

# ALLIANCE TIER ONE QUALIFIER

*Hosted by*



*In partnership with:*



Thank you for your entry into the Alliance Tier One Qualifier, which will be held on Friday, October 8th, through Sunday, October 10th in Orland Park, IL. Please find enclosed in this packet the following information:

1. General Tournament Information and Guidelines
2. Tournament Rules
3. Official Tournament Roster

Also, please visit [www.tourneymachine.com](http://www.tourneymachine.com) (search Alliance Tier 1 Qualifier) for your Pool Assignments and Game Schedule.

If there remain any further questions or additional information that you may require, please feel free to contact our tournament director.

Jess Schmittling  
Tournament Director  
618-806-8230  
[events@226sports.net](mailto:events@226sports.net)

## General Information and Guidelines

**Tournament Format / Alterations** – The Alliance Tier One Qualifier will be a **4 game guarantee** with 2 pool play format followed by a single elimination round. 1st round losers in bracket play will play an Alliance League Game to meet the game guarantee. *226 Sports reserves the right to alter, change, or abbreviate tournament format, when necessary, in order to complete the tournament.*

**Website** – For tournament information, visit our website at [www.226sports.net](http://www.226sports.net) or [www.tourneymachine.com](http://www.tourneymachine.com)

**Rainout Information** – It is the responsibility of each team to show up and be ready to play at the scheduled start time. If inclement weather prevails, all efforts will be made to get the games in. Rainout information will be posted at [www.226sports.net](http://www.226sports.net) and [www.tourneymachine.com](http://www.tourneymachine.com)

**Refund Policy** – If a tournament is canceled due to weather, or other emergency, refunds will be issued as follows:

<b>0 Games Started</b> = Credit in the amount of 100%
<b>1 Game Started</b> = Credit in the amount of 75%
<b>2 Games Started</b> = Credit in the amount of 50%
<b>3 Games Started</b> = Credit in the amount of 25%
<b>Withdraw within 21 days of tournament</b> = No Refund

**Awards** – The Alliance Tier One Qualifier will give team and individual awards to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams in the 14U-18U divisions.

**Balls** – 226 Sports will provide balls for the tournament. We will use sanctioned balls.

**Rosters** – Teams are required to submit a roster on Tourney Machine no less than 24 hours prior to your first game.

**Team Insurance** – All teams must present a copy of their team insurance to the Tournament Director's table no less than 45 minutes prior to your first game. There will be no copy machine onsite so make sure you bring a copy of your insurance certificate as our Tournament Director must keep a copy on file.

**Umpires** – Umpires will be sanctioned, many with State and National experience. An Umpire-in-Charge will be onsite.

**Tobacco / Alcoholic Products** – Use of tobacco products is prohibited on all fields and in dugouts. Use of alcoholic products is ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED on all complex property! Failure to comply will result in dismissal from the facility and possible team forfeiture with no refund.

**Food / Beverages** – Concessions will be available on site. Personal coolers are allowed. Alcohol consumption and all forms of smoking are prohibited in all public areas, including parks, in the Village of Orland Park.

**Sportsmanship** – Sportsmanship is expected by all players, coaches, and fans at all times. Any manager or coach ejected from a game is suspended for the remainder of that game.

**Souvenirs** – We will have a tournament t-shirt available on site.

# Tournament Rules

**The Alliance Tier 1 Qualifier will adopt the USSSA Fastpitch Softball Rules as the primary rulebook governing this tournament with Exceptions and Additions Below:**

**Check-In** – Teams must check in at the Tournament Director's table no less than 45 minutes prior to the start of their first game. At this time, copies of insurance must be put on file. No copy machine will be available so make sure you bring a copy of your insurance form as our Tournament Director must keep your insurance certificate on file.

**Pre-Game Warm-Up** – Will be allowed only in designated warm-up areas. There will be no infield taken between games. Please be courteous of workers attending to the fields between games. Also for the safety of the coaches and umpires, pitchers should warm-up past 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> base toward the outfield.

**ABSOLUTELY NO SOFT TOSS (INCLUDING PLASTIC BALLS) AGAINST FENCING**

## **Game Time Limits**

- All pool games will be 1:40 minutes or 7 innings in length, whichever comes first.
- All bracket games will be 7 innings.
- If home team is leading and on offense when the time limit expires, game will be over.
- All games will be seven innings or time limit.
- Pool games CAN end in a tie.
- Bracket games CAN NOT end in a tie. In the event of a tied bracket game at the end of seven innings or time limit, bracket games will enter the International Tie Breaker.
- Game time will start upon first warm up pitch. Game clock will be on backstop on each field.

**\*\*Game time is forfeit time (unless uncontrollable circumstances due to scheduling, etc.). Teams must be ready to play 30 minutes prior to scheduled game time\*\***

## **Run Rules**

Winner Declared If:

- 12 Runs Ahead After 3 innings (2 ½ if home team ahead)
- 10 Runs Ahead After 4 innings (3 ½ if home team ahead)
- 8 Runs Ahead After 5 innings (4 ½ if home team ahead)

**Home Team** – Coin toss will determine home team for pool play. The higher seed will have choice of H or V in bracket play (teams with same seed position will have coin flip).

**Official Scorekeeper** – The home team scorekeeper will be the official scorekeeper. At the conclusion of the game, the umpire will fill out a scorecard for that game using the home team scorekeeper as reference. That umpire will immediately turn in the score to the Tournament Director's table for posting.

**Pool Play Tie Breakers** – At the end of pool play competition, teams may be tied going into the seeded rounds of play (same win-loss record). The following tiebreakers will determine in what order each team will be seeded.

1. Head to head competition.
2. Runs allowed.
3. Run differential (runs scored minus runs allowed).
4. Runs scored.
5. Coin toss.

**Lineups** – Teams can bat their roster in pool play only. Bracket play will be bat 9 or 10 (with DP/Flex). It is the coach's responsibility to submit a lineup card to the home plate umpire prior to each game. Lineup cards **MUST** have first name, last name, uniform number, and position. *ALL TEAMS MUST SUBMIT A LINEUP CARD TO THE UMPIRE AND THE OTHER TEAM.* \*If a team chooses to bat their roster and a player is injured, they will be required to take an out every time the injured player's spot comes up in the batting order.\*

**Courtesy Runners** –

1. Courtesy runners can be used at every at bat for the pitcher and catcher.
2. Courtesy runners are not tied to a player (pitcher or catcher)
3. Courtesy runners must be a substitute first. If the team doesn't have a substitute, then the runner will be the last completed at bat.
  - a. For example: If your pitcher gets on base and she is batting 7th then ask yourself where is number 6? If she is on base, then where is number 5? Number 5 is the catcher. Where is number 4? Number 4 is in the dugout. That is your courtesy runner, number 4 in the batting line order.
4. The same Courtesy Runner cannot be used for both the pitcher and the catcher in the same half inning.
5. If an incorrect courtesy runner is discovered on base, the runner will be out and the Head coach will be issued a warning.

**Pitching Distance and Rules** –

Prior to the pitch, the pitcher shall take a position with their pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate and their non-pivot foot in contact with or behind the pitcher's plate.

18U – 43'

16U – 43'

14U – 43'

**Protests** – Umpire's decision is final. There will be NO protests allowed.

**Please forward any rules questions to the tournament director or one of the tournament committee members. We would be happy to help answer any questions or introduce you to the Umpire in Charge.**