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## Rules and Regulations

D1-Prospects has adopted the OFFICIAL National Federation of State High School Associations Softball Rules([www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)) with the following exceptions:

**1. SPORTSMANSHIP**-There is ZERO tolerance for disruptive behavior by fans, coaches or players. Derogatory comments, poor behavior and negative verbal communications toward any event staff, coaches or players will be cause for removal from the event and complex ie: taunting, use of words or actions to incite or try to incite spectators to demonstrate. a) use of profanity, intimidation or deceitful tactics, baiting or taunting, embarrassing, ridiculing or demeaning others in any circumstances including race, gender, religion or nationality. b) Behavior of any manner not in accordance with the spirit of play - team personnel shall not charge an umpire. Arguing balls and strike calls or other other Umpire judgment calls are prohibited.

**Penalty**- The umpire shall eject the offender from the game unless the offense is judged to be minor in nature. If minor, the umpire may warn the offender and eject if the offense is repeated. Coaches who violate may be restricted to the bench/dugout for the remainder of the game or ejected from the game. Coaches are responsible for their fans' behavior.

### **SPECTATORS ARE NEVER TO ADDRESS UMPIRES ON OR OFF THE FIELD**

**\*Warnings issued to teams or fans will be documented and carried throughout the tournament. You will not get a warning per game. 1 warning and then a forfeit/ejection at the directors/UIC's discretion**

**2. BATS:** USA & USSSA Approved bats with the USA/ASA stamp and/or the USSSA thumb 1.20bpf print only. This is the coaches responsibility to check that all players are properly equipped. Illegal bats will result in the ejection of the player and coach from the game. CHECK YOUR GEAR

**3. FIELD OF PLAY:** If there are unusual conditions, such as spectators or obstacles too near the playing field the Director or Umpire shall propose special ground rules. Ground Rules shall not supersede the rule book.

**4. SCORE:**Umpires will keep the official score. They will check with each team every half inning for verification. Winning coach must sign/acknowledge the score and game scores will stand as written. The scorebook of the home team shall be the official scorebook unless the plate umpire rules otherwise.

**5. WARM UPS** between innings is 2 minutes, please have your players hustle between innings.

**6. START TIMES:** Please be prepared 15 min. before posted start time. Any changes above 15 min. will be made by and communicated through the Event Directors through Tourney Machine. Once the Umpire(s) are on the field and calls for a plate meeting, all warmups must stop and coaches must immediately proceed to the plate meeting.

TIME STARTS WITH THE COIN FLIP. Umpires don't manage team Game time.

**7. HOME TEAM:** Pool Play=Coin Flip, Bracket=**Highest seed choice**, If=Coin Flip

### **8. GAME LENGTH:**

**\*16u & 18u pool play and Bracket games will be 7 innings or 75 minutes whichever comes first. Championship is 7 innings or 120 min whichever comes first**

**\*14u pool play and Bracket games will be 7 innings or 75 minutes whichever comes first. Championship is 7 innings or 90 min whichever comes first**

**\* 12u & 10u Pool play and Bracket games will be 7 innings or 75 minutes whichever comes first. Championship game is 7 innings or 80 min whichever comes first**

**\*8u pool play and bracket games will be 7 innings or 55 minutes whichever comes first Championship will be no new after 60 minutes**

**9. TIE:** Pool play will end in a tie. Bracket play must have a winning team - in the event that time has expired we will use the International Tie Breaker (ITB) then progressive. Runner (last completed batter) will be placed on 2nd base at the start of the top and bottom half of the inning.\*see 8u rules

TIE - Head-Head, Run Diff, Run Allowed, Run Scored, Winn %

**10. RUN RULES:** 12 after 3, 10 after 4, 8 after 5 Bracket and Championship. Pool will include an 8 after 70 min run rule.

**\*6 runs per half inning implemented in 8u/10u/12u only. After 6 runs scored, teams exchange offense and defense. Only an over the fence homerun can score more than 6 runs-POOL PLAY ONLY**



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## **P11. BATTING ORDER:**

**Pool Play:** 16u, 18u, 14u, 12u, 10u - - may bat the whole line up (more than 9 is okay) **free defensive substitution**, must keep offensive integrity at all times. Must declare pitcher and catcher substitutions including courtesy runners.

**Bracket Play:** Bracket is not final until all pool games have been; completed, scores entered and bracket has been released. We will NOT PREDICT Seeding for brackets.

10u,12U& 14U: Same as pool play. May however use any of the options below if they choose.

16u & 18u any option below may be used:

1. Option 1-Straight nine- those nine can play any position on defense without reporting to the umpire.
2. Option 2 - Dp/Flex-10 players are listed on the line-up, but only 9 will bat. The DP can bat for any player that you designate prior to the start of the game. That player is designated as the Flex and should be listed in the 10th spot on the line-up card. Any of the 10 players can play on defense.
3. Option 3- EH/EP - This gives you the option to bat 10 players and any 9 can play defense. This player can be placed anywhere in the line-up.

Batting Re-Entry Rule: Starters may only re-enter one time and in the same spot in the batting order.

**Lineup** shall include; Team, Coaches Name(s), Athlete first initial and last name, athletes jersey number (no players on the same team may wear identical numbers), position and batting order of each starting player and shall include each eligible substitute.

Lineups are official after they have been exchanged, verified and accepted by the plate umpire during the pre-game conference.

*After a line- up card has been submitted to and verified by the umpire and a change is subsequently made to a player/substitute name or number or if a player/Substitute is added to the line-up card the umpire shall issue a team warning to the head coach of the team involved. Any further changes made to a player/substitute name or number results in the head coach being restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game. Subsequent offenses of this matter in a tournament will result in ejection of the coach from the facility for the remainder of the tournament and the player(s) being called out IF at the discretion of the umpire/director these repeated offenses take away from the spirit and integrity of the game.*

**12. Players , Guest and Illegal Players** Each team must start with nine players, must have 8 to continue.\*Any falsification of identity will be considered an Illegal player and will be ejected from the event.

**Guest Players** - Players not listed on the Online roster are not eligible to play. Illegal players are grounds for forfeit/ejections. **NO REFUNDS for roster errors! Rosters will be frozen at 5pm the evening before the start of the event. \*The Director may grant an emergency guest player exception at their discretion**

**Player Eligibility** - A players age eligibility is determined by their age as of Dec. 31st of the prior year (ie 12/31/2020). A player may always play up age divisions but cannot play under their eligible age division. No player may play with more than one roster during the event.

**13. COURTESY RUNNERS:** can be used for pitcher and catcher only. If a team is batting their entire lineup (more than 9), any player, not on base, can be a courtesy runner. If a courtesy runner is on base and their spot in the batting order comes up they will be declared out. If a team is NOT batting their entire line up, the courtesy runner MUST be a SUB.

**14. PROTESTS:** Protesting the application of a rule only. Judgment calls are Non-Protestable. Protests on a judgment call will not be allowed and no fee will be accepted. Protests require a \$100 fee Made to D1 Prospects and will be settled by the protest committee. The Protest Committee will be made up of any part of the following: tournament director, tournament UIC, site director or any of their designees. If the protest is upheld the \$100 will be refunded. If the protest is denied the fee will be forfeited.

- a. Coaches shall immediately notify the plate umpire of his/her intent to protest before the next pitch. If the game ends (legal contest) in a situation that can be protested, the offended team must voice it's protest intentions before the umpires exit the playing field.
- b. Protests made during a game will be decided on before the game is allowed to continue



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- c. Protests on a rule or procedural interpretations must be made before the next pitch and will be decided upon before the game is allowed to continue. Clock will continue to run.
- d. A protest on a tournament procedure or player's eligibility must be made before the umpires vacate the field of play of THE GAME IN QUESTION.
- e. Illegal Player protest can be made at any time, by the current offended team, while the player in question is in the game and before the umpires leave the playing field.

**15. FORMAT:** The event game guarantee means that your team will be scheduled for those many games. Instances happen where games may not be played due to a forfeit or other circumstance. In this event, your team will take the win and the other the loss counting toward your Game Guarantee. Forfeits will be recorded as a 7-0 score.

**16. COVID-19-** Do Not attempt to enter the dugout until it has been vacated and cleaned.\*Please review the Covid guidelines and share with your team, parents and spectators. Each event location will have individual regulations/rules/guidelines, your participation in the event constitutes an agreement to abide and follow all local, state and event guidelines. Teams, Participants or spectators can be removed for NOT following these guidelines.

**17. COACHES-** Any time a coach is in live ball area to confer with players or an umpire, or to occupy a coaches box, the coach shall be attired in a Team uniform or jersey/coaches shirt with coaching shorts/slacks or warm up suits including fleece like warm-ups in team colors OR colors of khaki, black, white or gray. Cut off Shorts or any type of jeans are prohibited. Closed toed shoes only on the field. **Penalty-**a coach not dressed in appropriate attire shall not be permitted in the field of play. Following the pre-game conference for the duration of the game OR until the situation has been remedied.

#### **EVENT DIRECTORS**

Our goal is to make this experience memorable. If you need assistance please feel free to contact us

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