

Warrior Rumble - Mendota Heights

Tournament Rules and Conditions

Location

Mendakota Park, Mendota Heights, MN
2000-2198 Mendakota Dr, Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Tourney Dates

- Friday, May 17th - Sunday May 19th

Game Times

- Game start times will be will range between 8:45am - 6pm on Saturday and Sunday and on Friday 5:45pm or 7:15pm.
- Game start times may get pushed back due to weather and game durations may be reduced due to weather, or loss of games. Details below.

Check-In Requirements

- Teams must check in at least 45 minutes prior to their first game.
- Teams must have an official roster on MN Softball. No rosters need to be provided at the game. If you have players on your roster without age verification, please be prepared to show evidence of age if an opponent has questions.
- Equipment rules follow USA Softball rules.

Game Rules

- Games will follow standard USA Softball / MN Softball rules unless noted below.
- A team not ready to play at the start time of their game will forfeit that game with a score of 7-0. A team must have 7 players to start the game. A team without 7 players may choose to play the game for the benefit of the kids development but the game will still be forfeited. Any forfeited game that is played has a hard stop at 70 minutes.
- A coin toss or ball roll (umpire choice) at the beginning of each game will determine the home team, and home team will keep official score book for games. Umpires will report the official final scores to tournament director. Scores will be updated on the MN Softball tournament site.
- All games will have one umpire.
- All protests will be settled on the field. Umpire decisions are final. No appeals will be allowed to the Tournament Director or Umpire in Chief.
- Courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher, catcher or an injured player that must leave the game. Courtesy runners are to be the last out, or the last player due to bat in the inning if no outs. Subsequent courtesy runners in the same inning begin with the next to last out or second to last batter scheduled for the inning. Note in the event of an injury an out does not need to be recorded when they are due to bat.
- There are no restrictions on the number of innings a pitcher can pitch.
- Unlimited substitution of players on defense is allowed.

- Batting lineups that include the entire roster of players in attendance is required. If a team has an injured player that must be reported prior to the game to the umpire and opponent. They will not need to be in the batting lineup if injured.
- Dropped 3rd strike rule in effect for all age groups. Runners can advance on dropped 3rd strike.
- **5 run per inning limit in effect for all 10U games.**
- **10 run limit per inning in effect for 12U pool games and bracket games**
- Run Rules/Margins as follows: 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings, 8 runs after 5 innings
- 10U Specific Rules:
 - 35' pitching distance
 - Dudley SB11 ball shall be used
- Games have a hard stop at 9pm. If a game reaches this hard stop, scores will revert to the last completed inning. No games will start on or after 7:45pm. If a game is unable to start prior to 7:45pm, the Tournament Director and Umpire in Chief will communicate a plan for the game the following day or potential cancellation of the game.
- The Tournament Director reserves the right to delay, shorten, or cancel the games in the event of bad weather or the threat of bad weather later in the day. Every attempt to complete all games will be made, but mother nature does not always cooperate.
 - Examples of potential changes to scheduling:
 - No new inning after 50 minutes vs 65 minutes with 15 minute breaks between games
 - Hard stop after 55 minutes with 15 minute breaks between games
 - 2 pool games vs 3
 - 1 bracket game vs Semifinal and final round. If this happens, 1 seed will play 2 seed for championship, 3 seed will play 4 seed for 3rd place.

Spectator/Player Rules

- We ask that teams please remove trash from the bench areas after games
- Zero tolerance toward disrespectful behavior toward umpires or opponents in any way. Umpires, Umpire in Chief and Tournament Director reserve the right to ask players, coaches or spectators to leave the field due to issues. Failure to leave the fields will result in a cancellation of all games for the team without refund.
- Coaches, please discuss this with your players and fans prior to the tournament to avoid issues.
- MN Softball rule in effect that coaches are responsible for the behavior of their fans and will be ejected from the game if they are unable to control their fans.

Tournament Time Limits

- Pool play game limits :
 - No new inning starts after the 1st to occur of either:
 - a) 65 minutes
 - or

- **b) completion of 5 innings for 10U OR 6 innings for 12U**
 - Pool play games may end in a tie and no extra innings shall be played regardless of time limit.
- Bracket play game time limits :
 - No new inning starts after the 1st to occur of either:
 - a) 65 minutes;
 - or
 - **b) the completion of 5 innings for 10U or 6 innings for 12U**
 - Bracket play games ending in a tie at the completion of regulation game or the time limit shall continue with the next inning beginning under International Tiebreaker Rules: Runner starting at 2nd base with 0 outs (player who was last out in the previous inning). If game is still tied, 2nd international tie breaker, runner on 2nd and 3rd base with 1 out will be used for the remainder of the game until a winner is determined.
 - Games cannot end in a tie.

Tournament Format

- Brackets are subject to change, be sure to check brackets at the end of each round.
- Tiebreaker Rules:
 - Pool Tiebreakers:
 - 1. Record (Winning pct, number Wins)
 - 2. Head-to-Head (Used only when all tied teams have played each other)
 - 3. Points Allowed (An average is used if teams have not played an equal number of games)
 - 4. Points Scored (An average is used if teams have not played an equal number of games)
 - 5. Computer Generated Coin Flip (A system random number generator breaks ties at this stage)
 - Note: If the system can not break ties at a particular tiebreaking stage, the system will move to the next tiebreaker and not return or revert back to a previous tiebreaker.
 - Note about the Head-to-Head tiebreaker: Head-to-Head is ignored if all tied teams do not play each other at least once. For example, if three teams are tied, and one team plays the other two, but the other two do not play, this tiebreaker is ignored (regardless of the outcome of the two games played by the first team).
 - When there are 3 pools and 4 spots per bracket, seeding is based on best overall 4 teams across all pools based on MN Softball's system. (There is a rare but possible scenario where 2 teams from 2 pools could advance to Gold bracket with a team in the 3rd pool not advancing. This scenario could happen if the 1st place pool team has a

worse record than 4 other teams in the other 2 pools or has a same record but loses in a tie breaker.

- The format of the tournament is each team will be placed in a 4 team pool and each team will play 3 pool games followed by entry into a 4 team Gold, Silver or Bronze bracket. If a team wins or loses in the semifinals, they will participate in a Championship or 3rd place game.
- Teams are guaranteed 3 pool games + 2 bracket games. Teams will play a total of 5 games unless weather interrupts that
- Nationals berths will be provided as follows:
 - Gold bracket: 1st, and 2nd place
 - Silver bracket: 1st place
- In the event of canceled or incomplete (unable to finish 3 innings) bracket games due to weather, games will be awarded using the following tiebreaker system in order of priority:
 - Overall record (including pool play) Teams receiving a bye in bracket play count that as a win;
 - Head to head pool play result, (if applicable);
 - Least runs allowed in bracket play (completed innings);
 - Least runs allowed all tournament (completed innings);
 - Highest bracket seed;
 - Most runs scored in bracket play;
 - Most runs scored all tournament;
 - Coin flip

Weather Procedures

- Umpires will suspend games at the first sign of danger including high wind and rain downpours. Their game decisions are final.
- In case of lightning, play will not resume for 30 minutes following the last lightning strike.
- Teams are to take cover away from all metal structures. Please stay in the proximity of the fields and do not assume the game has been postponed or canceled until the tournament director has made that decision.
- Games will begin as soon as possible based on weather and field conditions.
- A 5 minute warmup period will be provided when play resumes.
- The tournament director will make final decisions on whether or not the tournament games will be postponed, shortened and/or canceled in the event of persistent weather and/or field deterioration
- Two Rivers Athletic Association reserves the right to change the format and structure of the tournament in order to complete the tournament. We will do everything we can to assure that all games are played, including and not limited to:
 - 1) reducing the number of umpires to one and utilizing additional fields within the area which includes Mendota Heights, West St. Paul, and parts of Eagan;
 - 2) shortening length of games or pool contests; and/or
 - 3) Eliminating consolation or 3rd place games

Tournament Notifications & Communication

- Scheduling updates will be posted to the tournament website throughout the tournament and all communication will be done through the MN Softball tourney page.
- Timely weather updates will be posted to the on the tournament page on MN Softball.
 - Depending on length of game played and/or score at the time of the delay/cancellation, games may be ruled final by the tourney director. Cases in which the game may be ruled final:
- All decisions from the Tournament Director are final!

Refund Policy:

In the event that the tournament is unplayable (no games played), teams will be refunded as follows

- Play 0 games: Refund of all but \$50 for administration fee
- Play 1 game: Refund 50% of entry fee less \$50 for admin fee
- Play 2 games: Refund 25% less \$50 for for admin fee
- Play 3 games: If 3 official games by rule are played, or are available for play, no reimbursement will be offered