

## ARTICLE XI – BIG WEST LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

1. The league shall conduct a league tournament (state qualifier) for each age and classification.
2. The format of the tournament will be double elimination.
3. Every effort will be made to complete the following games as these will eliminate teams from advancing to state tournament play. The league director will not reduce the time limits of these games.
  - a. The first two (2) rounds of the winner's bracket.
  - b. The first two (2) rounds of the loser's bracket.
4. The league tournament shall adhere to the following seeding.
  - a. The league record for all teams will be used to seed the teams using the cutoff dates listed on Appendix I.
  - b. In the event the host does not have enough fields, the site may get less teams. The league director will determine how to equitably divide the amounts of teams.
  - c. In the event there are more than 26 teams in an age/class, a second site may be used.
    - i. Tournaments will be divided with odd seeds going to one site, and even seeds going to the other site.
    - ii. In the event there is an odd number of teams one site shall get one extra team.
    - iii. In the event there is a third site needed, each site will get one third of the teams.
  - d. Associations outside of the league wishing to play in the league tournament may apply.
    - i. The league board of directors will review applications.
    - ii. The associations must provide a complete list of all games and scores participated in throughout the season. This will assist in appropriately seeding outside teams.
    - iii. Teams must pay the tournament entry fee of \$210, payable to the league with the application.
    - iv. The gate fee for outside teams will be payable to the league and is \$100 per team.
  - e. Seeding for the league tournament will be by the following:
    - i. Winning percentage.
    - ii. Runs allowed average.
    - iii. Average runs differential per game.
    - iv. Coin flip.
  - f. Once all teams have been seeded, the team names will be placed on a double elimination bracket.
  - g. The league tournament host may specify which field they want their team(s) to play on.
  - h. The schedule will come out the weekend before the start of the tournament. The seeding will be established at that point in time. Any league games occurring during the week prior to the tournament will not cause seeding changes.
5. The league will provide the following at the league tournament:
  - a. Umpires (at an agreed upon rate of \$45 to the umpire assignor).
  - b. Umpire-in-Chief (at an agreed upon rate of \$150 per day to the individual).
  - c. New softballs.
  - d. Awards package for three (3) teams to include:
    - i. Championship plaques.
    - ii. Fifteen (15) medals per team.

6. The league tournament host shall provide the following:
  - a. A tournament director (at an agreed upon rate of \$150 per day to the individual).
  - b. A person in charge of selling any league apparel (at an agreed upon rate of \$100 per day to the individual).
  - c. Maintenance staff that will be able to drag, chalk, and water fields at a minimum of every other game.
  - d. The host site shall provide at least a minimal amount of concessions for purchase by the teams to include food and drink.
  - e. The host site shall have indoor bathroom facilities or provide one (1) portable bathroom per ten (10) teams.
7. League tournament games are timed at 65 minutes or seven (7) innings.
8. No new inning may start after 65 minutes.
9. The tiebreaker rule shall be used after seven (7) innings or in the top of the first new inning after time expires. The last batter out is placed on second base beginning the first inning after 65 minutes. Games shall be played until a winner is decided on the field of play.
10. The home team shall be determined by coin toss.
11. All 10-Under, 12-Under, 14-Under, 16-Under "A", "B", and "C" will bat all players on their bench. EXCEPTION: 14-Under, 16-Under, 18-Under "A" will have the option to bat nine (9), use the DP/Flex, or bat as many players as the want.
12. Batting lineup must be expressed at the pre-game meeting and adhered to.
13. The run ahead rule will be fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings, twelve (12) runs after four (4), and eight (8) runs after five (5) innings.
14. The runs allowed per inning rule will be used for the following age/class:
  - a. 10-Under all classes, five (5) runs are allowed per half inning.
  - b. 12-Under class B/C, five (5) runs are allowed per half inning.
15. In 10-Under C games a dropped third strike, the batter will be out whether the ball is caught, dropped, or missed. The batter will not be out on a foul ball.
16. In the event of delays due to inclement weather or extenuating circumstances:
  - a. The league director is empowered to shorten game times with communication from the tournament director to no less than 45 minutes with communication from the tournament director.
  - b. Games suspended after three (3) complete innings or two and a half (2 ½) innings if the home team is ahead, which are not tied, may be declared complete by the tournament director.
  - c. In the event a game is suspended, and the inning is not completed, the game will revert to the score of the last complete inning of play.
  - d. Every effort must be made to complete the tournament. However, if playing conditions are untenable, the league director is empowered to cancel the tournament with communication from the tournament director.