

# 2021 APPLE VALLEY UNDER THE LIGHTS TOURNAMENT

## Rules & Information

### General:

1. The tournament is USA Softball sanctioned and USA Softball rules apply unless noted otherwise.
2. Teams must check in one hour prior to the start of their first game. The registration table will be near the main concession stand at each field and all teams must submit a signed team roster at check-in.
3. All protests will be settled on the field. **Umpire decisions are final.** No appeals will be allowed to the Tournament Director.
4. The Tournament Director reserves the right to shorten or cancel games in the event of bad weather or other tournament delay (this is a one-day tournament - see more details below).
5. The Tournament Director reserves the right to modify any of these rules and/or conditions as necessary to ensure the success of the tournament and the safety of its participants and spectators.
6. Heckling of the umpires or opposing teams will not be allowed. The coach of the team whose fans violate this rule will be warned once. If the heckling continues, fans will be asked to leave the premises. Fans not complying within two minutes will cause the forfeiture of the game to the opposing team. Coaches, please discuss this with your fans prior to coming to the tournament to avoid any misunderstandings.
7. No outside food is allowed within the perimeter of the fields. Concessions will be available. This is an Apple Valley Fastpitch fundraiser and we appreciate your cooperation.
8. Smoking is allowed in parking lots only.
9. Typically pets are allowed at tournaments provided they are not disruptive and owners pick up after them. However, there is a posted sign that pets are restricted from the field areas at Lac Lavon (no pets are allowed near the fields). Please plan accordingly so pets are not left in hot cars.
10. For any security concerns, please go to the concession stand and ask to speak with a member of the tournament committee.
11. Tournament information will be posted on <http://www.evaasports.org/underthelights>

### Pool Play & Bracket Play:

1. All games except the championship games will have one umpire. The championship games will have two umpires.
2. All games will be played on Saturday. This is a one-day tournament. We need to make sure there are not significant delays as there is only a minimal amount of time between games to try and offer as many games to teams as possible.
3. **Please be prepared to start at least 10 minutes prior to your scheduled start time.** In the event of weather or other potential delays, games may start early if the fields become available early.
4. A team not ready to play within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time of their game will forfeit that game. The exception being a team that is finishing up a previous game.
5. A coin toss or ball roll (umpires choice) at the beginning of each game will determine the home team.
6. The following run rules will apply:
  - a. 12 after 3 / 10 after 4 / 8 after 5.
  - b. Consistent with fall ball, teams at the 12U level also may score a maximum of 5 runs per half inning for duration of tournament.
  - c. There is no per-inning run limit at the 14U level.
7. All Pool play and Bracket play games are 65 minutes or 7 innings or run-rule end, whichever comes first. No new inning may start after 65 minutes; innings in progress at the 65 minute mark will be completed as best possible.
8. There will be a hard stop at 70 minutes for pool play only. Score will revert to previous full inning.
9. Pool play games may end in a tie.

10. International tie-breaker rules will be used to determine a winner in bracket play if a game is tied after time has expired or the inning limit is reached: The last batter from the previous each half inning starts the tie-breaker half inning on second base.
11. Teams will be seeded into brackets based on pool play performance. The following tie breakers (in order) will be used to seed teams into the Playoff Brackets (note the changes from last year underlined below to adjust for different numbers of innings played between games):
  - a. Head to Head (for two team ties only)
  - b. Fewest runs allowed
  - c. Most runs scored
  - d. Run differential
  - e. Coin toss
12. Playoff brackets will be single elimination.
13. Please note – field lights will shut off promptly at 10:30 PM. Games will be called at this time if in progress and a winner will be determined. In the event of a tie at this time, umpires and tournament director will determine how a winner is decided. (likely coin toss or ball roll)
14. There are no restrictions on the number of innings a pitcher can pitch.
15. For safety purposes, on-deck batters **must** warm up behind the batter, regardless of their team's dugout.
16. All teams must bat their roster.
17. There is unlimited substitution of players on defense.
18. Courtesy runners may be used for pitchers and catchers of record (last pitcher or catcher to play in the field, not a new pitcher or catcher slated to play the field in the next inning). The courtesy runner must be the last recorded out (or last batter available on the bench if an out has not been recorded). In the event a courtesy runner is needed in the first inning prior to a team's first out, the courtesy runner must be the last batter due up at that moment who isn't currently on base. Courtesy runners will be allowed for players injured within the game. A courtesy runner will not be allowed for a player with an injury sustained prior to start of each game.

**Thank You**

**Apple Valley Under the Lights Tournament Committee**