

2021 Spirit of the Sandhills Tournament Rules

- This is an USA Softball sanctioned tournament. USA Softball rules will be used except for special tournament exceptions as noted in this document.
- In case of rain or other postponements, the tournament director has the right to reschedule or eliminate teams/games to determine champions. If rain or threat of rain, games may be shortened by time or innings. If entire tournament is cancelled due to weather, 10% of the fee will be withheld; if tournament has already started 50% of entry fee is non-refundable.
- **Each team is asked to provide 2 new softballs at game time, as per your USA Softball age requirement. Please put your name on it so it may be returned after completion of the game.**
- **At completion of the game, please clean up the dugout area. Winning coach is responsible for turning in the results of your game to the tournament directors, by texting or calling: Mike 308-872-1756 or Tom 402-942-1000**
- Tournament seeding on Sunday will be determined by win/loss record, runs allowed, runs scored, coin flip will be used.
- You are asked to be at the playing field 45 minutes prior to game time, ready to play.
- Time limit of 65 minute on all games. 12u thru 18U pool play games will be drop dead and may end in a tie. Sunday bracket play will be 70-minute finish the inning.
- The 12-run rule is in effect after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings.
- Home team will be determined by coin flip at start of the game. Home team will be the official book. Game start time should be noted in the score book. Please compare score books each half inning to avoid conflicts. **Game time starts after the coin flip.**
- **There will be Gold & Silver Brackets per age division.**
 - 12U will play 2 pool games per team and will be seeded in a 16-team bracket. The winners will continue in that single elimination Gold bracket and the losers will play into an 8 team single elimination Silver bracket.
 - 14U and 16/18U teams will be seeded based on their pool play records. The top 8 teams will be placed in the Gold bracket and the bottom four teams will be placed in the Silver bracket.
 - 1st place medals will be awarded in each age division of each bracket
- This is a non-protest tournament. Disputes must be settled by umpires before play resumes.
- All teams, officials, players, umpires, and spectators participating in this tournament do so at their own risk. Tournament officials will not be responsible for any injuries or obligations sustained as a part of this tournament.
- International tiebreaker will go into effect only on Sunday for championship play. International tie breaker rule will be in effect at the end of the inning following the expiration of time or the 7th inning whichever comes first. In case of weather, the tournament director has the right to determine the outcome.
- Please search for 2021 Spirit of the Sandhills Shootout on Tourney Machine to find the latest information about the tournament. All announcements about the tournament will come through this app. Please call or text Tom: 402-942-1000 or Mike 308-872-1756 if you cannot find the information.

- All equipment including batting helmets must be USA Softball approved. All batting helmets must have a face mask and if a chin strap is used, please use correctly although chin straps are not required any longer.
- **Free substitution will be allowed on Saturday only. If there is an injury and the player will not go to the plate during their time at bat that player will be removed from the lineup and the remainder of the lineup will move up 1 spot (Batter #6 is injured, batter 7 will move to 6 spot, 8 will move to 7 etc.). The injured player will NOT be able to re-enter into the game.**
- **Sunday bracket play the coach will have the option to bat everyone or bat nine and play ten(DP/FLEX). The umpires and other teams head coach must be made aware of this at the start of the game.**
- Umpire decision are final and binding. No protests will be allowed for all age groups. Disputes settled by umpires before play resumes.
- Poor sportsman will not be tolerated by coaches, parents, or spectators.
- Umpires have the right to eject any coach, player, or spectator at their discretion. If anyone is ejected, they must leave the complex and may return for the next game. Any ejections can be disputed with the tournament director by a third party. The tournament director will have the last say on the matter.
- **Umpires will determine Sportsmanship award winners for each age division. Umpires, please call or text Mike @ 308-872-1756 or Tom @ 402-942-1000 with your nominations.**
- Concessions will be available at both facilities.