



MINNESOTA SOFTBALL STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

Congratulations on qualifying for the Minnesota Softball State Tournament. The following is a list of rules that are applied to our state tournaments that are different than the USA Softball Rulebook.

1. Each state tournament team will pay a \$100 gate fee to the local community association that is hosting the tournament.
2. The home/visiting teams will be determined at the manager’s meeting by a coin flip.
3. Run rule is 15 after three, 12 after 4, 8 after five
4. 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).
5. All rules protests will be handled by the umpire on the field.
6. On-deck batters may use either on-deck circle as long as they are behind the batter and not on the batter's open side.
7. Tournaments are double elimination format.

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	Bat the roster	Bat the roster	
DP/Flex		Tier 1	Tier 1 and 2	Tier 1 and 2	All Tiers
Time Limit	70 minutes	70 minutes	75 minutes	75 minutes	75 minutes

All teams at all levels have the option to bat their roster. Teams at 12-Under Tier 1, 14-Under Tier 1, 14-Under Tier 2, 16-Under Tier 1, 16-Under Tier 2, and all 18-Under Tiers have the option to use DP/Flex. Coaches must declare at the what lineup they are going to use at the manager’s meeting.

For any other rules questions, we will play the USA Softball rules.

