

**Florence Y'all's**  
**9U/10U Frozen Rope Tournament Rules & Policies**

1. Tournament specific rules are covered below. Rules not specifically outlined below are covered by the NFHS baseball rules. Field dimensions will be: 65' bases, 46' mound to plate. Base stealing and lead offs are permitted. Catcher **MUST** throw to first to record an out on a dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike. Runners may attempt to score on a wild pitch/passed ball. **No straight stealing of home is permitted.**
2. Coaches and support staff for each team will be required to sign in at the main gate upon their arrival at Florence Y'all's Ballpark each day. The first three (3) coaches to arrive will be granted entry at no charge. Any coaches over and above those three will be required to pay the \$5 entry. **No exceptions. Gate fee is 5.00 per adult and children over 12. Strongly prefer CASH for gate fee.**
3. No infield before games unless agreed on by tournament director or umpire. BE READY to play up to 15 minutes prior to scheduled starting time. In the event of a fast game or run rule, we will attempt to begin the next game 15 minutes early.
4. The call of the umpire on the field is final. The tournament Director will not overrule/overturn an umpire's call or intervene on behalf of any team under any circumstances. The tournament Director may only be consulted for clarifications on tournament rules.
5. All teams will play two (2) games in pool play. **ALL TEAMS WILL PARTICIPATE IN BRACKET PLAY!** Seeding will be determined by the following:
  - a. Record
  - b. Head-to-Head (only applies if ALL teams with the SAME record have played each other)
  - c. Runs allowed
  - d. Runs Differential (Maximum +/- 8 runs)
  - e. Coin FlipPool winners will be seeded first, regardless of record. When 3 or more teams are tied, tiebreaker priorities are used to select or seed the first team. Subsequent team selections and seeds start back at tie-breaker priority #1 (win-loss record). This process repeats itself until all necessary teams are selected or seeded.

At the conclusion of pool play, teams will be seeded according to the above tiebreakers.
6. Home team determined by coin flip except in BRACKET PLAY where higher seed is home team.
7. All games in pool play will be six (6) innings with a 1-hour 45-minute time limit. NO inning may start after 1 hour 45 min. UMPIRE will inform both teams of the official start time. Tie games (after 6 innings) in pool play are rendered a tie. Bracket play games will go to California Tie Break rules after 6 innings OR the time limit has been reached. Each team begins each inning with a runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base (last batted out), one out, and a 0-0 count. The team who is ahead at the end of any inning is then deemed the winner.

8. There is no time limit in the Championship game. However, the run rule still applies in the Championship round. Run rule is as follows: eight (8) after five (5) innings, ten (10) after four (4) innings, and twelve (12) after three (3) innings.
9. Pitching Rules: Coaches discretion. We trust ALL COACHES have the best interest of their players arm health in mind and use the PITCH SMART guidance. Once a pitcher is removed from the pitcher position, he CANNOT return in that game as a pitcher. Each pitcher will be given one balk warning per appearance.
10. You may bat 9, 10 OR roster bat (all uniformed players in the hitting lineup. If roster batting and a player is unable to bat DUE TO LEGITIMATE INJURY, then his spot can be skipped without penalty. He CANNOT return to that game once his spot is skipped.
11. BAT LIMITATIONS: 1.15 bpf stamp or USA stamp MUST be visible.
12. Courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher allowed at any time. The courtesy runner must be a player not currently in the lineup. If no player is available, (team is roster batting), you may run your last BATTED out.
13. Pool play: Flip for home team. Higher seed will be home team in Bracket Play.
14. Outside food and beverage is not permitted within Thomas More Stadium. The only exception is for players. Players must bring their own water and/or Gatorade since we cannot have water coolers in dugouts at this time. Coolers are also not permitted inside Thomas More Stadium or at any secondary tournament fields.
15. **Metal cleats, sunflower seeds, chewing gum, and peanuts are prohibited on the premises at Thomas More Stadium.** Violators will be ejected, as will their coach, upon first offense. Further offenses will result in ejection of the player and coach for the remainder of the tournament and possible forfeiture, at the discretion of the tournament director. **Teams will also be fined \$100 per applicable offense.**
16. **The head coach is responsible for the behavior of his players, coaches, parents, and fans.**
17. The umpires oversee the game. Excessive arguing or abuse will not be tolerated. The umpire's decision on any judgment call is final. Rule interpretation can be discussed with the tournament director.
18. All participants are competing at their own risk. By participating you agree to hold the Tournament Director, Tournament Officials, Tournament Hosts, and Tournament Sponsors harmless from any liability resulting from participation in the tournament. Team insurance is mandatory and must be available upon request.
19. No team may take the field until their waivers of liability have been completed in-full and submitted to a member of the Florence Y'all's amateur baseball operations staff.
20. Rainouts: Whether to cancel games due to weather is NOT the choice of the Tournament Director. It is solely at the discretion of the site director of the fields we are using, or the

umpires. There will be NO makeup games unless the Tournament Director feels that proceeding without makeup games would compromise the integrity of the tournament. If there are rainouts in bracket play, the higher seed will advance to the next round.

21. If pool play games are cancelled due to inclement weather, teams that are 3-0 will be seeded ahead of 2-0, 2-1 ahead of 1-1, and so on. Tie games count as  $\frac{1}{2}$  win and  $\frac{1}{2}$  loss. Tiebreakers will then be AVERAGE RUNS ALLOWED and AVERAGE RUNS SCORED.
22. The Tournament Director reserves the right to re-format the tournament as necessary due to inclement weather.
23. DRESS WARM!!! They don't call it FROZEN ROPE FOR NOTHIN.... 😊

