

MANAGERS/COACHES WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE If Needed

1. Proof of USA Registration, necessary for USA sanctioned tournaments.
2. Insurance Certificate.
3. Official USA Roster
4. Proof of DOB for all players. Birth Certificates, USA ID cards, and adoption papers are acceptable proof of birth. This must be on hand but not needed to register. You must provide one of these forms of proof upon request during the tournament, if needed. If not your team will be disqualified.

We can register teams for USA if needed and they will be charged the \$20 fee required by NH-USA. This is a NH-USA Sanctioned Tournament with USA Certified Umpires. For insurance purposes, all teams must be registered USA Softball in order to participate in this tournament

Please visit the Tourney Machine Web Application throughout the tournament for updated information and scores.

GAME RULES AND PROCEDURES

USA RULES WILL BE FOLLOWED IN ADDITION TO THE FOLLOWING:

SPECIAL NOTE: USA RULE CONCERNING FACE GUARDS

All players wearing a helmet must have an approved face guard.

1. No infield or batting practice is allowed on the playing field.
2. All game balls are to be returned to the umpires at the end of each game.
3. Both teams must submit a lineup card with FIRST INITIAL, LAST NAMES & UNIFORM NUMBER to the umpire and to the opposing team 10 minutes before game time. In the absence of an official scorer, the home team's book is official.
4. **The Manager of the winning team is responsible for reporting the game score to the tournament director.**
5. The Game Officials on the playing field will resolve all protests upon communicating with the UIC (Umpire in Charge) before the game will be allowed to continue. The UIC's decision is final. No protests will be allowed after the game is completed.

6. Should any game be suspended due to weather or unusual conditions, it will be resumed at the point of suspension. See Rain Policy.
7. Game time is forfeit time for a team that does not meet ASA Rules of Eligibility. It will be scored 7-0.
8. Please clean out dugout after each game.
9. NO smoking or consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed at any of the tournament sites.
10. The Head Coach/Manager is responsible for the actions of their entire team including their team's spectators. Any ejections made by an umpire are for the entire tournament. This holds true for coaches, players, and spectators.
11. Players and coaches will be the only individuals allowed in the bench area or on the field of play.
12. Teams must be ready at least 15 minutes prior to their expected start time of each game due to mercy rule or weather issues

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Teams will play three games in pool play for seeding in Sunday's single-elimination round. Champions and runners-up will receive trophies. Players on the championship team will receive individual trophies and runner up teams will receive individual medals.

POOL PLAY

1. Home team will be decided in all games by a double coin toss at least ten minutes prior to all games.
2. Eighty minute drop dead, if the game has not completed seven innings or the current inning the score will revert back to the last complete inning completed. The umpire will start the clock in each game and notify teams of the start time. The international tiebreaker will be used in pool play only if played within the time limit. Pool play games may end in a tie.
3. The mercy rule is in effect for the tournament, 15 runs after the 3rd inning, 12 runs after the 4th inning and 8 runs after the 5th inning.

SINGLE ELIMINATION SEEDING

The Tournament Staff, based on the following, shall determine the official order of finish in qualifying pool play;

1. Team Record.
2. If a Tie exists, teams will be ranked;
 - a. Head to head (two teams are tied)
 - b. According to fewest runs allowed in pool play
 - c. Runs scored
 - d. Coin Flip

SINGLE ELIMINATION PLAY

1. The higher seed team will be the home team unless both teams have the same seed. A double coin toss will be conducted whenever two teams have the same seed from their respective pools. A double coin toss will be conducted for the championship game.
2. No new inning shall start after 80 minutes from the start time. The umpire will start the clock in each game and notify teams of the start time.
3. During single-elimination, the tiebreaker will begin in the top of the eighth or when the time limit expires.
4. Semi-final and championship games have no time limit and the tiebreaker will begin in the top of the eighth.
5. The mercy rule is in effect as outlined in pool play.

OVERALL STANDINGS FOR THE TOURNAMENT

Overall standing for the tournament will be determined as follows:

First Place: Tournament Champion

Second Place: Tournament Runner-Up

Third Place & Up:

Total points earned in tournament

W/L/T

Least runs allowed

Head to head

Final standings will be posted at www.nhlightning.org on the Monday following the tournament.

RAIN FORMAT

ALL RAIN OUTS WILL BE CALLED INDIVIDUALLY FOR EACH GAME TIME AND FIELD. FOR EXAMPLE; DO NOT ASSUME THAT YOUR GAME AT 2PM IS A RAIN OUT BECAUSE YOUR 12PM GAME WAS CANCELLED.

The Tournament Staff may change the tournament format at any time due to prolonged delays or severe weather conditions. If time is lost due to rain, pool play may be cancelled and single elimination play will begin. In the event of rain or any cause which interrupts a game, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was stopped, time permitting. Our ultimate goal is to be fair to all and give everyone the number of games they deserve. However, there may be unforeseen circumstances that make it difficult for the Tournament Staff to achieve that goal.

POOL PLAY RAIN FORMAT

1. Time limit clock does not stop during a rain delay.
2. If a rain delay occurs and the time limit expired, the score of the game will revert back to the last full inning of play.
3. If a game has not started or the score is zero to zero and the game is canceled due to inclement weather it will be scored as 3-3.

SINGLE ELIMINATION RAIN FORMAT

In case of rain, the Tournament Staff will determine the format for single elimination.

1. The Tournament Director reserves the right to call any game having progressed to the time limit or to reduce the number of innings for a completed game to try and keep on schedule.
2. In the Championship Round, if the game cannot be continued and the score is tied, the winner will be decided;
 - Head to head competition
 - Total points earned in tournament
 - W/L/T
 - Least runs allowed

The NH Lightning Softball Club reserves the right to move its teams to fields in need of staff for appropriate field maintenance and or concession services.

