



The Big A Softball Tournament Official Rules

Official Rule Book

Welcome to The Big A Softball Tournament where everyone is welcomed to play! In the spirit of creating a welcoming environment and fair competition, we have created this simple rule book.

General Rules

This tournament is set to a friendly competition level and is slow pitch 12 to 6 arc softball.

There is no roster limit.

This is a Coed optional tournament. All are welcome to play with no gender specific roster spot requirements.

Teams are responsible for bringing their own bats and gloves. All bats your team brings must be ASA approved.

A forfeit is called if a team doesn't have at least 7 players to start within 5 minutes after the start time of the game.

In order to play, you must be on the team's roster and signed the tournaments sports and publicity waivers.

Any rules not specified here follow the rules set by the ASA governing adult coed slow pitch play.

A mercy rule will be made effective if after 4 innings a team is up by 12 runs or more or if after 5 innings a team is up by 10 runs or more.

Format

Each team is guaranteed 3 games.

Each team will play two pool play seeding games to start. All pool play seeding games are 6 innings long with a 40-minute time limit.

Seeding in the single elimination tournament will be based on each team's win-loss record with run differential being the tie breaker.

All games played in the first round of the single elimination tournament will be 6 innings long with a 40-minute time limit.

All games in the single elimination tournament after the first round will be 7 innings with no new inning starting after 50 minutes.

The championship game will be 7 innings with no time limit.

Fielding

Players can rotate in and out of the field as many times as desired.

Each team has a maximum of 10 fielders at a time with a minimum of 7 fielders being required at all times.

Runners will advance one base on overthrown balls.

Fielders must give runners sufficient running room when running the bases by not blocking the bases.

Catchers cannot block home plate on plays at home plate.

Outfielders are not allowed to play on the infield dirt at any time.

Batting and Base Running

Everyone always bats, even when not playing the field.

Batting out of order results in an automatic out.

Everyone starts with a 1-1 count with 2 foul balls once there are 2 strikes on the batter.

Bunting is not allowed. Bunting will result in an automatic out.

Batters may not attempt to reach first base on a dropped third strike.

Infield fly rule will be in effect.



Pinch hitters are not allowed.

Pinch runners are not allowed unless there is an injury.

Base runners can lead off the base after the pitcher throws the pitch.

Base runners can only advance to the next base once a ball is hit in fair territory. Stealing is not allowed.

Base runners must use safety base when running through first base.

Headfirst diving while running the bases is strictly prohibited throughout the entire tournament.

While feet first sliding is allowed, base runners must do it safely. Base runners are not to slide into a fielder with the intention of taking the fielder out. The umpires have full discretion in determining if a base runner slid with the intention of taking a fielder out. Should an umpire deem that a base runner slid in a manner that was meant to take a fielder out, the base runner will be ejected from the game immediately and will not be allowed to participate in the remainder of the tournament.

Conduct

This tournament is based on the foundation that sports and charitable causes bring people together. We expect everyone participating or attending the tournament to act as such. Abusive conduct does not have any place in our tournament. Our umpires have the right and discretion to reprimand or eject anyone at the field depending on the situation. Our umpires also have the right to call automatic forfeits should any fighting occur. Lastly, alcohol, smoking and drugs are not allowed in the playing fields, dugouts or anywhere else in the complex or parking lot. Your entire team will be ejected from the tournament if any member of your team is found to have alcohol, drugs or to be smoking on the playing fields, dugouts, or anywhere else in the complex or parking lot.