



2020 Ohio Blast Father's Day Classic (ASA/USA Eastern National Qualifier)

Jun 19 - 21, 2020
Canfield, OH

TOURNAMENT RULES – 8U ADDENDUM

Our standard TOURNAMENT RULES will apply, with the following exceptions:

1. Game Balls: Game balls will be provided in accordance with the Responsible Restart Ohio guidelines for softball. Game balls must be designated to each team for use while that team is playing defense. At the onset of each game, the umpire(s) will be providing each team with a brand new cellophane-wrapped game ball. The game ball will be yours to keep after each game as well, and are **not** to be returned to the umpire or tournament. Each team will need to bring their own supply of playable Certified ASA/USA 11" (375 compression and 47 core) game balls and sanitizing wipes or spray to each game - to assist in sanitizing game balls when put back in play and replacing game balls when lost. When a ball is hit out of play, it must be returned back to the defensive team, so their coaches can sanitize the ball before putting it back in play with their defensive unit.

Please remind your team, coaches, parents and spectators that they must also sanitize their hands after handling any balls returned from out of play.

2. Playing Field: Pitching Distance 27 to 35ft. Pitching Circle 8ft. radius around pitcher's plate. Hash Marks will be placed on the field located 35' from each base for the purpose of establishing which base the runners will be assigned to at the end of each play when runners are on base and the ball is controlled by the pitcher within the pitching circle.
3. Game length:
 - A. Pool play and championship round games (except the final championship games) will be 6 innings with a 70 minute limit. No new inning will begin after 70 minutes.
 - B. If the time limit has been reached, teams will compete the current half inning if the home team is winning, or the full inning if the away team is winning.
 - C. Mercy Rule: The game will be called after 3 ½ innings (if the home team) or 4 innings (if the away team) is winning by 11 or more runs.
 - D. For pool play games, when a game is tied after 6 innings, or when the time limit has been reached, the game will be recorded as a tie. For championship round games (except for the final championship games), the ASA/USA tie-breaker rule will be in effect.
 - E. Final championship games will be 6 innings without a time limit. In the event of a tie after 6 innings, the game will continue until a winner is determined.
 - F. In order to stay as close as possible to the schedule, all teams are required to be previously warmed up, near their scheduled field of play (30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time), and ready to enter their field of play as soon as the previous teams and coaches have exited. All coaches and players must adhere to social distancing guidelines, and give teams the proper space and time needed to completely exit the field before entering. Exiting teams must also expedite leaving the field so that the next teams may enter and get ready to play. Adhering to the social distancing guidelines is a **MUST** for all teams.
4. Teams must have a minimum of 8 eligible players, otherwise the game must be forfeited. Although there is a maximum of 10 players on defense, ALL eligible players must bat and be in the batting order. The batting order must be established prior to the start of the game and cannot be changed once the game has started, with the exception of a player (or players) arriving late. In which case the player (or players) must be added to the bottom of the lineup without penalty.
5. Defensive Positions: All defensive players must wear face masks. Teams will have one player in the catching position (in full catcher equipment) and a (defensive) pitcher. The pitcher must have at least one foot in the pitching circle when the

pitch is delivered by the (offensive) coach. 2 outfielders are required if they only have 8 eligible players, 3 outfielders if they only have 9 eligible players, 4 outfielders if they have 10 or more eligible players. Outfielders must start the play in the designated outfield area, and cannot be positioned as extra infielders. Designated outfield areas are left field, left-center, center field, right-center, and right field.

6. Coach-Pitcher: Shall be a member of the offensive team's coaching staff and shall pitch the ball in an underhand motion to each batter on his/her team. The Umpire may allow the coach-pitcher to pitch at a distance between 27' and 35' in a location that will allow the coach pitcher to deliver a flat hittable pitch to the batter. The player-pitcher is for defensive purposes only and shall not pitch, but can move freely to play defense once the ball is hit. The coach-pitcher must make every effort to avoid interfering with the play once the ball is hit, and until the pitcher is in full control of the ball within the pitching circle.
7. Each batter will be allowed six (6) pitches to hit the ball in play. A batted foul ball on the sixth pitch or beyond will result in an additional pitch. Each batter will get either (6) pitches or (3) strikes, whichever comes first. There will be no walks or hit batters allotted to any batter.
8. Each team will be limited to a maximum of six (6) runs per inning OR three (3) outs, whichever comes first. For the 6th inning, or any inning designated to be the final inning prior to the start of the inning, there will be no run limit, but the mercy rule will still be in effect.
9. The Infield Fly Rule is NOT in effect.
10. Base Stealing is NOT permitted. Leaving the base prior to the ball being hit, will be a dead ball and the offending base runner will be called out.
11. A play is considered over in a few different scenarios:
 - A. After the 3rd out is made in an inning.
 - B. When an out is made and no one is on base.
 - C. When a base runner is on base and a ball from the infield or outfield is in full control of the defensive pitcher within the pitcher's circle. Runners who have NOT passed the hash mark located between each of the bases prior to control by the pitcher within the pitcher's circle, will be returned to last base they safely touched. If a defensive player makes a play on a runner, the play continues.
12. An overthrow or pass ball at ANY base involving a play on a base runner or batter-runner by a defensive player is a live ball and it is to be played accordingly. Base runners can advance at their own risk. Once the ball is back in full control of the defensive pitcher within the pitcher's circle, any base runners who have NOT passed the hash mark located between the bases (prior to control by the pitcher within the pitcher's circle), will be returned to the last base they safely touched. If a defensive player makes a play on a runner, the play continues.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our tournament committee members:

Mike Pauline	330.509.9248	mpauline@zoominternet.net
Mike Dado	330.301.2660	dadomc@zoominternet.net
Jim Buxton	724.674.4187	big_bux007@yahoo.com
Doug Fisher	724.944.8316	dpf13173@gmail.com
Ron Dennison	330.360.6330	batsnballs@aol.com
Ralph Flowers	304.479.3372	59deen@gmail.com