



Fastpitch Softball Tournaments Team Welcome Packet & Tournament Rules

Updated December 1, 2023

All coaches, players and parents are required to
read this welcome packet, in its entirety

www.nooffseasonsports.com

Dear Team,

Thank you for participating in the No Offseason Tournaments! We look forward to creating a memorable, family-oriented experience for your entire team and their family members and friends who join us. For those that cannot join us, we now offer LiveBarn on all of our fields! Family and friends can watch live and on demand! Please go to www.livebarn.com for more information.

To ensure a positive experience, please take a few moments to read through this welcome packet in its entirety. It contains information on important dates, policies, and expectations crucial for your team to know prior to your arrival.

From all of us at No Offseason Sports. we would like to express our appreciation to your team for being a part of our tournament. We look forward to meeting your team and watching all the great action on our fields!

Coaches Checklist/Important Dates & Deadlines

At time of Registration

- A \$100 non-refundable, non-transferrable deposit is due within 10 days of registration

30 Days Prior to the Tournament

- Final Payment is Due

14 Days Prior to the Tournament

- Final Roster submitted, listing coaches

No Offseason Sports

Tournament Director

Joe Voloch

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Payment and Cancellation Policies

Payment Policy: Prices are based on a per team rate and include all applicable taxes. There is no fee for coaches .

Deposits: are made by team (not individually) and a non-refundable, non-transferrable \$100 deposit is due within 14 days of registration. The remaining balance is due 30 days prior to the start of the tournament and is non-refundable/non-transferrable. If full payment is not received within 30 days of the scheduled tournament, the reserved spot will be forfeited.

Suspended Games Policy: Games not making it to regulation (4 complete innings for a 7 inning game) due to weather conditions or darkness will be suspended and will resume from the suspension point at the earliest time available. If a suspended game cannot be resumed, it will be considered complete and official at the end of the last complete inning. The information below further demonstrates this point:

Lightning Policy: On days/times when a storm is anticipated, the weather will be monitored by the No Offseason staff and umpires. When lightning is detected, all games will be suspended. Players, coaches, and fans shall then proceed to a safe area. Games will continue once the lightning has moved outside of the 8- mile radius from the sports park for a minimum period of 15 minutes.

Pool Play / Consolation Games

- If a game is suspended prior to being official and there is not enough time to resume, the game is considered complete at the end of the last complete inning.
- If a game is tied at the end of the last complete inning – the game will stand as a tie.

Elimination Games

- If 1 inning is not completed in a suspended game and it cannot resume, then the higher seed will advance to the next round.
- If tied at the end of the last complete inning, the higher seed will advance.
- If tied at the end of the last complete inning and the two teams are the same seed from different divisions entering the game, we would revert back to the tie-breaking system in place.
- If a championship game starts and is unable to be completed due to weather/darkness, the game is considered official at the end of the last complete inning if the game cannot resume.
- If tied at the end of the last complete inning – both teams are named co-champions.

- Weather Related Credit Policy
3 or 4 game minimum tournaments
Play 0 Games- 100% refund, less a \$75 administration fees

Play 1 game – 50% refund, less a \$75 administration fees

Play 2 or more games – No credit or refund

General Information

Softballs and Equipment: No Offseason will provide official game balls. Each team shall provide their own practice balls. It is the teams responsibility to provide all other softball and safety equipment.

Team Uniforms/Cleats: It is the teams' responsibility to provide uniforms to their players. All uniforms will have a number prominently displayed on the back of the jersey. Players **MUST** wear turf shoes, plastic molded cleats, or sneakers on our baseball fields. **No Metal Cleats!**

Awards: A customized team trophy or plaque or banner will be awarded to the championship and runner-up teams.

Team Insurance: Each team should maintain their own insurance for their team.

Player Waiver: Players will be required to complete the online waiver form.

Dress Code for Coaches: Managers and coaches are not required to be in uniform during the games. However, we do expect the adults on the field to be dressed appropriately.

Dugouts: ONLY registered coaches and the players are allowed in the dugouts and on the fields. Teams may bring a bat boy or bat girl at no charge. However, batboys or batgirls must be younger than the team's players and must wear a helmet at all times. Batboys or batgirls need not be included on the team's official roster.

Batting Cages: Each team will be permitted to use one outside batting cage for up to an hour before their scheduled games.

Team Practices: All teams are welcome to use our batting practice area prior to their games. During the tournament weekend, the fields will be closed prior to and after the scheduled games. No practices are allowed during these times.

Field Use: Only scheduled teams are permitted on the fields. No other individuals are permitted on the field, this includes before, during and after scheduled games.

General Information

Protests: Protests will be heard and ruled by the tournament director. The team protesting must make cash payment of \$100 at the time of the protest. If the protest is ruled in the protesting team's favor the \$100 will be refunded. The ruling made by the committee will be final. Protests must be filed and ruled on before the next pitch if during game, or before umpires leave field if after a game.

Suspension: Any player or coach that is ejected from a game will be subject to suspension upon review by the tournament committee.

Sportsmanship: In the interest of maintaining a quality event, the tournament committee reserves the right to eject any person from the site for unruly or unsportsmanlike behavior.

Concessions: The No Offseason Concession will be open 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled game and 30 minutes after the last scheduled game starts, for all No Offseason Sports tournaments. The Concession offers made-to-order items at a reasonable price.

First Aid: A first aid kit will be located in the Concession, the kit will only provide minor first aid products. In the event of an emergency, coaches should immediately call 911 and notify the No Offseason Staff.

Parking: No Offseason has FREE onsite parking available for coaches, parents, and fans. No Offseason Sports is not responsible for any vehicle damage or theft.

Admission: All No Offseason tournaments require a \$5.00 admission fee per adult. Children under the age of 18 are admitted free of charge. All players and up to 4 Coaches/score keeper listed on the team roster, submitted to No Offseason Sports, will be admitted free of charge. Admission fees are subject to change without notice.

Traditional Eligibility: A Player's Tournament Age is based on the age they are as of January 1st.

New USA Softball Eligibility: A Player's Tournament Age is based on the age they are as of September 1st.

No Offseason will split playoffs into 2 brackets based on teams Age Determination. Bracket #1 based on Traditional Eligibility and Bracket #2 based on New USA Eligibility

Players cannot be double rostered in the same age division. Each team is responsible to keep a copy of the official state-issued birth certificate, passport or other state-issued identification (no other form of ID is acceptable) for each player on the Coach at all times. If any player does not have their birth certificate, passport or state-issued ID, she cannot participate in the Tournament. If a team is caught using a player that does not have a birth certificate onsite or is older than the cutoff for the

division, that team will forfeit every game that player has played in and the Team will be removed from the Tournament.

No Offseason Sports Tournament Rules

The default rule book for all No Offseason Baseball Tournaments will be the ASA/USA Softball Rulebook.

1. **Rosters:** 15 player limit on team rosters. Up to 3 coaches and 1 score keeper allowed in the dugout. Rosters are locked once a team's first game begins. If a roster has not been submitted to No Offseason Staff, prior to the start of the game, No Offseason Staff has the right to penalize at its discretion.
2. **Coin Toss and Line-Up Cards:** Coin Toss is used only in pool play games to decide home and away team. Bracket play home and away teams are decided by seeding. Teams must provide their own line-up cards. A copy should be given to the umpire and opposing team each game.
3. **Minimum Number of Players to Start a Game:** Teams can start the game with a minimum of 7 players and are permitted to end a game with 7 players. Anything less than 7 available players at any time during a game will result in a forfeit for that team. P players can be added to the batting order in the order that they arrive. Batting spots 8-9 will be outs until enough players arrive.
4. **Batting Lineup:** Teams may bat nine players, teams may bat the entire lineup (AKA Roster Batting), or in between. After the start of the game your lineup must remain the same for the entire game. If you are batting your entire lineup and a player should get thrown out or injured, and no substitute (a player not in the batting order) then you must take an out in that batting spot. It is each team's responsibility to check the opposing lineup prior to the game and call for a No Offseason official if there is an issue.

5. Defensive Substitutions : Each team will be allowed unlimited substitutions in the field. A player does not have to be in the batting order to play the field.
6. Injuries/Substitutions: If a player is injured and no substitute is available, that team will be penalized with an out. If an injury occurs during an at-bat and the player can't continue the at-bat, the next batter in the lineup will take over that at-bat and assume the count. If an injury occurs while on the base paths and if no substitute is available, then the player that made the last recorded out will take the place of the injured player on the bases.
7. Pitcher Re-entry: There is no restriction to the number of innings a pitcher can pitch.
8. Pitcher's and Fielders Equipment: Pitchers and Fielders are allowed to wear a protective helmet or head gear. The helmet/head gear can't be glossy nor have anything else on it that can be deemed distracting to the batter (umpire's discretion). It is the umpire and Tournament Director's discretion to deem whether any other equipment or clothing that the pitcher is wearing is distracting to the opposing batter. This includes but is not limited to: Batting gloves, jewelry, sunglasses, athletic tape on wrist/arm, bracelets and two-toned fielder gloves.
9. Courtesy Runner: The team at bat may use a courtesy runner for pitcher and/or catcher at any time. A courtesy runner may also be any eligible substitute who has not yet entered the game, or the last

recorded out. Should the last recorded out be the pitcher or catcher the previous out prior would be used.

10. Mound Visits: a team may have no more than 2 conferences in one inning and the visit must be less than 60 seconds.
11. Intentional Walk: The coach must notify the home plate umpire and the hitter will be granted 1st base (all ages)
12. Pitching Restrictions: There are no pitching restrictions for No Offseason Tournaments.
13. Illegal Pitches: NOS follows the USA/ASA rules pertaining to illegal pitches. For the 12u and younger age groups, there will be one warning per pitcher issued. There will be no warnings for 14u and older age groups. Once an illegal pitch is called, it is an immediate dead ball for all age groups.
Penalty for illegal pitches will be one ball to the batter
14. Avoid Contact Rule: Players must attempt to avoid contact with other players in tag-out situations. If, in an umpire's judgment, there is intentional contact, that umpire may call the runner out on that play. If there is inadvertent contact while the base runner is trying to avoid contact, the base runner will not be called out; again this is a judgment made by the umpire. If the contact is judged as intentional and malicious, that umpire may also eject the player from the game. If a player is ejected for this reason, they may face suspension for their team's next game with the possibility of further sanctions as well. The Tournament Director onsite will make the final ruling on a possible suspension. On force out situations, if the runner slides, they must slide directly into the base. A slide that is not directly into the base is grounds for an interference call (umpire's judgment) and the runner could be declared out. In this instance, the batter/runner could also be declared out if the fielder was attempting to make a

play on that batter/runner. It is important to note that if the runner makes a legal slide directly into the base and contact is made with the fielder, interference will not be called.

15. Infield Fly Rules: the Infield fly rule is in effect for 10u 12u 14u 16u 18u. will not apply to 8u
16. 3rd Strike Rule: the 3rd strike rule DOES Apply for 10u 12u 14u 16u 18u. will not apply to 8u
17. Base Runners Rule: a base runner cannot leave until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand for 10u 12u 14u 16u 18u. For 8u A base runner cannot leave until the ball has been hit
18. Stealing Bases Rule: Stealing bases is not allowed at 8u. no restrictions for 10u 12u 14u 16u and 18u
19. Official Scorebook: The home team will keep the official scorebook.

20. **Time Limit**

All tournament games in pool play and playoffs will have a time limit. The time limit is as follows:

75 minutes, finish the inning (clock starts at the end of the pre-game meeting)

If both teams are tied at the end of regulation, and the Time Limit has not expired, proceed to extra innings. If the home team is winning after the top half of the inning, the game is over. Pool-Play games can end in a Tie!

If a game is tied after the Time Limit expires in Playoff Games (Championship Bracket) we will use the International Tie Breaker Rule. Each Team will start the inning with their last batted out on 2nd base

and the batters will have a 0-0 count. Each Inning will proceed this way until the tie is broken.

21. Seeding Pool Play Teams (there are no re-seeding in the playoff brackets)

- A. Total Wins
- B. Total runs against
- C. Total runs for

22. Tie Breakers

- A. Head to Head if only 2 teams are tied with same record
- B. Total Runs against if 3 or more teams are tied with same record
- C. Total Runs For if 3 or more teams are tied with same record and same total runs against

23. Time In-Between Innings: Our expectation is that teams will take 2 minutes in between innings. Pitchers are permitted to throw 8 warm-up pitches in their first inning of work or 5 warm-up pitches every

other inning. If a catcher is still getting dressed, a coach should be ready to warm-up the pitcher.

24. **Intentional Delays:** Intentionally delaying a game to achieve a victory through the time limit is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will not be tolerated at a No Offseason Tournament. The umpires and/or tournament officials at the game reserve the right to eject a coach or player for intentionally delaying a game and possibly declare a forfeit to that team.
25. **On-Deck Batter:** All on-deck batters are permitted to warm-up on the same side as the current hitters swing, with a helmet on. No batter is permitted to warm-up in the common areas or walkways. Only one on-deck batter permitted.
26. **Jewelry:** In general, jewelry is not permitted during game play. Breakaway nylon necklaces are allowed (must be breakaway such as Phiten or Monsoon necklaces). Rubber bracelets that are not a distraction are also permitted. Jewelry worn for medical reasons is also allowed (in this case, it must be taped to the body). Any item that is deemed unsafe or distracting (Tournament Director's or Umpire's judgment) will not be allowed. The team will receive a warning if a player wears improper jewelry during the game and any players found wearing improper jewelry after the team warning will be ejected for the remainder of the game.
27. **Cell Phones & Electronic Devices:** Cell phones, iPad, and other electronic devices are permitted in the dugout only during the game. A coach, manager, or scorekeeper is not permitted to have them on the field during the game.

28. Forfeits: If a team forfeits a pool play game, for any reason, they are not eligible for the championship round and face suspension in future No Offseason tournaments. The final score of the forfeited game will be based on the team giving up a run per inning for a complete game (e.g. for a 6 inning game the score would be 6-0; for a 7 inning game the score would be 7-0).

- If a team chooses to forfeit a consolation or elimination game, they face suspension in future No Offseason tournaments.
- If a team chooses to forfeit a championship game, they are not eligible for tournament awards No Offseason will attempt to replace a forfeited team in an elimination game if possible. If a game becomes a forfeit after it has started due to a team having less than the required 7 available players, the official score of that game still follows the guidelines above no matter what the score was at the time of the forfeit.

29. Protest: Protests will be heard and ruled by the tournament director. The team protesting must make cash payment of \$100 at the time of the protest. If the protest is ruled in the protesting team's favor the \$100 will be refunded. The ruling made by the committee will be final. Protests must be filed and ruled on before the next pitch if during game, or before umpires leave the field, if after a game. A game should never be stopped for umpire judgment calls as those cannot be protested. Our staff will do everything possible to resolve issues as they occur.

30. Expected Behavior: Negative behavior/bad sportsmanship is strictly prohibited. Please remember that the games are for the kids, not the adults, and we expect each adult to set a positive example for the players through their words and actions. Any violation will

result in removal from the park and possible banishment from future tournaments

31. **Cheering and Noisemakers:** All individuals (players, coaches, parents, and fans) are expected to cheer in a positive manner for their own team and never in a negative manner toward the opposing team. Noise makers are not permitted in the dugouts and if they are used by parents/fans, they must not cause any sort of distraction to the opposing team. Realizing the term “distraction” can be subjective, if an issue arises at a field involving noise makers, then No Offseason staff may mandate that they not be used during moments of game play. They would only be permitted to be used when the ball is dead or in between innings. If that stipulation is not followed, the noise makers would be prohibited all together for that team for the remainder of the tournament.
32. **Bat Restrictions:** Coaches are responsible for checking all of their player’s bats before playing in the tournament. Please make sure your team’s bats meet USA/ASA softball requirements, meaning that the bat must have the USA/ASA stamp on the bat
33. **Altered Bats:** Altered bats (shaved, rolled, or in any other way altered to increase performance) are not permitted in any way. Any player using an altered bat will be ejected from the game and their bat will be recorded as an out. All runners will go back to the base they occupied when the batter puts the ball in play. The player with the altered bat may face further suspension.
34. **Illegal Bat Penalty:** If the umpire discovers that a batter enters the batter’s box with an illegal bat, the batter will be called out (even if a pitch has not been thrown). If the illegal bat is discovered after the ball is put into play (but before the next pitch is thrown to the next batter), the defensive team will have the choice of the result of play or the batter being called out and all runners returning to the base occupied before the pitch. An appeal on the legality of the bat

must be made prior to the next pitch thrown to the next batter or the result of the previous at-bat will stand.

35. Second Offense – If a team is found in violation of this rule a second time (either in the same game or in any other game throughout the tournament), in addition to the previous penalty, the manager will be immediately ejected and could face further suspension.

36. Ejection/Suspension Policy

- Managers/Coaches: Managers or coaches (or scorekeepers or anyone else that is in the dugout or on the field during a game) that are ejected from a game (either by an umpire or by a No Offseason Official) must leave the facility immediately and will automatically be suspended for 1 additional game. The Tournament Director may also lengthen the suspension to more games or even expulsion from the facility for a period of time.
- Players: If a player is ejected from a game they may face further suspension or even expulsion from the facility for a period of time.

37. Parents / Fans: If a fan or parent is ejected from a game (either by an umpire or a No Offseason official), they must leave the facility immediately and will be suspended for the remainder of the event.

38. Confinement to the Bench: No Offseason Tournament Directors as well as the umpires working a game have the ability to confine a manager, coach, or player to the bench. If this step is enacted, that individual will not be able to leave the bench/dugout. The only exception that will be allowed is for a manager/ coach to attend to an injured player on the field. If an individual that is confined to the bench violates this stipulation, they will be ejected from that game and will face further suspension as well.

39. Fair Play & Sportsmanship: Intentional disregard for the stated rules (or the spirit in which those rules exist) as well as obvious unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and will place the individuals and/or teams involved at risk for a possible forfeit or banishment from any future No Offseason tournaments.
40. Seeds and Gum: There is to be NO GUM, SEEDS OR NUTS in the dugouts or on the fields. The umps have been instructed to give a warning on the 1st incident, a run will be removed for a 2nd offense, a 3rd time will result in the team forfeiting the game being played.
41. Sliding: Head first and feet first slides are permitted.
42. Cleat Restrictions: Players MUST wear baseball turfs, plastic molded cleats, or sneakers on our baseball fields. No metal cleats are permitted.
43. Batting teams are required to retrieve foul balls and home run balls and return them to the game.
44. Umpires: 12u-18u will have 2 umpires for all games. 8u-10u teams will have one umpire for all games.

8u Only Specific Rules

Stoppage of Play (8U Only):

Outfield Overthrows: Hash marks in the base line will be used to determine the base runners' position at the time the play is declared dead or infield control is established. If the runner is beyond the hash mark, the runner will be awarded the next base. If the runner is not beyond the hash mark, the runner will be returned to the base last occupied.

When a ball is hit into the outfield, returned to the infield by the outfielder (must be a throw), and once infield control is established on the infield turf, a delayed dead ball will result. The umpire will determine when infield control takes place. Runners attempting to advance are at risk of being tagged out when they try to advance but will return to the previous base if they advance safely and were not past the hash mark when control was established. Runners will be awarded bases predicated upon their location relative to the hash marks when control was established, or the play was stopped.

Infield overthrows: Overthrows from an infielder to another infielder covering the base results in a dead ball and the runner cannot advance. Outfield Throws: Runners may advance on overthrows to the infield from an outfield player until the play has been called dead.

Outfielders: Outfielders are to be positioned approximately 20' behind the infielders. Outfielders can make force outs at the bases provided they start in the correct position behind the infielders. Infield Hits: Runners can advance on infield hits and the relation to the hash mark does not apply.

Coach Pitch Pitcher Rules (8U Only): A batter will be allowed 6 pitches before being called out. An at bat cannot end on a foul ball unless it caught by a fielder. If a ball strikes the coach, it is a dead ball, and that pitch will not count towards the batters' pitch count. Runners will return to their base. Coach is not required to stand at the 35' mount but is recommended to not step past the 8' pitchers circle. The pitch shall be on a flat line and to avoid excessive arch. Coach Pitcher must make every attempt to get off the field or out of the way when a ball is hit and to avoid interference. A coach pitcher will get one warning for interfering. If it occurs again, the batter is out, and no runners may advance. Coaches are allowed in the field during their teams' defensive inning but may not interfere with play.

Catcher's (8U Only): Catcher's must wear shin pads, chest protector, and catcher's mask. Catcher's may catch a foul ball for a recorded out if the ball was tipped/hit higher than the batter's helmet.

Infield Fly Rules: will not apply to 8u.

3rd Strike Rule: will not apply to 8u

Base Runners Rule: For 8u A base runner cannot leave until the ball has been hit.

Stealing Bases Rule: Stealing bases is not allowed at 8u.

	10u & Younger	12u	14u & Older
Base Distance	60' bases	60' bases	60' bases
Mound Distance	35' mound	40' mound	43' mound
Game Length	6 inning game	7 inning game	7 inning game
Ball Size	11 in	12 in	12 in
Mercey Rule 3 innings	12 runs	12 runs	12 runs
Mercey Rule 4 innings	10 runs	10 runs	10 runs

	10u & Younger	12u	14u & Older
Mercey Rule	8 runs	8 runs	8 runs
5-7 innings			

TRADITIONAL AGE DETERMINATION

Season	Fall 2022- Spring 2023	Fall 2023- Spring 2024	Fall 2024- Spring 2025
Birth Year	-	-	-
2017	-	-	08U
2016	-	08U	08U
2015	08U	08U	10U
2014	08U	10U	10U
2013	10U	10U	12U
2012	10U	12U	12U
2011	12U	12U	14U
2010	12U	14U	14U
2009	14U	14U	16U

Season	Fall 2022- Spring 2023	Fall 2023- Spring 2024	Fall 2024- Spring 2025
2008	14U	16U	16U
2007	16U	16U	18U
2006	16U	18U	18U
2005	18U	18U	
2004	18U		

USA SOFTBALL 2023-2024 AGE DETERMINATION

SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	AGE
2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	7
2014	2014	2014	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	8
2013	2013	2013	2013	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	9
2012	2012	2012	2012	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	10
2011	2011	2011	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	11
2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	12
2009	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	13
2008	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	14
2007	2007	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	15
2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	16
2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	17
2004	2004	2004	2004	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	18

Note: This age chart is for USA Softball, and only for the 2024 season
(September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024)

Sport's Park Policies

- The entire No Offseason Sports Park and it's parking lots is a Foul Ball area. Parking and entry is at your own risk.
- No Offseason Sports Park is a tobacco and alcohol free facility. All tobacco products and alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited. Fire arms are not permitted on the premises.
- Disorderly conduct and physical/verbal assault will not be tolerated and will result in expulsion from the park for the remainder of the tournament
- Pets are not permitted at the park. Only service animals protected by the ADA will be permitted.
- Only "six pack" size coolers are permitted. There are NO other coolers permitted in the facility.
- Loudspeakers/radios are prohibited
- Private vehicles are prohibited on turf surfaces, sidewalks, service driveways and emergency zones. All vehicles must be in proper designated parking areas. Violators will be ticketed and towed at owner's expense
- Overnight parking is prohibited

- Glass bottles or containers are prohibited
- Grills or cookers are prohibited
- No fireworks or any open flame is allowed
- No gum, seeds, or nuts permitted on fields
- No soft toss against permanent fencing/netting
- Children must be supervised by an adult

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Tournament Director

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