

## ACA Softball Tournament Rules

\* Tournaments will be played using NFHS rules unless otherwise noted below.

**Game Length:** Games will be 7 innings. No new inning to start after 1 hour and 15 minutes from the break of the coaches meeting. 1 hour and 30 minutes will be drop dead and revert to the score from the last completed inning. Pool play games can end in a tie. International tie breaker rule used in extra innings for bracket play. No time limit for championship game.

**Mercy Rules:** 12 runs after 3. 10 runs after 4. 8 runs after 5.

**Lineup:** Straight 9. 9 with a DH for any position. 10 with an EH (may not use EH and DH in same lineup). Roster with free defensive substitutions.

**Courtesy Runners:** A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher or pitcher at any time. It must be a player not in the lineup. If batting roster the courtesy runner must be the last batted out.

**Pregame:** Home team is determined by coin flip for pool play. Higher seed is home team in tournament play. Teams must be ready to play 15 minutes before scheduled time. Stay off the dirt for warm ups.

**Scoring:** Home team is the official score book. Both teams are required to communicate scoring throughout the game to eliminate conflict. Scores are to be reported to umpires after the game, umpires will report scores to the tournament director.

**Tiebreakers:**

- a. Wins
- b. Head to Head
- c. Runs Against
- d. Run Differential
- e. Coin Flip

**In Case of Rain:** All rain out games may not be made up depending on time constraints. In case of scheduling changes, it is the team's responsibility, not the tournament committee, to make sure they are aware of the new schedule or any scheduling changes. This information will be sent via email or text. Note: No special requests will be honored if rescheduling becomes necessary. Tournament format is subject to change at any time if deemed necessary and will be determined based on the fairest outcome for all teams. All coaches should make sure the tournament committee has current contact info.

**Roster and Roster Changes:** No player can appear in a tournament game for more than one team. If there are multiple events going on at one time players are permitted to play for one team in each event if so desired. Age divisions within a tournament count as separate events.

- f. The team's manager is responsible for all aspects of the eligibility of the players on his team and that they meet the requirements
- g. A player who is in violation of the age eligibility shall be considered an illegal player.
- h. If anytime during a tournament game, a player is discovered illegal due to an age violation or participating on more than one team in the same tournament, the team is subject to forfeit. The first team a player participates for is their official team.
- i. Participating players shall have photocopies of their original birth certificates (US) or passports (International) in the possession of their

team manager. Electronic copies of ID documents are accepted.

Failure to have a copy of a birth certificate, in the event of a protest, could result in suspension for the remainder of the event until such document can be produced.

- j. Teams must have up to date insurance for their team to be eligible to participate.