASA certification marks shown below, and not appear on the illegal bat list on [asasoftball.com](http://asasoftball.com). Baseball and wooden bats are illegal. Violation of these rules will result in disqualification.
- Top three scores will be recognized in each division.
- Pitching:
  - Participants may provide their own pitcher. (Need to review this approach as individual pitchers may not be available. Alternate approach would be to enlist pitchers to support the derby and have the same pitcher for each round of the contest.)
  - Once a player begins with a pitcher, no pitching changes will be allowed unless there is an injury to the pitcher. (Not applicable if we use the alternate approach)
  - The pitch shall be a legal pitch, with six (6) foot minimum and twelve (12) foot maximum arc. (Would there be a benefit to the hitter with a pitch less than six ft or more than 12 ft?) (Would we need an umpire to call an illegal pitch?)
  - Each batter will be given TBD (X) warm up swings (actual pitches) prior to the first qualifying round.
- Batting order will be determined by a random draw prior to the start of the first round. In the following rounds, lowest score will bat first with the highest score batting last.
- Home Plate Location(s):
  - Women's – Home plate will be located behind second base, approximately at the edge of the outfield grass. This location will be used for all rounds of the women's contest.
  - Men's – For the Qualifying round, the home plate will be located at the Pitchers rubber. (This should provide for more home runs in the early rounds of the contest and possibly create more participation in the contest). For the Championship round, the hitters will hit from regular home plate location.
- Scoring:
  - Balls that clear the outfield fence, in the air, will count as two (2) points.
  - Balls that hit the outfield fence, on the fly (without hitting the ground first), will count as one (1) point. (This approach could provide some additional scoring opportunities for the hitters. If not included, then balls over the fence would count as one (1) point.)
  - Point totals will not carry over to the next round. Each round will start a new score for the hitters.
- Qualifying Round: (could be more than one)
  - The contest will consist of TBD (X) rounds. (The number of rounds would be dependent on the number of participants)
  - Each batter will have ten (10) swings. (Number of swings TBD)
  - Batters do not have to swing at every pitch.
  - A missed swing, foul ball, or tip is counted as a swing.
  - A homerun will have to cross the outfield fence in the air.
  - Only fair-balls, that cross over the outfield fence, will count as homeruns.
  - The top TBD (X) players will advance to the following rounds. (Need to define the threshold for advancement to the next rounds)
- Championship Round:
  - Each player will be given five (5) swings. (Number of swings TBD)
  - Top score in the Championship round, unless tied, will be crowned as the Home Run champion. Top three (3) positions will be recognized (Gold, Silver, Bronze)
  - Ties will lead to a sudden death round, and each batter will receive three (3) swings (TBD).
  - If players still remain tied after the first sudden death round, an additional sudden death round will be played until a winner has been crowned.