




CHEESE TOWN SHOWDOWN FASTPITCH TOURNAMENT RULES

10U RULES

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY: Players turning age 11 before January 1 are not eligible in this bracket.

- Teams are limited to 15 players. Final rosters and waivers are due 30 minutes before your first game. Please turn in your final Rosters to a tournament official in the concession stand. Athletes can only be on one team's roster for the tournament. No changes can be made to rosters after that time as these players would be ineligible.
- Games in which an ineligible player is used will be declared a forfeit.
- Birth certificates must be available if requested by the tournament director.

GAMES AND LENGTH:

- Each game will consist of **6 innings** or have a time limit of 75 minutes – finish the inning. A new inning may not start after the time limit has been reached. No time limit in the championship game. The official start time will be kept by the home plate umpire.
- **5 Runs maximum per inning**
- Home team is decided by a coin flip during pool play, the team that traveled the furthest will call the coin flip. During bracket play, the higher seeded team will be the home team. The home team is the official scorekeeper, a parent or family member of the Home team should be available to run the scoreboard if needed.
- 10 run after 4 innings & 15 run after 3 innings mercy rules will apply.
- **If tied in BRACKET PLAY after time limit 1 extra inning of play will be allowed.** If still tied after one extra inning, California rules go into effect where a runner will be placed at 2nd base with one out. First team to score will win. Games can end in a tie in POOL PLAY.
- **The Winning Team is responsible for reporting scores by texting: 920.980.8147**
- Schedule and Scores will be entered on the BracketTeam app –  (see below for directions)
- If you find a discrepancy with a score etc please contact the tournament directors to review
- Bunting and slap hitting are allowed, however you cannot show a bunt then pull back to slap hit or full swing. **No bunting off coach pitching.**
- No infield fly rule
- No metal spikes
- Helmets with face guards must be worn until the player is in the dugout.

SUBSTITUTIONS:

- All teams at 10U level must bat their entire roster in Pool and Bracket play games. All players on the roster present will bat in the line-up, with the late arrivals being added to the bottom of the line-up. Players arriving after you have gone through the batting order will not be eligible to play in that game, unless approved by directors prior.
- Free and unlimited substitutions are allowed in the field.
- Maximum of 10 players on the field. 4 players must remain on the outfield grass. 9 players are required to start a game and 8 players are required to complete a game.
- Players leaving a game early will be skipped if 9 or more players remain. If 9 players do not remain an out will be recorded for that spot in the order.

BASE RUNNING:

- Leading off is allowed after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Players leaving early will be called out.
- A runner may steal 1 base per batter
 - Example: Player A is a runner on first base. Player B is up to Bat, player C is on deck. Player A can steal only 1 base when player B is batting however could steal an additional base when Player C is batting)
- Stealing Home is not allowed. A runner at 3rd base may not advance home on an overthrow from catcher to pitcher.
- There will be no advancing of additional bases if the runner is played upon when stealing a base. If a runner is on first and third, and the runner from first steals, the only way a player can advance home is when there is a play made at third base.
- The runner may start to steal when the ball leaves the pitchers hand, no steal on coach pitch.
- Sliding is required if a play is being made on a runner (umpire's judgment). A runner that does not slide when deemed necessary will be called out.
- A courtesy runner is allowed for the pitcher and catcher. After the first pitch the option of a courtesy runner is gone. The runner must be the player who made the last out.
- If the ball goes out of play on a throw, the runners get the base they are running to plus one additional base.
 - Disregard Over-Throw rule when the runner is stealing a base –advancing 2 bases on an over throw during a stolen base attempt is not allowed*

PITCHING:

- Pitchers are limited to 4 innings, either consecutive or non-consecutive, per game. One pitch constitutes an inning. *In Championship Game in Bracket Play, if the game goes to extra innings, the pitcher who threw 4 innings prior can re-enter, and would be given an additional 4 innings.*
 - *Any violation of the 4 inning rule will disqualify that pitcher from pitching in the following game.
- Pitchers are allowed 3 warm up pitches in between innings. A new pitcher entering the game is allowed 5 warm up pitches.
- Pitchers will pitch from 35 feet with an 11 inch ball.
- Third strike dropped ball by the catcher is an out. A caught foul tip with two strikes is an out.
- If bases are loaded, and batter is walked, the coach will come into pitch. The coach must start with both feet in the circle but is not required to pitch from the mound. The 10U pitcher must have at least one foot in the circle when the coach is pitching. *(A pitcher cannot walk in a run at this level)*

- The Coach must attempt to get out of the way but any balls that make contact with the coach during Coach Pitch are considered Live Balls.
- Trips to the mound by a coach may not exceed 1 per inning per pitcher. The second trip in an inning shall automatically result in the removal of the pitcher for the remainder of that inning.

12U / 14U Rules

- 12U 40' pitching rubber, 12" ball; 14U 43' pitching rubber, 12" ball
- 12U & 14U Nine players on the field.
- 12U No metal cleats are allowed. 14U Metal Cleats allowed.
- 12U Pitchers may pitch 4 innings per game. The 4 innings do not have to be consecutive. Throwing 1 pitch constitutes an entire inning. Three (3) warmup pitches will be allowed between innings max. Seven (7) warm-up pitches will be allowed for a new pitcher max. Intentionally stalling, as deemed by an official or tournament director, may result in a forfeiture of the game.
- Any violation of the 4 inning pitching rule at 12U/10U level level will disqualify that pitcher from pitching in the following game.
- 14U pitchers may pitch the entire game
- Teams must communicate their batting order to opposing coach and umpire prior to the start of each game.

Batting order options:

- ***Bat the roster with free defensive substitutions in POOL PLAY. If a player leaves during the game (except due to injury during that game), an out is recorded for that girls at bats. A player who has left the game cannot re-enter the game.***
- DP Flex or batting standard 9 with substitutions allowed in BRACKET PLAY.
- Runners may steal any base at 12U and 14U levels.
- 12U Bunting is allowed but *batters are not permitted to fake a bunt then swing at the pitched ball.*
- 14U bunting is allowed and players are permitted to fake bunt and swing.
- Infield fly rule is in effect.
- Parents may be asked to assist with the scoreboards.
- Playing of National Anthem will kick off tournament Friday and Championship games Sunday.

ADDITIONAL RULES

- No chanting or harassment of the other team. Profanity or harassment by a team member, coach, or fans towards an opponent, fan, or umpire will not be tolerated. This type of activity can lead to an ejection.
- **(NEW)** MVP medals are to be given to 1 player from each team at the end of every game during Pool and Bracket play. A player can only be given 1 MVP medal during the tournament. Coaches will be given a card that needs to be given to the opposing coach at the start of each game with prior selections so that athletes are not doubled up. MVP's are picked by the opposing team.
- Umpire decisions are final, including all protests.
- No stalling. Stalling could lead to a forfeit.
- Coaches and players are responsible for clean-up of dugout after their games.
- Any rules not covered here are then subject to WIAA rules. The tournament director reserves the right to change any rules that would be deemed necessary.
- In case of inclement weather, the tournament director reserves the right to alter the tournament format if necessary.
- No hitting softballs into fences during warmups or games. Please use the grassy area with bownets, etc. and share with other teams accordingly.
- Players are not allowed on the infield for warmups.
- **After game is completed the final game score must be reported in by the WINNING TEAM.** Coaches need to report scores to **(Please text to PJ Weber: 920.980.8147).**
 - ***Please include your age bracket, both team names and the score.***
 - ***Example: 10U Plymouth 9, Sheboygan South 4***
- Coaches are responsible for cleaning out their dugout after the game.
- USA Softball rules will be followed for any rules not listed here. The tournament director reserves the right to change any of the rules at his or her discretion.

SEEDING:

- Three Pool Play games will decide Bracket seeding for single elimination
- Tie breakers used for Bracket Seeding
 - 1) Win/loss Record
 - 2) Runs allowed
 - 3) Runs scored
 - 4) Head to head competition
 - 5) Coin flip.

Mitch Henschel at: 920.917.7138 Or PJ Weber at: 920.980.8147

Please patronize our excellent concession stand as this is our main fundraiser for our softball program.