



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

Jun 19 - 21, 2020

Canfield, OH

### TOURNAMENT RULES

#### 1. Registration:

- A. In order to comply with current COVID-19 guidelines, all teams are required to submit their team registration information electronically via email by June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Please scan the needed registration documents into a **single** PDF and email to [mpauline@zoominternet.net](mailto:mpauline@zoominternet.net).
- B. The registration information needed for each team consists of the following.  
*(Please note...without the appropriate registration information, teams may be prohibited from playing in the 2020 Ohio Blast Father's Day Classic).*
  - ASA/USA sanction number. *(This can simply be typed in when sending the email)*
  - Teams must provide proof of adequate team insurance.
  - A fully completed ASA/USA Liability Waiver & Roster Form for all players on your team.  
*(The email address requested on the form is **no longer** optional and is needed for COVID-19 tracing).*
  - A copy of your manager's A.C.E. coaching certificate.
  - A copy of your manager's background check certificate.
  - A copy of your manager's concussion certificate.
  - A fully completed COVID-19 Exposure Risk Assessment.
  - A fully completed Participation Waiver and Guidelines Compliance Acceptance.

Items that do NOT need to be provided during registration:

- A birth certificate copy for each player listed on your roster. Birth certificate copies do not need to be registered. However, they will be required to be presented in the event of any player eligibility protest. Failure to provide a copy of the birth certificate will result in forfeiture of the games in which the player played.
- The COVID-19 Temperature Assessment tool. This will need to be maintained by the manager when players first arrive each day of the tournament. This form does **NOT** need to be returned to us as part of the registration process, but it **WILL** need to be returned to us after your last game played at the tournament. If there happened to be an outbreak, health officials would request the form from us.

2. ASA/USA Rules will govern the tournament, except when noted differently below.
3. The tournament will consist of "POOL PLAY" games and a single-elimination "CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND" for each age division. Pool play games will be played on Friday and Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Weather permitting, each team will play 3 pool play games. Pool play games will be used to seed the teams for the elimination "championship" round. Weather permitting, all teams will advance to the championship round. In the event of a weather-shortened tournament, the tournament committee/director reserves the right to "shorten" the championship round teams to a specified amount of teams deemed appropriate to fairly complete tournament. Rest assured, the tournament committee/director will diligently work with the field crew and staff in an attempt to get all (or as many) games in as possible.

*Tournament pool play games will be begin at 8:00am, Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. All teams are scheduled for 2 pool play games on Friday and 1 pool play game on Saturday. In the event that bad weather forces the cancellation of all Friday games, we will simply move Friday's schedule to Saturday. We have taken safety precautions with our scheduling as a result of COVID-19 as well. For nearly all teams, their pool play schedule will consist of a back-to-back double header on Friday, and a single pool play game on Saturday. For the few teams that do not have back-to-back games on Friday, they will only have a single-game gap between their scheduled games. This will allow teams to arrive at the complex, play their games quickly, and be able to exit the complex promptly as well. To make sure we are able to get all elimination round games in, we will be starting elimination round games on Saturday evening for the bottom 4 seeds of the 12U, 16U and 18U divisions.*

Championship round seeding will be based on each team's pool play win/loss/tie record in each age division. When ties exist, the following tie breaker rules will be applied:

- A. Head to Head
  - B. Total Runs Allowed
  - C. Run Differential
  - D. Total Runs Scored
  - E. Coin Toss
4. Forfeit time is the scheduled start of the game. Forfeits will be determined by the tournament committee/director. Forfeits will NOT be determined by umpires. If a game is forfeited for any reason, the score will be officially recorded as 1 to 0 in favor of the team winning by forfeit.
  5. There will be a coin toss to determine the HOME team prior to each game.
  6. Each game will be umpired by sanctioned ASA/USA umpires (2 per game). 1 per game for 8U.  
*(This may change due to COVID-19. We are currently working with USA of Ohio and District 13 umpires on this. There may only be 1 umpire (10U – 18U) for pool play games as well, but there will be 2 umpires for championship round games for 10U – 18U divisions. In addition, District 13 umpires are discussing calling balls & strikes from behind the pitcher, since the social distancing guidelines will require the umpire to be further behind the plate, which could make it more difficult to call balls & strikes accurately. They feel they may actually have a better vantage point from behind the pitcher.*
  7. 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 (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.*
  8. The HOME team will be the official scorekeeper. Umpires will check with both teams after each inning to help ensure accurate scoring.
  9. Lineups:
    - A. Team lineups **MUST** be exchanged between each team prior to the start of both pool play and championship round games. *(In accordance with Responsible Restart Ohio guidelines, lineups must be verbally exchanged between teams while maintaining 6 foot social distancing guidelines. Taking a picture of opposing teams lineup with your cell phone would be acceptable as well, **IF** you can maintain a*

*safe distance to do so. Utilizing a dry erase lineup clipboard that can be hung on the fence for the opposing team to copy your lineup from is another option as well).*

- B. In accordance with Responsible Restart Ohio guidelines, teams will not be exchanging lineups with the umpires.
  - C. Team lineups MUST consist of player's last name, first initial, AND the player's number.
  - D. Friday and Saturday pool play games will allow the option of batting your entire roster.
  - E. Championship round games will follow strict ASA/USA lineup rules (batting 9 and allowing a flex/DP).
10. Game Length:
- A. Pool play and championship round games (except the final championship games) will be 7 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. The tournament will use ASA/USA mercy run rules. 15 runs after 2 ½ or 3 innings. 12 runs after 3 ½ or 4 innings. 8 runs after 4 ½ or 5 innings.
  - D. For pool play games, when a game is tied after 7 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 7 innings without a time limit. In the event of a tie after 7 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.
  - G. In an effort to help umpires keep games flowing, and maximize the amount innings played within the time allotted, teams will be allowed 5 warm-up pitches before their half of the 1<sup>st</sup> inning and when changing pitchers. Otherwise, only 3 warm-up pitches will be allowed between innings.
11. The managers of both the WINNING and LOSING teams MUST report the score to the tournament committee/director by text at (234) 308-8358 within 15 minutes of the end of each game. Having both teams report the score will help ensure accuracy.
12. The tournament will award first place and runner up trophies to each age division. An Eastern National Qualifier berth will be awarded to the Champion of each age division as well, with the exception of 8U. There are no berths available for 8U.
13. Protestation:
- Protested games must be immediately reported to the home plate umpire. There will be a \$100 protest fee that is refundable if the team filing the protest wins the protest. All protests will be heard by a protest committee that will be composed of an ASA/USA Ohio Youth Director, ASA/USA Ohio Area Director, the tournament committee/director, or others appointed by the tournament committee.
14. Inclement Weather:
- A. The ASA/USA Ohio Youth Director, the ASA Ohio Area Director and/or the tournament committee/director, reserve the right to modify the tournament if necessary due to inclement weather. In case of rain, all managers are responsible to contact the tournament director for information on weather delays or game changes. The tournament will be utilizing the **Tourney Machine** app to keep

coaches, players, families and fans up to date on schedules, results, standings, brackets and any updates including, but not limited to, weather delays or cancellations.

- B. There will be no rain makeup dates. The tournament will not be held responsible for the changing or cancellation of games due to the effects of weather.
- C. In the event that we are unable to complete the pool play round, we will rank teams using the best record of games played, then follow the same tie breaker rules listed in section 3 from above.
- D. In the event that we are unable to complete the championship round, our tournament committee, along with the USA Softball of Ohio representative, may determine the team with the best record of games played, and follow the tie breaker rules listed in section 3 from above to further determine which teams should be named their respective division champion and receive the berth. If the effects of weather result in only a small amount of games being played at all, the tournament committee/director reserve the right to NOT award a berth, or champion at all.
- E. **As of 5/28/20, USA Softball is undecided on national tournaments as a result of COVID-19. Therefore, it is possible that there may be no qualifier berth to award.**

15. Rain Out Policy:

*A game is considered played after 2 full innings have been successfully completed.*

Total rain out – 0 games played (pool play and championship rounds combined)	\$200.00 Refund
1 game played (pool play and championship rounds combined)	\$125.00 Refund
2 games played (pool play and championship rounds combined)	NO REFUND

16. General Refund Policy:

- A. There is a \$125.00 non-refundable registration fee.
- B. Registration fees will not be refunded within 30 days of the tournament start date.

17. Disciplinary Policy:

- A. Once a game begins, the umpire(s) assume control of the game.
- B. Only team managers are permitted to address umpires.
- C. Managers are permitted to ask for an explanation of a call, but are not permitted to argue with an umpire in an attempt to change a call. Social distancing guidelines must be adhered to as well.
- D. Umpires have reasonable discretion to eject any player, manager, coach or spectator.
- E. If ejected, the ejected person or persons must leave the premises immediately.
- F. A player, manager or coach who is ejected is automatically suspended for the following game as well, but may return once the suspended game is over.
- G. A spectator who is ejected may not return until the following day.
- H. The tournament committee reserves the right to investigate any ejection or other behavior brought to its attention in order to determine whether further disciplinary action is warranted.
- I. Investigation may consist of interviewing umpires, managers, parties involved or other necessary witnesses – and the committee has the authority to issue further suspension or reduce a suspension if warranted.

**The Ohio Blast Organization, Canfield Baseball Club, ASA/USA, and Ohio ASA/USA will not be held responsible for any accident or injury during this tournament.**

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

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