



FOUNTAIN VALLEY GIRLS FASTPITCH
SOFTBALL
2022 SUMMER CLASSIC TOURNAMENT
PLAYING RULES

1. **LOCATION:**

- A. Fountain Valley Recreation Center & Sports Park.
16400 Brookhurst Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708-3005.
Enter off Brookhurst at Heil.

2. **CHECK IN:**

- A. Team Representative 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 Championship roster, signed by each parent is required at check in.
D. Proof all Coaches have been registered and background checked with USA Softball is also required for field access. Proof of league insurance also required.

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. **CODE OF CONDUCT RULES AND RESTRICTED ACTIVITY:**

- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed at any game, stands, or any part of parking lot during the tournament. Offending party will be asked to leave the tournament permanently. Tournament Director will decide if team will be allowed to continue in tournament based on incident.
- Noise makers (including music between innings or batters, bells, whistles, air horns, etc.) will not be allowed at any field. It is disruptive to the other games and will be enforced.
- Arguments, or unruly behavior by managers, coaches or fans will result in ejection from the tournament.
- Any coach or spectator who aggressively confronts a tournament official or umpire after a game will be asked to leave the tournament permanently. Tournament Director will decide if team will be allowed to continue in tournament based on incident.

5. GENERAL PLAY RULES:

- A. Adults who will enter the playing field must be registered and background checked with USA Softball for field access.
- B. USA Softball Rules will be in effect unless otherwise stated below.
- 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 line up or on the field 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 Tournament 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. Tourney Machine will be updated with game results and standings as they come in. Elimination games will begin late Saturday afternoon.

6. GAME LENGTH:

- A. Pool Play - 1 hour 15 minutes drop dead. 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. Pool Play games may end in a tie at 1 hour 15 minutes
- B. Elimination Games - 1 hour 20 minutes - no new inning, finish the inning there must be a winner.
- C. Championship Games:
 - a. 7 innings, or 1 hour 30 minute - no new inning, finish the inning there must be a winner.
- D. International Tiebreaker Rule (USA supplemental rule 54, pg. 147) is used in bracket games only, there must be a winner.

7. RUN LIMITS:

- A. **Pool Play:**
 - 8U-10U 5 run limit per inning first 3 innings, unlimited runs inning 4 thru 7
 - 12U & 14U Unlimited Runs
- B. **All Bracket Play Games:** All Divisions Unlimited runs

8. **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).
- Pitchers must have control of ball in the circle for play to stop.
- May steal only one base per pitch.
- Round Robin batting will be used in all games.

B. 10U - 12U - 14U:

- Infield fly rule in effect.
- Drop 3rd rule in effect.
- 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.

9. **USA SOFTBALL RUN AHEAD RULE:** All Divisions, 15 after 3, 12 after 4 and 8 after 5.

10. BATTING:

- A. Pool Play - Round Robin shall be used for all divisions.

- B. Elimination Games and Championship games - 10U thru 14U have the following options and must inform umpire and opposing team at plate meeting of batting method used. (2022 USA Rule 4.1.C)

OPTION 1 – Round Robin

OPTION 2 - Straight nine: Those nine players can play any position on defense.

OPTION 3 - DP/Flex: 10 players are listed on the line-up, but only 9 bats. 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 must be listed in the 10th spot on the lineup card.

OPTION 4 - EP: This gives you the option to bat 10 players and any 9 can play defense. This player can be placed anywhere in the lineup.

OPTION 5 - DP/Flex and the EP: This allows you to have 11 players listed in the lineup. Only 10 will bat, any 9 of these players can play defensively, but the Flex cannot bat. The Flex must be listed in the 11th spot on the lineup card.

11. **COURTESY RUNNERS:** May be used for the pitcher and catcher. Furthest in the lineup shall be used. Injured Batters/Runners may be replaced by last out, but may not return to the game, No Penalty. 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.

12. BASE and PITCHING DISTANCE:

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

13. BALL:

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

14. 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.

15. All questions should be directed towards the Tournament Director at the check-in booth. FVGFS works with The City of Fountain Valley employees during our tournament. These young women/men are there to help set up fields only. They do not have schedule or rule information.