

2020 Girls' Class A 16-Under Northern National Sioux Falls, South Dakota



Important Information

A. Pre-tournament Check In

Monday, July 20th from 1-6 p.m. at Sherman Park, 501 S. Kiwanis Ave, Sioux Falls, SD. *This check-in is for coaches & players.* Bat testing will be completed at registration. **Teams are strongly encouraged to have all bats to be used during the tournament tested at this time.** A schedule will be sent out as teams register as to try to keep some social distancing in place.

a. Forms/Items Needed:

- i. National Official entry form, signed by commissioner or designee
- ii. Official Roster (if not yet turned in), signed by commissioner or designee
- iii. Player pick up forms (if applicable)
- iv. ACE card and background check (one coach in the dugout **MUST** be ACE certified, all bench personal must be background checked)
- v. Safe Sports verification (coaches)
- vi. Proof of insurance
- vii. Payment of \$650
- viii. USA Softball Covid Waiver & Release Form
- ix. Sioux Falls Parks Covid Waiver & Release Form

b. Player Identification

Each member of a Junior Olympic team competing at all USA Softball Championships must provide proper identification to the tournament director before the start of competition. This will be done onsite prior to the first game. Proper identification includes a current photo, players' signature, and proof of age. Acceptable age verification includes: birth certificate, driver's license, photo ID card issued by a local USA Softball Commissioner and/or their designee, or a valid passport. See USA Softball Code 2019, Article 301 for any further explanation.

- i. Each player must sign the tournament sign-in sheet at the time of check-in (this is when IDs will be checked).

c. **Bat Testing**

Bat testing is mandatory for all bats used at the tournament, and takes place at team registration on Monday, July 20 from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at Sherman Park during team check in. All bats must have a certification sticker from this tournament to enter a game.

d. **Gift Exchange:**

It is customary to have a gift exchange between teams. Due to Covid-19 there will be NO gift exchange this year.

B. Manager's Meeting

Monday, July 20th at 7:00 p.m. over a Zoom Meeting. Tournament rules will be discussed at this mandatory meeting for coaches. Go to zoom.com or open the Zoom app on your phone/tablet. To join meeting: **Meeting ID:** 948 6549 9741

Password: USA16u

- a. I will also send a link out the day of the meeting.

C. Opening Ceremonies

Due to Covid-19 there will be no in person opening ceremonies.

D. Opening Play

The tournament begins with Pool Play Tuesday, July 21st at 8 a.m.

E. Pre-Tournament Practice

There are fields open around the city that you are able to use for any practice times you would like. Here are some fields that are located close to Sherman Park:

- a. Dunham Park: 1301 S. Marion Rd. Sioux Falls, SD 57106
b. McCart Fields: 2001 W. Madison Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57104

F. Practice Games

Practice games will be available upon request. Practice games will take place on Monday, July 20th. If you would like umpires present, the cost will be \$40 per team. Please contact Rudi (rudiv8486@gmail.com) if this is something you would like.

General Tournament Information

1. **Format**

Three pool play games and double elimination is the standard format specified for the USA Softball National Championship in 2020. Pool play begins Tuesday, July 21st. Double elimination immediately follows pool play and is estimated to start Wednesday afternoon.

2. **Playing Fields**

The tournament will take place at Sherman Park in Sioux Falls, SD. 501 S. Kiwanis Ave. It is located south of the zoo at the corner of 12th Street and Kiwanis Ave. If you put Sherman Park in your GPS, it might take you to the recreational park, which is north of the complex, instead of the playing fields.

3. **Draw Procedure for Pool**

Article 311 of the USA Softball Code governs the draw. The pool play draw will be done in advance of teams arriving. Results of the draw will be posted at siouxfallsfastpitch.com following the draw on Thursday July 16th. Tournament USA will be used for this tournament. The national USA Softball office strongly suggests pool draws be done in advance to give teams advanced notice. Double elimination brackets are determined immediately after your pool is complete. The order of finish in pool play does dictate seeding on the double elimination bracket.

4. **Line-Ups**

Tournament officials will provide line-up cards for each team. Exchange with other team and give to the umpire. Subject to change based on Covid-19.

5. **Game Times**

Please follow the times listed on the tournament bracket. Teams should be prepared to start a game once the preceding game is complete. In the pool and elimination play, there is a 1 hour and 20 minute time limit. No inning shall start after the 1 hour 20 minutes has expired. Please respect social distancing when waiting to start your next game.

6. **Warming-Up**

Teams must warm up in designated areas. At Sherman Park, this is the fenced areas between A & D, and B & C, the open area behind the south concession stand, the skating rink near the zoo entrance, and the area west of E and the like.

There will be no warm-up on the diamond when the grounds crew is working. This includes pitchers and catchers warming up.

7. **Dugout Area**

Any adult in the dugout must be background checked to be in the dugout. The dugout area will be extended to accommodate social distancing. All coaches must be in the physical dugout.

8. **Protests**

The tournament committee will decide all protests. As manager, please be familiar with rules of the game including proper protest procedures. See USA Softball playing rule 9.

9. **Run Rule**

Run rule is 15 runs after three innings; 12 runs after four innings; or 8 runs after five innings.

10. Rain Delay

In the event of rain or any cause which interrupts a game, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was stopped. It is the coach's responsibility to be checking the official tournament brackets located at Tournament Headquarters. We'll be sharing information via the Remind app. Text the number: 81010, in the message write: @18uana

11. Team Seating

The team at the top of the bracket will use the first base dugout. The team listed on the bottom of the bracket will use the third base dugout. Flip of the coin will determine the home team.

12. Game Rules

All playing rules and regulations for the tournament will be governed by the 2020 USA Softball Official Guide and Rulebook.

13. Balls

The official tournament ball will be the Baden Perfection ball, stock number: 2A312FLY.

14. Uniforms

All players competing at the USA Softball Nationals shall properly wear uniforms that are alike in color, trim, and style. Short or long pants may be mixed. Coaches must be neatly attired or dressed in team uniform in accordance with the color code of the team, and must wear closed-toe shoes (no flipflops). Please see the USA Softball official playing rules, Rule 3, Section 6 for complete information.

15. Conduct

Managers and coaches are asked to have complete control of their players, parents, and supporting spectators both on and off the field. We have a zero tolerance for unsportsman like conduct. This is your warning. The tournament committee will deal with any report of damage by hotel management.

16. Admission

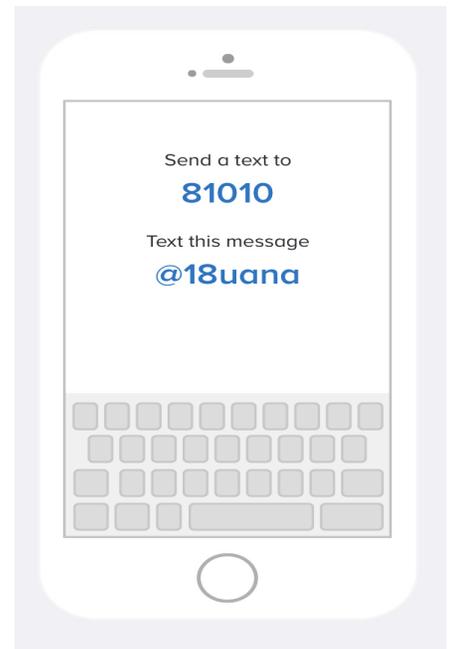
Due to Covid-19, admission will be collected prior to the tournament starting from each team and is included in the registration fee.

17. Tournament Shirts

Tournament shirts will be available throughout the weekend at Sherman Park.

18. Alcoholic Beverages/Smoking

Alcoholic beverages and smoking are prohibited at this youth tournament. This includes the parking lot. Please pass this on to your fans.



19. Covid 19 Rules:

1. Nuts with a shell will not be allowed (sunflower seeds, peanuts, etc.)
2. No gum allowed.

20. Facebook

Pictures and information will be posted on our Facebook page throughout the tournament. You can follow us at Sioux Falls People for Youth.

For additional information about the USA Girls' Class A 16-Under Northern National, contact:

Rudi Vennard, tournament director

email: rudiv8486@gmail.com

cell: 605-261-6663