



# 2021 NJ Heat Tournament Rules of Play



**\*\*Please note, due to State of NJ restrictions on gathering sizes, we can only allow 2 spectators per player at this event.\*\***

**Please review and pass the link below of our COVID-19 Complex Guidelines along to your team and parents – <https://www.njheatfastpitch.com/covid19>**

## **Please note:**

- Masks need to be worn by all players and coaches except when playing in a game or warming up. Spectators must wear except when sitting in a designated area watching a game.
- All spectators must watch game through outfield fence (lower fence area), except on Field 4 where they can watch from the top of the hill behind 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout.
- Coaches are responsible for their parents and will risk forfeit of games if they do not abide by the rules ← We do not want any team to have to forfeit.
- Please maintain social distancing at all times

## **TEAM CHECK IN**

**Please have your team arrive at check-in tables at least 60 minutes prior to game time. The earlier you arrive, the faster the process.**

- **Mask must be worn by everyone at check-in.**
- Teams will need to check in as a team – includes players, coaches and scorekeepers.
- Please have Team COVID Verification Form completed and signed by Coaches and Parents.
- We will also need to see a copy of insurance.
- There will **NOT** be the need for signed waivers.
- At completion of check-in, all participants will be given a bracelet that will need to be worn the remainder of the day at the complex. **Only individuals with bracelets will be able to be in dugout area.**

Please note that parents and spectators will not need to go through this process.



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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.
- Seven (7) Inning games for 12U/14U
- **No new inning may begin after 1 hr 20**
- Games can end in a tie. If time permits use International Tie Breaker.

### Run Ahead Rule:

12U - 15 runs after 3 innings; 10 runs after 4 innings; 8 runs after 5 innings  
14U - 12 runs after 3 innings; 10 runs after 4 innings; 8 runs after 5 innings

### 12U Division Modifications:

- Six (6) runs maximum allowed per inning for innings 1, 2 and 3. Unlimited runs allowed beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> inning.

### 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