



FOUNTAIN VALLEY GIRLS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL
2021 SUMMER CLASSIC TOURNAMENT
PLAYING RULES

1. LOCATIONS:
 - A. Fountain Valley Recreation Center & Sports Park.
16400 Brookhurst Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708-3005. Enter off of Brookhurst at Heil.
2. CHECK IN:
 - A. Head Coach / Manager must check-in one hour prior to the start of your first game.
 - B. Check-in will be near the FVGFS Snack Bar by fields 5 & 6.
 - C. USA Softball Picture cards are required.
 - D. Birth certificates, Picture and proof of USA Softball registration will be acceptable if you have not received your USA Softball cards.
3. PARKING:
 - A. RV parking is available only on the access road. Any RV's found parked in the common parking area will be towed. No overnight parking is allowed.
4. GENERAL:
 - A. USA Softball Rules will be in effect unless otherwise stated below.
 - B. Players and Coaches: These rules are required for our City Permit, they will be enforced.
 - Face coverings to be worn when not participating in the activity (e.g., on the sidelines).
 - While in the dugouts girls will wear masks at all times.
 - Coaches will wear masks at all times.
 - Coaches can remain outside the dugout during both offense and defense when possible. Coaches while outside of the dugout coaches will remain on fence 6 feet in either direction of dug out opening.
 - C. No travel ball players allowed. Only USA Registered recreational softball All-Star teams will be allowed to play in this tournament. Any team found to have a travel ball player on their roster will be disqualified and will forfeit their registration fee. **NO REFUND WILL BE GIVEN!**
 - D. USA Softball code of conduct will be enforced.
 - E. The host will furnish game balls.
 - F. Individual trophies for 1st and 2nd place. MVP awards for pool play games.
 - G. First team listed or top of bracket is 3rd base side (prior game participants are not required to move).
 - H. Coin flip determines home team and official scorekeeper.
 - I. **NO Protests!** Right or wrong, Umpire decisions are final. You can change his/her mind with the rulebook, but the Tournament Director will not overturn the decision.

J. Pool Play Tie Breakers:

- Head to Head
- Least runs allowed
- Most runs scored
- Coin Toss

K. It is your responsibility to be up to date when you play. The website will be updated with game results and standings as they come in. Some elimination games will begin late Saturday afternoon. **Results are on Tourney Machine: <https://tourneymachine.com/R87905>**

5. RULE MODIFICATIONS: All rules as defined in the USA SOFTBALL rulebook will be followed with FVGFS local playing rules superseding in the following instances:

A. 8U:

- Home plate is closed.
- No infield fly.
- No dropped 3rd strike.
- May play 4 outfielders (must be on edge of grass or beyond till after pitch).
- 5 run limit per inning first 3 innings, unlimited runs inning 4 thru 6. Pool play only. Unlimited runs in elimination games and championship games.
- Pitchers must have control of ball in the circle for play to stop. (Add to Quick Reference)
- May steal only one base per pitch.
- Round Robin batting will be used in Pool and Eliminations games.

B. 10U - 12U - 14U:

- Infield fly rule in effect.
- Batter may run on dropped 3rd strike.
- 10U - 5 run limit first 3 innings. Unlimited runs innings 4 thru 6. Pool play only. Unlimited runs in elimination games and championship games.
- 12U and 14U unlimited runs whole game.
- Runner may steal a base after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Home plate is OPEN.
PENALTY - If runner leaves early, runner will be called out.

C. USA SOFTBALL MERCY RULE - All Divisions, 15 after 3, 12 after 4 and 8 after 5.

6. BATTING:

- Pool Play - Round Robin shall be used for all divisions.
- Elimination Games - 10U thru 14U may use Round Robin, DP/FLEX or standard USA SOFTBALL bat 9 rules. Must inform umpire and opposing team at plate meeting of batting method used.

7. COURTESY RUNNERS: May be used for the pitcher and catcher. For Round Robin batting the last out in the lineup shall be used. For Standard USA SOFTBALL 9 batter line up rule with, or without a DP/FLEX, USA SOFTBALL courtesy runner rule applies. Only a substitute not yet in the game may serve as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher position. Once the substitute player is entered in the game legally on offense or defense, by rule she may no longer serve in capacity as a CR for the remainder of the game. *Clarification: The same CR may not run for both the pitcher and the catcher at any time during the game.*

8. GAME LENGTH:

- A. Pool Play - 1 hour 20 minutes drop dead.
- B. Elimination Games - 1 hour 20 minutes - no new inning.
- C. Championship Games - 8U and 10U are 6 innings, or 1 hour 30 minute - no new inning. 12U and 14U - 7 innings, or 1 hour 30 minutes - no new inning.
- D. International Tiebreaker is used in bracket games, there must be a winner. Pool Play games may end in a tie at 1 hour 20 minutes. Scores will revert to the last completed inning before drop-dead time limit was reached. If home team ties or goes ahead before end of drop dead, runs will count for home team.

9. BASE and PITCHING DISTANCE:

- A. Base distance shall conform to USA SOFTBALL rule of 60 feet.
- B. Pitching distance shall conform to USA SOFTBALL rule of 43 feet (14U).
- C. Pitching distance shall conform to USA SOFTBALL rule of 40 feet (12U).
- D. Pitching distance shall conform to USA SOFTBALL rule of 35 feet (10U).
- E. Pitching distance shall conform to USA SOFTBALL rule of 30 feet (8U).

10. BALL:

- Ball used shall be the 10, 11, and 12 inch USA SOFTBALL certified ball.

11. POST GAME CIRCLE CELEBRATIONS:

- This will significantly impair the field maintenance crew's ability to prepare the fields. Teams are requested to 'clean and clear' the dugouts as quickly as possible.
- MVP awards should be given on the side off the fields.

12. RESTRICTED ACTIVITY:

- At no time shall any player, coach, manager, or spectators be allowed to drink alcohol beverages at any game during the tournament.
- Noise makers (including music between innings or batters, bells, whistles, air horns, etc) will not be allowed at any field.
- Arguments, or unruly behavior by managers, coaches or fans will result in ejection from the tournament.

Lastly, FVGFS works with The City of Fountain Valley employees during our tournament. These young woman/men are there to help set up fields **only**. They do not know what field/game times are for you so please do not ask them. All questions should be directed towards the Tournament Director at the check-in booth.