



# NAFA

## 12 U National Rules 2021

As we support our local associations, a gate fee for the tournament entry of \$200 is payable to Eagan Fastpitch Association (EFP).

1. 12U bat roster for pool play; Roster, DP, EP or Flex all are options in bracket play. Games are no new inning after 70 minutes for pool and no new inning after 75 minutes for bracket. Teams must designate to umpire and opposing team before the start of their bracket game their line-up choice.
2. Home team is determined by flip of coin.
3. Run rule is 12 after three innings, 10 after four, eight after five. Pool play games can end in a tie. In bracket, after 75 minutes, international tie-breaker will be used, placing the last out at second base with no outs.
4. Umpires handle all issues on the fields. Only tournament rules clarifications will be handled by tournament directors or UICs. Judgment calls come from the umpire on the field. Head coach is responsible for the conduct of players, other coaches and its fan base.
5. Tournaments are pool bracket play and then into four double elimination bracket tournaments (Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze). Brackets are determined by pool finish. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Gold, and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to Gold, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> to Silver, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to Bronze.
6. Each team will be allocated three game balls at the beginning of the tournament. Do not return them until after your tournament has ended. If a ball is damaged, replacements can be traded in for at tournament headquarters.
7. On-deck batters will be placed to the back of the batter for safety purposes.
8. Coaches and parents who use profanity or other unwanted behavior will be directed by tournament directors or umpires to leave the park.

## General Rules

40' pitching distance.

NAFA rules apply to play.

- **Approved Bat List:** check NAFA site for NCAA list
- **Courtesy Runner:** last recorded out (not P or C)
- **Pitching rule:**
  - 9.1a Pitcher is considered to be in the pitching position when she has her hands apart, her pivot foot is in contact with the pitcher's plate, and the catcher is in position to receive the pitch.
  - 9.1b Once the pitcher has established her footing placement with her pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate and her stride (non-pivot foot); she may not take an additional step back with her non-pivot foot (step-back).
  - 9.2a Both feet must be on the ground, her pivot foot is in contact with the pitcher's plate, and both feet must be within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.
  - 9.3a The pitch officially begins when the pitcher has taken (or simulated taking) a signal from the catcher, both hands have touched and the hands have separated. The signal need not come from the catcher.
  - 9.3b Pitcher may not step back with her stride (non-pivot) foot after taking the signal from the catcher.
  - 9.11a The pitcher is considered to be in pitching position when both feet are in contact with the ground and her pivot foot is in contact with the pitcher's plate. The pitcher may legally be removed from the pitching position by stepping backward (not forward or sideways) off the pitcher's plate.
  - 9.11b The pitch officially begins and cannot be legally aborted when the pitcher has taken (or simulated taking) a signal from the catcher, both hands have touched and the hands have separated. The signal need not come from the catcher.
- **Tournament Roster:** download a NAFA roster at [www.nafasoftball.com](http://www.nafasoftball.com). All rosters are due at registration (18 player limit).
- **Tournament Uniform:** All teams must dress alike in uniform – color and style.