

MINNESOTA SOFTBALL

MINNESOTA SOFTBALL GIRLS FASTPITCH STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

Congratulations on qualifying for the Minnesota Softball State Tournament.

GATE FEE: Each state tournament team will pay a \$100 gate fee to the local community association that is hosting the tournament. The lists of hosts and who to pay the gate fee will be posted at the bottom of the state tournament page.

FORMAT: State Tournaments are double elimination format. Each team will be guaranteed two (2) games. Once your team loses two (2) games, they are eliminated from the tournament.

ROSTERS: We are using online rosters this year. The only players that can participate in the state tournament will be on your online roster on your team page.

HOME TEAM: The home team will be determined at the pre-game meeting by a coin flip.

LINE UP: Teams must bat all players in attendance with the exception of injured or sick players. In this event a team must reduce their lineup with no penalty to nine (9) players. If you reduce to eight (8) players, the ninth spot in the lineup is an out.

EXCEPTION: Teams at 12-Under Tier 1 and 2, 14-Under, 16-Under, and 18-Under have the option to use DP/Flex. Coaches must declare what lineup they are going to use at the manager's meeting. You have the option to bat as many as you want with free substitution.

UMPIRES: There will be two (2) umpires per game in the last three (3) games on Sunday (when the tournament reduces to one field).

TIME LIMIT: No new inning will start after seventy (70) minutes.

RUN RULE: The run ahead rule is fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings, 12 runs after four (4) innings, eight (8) runs after five (5) innings.

TIE BREAKER RULE: The offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number five batter is the leadoff batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner).

EXCEPTION: 10-Under Class C the inning will start with two (2) outs.

RULE PROTESTS: All rule protests will be handled by the umpire in chief. If an umpire in chief is not available, the call on the field will stand.



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Rule	10-Under	12-Under	14-Under	16-Under	18-Under
Pitching Distance	35 Feet	40 Feet	43 Feet	43 Feet	43 Feet
Steel Cleats	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Run Rule	5 per inning	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Batting Lineup	Bat the roster	Bat the roster			
DP/Flex Allowed	Not Allowed	Tier 1 and 2	All Tiers	All Tiers	All Tiers
Time Limit	70 minutes	70 minutes	70 minutes	70 minutes	70 minutes
Dropped 3 rd Strike	Yes	No	No	No	No

COURTESY RUNNERS: Pitchers and catchers may get courtesy runners at no penalty. The runner will be the last out unless the last out is coming up to bat then it would be the last batter crossing the plate.

DROPPED THIRD STRIKE: (10-UNDER C ONLY) If a third strike is caught, missed, or dropped, the batter shall be out. On-base runners may advance at their own risk. Tiers using this rule will be designated on the 10-Under state tournament webpage.

PAYMENTS: The following payment schedule is what has been requested and agreed upon by local associations, leagues, and umpire assignors.

- Umpire per game: \$60 (umpire assignors may get part of this fee for their work)
- Umpire in chief per day: \$300.
- Tournament director per day: \$300

The umpires will not get paid for "IF" games if they are not played.

ALL OTHER RULES: Refer to your scorebook/rulebook for all other rules.

