



We are pleased to be hosting a 8u Softball Tournament

Insurance Certificate and Roster must be received prior to playing any game!

8U Tournament Ground Rules:

- No metal cleats are allowed.
- Dugouts may be claimed on a first come, first serve basis.
- Teams must warm-up on the grass. No infield warm-ups. **Please be courteous & share the field.**
- 8u softball games are 6 innings unless the time limit has been reached. See below.
- All players can be in the batting order for the entire weekend. There will be free positional substitution with players in the order all weekend.
- Teams must play the entire tournament with the same roster. No changes or additions are allowed after the first pool game begins.
- Home team is determined by coin flip during pool play. On elimination day, the best seed chooses.
- Pool play games may end in a tie.
- Pool Play games have a **85 min time limit** (unless otherwise noted). No new inning may be started after (85 min). Elimination games have a **85 min time limit**. The umpire's clock is official. **Championship games have no time limits**. Once an inning begins, it must be completed unless the home team is ahead and batting when time expires.
- Seeding is based on the following
 1. Total Number of Wins, followed by
 2. Winning Percentage (number of wins + .5 for each tie / games played), followed by
 3. Average Runs Allowed (total runs allowed / games played), followed by
 4. Average Runs Scored (total runs scored / games played), followed by
 5. Season Points earned prior to the event being played, followed by
 6. Date/time the team registered in the system for the season (Ascending).

- Timed Games - International Tiebreaker after 6 innings with time remaining only. Championship and Semi-Final games - International Tiebreaker after 6 innings until a winner.
- Teams must be ready to play 15 minutes prior to game time.
- All protests will be settled "on the spot" by the Umpire in Charge. The decision of the Umpire is FINAL. Protests must involve rule interpretation; judgment calls may not be protested.
- There is a 5 run limit per inning except the last (6th and subsequent) inning(s) when there is no run limit.
- Mercy Rule will be ahead by 10 after 4 or more complete innings.
- Any person ejected from a game is not allowed at the facility for the rest of the tournament.
- Games can start with as few as 9 but cannot continue with less than 8 (forfeit if less than 8 remain)
 - If a team is reduced to 8 the 9th batter will be an automatic out. A 10th player can enter the game at any time and be added at the end of the bottom of the lineup.
- At this age coaches are lucky to have players cover bases when they should - sometimes players are unintentionally blocking a runner or base path. Coaches are asked to inform their opposing coach of any concerns and umpires will be watching for obstruction. Under no circumstances is it acceptable for a runner to intentionally collide with a fielder. These are 6-8 year old's who just want to have fun learning the game. No one wants anyone to leave injured.
- No Infield Fly Rule, Tagging Up, Stealing, Walks, Hit by Pitch, Bunting, Half Swings or Dropped 3rd Strike
- Each team is permitted a manager, 1st base, 3rd base, pitching coach and scorekeeper in the dugout. If coaches perform multiple tasks no other parents should be inside the dugout.
- Each team is allowed to have two coaches in the outfield grass while their team is on defense and cannot interfere with the players making plays (cannot assist stopping balls etc). Coach interference will be ruled a double.
- While on defense one coach may stand outside of the team's dugout to help instruct infielders. Aside from this coach and the defensive coaches in the outfield all other coaches/parents must be in the dugout or in the stands.
- A coach from the offense will pitch to all batters.
- Player pitcher must stand with at least 1 foot inside the circle and must be to the side or behind the coach pitcher until ball is hit - strongly recommended to be wearing fielders mask or batters helmet

- The pitcher must not interfere with plays on the field. If there is any avoidable interference, batter/runner is out
- If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher, the play is dead and a do over will follow.
- Batters will receive 6 pitches. If a ball has not been put in play by the pitch limit - the batter is out. The at bat cannot end with a foul ball. If the 6th or subsequent pitch(es) are fouled off, the at bat continues until a ball hit in play, a swing and miss or a no swing
- Batters can strike out swinging (there are no called strikes)
- All players on the roster must bat in a continuous batting order. Any attempt to switch/skip batters during the game will result in a forfeit of the game without warning and a loss of 0-7 score recorded.
- Can play with 10 fielders. If so 4 must start on outfield grass
- Outfielders cannot make a play on a runner or a base unless it is unassisted. For example: an outfielder cannot run in to cover the bag and receive a throw.
- The next innings catcher (if gets on base) is permitted a courtesy runner in an effort to move the game along (have catcher get ready) and give them a break from the potential heat.
- There is no leading/stealing - runners cannot leave the base until the ball is hit/crosses the plate.
 - Umpires will call runners out if caught leaving early
- Balls hit to and remaining in the infield are singles and runners are only able to advance 1 base (regardless of overthrow etc.)
- When the ball is hit to the outfield grass (in the air, on the ground or deflects off of a fielder), base runners may advance (at the risk of being put out) until the ball crosses the outfield grass/infield dirt line. At this point runners cannot advance beyond the base they are going to. If runners advance beyond the base they are allowed they are at risk of being put out. Once the play has ended, if runners have advanced too far AND ARE NOT PUT OUT - umpires will return the runners to the appropriate base.
 - In all cases runners cannot begin to advance once the ball has reached a fielder covering a base (regardless of caught or dropped) or **once the ball has been thrown to the pitcher**
- Base coaches cannot physically assist runners to stop or advance to next base (Runner is out)
- Base coaches should not interfere with foul balls which could be caught (Batter is out)

- 11" softballs (hard ball) will be used for all 8u games.
- Bases will be set at 60'. Pitching rubber will be set at 30'
- Trophy ceremony immediately follows the championship game.
- Both teams **MUST** report your scores to the Concession after each game. The HOME team's book will be considered the official book.
- Forfeits recorded as 7-0 score.
- Please inform the concession stand of any issues with the facilities.
- Guaranteed 3 games minimum. If less than 3 games are played due to weather or extenuating circumstances, a refund will be granted- amount tbd.

Contact Numbers:

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phone)

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