



MINNESOTA SOFTBALL STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

Congratulations on qualifying for the Minnesota Softball State Tournament. The following is a list of rules that are applied to our state tournaments that are different than the USA Softball rulebook.

Each state tournament team will pay a \$100 gate fee to the local community association that is hosting the tournament.

Tournaments are double elimination format. Each team will be guaranteed two (2) games.

PLAYING RULES DIFFERENT THAN USA SOFTBALL RULEBOOK

1. Tie Breaker Rule: The offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number five batter is the leadoff batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner).
EXCEPTION: 10-Under Class C the inning will start with two (2) outs.
2. All rule protests will be handled by the umpire on the field if an umpire in chief is not available on site.

Rule	10-Under	12-Under	14-Under	16-Under	18-Under
Pitching Distance	35 Feet	40 Feet	43 Feet	43 Feet	43 Feet
Steel Cleats	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Run Rule	5 per inning	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Batting Lineup	Bat the roster	Bat the roster			
DP/Flex Allowed	Not Allowed	Tier 1	All Tiers	All Tiers	All Tiers
Time Limit	70 minutes	70 minutes	70 minutes	70 minutes	70 minutes

Teams at 12-Under Tier 1, 14-Under, 16-Under, and 18-Under have the option to use DP/Flex. Coaches must declare what lineup they are going to use at the manager’s meeting. These teams may also bat as many players as they want.

All other levels must bat all players in attendance with the exceptions of injured or sick players. In the event a team must reduce their lineup due to injury, there is no penalty. If you reduce to eight (8) players, the ninth spot is an out.

For any other rules, we will play the USA Softball rules. Here are some notable ones:

1. The home/visiting team will be determined at the pre-game meeting by a coin flip.
2. Run rule is fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings, 12 runs after four (4) innings, eight (8) runs after five (5) innings.
3. Courtesy runner for catchers and pitchers will be the last out unless the last out is coming up to bat then it would be the last batter crossing the plate.

