

# 2025 PQ Memorial Classic

## Tournament Rules

### General Rules

1. The 2025 USA Softball Rulebook and the following specific ground rules will govern this tournament. All participating teams must be registered with USA Softball as Rec "B" or Rec "C" teams only.
2. Check-In (All Teams):
  - Teams must check in at the **registration table located along 1B side of Field #5.**
  - ***Each team must submit a copy of its championship team roster from USA Softball and USA Softball ID Cards.***
    - i. **These will be kept by the tournament director and not returned.**
3. Rosters will be limited to 16 players. No player may be added after the start of the first game. Teams have the option of batting their entire roster with free defensive substitutions during pool play, and bracket play.
4. Game balls will be provided to Umpires for each game played. You must use the provided balls. No exceptions.
5. Any team not ready to play at scheduled game time shall forfeit the game, which shall be recorded as a 7-0 loss. The only exception will be teams playing back-to-back on different fields, who will be allotted a short grace period.
6. **Warm-ups:**
  - Infield practice is not permitted, foul territory and outfields may be used or outlying field areas.
7. **Dugouts:**
  - The **team listed first shall occupy the first base dugout.** Teams playing consecutive games on the same field will not be required to change dugouts.
8. **Home team:**
  - Pool Play: **Will be decided by umpire coin toss** prior to game time and in the presence of representatives from both teams
  - Bracket Play: **The higher seeded team will be the home team.** In the event of equally seeded teams playing each other in bracket play; coin toss will determine the home team.
9. **Scorekeeper:** The home team will provide official scorekeepers for all games. The umpire will have the official game summary sheet. The manager from each team will sign/initial the umpire's summary sheet. This will be the official score of the game.
10. **Player of the Game Medals**
  - **To keep game schedules on time,** please keep medal presentations brief.
  - Only Coaches and Players are permitted on the field for medal presentations.
  - **Parents are not permitted on the field for pictures!**
  - **Please direct parents to take pictures off the field after the game.**
11. **Bracket Seeding:**

- All teams will advance to single elimination bracket play. Seeding for bracket play shall be decided as follows:
  - i. Win/Loss record
  - ii. Head to Head
  - iii. Least runs allowed
  - iv. Most runs scored
  - v. Coin toss.
  - vi. If there are more than two teams tied, head to head will not apply.

## 12. Game Time:

- All games are a maximum of 6 innings.
- **Pool Play**
  - i. No New Inning shall begin after 1 hour and 15 minutes. **No drop dead.**
  - ii. When the game hits 1 hour and 15 minutes the game will end after the inning is complete or when the outcome of the game has been determined.
  - iii. Games may end in a tie.
- **Bracket Play**
  - i. Games must have a winner.
  - ii. No New Inning shall begin after 1 hour and 15 minutes. **No drop dead.**
  - iii. If a game is tied at the completion of the last inning, international tiebreaker rules will be played until a winner is determined.
- **Championship Games**
  - i. No New Inning shall begin after 1 hour and 30 minutes. **No drop dead.**
  - ii. If a game is tied at the completion of the last inning, international tiebreaker rules will be played until a winner is determined.
  - iii. If a team cannot catch up based on per inning run rule limits, the game will end. **There is no open inning.**
    - 1. 8u is 4 runs
    - 2. 10u is 5 runs
    - 3. 12u/14u is 6 runs max per inning

## 13. International Tie-Breaker

- In the event of a tie game at the end of regulation play, each remaining inning will start using the international tie-breaker. The team will place the player with the last completed at-bat from the previous inning on 2nd base to start the inning.

## 14. Mercy Rule

- For all games, the game will be over if a team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings.

## 15. No Protests allowed. All calls made by the umpire are final.

## 16. Team Conduct: Teams are responsible for their conduct, as well as the conduct of their fans on and off the field during the tournament. Improper conduct during the tournament may result in disqualification from the tournament. Any manager, coach, player or fan asked to leave the game shall do so immediately and may not return for the remainder of the game. If a manager, coach, player or fan is asked to leave a SECOND time during the tournament, they shall do so immediately and will not be allowed to return for the remainder of the tournament.

## 17. No artificial noisemakers.

## **18. Park Rules:**

- NO Tobacco
- NO Alcohol
- NO Motor home parking in any marked parking spaces anywhere in Canyonside Community Park
- NO Overnight parking.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times. Please pick up after your pets!

## **8U Special Rules:**

1. **Run rules:** 4 runs per inning or 3 outs whichever comes first.
2. Runners may steal one base per pitch only. No stealing home. Batter/runner can only take one base on a base on balls.
3. Home plate is frozen. Runners may score only if the ball is hit or a batter is walked forcing the runner home.
4. Teams must bat their entire roster in Pool and Bracket games. No DP/FLEX.
5. There will be NO COACH PITCHING. Balls and strikes will be called.
6. Pitching distance is 30', bases are 60'.
7. Infield fly rules, drop third strike, and hot home plate are NOT in effect.
8. Ten (10) defending players may be on the field at any time. The ten players may play anywhere in fair territory except for the catcher who will be in the catcher box.
9. Players may not start closer to home plate than the distance of the pitcher's plate, but may move closer to home plate after the ball is released by the pitcher.

## **10U Special Rules:**

1. **Run rules:** 5 runs per inning or 3 outs whichever comes first.
2. Pool Play: Teams have the option of batting the entire roster or only nine.
3. Bracket Play: Teams have the option of (a) batting their entire line-up and having free defensive substitutions, or (b) abiding by USA Softball rules on substitutions (DP/Flex/EP).

### **If a team uses bat around:**

- a. They must declare their intention to bat around and list all players present.
  - b. They will be allowed free defensive substitutions.
  - c. Courtesy runners are allowed for the pitcher and the catcher. The courtesy runner must be the player who made the last recorded out. If two runners are necessary in the same inning (one for the pitcher and one for the catcher), the courtesy runners must be the two players making the last two recorded outs.
  - d. Players leaving the game for any reason other than ejection will result in an out being declared for that player's next at bat only.
  - e. Late arrivals must be added to the bottom of the lineup.
  - f. A batter-runner or runner injured on a play may be replaced on base by the player making the last out. The batter-runner or runner who was replaced must be removed from the game.
4. Drop third strike, hot home plate and infield fly rule will be in effect.

5. Pitching distance is 35', bases are 60'.

### **12U & 14U Special Rules:**

1. **Run rules:** 6 runs per inning or 3 outs whichever comes first.
2. Pool Play: Teams have the option of batting the entire roster or only nine.
3. Bracket Play: Teams have the option of (a) batting their entire line-up and having free defensive substitutions, or (b) abiding by USA Softball rules on substitutions (DP/Flex/EP).

#### **If a team uses bat around:**

- a. They must declare their intention to bat around and list all players present.
  - b. They will be allowed free defensive substitutions.
  - c. Courtesy runners are allowed for the pitcher and the catcher. The courtesy runner must be the player who made the last recorded out. If two runners are necessary in the same inning (one for the pitcher and one for the catcher), the courtesy runners must be the two players making the last two recorded outs.
  - d. Players leaving the game for any reason other than ejection will result in an out being declared for that player's next at bat only.
  - e. Late arrivals must be added to the bottom of the lineup.
  - f. A batter-runner or runner injured on a play may be replaced on base by the player making the last out. The batter-runner or runner who was replaced must be removed from the game.
4. Drop third strike, hot home plate and infield fly rule will be in effect.
  5. Pitching distance is 40' for 12u and 43' for 14u, bases are 60'.