



Heart of America Tournaments - Rules (14u-18u Events)

Tournament Committee:

John Hartley - Owner
Tyler Hartley - Director
Trey McDaniel - Director
Kaden Kralicek - Director
Head Umpire

VERY IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ

- For ALL Turf Fields - **NO METAL CLEATS ON ANY PLAYER** – Flats, Turfs or Molded ONLY on all turf fields. Violation is an individual ejection for the player in question.
- For ALL Fields – No **SEEDS, GUM** or **SHELLED NUTS ALLOWED**. Violations for Coaches, Players and FANS **CAN RANGE FROM A TEAM FINE TO INDIVIDUAL EJECTION**. The cleanup for a turf field is very difficult and is not necessary.
- **PARENTS ARE NOT TO CONTACT TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS**. Any issues, complaints, or problems should come from a **COACH** or **TEAM ADMIN ONLY**.
- All teams need to be prepared to start 30 minutes prior to their official start time.
- Age Restrictions: High School Graduation Year
- Injuries: If a team is hitting a continuous lineup, and a player is injured and cannot continue, his spot in the batting order will be skipped with no penalty.
- Once a player is skipped he **CANNOT** return to the lineup.

BAT RESTRICTIONS:

- This is a BBCOR event for 15 through 18u teams. No -5 bats allowed for 15u -18u teams. The 14u is not a USSSA Event, we are playing by HS Rules, but -5 bats are allowed for 14u ONLY.
- It is the head coach of the team's responsibility to monitor the bats that are in play for their team.
- If a player uses an ILLEGAL BAT, the umpire must be notified prior to the first pitch of the next batter, or before all defensive players leave fair territory.
- If the bat is found to be ILLEGAL, the batter will be ruled out and the runners will not be allowed to advance.

GAME LENGTH/TIME LIMITS/EXTRA INNINGS:

- All games will consist of 7 innings with a time limit. No new inning will begin after 1:55. A tie game after the time limit has elapsed is a tie unless in bracket play. A tie game within the time limit may play an extra inning with the modified extra inning rule below.
- A tie game in pool play will go down as a tie game. In bracket play, games cannot end in a tie and we will also go to the tie breaker rules below.
- **CALI RULES for EXTRA INNINGS:** Last batted out will start the inning on 2nd base with 0 outs to start the inning. We will continue this until we have a true winner. If the catcher or pitcher is the

last batted out at 2nd base you CAN courtesy run for them to start the extra inning but must be the same runner you have used the entire game (or last out before him if you are batting your lineup).

RULES OF PLAY:

- All games will be played by Federation/HS rules with the addition of an EH if wanted. So you may bat 10 and more if agreed upon by the opposing Coach.
- Free substitutions apply unless the event an AABC event (see AABC rules for more information)
- Courtesy runners for PITCHER and CATCHER are allowed if not in the lineup at that time or use the last out if not available.
- Any player, coach, manager, and fan that is ejected from a game shall be removed for the remainder of that game ONLY. Any individual ejected must leave the complex and exit to the parking lot.
- If a team is hitting a continuous lineup, the ejected player's spot in the lineup will remain and his team is forced to take an out.
- A second ejection is a removal for the remainder of the event.
- PLEASE HELP CONTROL YOUR FANS AND PARENTS.

GAME PLAY/POOL PLAY DETERMINATIONS:

- The Home Team for games will be determined by Coin Flip for pool games. For bracket play, the higher seed will be the home team.
- Teams must supply at least 2 new baseballs per game. Teams should shag balls on their side of the field.
- Run rules are 12 after 3 / 10 after 4 / 8 after 5.
- In brackets of 6 teams or more, teams of the same organization WILL NOT play each other in the first round of bracket play. Seeds can be changed by the Tournament Committee within 2 seeds of other teams to avoid this issue.

POOL PLAY TIE BREAKERS:

- 2 Way Tie = Head to Head
- 3 Way Tie = Run Differential, Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Coin Toss - in that order.

WEATHER DELAYS/CANCELLATIONS:

- Any weather - in game delays - if rain or weather suspends a game in a 7 inning contest, 4 innings (3.5 innings if the home team is winning) or 1 hour of game play can be considered a complete game.
- Cancelled Event = Full Refund.
- Only 1 game started or played = 50%Refund.
- Two games started or played = No Refund.

PITCHING:

- Pitch Smart rules are encouraged. Actual innings and pitch count are left up to the players' coaches. PLEASE BE REASONABLE & CAUTIOUS.

- 3rd to 1st moves ARE ILLEGAL.
- BALKS ARE NOT LIVE.
- Coaches Mound Visits: The second conference in a single inning from a coach must result in a pitching change.
- Intentional Walks: Coach needs to inform the umpire of the intentional walk so the batter can be awarded first base. No pitches are needed to be thrown.

SCOREKEEPER:

- The home team is the official book for the game. The scorekeepers must be identified prior to the game to the home plate umpire and visiting team. Score should be verified with each scorekeeper and home plate umpire every half inning if requested.

PROTEST:

- We don't have protests at HOAT events. In the event of a rule dispute, interpretation will be made by the home plate umpire and/or tournament committee.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- In the event of rain, the tournament director may alter time limits, reduce the number of teams playing, or make any other decision that would help complete the tournament.
- All communication – weather, updates and announcements will be handled through the Tourney Machine App. Download it for free on the App Store.
- GATE WILL BE CHARGED AT ALL EVENTS. FREE ADMISSION for coaches and players only. WE reserve the right to REMOVE any parent or fan that refuses to pay for gate. By entering in our tournament you are agreeing that your parents and fans will pay the gate fee to enter the parks for the events.
- Absolutely NO ALCOHOL is allowed in the park! Anyone caught drinking in the park will be removed from the park immediately with no refund for their gate fee. Smoking/Vaping are ONLY allowed in the parking lot. Anyone caught vaping or smoking inside the park is subject to be removed from the park immediately with no refund for their gate fee.