

NORTH AMERICAN FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION

2022 NAFA WORLD SERIES OFFICAL TOURNAMENT RULES

This Tournament will be governed by the current edition of the NAFA Official Playing Rules and this supplement

1. The team on top of the bracket is on the 3rd base dugout (unless occupied by team from previous game). **Home team** – Shall be determined by a coin toss prior to each game, except on the Championship game where the undefeated time will be home. **Run Ahead Rule** – A team leading by **10 runs after 4 innings** or **7 runs after five innings**, or **one run after seven or more innings** shall be declared the winner, including the Championship game. There are NO longer any IF NECESSARY GAME IN NAFA. There is only a SINGLE Championship Game.
2. **The Extra Hitter is allowed in all Divisions. Line-up cards** must identify a player by uniform number, position, first and last name, and we ask that all substitutes (with uniform number) be listed for record keeping only.
3. The pool play seeding will use, 1) record, 2) head to head, 3) runs given up, 4) run differential (7 max) including all games, 5) if still tied, use the rules above to eliminate one team and then use the head to head if they are still tied after using 1-4 above.
4. **There is no Time Limit, and no International Tie Breaker Rule (except in the 23U and in any (Gold) Pool play and in consolation play) Courtesy Runners will be allowed in all Divisions (Catcher only – two out/last out runs)... No Designated Runners.**
5. **Bat Rule:** We use the USA Softball Bat List and every bat will be compression tested and if passes then a tampered proof NAFA sticker will be placed on the bat. If a bat is used without a NAFA sticker on it then the batter will be called out and all play reverts back.
6. **Pitching** – The pitcher must start with on foot on the pitching plate, and the pitcher may lift his foot above the pitching plate as long as he sets it down on the pitcher's plate prior to the release of the ball. The Pitcher may leap as long as there is no re-plant prior to the release of the pitch. The penalty for an illegal pitch in ONLY a ball on the batter, no runners are forced to advance.
7. **Leading Off** – The base runner **may not leave until the pitcher releases the ball.** Penalty – No Pitch, Runner called out.
8. **Designated Batter (DP) / Defensive Specialist (DS)** – If utilized, the Designated Player (DP) must be listed as one of the nine batters and marked as the "DP" and the Defensive Specialist must be listed IN THE SHADED AREA OF THE LINE-UP CARD. Players designated as the DP/DS MAY be freely substituted on defense; however, the umpire must be notified of the changes. These changes do not count towards a player's re-entry.
9. **Re-Entry** – Only starting players, to include, the DP and DS may leave the game and re-enter one time. Substitute players may not leave the game and re-enter. **Note:** If a substitute fails to report, **there is no penalty** and he is considered to be in the game when he enters the batter's box, replaces a runner or takes a defensive position.
10. **Game Time** – If a team is not present at their scheduled game time/field or they do not have a sufficient number or players (eight) to start the game, the BASE Umpire will immediately notify the Tournament UIC or Tournament Director.
11. **Short-handed Rule** – A team may play short-handed (*except for an ejection*). If playing "short-handed", an out will be recorded when he person, who left the game is due at bat. A team must have at least eight players to start and finish the game.
12. **Regulation game** – A regulation game shall consist of seven innings. A full seven innings need not be played if the team second at bat (home team) scores more runs in six or one-half innings. (*Exception- Run Ahead Rule*). A game that is tied at the end of seven innings shall be continued until one team scores more runs than the other team at the end of an inning.
13. **Uniforms/Protective Gear** – All players shall properly wear uniforms that are like in color and style, with a "whole number" on the back of the uniform shirts. No players on the same team may wear identical numbers. Batters, On-deck Batters, and Runners must wear a double flap batting helmet. The on deck batter can stand behind the batter for safety purposes.
14. **Protest** – Should a protest arise, the game will be immediately halted, and the BASE Umpire will immediately notify the Tournament UIC or Tournament Director. The PLATE Umpire will remain on the field.
15. **Ejections** – If a Player is ejected from a game, the PLATE umpire will record the player's name and report the incident to the Tournament UIC and Tournament Director at the conclusion of the game. If you are ejected in the 6th or 7th inning then you have to sit out the next game. If the ejection is prior to the 6th inning, then you are allowed to play in the next game unless it was flagrant and the Tournament Staff Determines you need to sit out longer.

The tournament director reserves the right to change field numbers and game times and to restrict a player from pitching.