

NORTH EDISON FIRECRACKER TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES

This tournament, as described during your registration, is a REC B tournament. Any Travel **A** Teams, misleading the tournament, shall be asked to leave without a refund

COMPLEX GUIDELINES

- **NO!** PETS ARE PERMITTED ON THE COMPLEX. ANYONE THAT BRINGS AN ANIMAL ON THE COMPLEX, WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE.
- **NO!** COOLERS
- **NO!** BBQ GRILLS
- **NO!** ALCOHOL OF ANY KIND
- **NO!** SMOKING/VAPING ON THE COMPLEX
- **NO!** RV'S ALLOWED IN THE PARKING LOT

CONDUCT

Our league has a **zero-tolerance** policy concerning Coach, player, and fan conduct. Violation of this policy will result in **immediate removal from the complex**. Managers are responsible for their team's players, Coaches, fans, and parents. Unruly fans will result in the ejection of the Coaching staff, beginning with the manager. There will be a fair warning before any ejection occurs.

An ejected manager/person must leave/exit the complex.

There will be absolutely **NO** harassing, badgering, taunting, etc. of the umpires **AT ANY TIME!!!**

It will be at the discretion of the umpire to eject or remove from the complex - The umpires call to eject/remove, etc., will **NOT** be up for debate!!!!

TOURNAMENT RULES/GUIDELINES

1. You must check-in 30 minutes prior to your first game
2. You must provide a roster with name, address, and birthdate of all players
3. You must provide a copy of your insurance certificate.
4. All managers must keep a copy of their players birth certificates with them during the tournament.
5. MAXIMUM 15 players on a roster
6. Pool Play – home team is determined by the coin toss – the team that traveled the furthest, calls it.
7. For the knockout rounds, home team is the higher seed
8. The home team has the official book including start time declared by umpire; check with each other after each inning to avoid controversy
9. There will be trophies for first and second place in each division
10. Opponent will award MVP medals after each of the Friday/Saturday games. Please avoid the same player receiving multiple awards
11. There is no infield warm-up prior to the game, and no soft toss against fences
12. Please clean up dugouts, after your game is done!
13. Any forfeit of round-robin games will eliminate you from playing on Sunday
14. For current pitching rules...please refer to: https://www.teamusa.org/-/media/USA_Softball/Documents/Rulebook/2023_Rulebook_Digital.pdf
15. USA rules (Modifications for U10 and U8 below)
 - a. Mercy Rule – modified
 - i. 12 runs after 3 innings
 - ii. 10 runs after 4 innings
 - iii. 8 runs after 5 innings
16. Friday/Saturday game times
 - a. KILL TIME – 1 hour and 30 minutes
 - b. Games may end in a tie
 - c. No new innings to start after 1 hour and 20 minutes
 - d. Score reverts back to previous inning unless home team has taken the lead
17. Sunday game times
 - a. KILL TIME – 1 hour 30 minutes for preliminary, and quarterfinals except in case of tie
 - i. International tie breaker rule in effect; Last scheduled batter in current inning for each team, starts at second base
 - b. Semi-finals – No new inning after 1 hour 40 minutes
 - c. Must finish the inning
 - d. Finals played to completion, unless mercy rule is used
18. Courtesy runner for pitcher or catcher at any time – must use bench player from prior inning, if available. Otherwise, the last batted out.
 - a. Same player may not be a courtesy runner more than once in the same inning

19. All teams must present line-ups to opposing team prior to the start of the game.
20. You may have roster batting
21. NO FLEX or DH players permitted
22. NO SHOWING BUNT, PULLING BACK AND SWINGING in any division
 - a. No warning and the batter shall be automatically out
23. Helmet face masks are required. Chin straps are optional
24. All game balls are to be returned to the Ump at the end of the game
25. SUNDAY SEEDING
 - a. Overall record (2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie)
 - b. Head-to-head
 - c. Runs allowed
 - d. Runs scored
 - e. Coin toss
26. Any scorebook discrepancies and rule interpretations will be resolved on the field by the umpires; **THERE WILL BE NO PROTESTS!!!**
27. If rain or wet fields become a factor, the tournament director can declare a rain schedule, which will allow the tournament to be completed.
28. In the event of a rainout on Sunday, the highest seed remaining will be declared the winner
29. ASA Rules – U8 and U10 modifications below
30. **U8 MODIFICATIONS**
 - a. Coaches pitch all 6 innings from 32 feet (1 stride in front of 35-foot mound)
 - b. Max number of pitches per batter is **6**
 - c. If foul ball on **6th** pitch, batter continues until strikeout or ball put in play
 - d. Ump can call strike 1 and 2 only. **3rd** strike must be swinging (or **6th** pitch)
 - e. Girl playing pitcher position (pitcher) may not start in front of pitching rubber. Pitcher must start with at least 1 foot in the circle; even or behind Coach pitcher
 - f. NO Drop **3rd** Strike
 - g. END OF PLAY
 - i. base runners are limited to one base on all batted balls hit in the infield.
 - ii. Runners may only advance one base on an overthrow to any base
 - iii. Base runners may take additional bases on all batted balls hit in the into the outfield, as defined by any ball that goes 10 feet beyond the base path or any ball that is fielded by an outfielder
 - iv. If the base runner is not at the halfway point between the bases once the ball is secured by an infielder, the runner will be sent back to previous base

- v. No Coaches from the defensive team should be on the field during play.
- vi. Coach pitcher shall make their best effort to move out of the way so as to not obstruct the defensive teams play and shall use best effort to avoid batted balls.
- vii. If a Coach pitcher interferes with a play or a batted ball, it shall be in the umpire's discretion to make the appropriate call, including in the case of a batted ball to allow the defensive team and batter to continue the play, or to count the ball as a foul and continue the at bat, or any other call which may be appropriate under the circumstances.
- viii. There will be NO stealing
 - ix. If the defense overthrows a base on a legitimate attempt to throw a runner out, the runner at their own risk, may attempt only one extra base.
 - 1. A runner may not attempt an additional base on a second overthrow.
 - 2. If the intended player attempts to catch the ball and it is not caught but is knocked down within a 5-foot radius of the intended player, it shall not be considered an overthrow and runners may not advance
 - x. **Once the ball is in the circle – all plays are dead**
- xi. 3 out of 4 run maximum in all innings.
- xii. You may bat the entire lineup
- xiii. 10 players infield, but the 10th player must remain in the outfield until the ball crosses the plate or is hit.
- xiv. Unlimited substitutions
- xv. NO infield fly rule
- xvi. In the 6th inning of the semi-final games and championship game, the 5 run maximum shall not apply
- xvii. Leading after ball crosses plate or on the swing – NOT on the release
 - 1. Runner leads at own risk
 - 2. No advancement on attempted pick off
 - 3. Each team shall receive 2 warnings for leaving the base early before the player shall be called out
 - 4. If a player leaves early and a play is made on that player, during a batted ball, ASA rules shall apply.

h. U10 MODIFICATIONS

- i. 6 innings
- ii. 10th fielder is permitted, but must remain in the outfield until the ball crosses the plate or is hit
- iii. You may bat entire lineup
- iv. Unlimited substitutions in the field

- v. You can steal THIRD BASE ONLY, no advancement on an overthrow on a steal.
- vi. NO STEALING HOME!
- vii. NO Drop 3rd Strike
- viii. Leading after the ball crosses the plate or on the swing – NOT on the release.
- ix. No advancement on attempted pick off
 - x. 5 run maximum, per inning, on ALL games
- xi. Unlimited runs in the 6th inning of each game
- xii. Pitching distance is 35 feet
- xiii. ASA Look Back Rule: clarify with Umpire/Jose C, if the pitcher attempts to make a play on the runner, the ball shall become live again
- xiv. NO infield fly rule

i. U12 MODIFICATIONS

- i. 7 innings
- ii. 10th fielder is permitted
- iii. You may bat entire lineup
- iv. Unlimited substitutions in the field
- v. Pitching distance; 40 feet

j. U14 MODIFICATIONS

- i. 7 innings
- ii. 9 fielders on the field
- iii. You may bat entire lineup
- iv. Unlimited substitutions in the field
- v. Pitching distance; 43 feet