

Tournament Rules

We hope that your experience at our tournament is a positive baseball experience and enjoyable for the players and your families. Our tournament will be governed by USSSA bylaws. Rules not addressed by the USSSA bylaws will be that of Major League Baseball.

TEAM PARTICIPATION

Coaches Passes: Coaches' passes (3 armbands) will be provided at the **paved parking lot** gate entrance. **This armband must be worn the entire weekend.** Please inform your coaches that if they do not wear their armbands, they will be required to pay the non-refundable gate admission. Coaches who lose, forget or misplace their armbands will be required to pay a non-refundable gate admission.

Team Check-In: Coaches must check in 30-60 minutes before first game. Each coach should bring the following items to the Team Check-In:

1. Proof of Insurance
2. A copy of the Team Roster printed off the USSSA web site.

Proof of Age: It is the Head Coach's responsibility to have his players' proof of age in his possession and be able to produce on demand his players' birth certificates of legally accepted proof of age in the case of any question regarding the age of his players.

Forfeiture of Registration Fee: No registration fee will be returned unless bracket does not make (minimum of four teams) as of 5:00pm on the Monday prior to the tournament.

GAME MANAGEMENT

Home Team: A flip of a coin between the two teams shall determine the home team for each pool play game and championship game. The highest seeded team will be the home team for bracket play games. Home team scorekeeper will be the official scorekeeper.

Visiting Team: The visiting team is responsible for providing a person to run the electronic scoreboard.

Line-Up Cards: Each manager must prepare a minimum of 2 written copies of his line-up, listing names and numbers of all players and substitutes prior to each game. Line-ups must be provided to the plate umpire and opposing manager. Should a coach omit a player from his written line-up, that player cannot participate in that game only. Managers are responsible for providing their own line-up cards.

Baseballs: Each team must provide two new or good condition baseballs to the umpire prior to play in each game.

Official Games:

Age Group	Time Limit	Game Length	Game Length w/Rainout
8	1:05/no new inning after 1:00	6 innings	3 innings
9-12	1:30/no new inning after 1:25	6 innings	3 innings
13	1:40/no new inning after 1:35	7 innings	4 innings

There are no time limits in Championship games. However, mercy run rules do apply.

Be ready to play your game 15 minutes after the previous game ends.

Mercy Rule:

8U -- 15 runs after 3 innings, 8 runs after 4 innings; A maximum of seven runs may be scored per inning or three recorded outs. This includes the last inning.

9U-12U -- 15 runs after 3 innings, 8 runs after 4 innings

13U -- 15 runs after 3, 12 runs after 4 innings, 8 runs after 5 innings

Rules & Exceptions

Pitching Records: Umpires keep an on-field record of the number of innings each pitcher pitches in the course of any tournament game. Pitching records will be posted. We will follow USSSA pitching rules.

Free Substitution: Free substitution for defensive players will be allowed. Original batting order will be maintained at all times; therefore defensive players re-entering the game must bat in their original positions in the batting order.

Batting: Extended batting order is allowed, but not required. It is left to the discretion of each team manager. Each team will declare before the beginning of each game if they will extend their batting order. If a team extends its batting order and a player(s) is removed for any reason, an out will be recorded each time the removed player's turn at bat occurs.

Courtesy Runner: At any time the team at bat may use a courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher of record the previous time on defense. **The same runner may not be used for both positions in the same inning.** The courtesy runner(s) will be a) a player not in the batting order, b) the last out if all players are batting.

Sportsmanship: Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their players and fans watching the game. There will be **ZERO TOLERANCE** for un-sportsmanlike conduct. All ejections for coaches will result in banishment from that game plus the following game. Remember, rule interpretations may be disputed, not judgement calls, especially balls and strikes. Coaches are also responsible for the actions of their fans. Inappropriate conduct by fans will result in a coach ejection.

Notice: Any fan entering the field of play during an on-field dispute will be ejected from the park and will result in the immediate forfeiture of the game by the offending team.

Bracket Seeding: In the event that there are wild card teams, seeding will be based on higher winning percentage.

Tie Breakers

Tie Games: Ties will not be played out in pool play. In elimination rounds, extra innings will be used until a winner is determined.

Pool Play Tiebreakers:

1. Win-Loss Record
2. Head to Head
3. Fewest Runs Allowed
4. Highest Run Differential (Runs scored minus runs allowed)(Max. +/-8 runs per game)
5. Coin Flip

In the event of a forfeit in divisional/pool play, the non-forfeiting teams will be credited with a 1 run differential victory. The runs allowed in the forfeited game will be the average of runs allowed by the non-forfeiting team in all pool play games actually played.

General Rules

Gate Admissions: All events will have an admission charge for all persons age 6 or over. Children ages 5 or younger and players will always be admitted free.

No gate refunds, or rain checks at any time. Tell your players and fans, if play is in doubt due to inclement weather or rain to wait until play begins to enter park.

Food or Beverages: NO outside food or beverages are allowed to be brought into the ballpark. ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED. Teams are allowed to bring in their own circular (5 or 10 gallon) cooler. They cannot be filled from the concession stand. **NO CHEST COOLERS ALLOWED.**

Coaches, please help us to prevent an embarrassing situation at the gates by informing your teams' parents of this policy.

Tobacco: Use of tobacco products is prohibited inside the park.

Trash: Please have your players pick up trash from your dugout after each game prior to leaving. Please encourage your players, coaches, and fans to use the trash receptacles provided. Your assistance in keeping these facilities in shape would be greatly appreciated.

Rainout Refund Policy:

- Zero (0) games played = \$50.00 Administration Fee
- One (1) game played = 50% Fee Refund
- No refund if two or more games are played

We want to assist you in any way we can. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kristie McGee at 662-418-3724.