



2010 Early-Bird Girls Fast Pitch Tournament Rules

Tournament Details:

- * Tournament Date: Saturday, May 29th and Sunday, May 30th, 2010
- * Rain Dates: TBD
- * Format: Girls Fast Pitch Softball.
- * Age Group: 14 and Under
Players Must be no more than 14 years of age as of
January 1, 2010
- * 3 Games Guaranteed on Pool Play Saturday.
- * Single Elimination Seeded Brackets on Sunday

This tournament is played under A.S.A rules and uses A.S.A Umpires. The tournament is a sanctioned event.

Registration

- * Entry fee is \$250.00 per team. Make checks payable to PHBSA.
- * Teams must be registered on or before May 24th, 2010
- * A copy of team insurance, roster and entry fee are due at the time of registration.
- * Teams must carry birth certificates for all players on the team roster at all times.
- * Mail To:
Mark Crew
5213 13th St. SW
Canton, OH 44710

Global Game Rules (Weather and Schedule Permitting)

- * Check-In: 1 Hour before Scheduled Game Start. Registration materials must be completed and accepted by check-in time of the team's first game. Teams not ready will forfeit.
- * Time Limit: A time limit has been implemented for all games in Pool Play all rounds of Bracket Play except for the semi-final and final. The time limit is 1 Hour 15 Minutes. Innings started prior to the game time limit

will finish both halves of the inning (last half if the home team trails or is tied). Umpires will conspicuously designate the last inning as the last inning to both teams. The Last Inning is the last inning that may start prior to the game time limit and does not have to be the seventh inning. In the event the top half of an inning runs longer than expected, the umpire may designate that inning as the last inning. The visiting team may then score an unlimited number of runs in conjunction with the run limit rule for the last inning. No inning may begin after one hour and ten minutes is reached.

** No time limit for semi-final and championship rounds on Bracket Day.

- * Run Limit: 5 Runs per inning per team for Pool Play and Rounds 1 and 2 of Bracket Play. 7 Runs per inning per team for the Semi-Final and Final in Bracket Play. The Last Inning is unlimited for both teams. The Last Inning is designated by the umpire as the time allows and need not be the seventh inning.
- * Mercy Rule: 10 Runs after 4.5 complete innings, 8 Runs after 5.5 Innings.
- * Official Game: An official game will consist of 7 innings, a game called by time limit or called by mercy rule. Rain-outs will be considered complete at the end of four and one-half innings. Game times for games resumed from a postponement by rain-out will be resumed from the postponed point and are cumulative.
- * Ties: Record Ties
Record ties for seeding will be broken as follows:
 1. Head To Head
 2. Defensive Runs Allowed
 3. Run Differential
 4. Coin Toss

Game Ties

Ties on Pool-Play Day will be permitted. Ties on Bracket Day will be decided by International Tie-Breaker Rules.

- * Home Team Coin toss at Home Plate just prior to game start. The home team scorekeeper will maintain the official book.

- * Practice No infield practice between innings. Warm-ups are permitted in foul territory at third and first base if time permits.

- * Pitching Warm-ups: Five Pitches to starting pitcher. Three pitches in subsequent innings. New pitchers get five pitches and three as with the starter. Pitchers relieved may return (in accordance with ASA Rules) but if a pitcher returns in a later inning, the pitcher gets three warm-ups. If the pitcher returns in the same inning, no warm-ups are permitted.

- * Protests: The protest committee will consist of three Tournament officials and a consulting umpire. Protests will be decided immediately. Please be prepared:
 1. Prepare a lucid description of the protest
 2. Bring the A.S.A rule book indicating the rule questioned and the home team scorebook (Signed by the presiding umpire).
 3. Bring any other supporting documentation to support the claim.
 4. Only the two competing head coaches and the presiding umpire may attend a hearing. In the event witnesses are needed, have them ready.
 5. Report to the head tournament table.
 6. The fee is \$50.00, is payable at the hearing and is non-refundable.
 7. Decisions by the committee are final.

Game Rules:

- * Players: Roster may consist of any number of players. Nine (9) Players play in the field. A team must start with at least 9 players but may finish with 8.

Substitutes must report to the opposing team and the umpire before they start play and follow the rules for substitutes according to A.S.A rules

- * Batting Order: Continuous Batting Order
- * Drop Third Strike: Yes
- * Infield-Fly-Rule: Yes
- * Continuous Walk: Yes
- * Game Ball: 12"
- Sliding: Sliding is not mandatory BUT:
Collisions must be avoided. If a player is deemed to have purposefully collided with a fielder, the player will be out and ejected from the game. The umpire, at his/her discretion, reserves the right to call other runners out if, in his/her opinion, they benefitted from the purposeful collision.
- * Lead-Offs, Stealing: Yes, According to A.S.A rules.
- * Pitching Rubber: 40 feet
- * Bases Distance: 60 feet
- * Playability: All players must have played 12 consecutive outs by the beginning of the fifth inning. Free substitutions are available thereafter. Pitching substitutions must follow normal A.S.A rules.
- Trips
Offensive and Defensive Conferences are governed by ASA rules.
- * Courtesy Runner
Courtesy runners may be used in accordance with A.S.A Rules.

A courtesy runner will be permitted at any time for the pitcher and catcher.
- * Injury Runner
See Courtesy Runner.
- * Injured Player
Except for the case of an injured runner, injured in the course of play, injured players will follow A.S.A rules.

* Conduct This tournament is offered in the spirit of fun and to provide some experience for all players. Players of all levels are encouraged to participate. It can be used to pulse the progress of teams and players. To protect our children the following will be employed:

1. Smoking is not permitted in the field area. Offenders will be asked to stop their smoking. If the problem continues, offender will asked to leave and may not return to the field area.
2. Drinking is prohibited. If a person is deemed to be intoxicated, or is seen drinking, they will be asked to immediately vacate the premises and prohibited from returning.
3. Loud and obnoxious or abusive behavior will not be permitted. Spectators will receive one warning and then will be ejected from the premises for the day. Please watch the language!

* Ejections: Players or coaches ejected for flagrant violations such that cause injury or for fighting will not be permitted to return to the tournament.

Players or coaches ejected for misconduct may return in the next played game for their team. A second violation suspends the offender for the day. Subsequently, the player or coach may not return to the tournament.

All decisions by the tournament committee are final. If the event is rained out during the course of play, the committee will make every attempt to either delay or postpone the games. If it is not possible to do so, the committee may decide to cancel the event. In the case of cancellation, no awards will be given and no refunds will be made.

Please direct all questions to the tournament committee.