



**2026 Flames Invitational
FPN Affiliate Tournament
14u: June 19 – 21st, 2026
10u & 12u: June 26-28th, 2026
Tournament Rules**

**Below is the information for our tournament, please read thoroughly and share with your families.
If you have any questions, please email me at jeffrey_beeman@hotmail.com.**

Tournament Contacts:

- Jeff Beeman (Tournament Director) - (203) 988-5082
- Jaymie Clark (12u Site Manager) - (203) 996-7522
- Jeff Beeman (14u Site Manager) - (203) 988-5082
- Scott Gronbach (10u Site Manager) – (203) 828-8802
- Al Rosenberg (Umpire In Charge) - (860) 276-7946

Disclaimer: Participants, coaches, parents, family, and spectators engaging in softball and activities related to softball do so with knowledge of the risk and potential exposure involved and agree to accept any and all inherent risks to their personal health.

Pre-Tournament Preparation

The Flames Invitational is a FPN Affiliate event. Please provide valid proof of insurance, IN ADVANCE of the tournament. These insurance certificate should be emailed to the tournament director, jeffrey_beeman@hotmail.com. Please also include a cell phone number for the head coach of your team, in case we need to contact you.

All team rosters need to be updated on the PlayFPN site, on Friday, prior to start of any tournament games in your age division. Any players not properly registered on FPN site will be declared ineligible and teams will forfeit any games the ineligible players participate in. USA, USSSA or manually created rosters will not be considered. Teams must use the online FPN roster process.

For 14u division, please send insurance certificates via e-mail no later than Wednesday, June 17th. For 12u and 10u divisions please send by Wednesday, June 24th. Please include your team name and age division in the subject line.

Tournament Location: There will be multiple field locations for this tournament.

- 10U: Cheshire Park located at 1040 Highland Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410
 - CHP1- Field 1, near playground and batting cage
 - CHP2 - Field 2, middle field with lights (parking available at 1040 Highland entrance)
 - CHP3 - Field 3, near bathrooms and pavilion (parking available at 26 Stony Hill Road entrance)
 - Please do not park on the grass near Pavilion

- 12U: Cheshire High School located at 525 South Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410
 - CHHS1 - Cheshire HS Varsity Field
 - CHHS2 - Cheshire HS JV Field
 - BRP2 - Bartlem Park Softball Field located at 520 South Main Street, Cheshire, CT

- 14U: Cheshire High School located at 525 South Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410
 - CHHS1 - Cheshire HS Varsity Field
 - CHHS2 - Cheshire HS JV Field
 - BRP2 - Bartlem Park Softball Field located at 520 South Main Street, Cheshire, CT

Fields, Warmup, and Safety Rules

- If your field is not occupied, you may warm up on your field prior to the game. If your field is in use, there is plenty of free grass space to warm up at all game locations.

Tournament Set Up:

1. Each team is scheduled to play 3 pool games to be played on Friday night or Saturday. Seeding for all teams will take place at completion of pool play games, with Sunday's format to be single elimination.
2. Coin tosses will take place before each pool play game, to determine the home and visitor team. On Sunday, whichever team has the better seed gets to select home or away.

Schedule and Game Results:

- Game schedule, game results, standings and bracket games will all be published on the FPN website. Please be sure to text all scores to the tournament director and your age division site director after each game.

Game Rules:

1. Games will be played following FPN Softball Rules. Umpires will have final say on all rules and calls on the field.

2. All POOL PLAY games will be 80 minutes. No new inning will begin after one hour and twenty minutes. The clock begins with the first warm-up pitch. If the home team takes the lead while on offense at any time after the 80 minute period, they become the winner. Ties are allowed in POOL PLAY games only.
3. For POOL PLAY games, teams may bat 9 or more players, up to their full roster using EH for any player not starting in positions on the field. Any players not in the starting lineup that are not listed as an EH must be entered by substitution. DP/Flex lineups (10 players, 9 batting) may be chosen and are also allowed with additional EH players. Any player not in the starting lineup as a DP, Flex, or EH must be entered via substitution.
NOTE: For 10u and 12u divisions, There are no limitations with substitutions or number of players in batting order, on either day of competition.
4. All SINGLE ELIMINATION (PLAY DOWN) games will be timed with no new inning to begin after 80 minutes. The game will continue past 80 minutes until the inning is completed. If the game is tied at the completion of that inning, the game will continue until a winner has been determined. All innings that begin after time has expired will be utilizing the international tiebreaker with the last batted out from the prior inning starting on 2nd base. **IF THE LAST BATTED OUT IS THE PITCHER OR THE CATCHER, THE COACH MAY USE THE 2ND TO LAST BATTER**
5. For all 14u PLAY DOWN games, each team may bat no more than 10 players. This can be done utilizing one EH on top of batting all 9 fielders or can be used in conjunction with a DP/Flex lineup with 1 EH where there would be 11 players on the lineup card, with 10 hitting. See below for 12u and 10u exceptions to this rule.
6. SEMI FINAL GAMES will be timed as well with no new inning to begin after 90 minutes. Tiebreaker rules follow the same format as regular single elimination games.
7. CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL GAMES will NOT be timed.
 - a. 10u will play 6 full innings
 - b. 12u & 14u will play 7 full innings
 - c. Tiebreaker rules follow the same format as regular single elimination games.
8. Courtesy runners may be used for a pitcher or catcher. If batting less than a full roster, the courtesy runner **MUST** be a player not currently in the game. If batting the full roster (or no subs remain available), then the courtesy runner would be the most previously batted out (that is not the pitcher or catcher).
9. Run Rule: The game ends if a team leads by (12) after 3 innings, (10) after 4 innings, and (8) after 5 innings, or prior ½ inning if the home team is holding that lead prior to their at bat.
 - a. 10u Division has a 5 run rule maximum, per inning. More details in age related rules below. Mercy rule, noted above, is still in effect after 3rd, 4th and 5th innings.

Age Related Rules

1. Metal cleats are only allowed in the 14U division. 10U and 12U must utilize plastic or molded cleats.
2. No slashing can take place in 10U division.
3. In 10U, the batter is NOT allowed to advance to 2nd base following a walk.
4. Dropped 3rd strike is in effect for all divisions.
5. There are no limitations with substitutions or number of players in batting order for both 10U and 12U on either day of competition.
6. For 10u division, there is a 5 Run Max Rule in effect for all innings of pool games and bracket games through quarterfinals. The inning is over when the defensive team records three outs or when the offensive team scores 5 runs, whichever comes first. There is no unlimited runs for the last inning. Semi-final and championship final games are unlimited runs every inning, defensive team must record 3 outs to end the inning.

Other Rules and Regulations

1. Any game that is forfeited for any reason is treated as a 7-0 score.
2. In order to determine seeding for Sunday, the following criteria should be followed:
 - a. Overall Record
 - b. Defensive Runs Allowed/per game average
 - c. Offensive Runs Scored/per game average
 - d. Average Run Differential
 - e. Coin Flip
3. All game softballs should be returned to the umpire or placed in the white 'ACE' bucket near the field, at the conclusion of the game.
4. The game time is under the control of the umpires on the field.
5. Both teams should connect and make sure the correct score is recorded. Both teams should text the age group, team names, and score of the game to Tournament Director, Jeff Beeman at (203) 988-5082 and your age division site manager (contacts listed below). Example: 14U, CT Charge: 6 vs CT Thunder: 2.
 - Jeff Beeman (Tournament Director) - (203) 988-5082
 - Jaymie Clark (12u Site Manager) - (203) 996-7522
 - Jeff Beeman (14u Site Manager) - (203) 988-5082
 - Scott Gronbach (10u Site Manager) – (203) 828-8802

- a. BEFORE THE HEAD COACH LEAVES FOR THE DAY, PLEASE CHECK With the Site Manager TO MAKE SURE ALL SCORES ARE ACCURATE
6. The team manager is responsible for the actions of their entire team including spectators. Any ejections made by an umpire for unsportsmanlike conduct are for the entire tournament. This holds true for coaches, players, and spectators. Note, if any player, coach or spectator is ejected (by the umpire or tournament site manager) from the game, they have 10 minutes to leave the field and park or the team will forfeit the game. Any player, coach or spectator that is ejected, is not allowed to participate in or attend any games for the remainder of the tournament. Any violations of this policy will result in forfeiture of game(s).
7. Umpires will have final decisions on all rulings.
8. Players and coaches are the only individuals in the bench area or on the field of play. Please ensure that there are **NO spectators directly behind home plate.**
10. The home plate umpire is responsible for keeping all changes made in the game. All substitutions should be reported to the plate umpire who in turn will report the changes to the opposing team.
11. In the event of rain or wet/unplayable conditions, it is the decision of the umpires to determine if it is safe to start or continue all games.
12. Team and individual awards will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each division at the end of the championship game. The 10U Division will also allocate an MVP medal to one player on the opposing team after each Pool Play game.
13. This tournament is pay at the plate for umpires, \$80 per team, per game. Championship games are covered through your entry fee and paid by the host team.
14. Jeff Beeman is the Tournament Director for the Flames Invitational. If you should have any questions or comments about the tournament, please contact Jeff at (203) 988-5082 or email him at jeffrey_beeman@hotmail.com

Refund and Cancellation Policy

While we will make every attempt to play each event, the weather may prevent an event from being completed or, in some cases, even starting. In those cases:

- If at least 2 games are started, no refund is provided.
- If at least 1 game is started, a 50% refund is given.
- If no games have started, a 60% refund is given.