



2021 NJ Heat Tournament Rules of Play Eye of the Storm



Please note:

- No spectators are allowed to congregate or watch game from behind the dugout or backstop and will be asked to relocate if needed.
- By participating in this event, Coaches acknowledge and verify that their teams are in COVID compliance and that all players and coaches:
 - Have not presented a fever over 99.5 degrees or higher over last 48 hours
 - Have not been in contact with (6' or less for 15 minutes or more within 24 hours) with someone that has tested positive for COVID or waiting for results of a COVID test due to showing symptoms
 - Have not had any COVID related symptoms over the past 48 hours

TEAM CHECK IN

- The only Team Check-In requirement is to verify that your team insurance is in force. A copy of your insurance can be emailed to njheatfastpitch@gmail.com before 6:00 PM on the Friday before the event. If you email to us, there is no check-in required the morning of the event. If a copy is not emailed, please check your team in prior to your 1st game at the table in the common area.



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USA Softball RULES APPLY

Safety Rules as required by USA Softball.

- ALL BATTING HELMETS MUST HAVE APPROVED FACEMASKS.

Courtesy Runners

- Courtesy Runner should be used at all times for Pitchers and Catchers to speed up play
 - Courtesy Runner must come from the bench (any player not in game) or last batted out (in that order).
 - Courtesy Runner(s) must be different for pitcher and catcher within the same inning.

Player Line Ups:

- Teams may choose to bat entire roster if they would like to. There will be unlimited defensive substitutions if batting entire line-up.
- DP/FLEX rule may also be used in addition to the EP above and will follow USA Softball rules regarding such.

Game Length & Time:

- Home team decided by coin flip. The team that traveled furthest distance will call.
- 7 inning games for 12U/14U/16U/18U –OR- 6 inning game for 10U
- **No new inning may begin after 1 hr 20 / No time limit on Championship Games**
- Saturday games can end in a tie. If time permits use International Tie Breaker.

Run Ahead Rule:

12U/14U/16U/18U - 12 runs after 3 innings; 10 runs after 4, 8 runs after 5

10U – 15 after 3, 10 after 4, 8 after 5

10U Division Modifications:

- Pitching Distance shall be 35 feet.
- Coach can choose to have 9 or 10 players fielding with either 3 or 4 outfielders [LF-LC-RC-RF].
No "Short Fielder" is allowed, must be on outfield grass when pitched.
- Teams may bat # of players fielding up to their entire roster. If they bat entire roster, they risk an out for any injured player who cannot bat. Teams must follow USA Softball substitution rules. There will be free defensive substitution if batting the entire roster.
- No Dropped 3rd Strike.
- Slapping is allowed, but batters cannot square to bunt, pull-back and swing
- Stealing of 2nd and 3rd base will be allowed. No stealing of home is permitted. Runner stealing 3rd base **cannot** advance Home on an overthrow to 3rd base.
- Runners can lead on the release. Runners leading **cannot** advance home on pick off throws or overthrows.
- **6 runs maximum allowed per inning for innings 1, 2 and 3. Unlimited runs allowed beginning the 4th inning.**



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Sunday Seeding

Seeding will be based on the following:

- Total Points (2 points for win, 1 point for ties, 0 points for loss)
- In the event of a tie:
 - Head to head if only 2 teams tied
 - Total runs allowed
 - Total runs scored
 - Run differential
 - Coin Flip