



2022 North Ridgeville 9U Early Bird Tournament

Tournament Rules

- Date:
 - Sunday, May 15, 2022
- Location:
 - Palmer Field, North Ridgeville OH
- Cost:
 - \$180 per team. Must pay to secure spot; 4 game guarantee. Game balls, umpires and awards are included.
- Format:
 - 8 team maximum with each team receiving 3 pool games. Pool play will determine seeding for single elimination bracket play. Top 2 teams in each pool play for championship; 3rd and 4th place teams from each pool play each other for 4th game. First 8 teams to register and pay will receive spots.
- Game Length:
 - 6 innings or time limit; no new inning to be started after 1 hour.
 - 1 hour 10 minute drop-ball.
 - If Drop Dead time limit is reached then the score will revert back to the previous complete inning's score. Note: In the case that the home team ties the score in the last inning of play the score will remain tied & not revert back to the last inning score. Ties count in pool play games. Unsportsmanlike game delays are solely at the discretion of the Umpire-in-Chief in game and may result in the ejection of offending coach.
 - No time limits in bracket play.
 - Pool play games can end in a tie
 - The next inning begins as soon as the last out is recorded in the previous inning.
 - Teams must be ready to play 15 minutes prior to scheduled start time. Games will start early if possible.
 - Game is considered complete if 4 innings are completed (3.5 if home team is winning,) regardless of time elapsed.
- Game Times: All 4 fields will be used simultaneously. Pool play times for Field 1 and 4 are: 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM and 1:00 AM. Pool play times for Fields 2 and 3 are: 10:15 AM, 11:45 AM and 1:15 PM. Bracket play times are 3:00 PM and 5:00 PM.
- Age limits:
 - Age on May 1, 2022
- Bat Restrictions:
 - None
- Batting Order:
 - Continuous batting order may be used; minimum 9 batters.
 - Additional Hitter (AH) is permitted. AH is considered a defensive spot.
 - No Designated Hitter (DH) allowed.
- Play ends when there is a logical conclusion to the end of the play and is at umpire discretion.
- Pitching Rules:
 - All games are coach pitch
 - A player can have no more than 3 pitches per at bat unless the ball is fouled off.
- Pitching and Base Distance:





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- Mound is 46 feet; Bases are 60 feet
 - Courtesy Runner:
 - Is permitted in each game for the catcher only. If no reserve player is available, the player making the last recorded out may be used. Players that are not in a defensive position the prior inning (including the AH) are considered reserves for this rule. A player may not courtesy run for more than one player in the same inning.
 - Mercy Rule:
 - 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings.
 - Tiebreaker:
 - Pool play games: none (can end in a tie)
 - Bracket play games: each team starts with the player making the last recorded out in the previous inning on second base.
 - Pool play:
 - 3 points for a win, 1 point for a loss, 2 points for a tie.
 - Pool Play Tiebreakers (maximum run differential per game is 15 runs, regardless of final score):
 1. Points
 2. Head to head
 3. Least runs allowed
 4. Total run differential
 5. Most runs scored
 6. Coin toss
 - Home team:
 - Determined by coin toss before each game in pool play. Home team determined by seed in bracket play, unless teams have identical seed. A coin toss will be used in games after pool play if teams have same seed.
 - Stealing and leadoffs:
 - 9U: Stealing and leadoffs are not permitted
 - Defense:
 - 9 fielders
 - Dropped Third Strike:
 - The batter is out
 - Infield Fly Rule:
 - In effect
 - Game Balls: Provided by tournament.
 - Umpires: Provided by tournament.
 - Official Score: Both teams must agree on final score and report score via text message to Pat Anderson, 216.225.8177
 - Uniforms and equipment:
 - Metal spikes are not permitted
 - Uniform tops must be the same predominant color
 - Hats are required for all position players except for the catcher.
 - No jewelry restrictions unless deemed excessive or dangerous by umpire.





- Players or coaches that are ejected must immediately leave the grounds. Suspensions are at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- There are no protests; issues will be handled by the umpires and the tournament committee as needed. The tournament committee reserves the right to amend and stipulate rules as needed.
- The tournament committee reserves the right to change the tournament format at any time due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. In the case of rain, managers are responsible for contacting the committee to confirm game times and any rescheduling.
- No grills are permitted at the tournament. A world-class concession stand will be open with amazing food and beverages at amazing prices.
- There are no parking or admission fees.
- Rules governing play will be the 2022 Official Major League Baseball Rules, except where local rules apply.
- All coaches are expected to exhibit professionalism at all times and will be responsible for the behavior of parents and players of their respective teams.
- Champions and runners-up will receive awards.
- Rainout policy **A game started is considered a full game for refund purposes**
 1. 0 games played = 90% refund
 2. 1 game played = 50% refund
 3. 2 games played = 25% refund

Palmer Field - 33900 Dodge Ave. North Ridgeville, OH 44039

