



GENERAL TOURNAMENT RULES:



- 1) HOME TEAM WILL BE DETERMINED BY A COIN TOSS PRIOR TO EACH GAME
- 2) TOURNAMENT CHECK-IN: Upon arrival please check in immediately with the tournament director. All teams must check-in and pick up their tournament packet and your free coaches gift prior to their first game. Tournament Check-In will be located at the HOSPITALITY ROOM.
- 3) Each team must bring **six (6) game balls**. Each team must supply one optic yellow ball to the home plate umpire at the beginning of each game. The balls must be .47 COR and stamped with the NFHS logo. Each ball shall be marked with the name of the supplying team. A pitcher may pitch a ball supplied by her team as long as the opposing club is satisfied with the new or nearly new condition of the ball. All teams need to have a second acceptable ball ready for emergency use. Game balls will be returned.
- 4) will be subject to the Run Ahead Rule and will be called if a team is ahead by 15 runs or more after 2 innings, 12 runs or more after 3 innings, 10 runs or more after 4 innings, or 8 runs or more after 5 innings. Losing team must bat in the inning in which the rule is invoked.
- 5) All teams will play in a Pool Play round. During POOL PLAY games will be a time limit of 75 MINUTES (1Hr.15 minutes) or 4 complete innings whichever comes first. The Inning being played will finish IF time has run out, but NO new inning will start. No more than 4 innings will be played even if time is still left in the game. Play in "POOL PLAY" will be for the purposes of seeding the teams for the PLACEMENT ROUND BRACKETS. All teams will advance to the Placement Bracket rounds. Each coach is responsible for having his/her team ready to play at game time.
- 6) Determination of Placement Bracket round will depend on standings in pool play. The team with the best record in each pool will be seeded #1, #2, etc. Tiebreaker criteria:
 - 1}. Head to head competition
 - 2}. Least number of runs given up.
 - 3}. Overall record (based on runs earned)
 - 4}. Coin toss
- 7) **ONLY IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES WILL THE INTERNATIONAL TIE BREAKER RULE TAKE EFFECT IN THE EIGHTH INNING. ALL OTHER BRACKET GAMES THAT END IN A TIE WILL BE BROKEN WITH THE FOLLOWING TIE BREAKER RULES:**
 - 1}. Most runners on base at 3rd.
 - 2}. Most runners on base at 2nd.
 - 3}. Most runners on base at 1st.
 - 4}. Most hits.
- 8) **ONLY THE PLACEMENT BRACKET PLAY GAMES ON FRIDAY WILL BE TWO HOURS.** The inning being played when time expires will be completed unless the HOME TEAM is ahead. A new inning is considered started when the final out of the previous inning is made. Note: #4 Run Ahead Rule will be in effect.
- 9) In the SIX (6) Division PLAYOFF Championship Bracket games there will be NO TIME LIMIT, the international tiebreaker rule shall be used after (7) innings are completed or if the score remains tied. Pool games will remain tied. Playoff Championship Division games will be played until a winner is determined.
- 10) AWARDS will be given to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams on the final day of the tournament.
Trophies In All Division Brackets:
 - 1) Champion
 - 2) Runner-Up
 - 3) 3rd Place
 - 4) Consolation
- 11) EACH TEAM NEEDS TO BE AT THE FIELD THIRTY (30) PRIOR TO SCHEDULED GAME TIME. IF THE PRECEDING GAME FINISHES EARLY, THE NEXT GAME WILL START EARLY.
- 12) Scheduled game time is forfeit time if a team is not present. It is the responsibility of the coach to know game times.
- 13) Each coach is directly responsible for controlling the fans of her/his team. Umpires will give the coach one warning. If, in the sole opinion of the home plate umpire, the warned team's fans continue to be unruly or threatening, then the umpire is required to declare a forfeit by the offending team. Security personnel will be on site for the safety of all tournament patrons.
- 14) SPORTSMANSHIP-PLEASE CHEER AND SUPPORT YOUR TEAM. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO ACCEPTABLE PLACE, OR TIME IN WHICH TO BERATE, BELITTLE, OR HECKLE OPPOSING COACHES, TEAMS, FANS OR OFFICIALS. PLEASE REVIEW THIS WITH YOUR TEAMS PARENTS!!!
- 15) The Home Team will keep the official score book for ALL the games.
- 16) The Tournament Directors will submit scores for all games played in the tournament each day to the El Paso Times.
In case of unforeseen circumstances which do not allow this tournament to come to its natural conclusion {i.e., weather}, the tournament organizers reserve the right to change the format in any way they deem necessary to determine a winner. We will try to work on rescheduling any rainout games. (Opponent might change due to field availability).

ALL NFHS RULES WILL GOVERN EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) UMPIRES DECISIONS ARE FINAL, NO PROTESTS WILL BE ALLOWED.
- 2) EXCEPT FOR THE DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES – YOU MUST COURTESY RUN FOR YOUR CATCHER NO MATTER WHAT, AS LONG AS A LEGAL SUBSTITUTE PLAYER IS AVAILABLE. THIS IS TO KEEP GAMES MOVING!
WE ASK THAT EACH TEAM CLEAN ITS DUGOUT AFTER EACH GAME, AND COOLERS ARE ALLOWED AT THE BLACKIE CHESHER FIVE FIELD SOFTBALL COMPLEX.

(Trash bags will be available at the Hospitality Room)