



**Medford Parks, Recreation & Facilities
U.S. Cellular Community Park
Youth Fastpitch Tournament Guidelines
(Revised March 2018)**

Age Requirements and Age Verification

USA Softball Code regarding age eligibility in Junior Olympic (Youth) play - A player's age as of December 31 determines the age in which the player is eligible to play the following year.

Each team must submit team roster /City of Medford waiver and provide birth certificates (or valid USA Softball documentation) to the event staff or director for each player.

Each parent/guardian must sign the official City of Medford roster/liability waiver prior to Game 1.

Rosters are frozen after Saturday pool play. All players must be listed on roster before Sunday to be eligible to play. Tournament Director reserves right to allow roster additions on Sunday due to injury and to avoid forfeits.

Scheduling

Event schedule will be posted online or emailed to the individual who registered the team by 5 p.m. Wednesday, the week of the event.

Start times are approximate.

Rules

USA Softball rules govern play unless modified by this document, or by the Event Director. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the event director reserves the right to modify event procedures.

Equipment

Game balls designation for 10U is 11.47 and the 12U and 14U is 12.47. The balls could be leather or synthetic composition.

Helmets cannot have reflective materials attached.

Game procedures

Pool Play

- A. Game duration is 7 innings or the score upon completion of the inning in progress when the 1 hour and 40 minutes countdown clock expires. No new innings begin after 1 hour and 40 minutes. The countdown clock starts when the first pitch is thrown. **A new inning begins at the moment the third out is recorded in the bottom of an inning. In case of a tie, 1 inning of international play will apply.**

- B. Home team is determined by a coin flip in pool play. Higher seed is the home team in bracket play. If teams are the same seed (from different pools), coin flip will determine the home team.
- C. USA Softball Rule 7 - Section 2, F - Junior Olympic Fast Pitch Pool Play: Bat nine defensive players or use the DP Flex. Or teams have the option of having up to and including all roster players
- D. Home team is responsible for keeping the official score.
- E. USA Softball Run Ahead Rule is enforced: 15 after 3 innings, 12 after 4 innings, or 8 after 5 innings
- F. **10U only.... Will be played with a rule of 5 run limit per half inning, with the exception that the last inning played will be an open inning. This is in pool play only. The regular game ending run rules and time limits will be enforced.**

G. Injured Player (Pool Play Only)

- i. Any injured player on base with no subs available will be called out and "scratched" from the line-up.
- ii. Any injured player that cannot bat with no available subs will be called out the first time through the line-up.

Tiebreaker Formula for Seeding:

1. Winning Percentage
2. Head-to-Head Outcome, (if more than 2 teams are tied go to #3)
3. Record vs. Common Opponents (If more than 2 teams are tied go to #4)
4. Fewest Runs Allowed (If 2 or more teams are tied go to #5)
5. Coin Flip

Bracket Play procedures (Sunday games):

- A. **Unlike pool play, traditional USA Softball rules pertaining to batting order and substitution apply.**
- B. **Bracket Play Batting lineups(Sunday)** - See USA Softball Rule 7 - Section 2, Batting Order
- C. Game duration is 7 innings. No new innings will begin after 1 hour 40 minutes, commencing with the first pitch. The "International Tie Breaker Rule" will be in effect after regulation or at the top of the inning after the time limit expires (whichever comes first). If the score remains a tie after the "international tie breaker" inning, the game will continue with additional international tie breaker inning(s) until a winner is determined.
- D. Home team is determined by seed. If the teams have identical seeds, a coin flip determines the home team.

E. Championship games will have 1 hour 40 minute time limit and USA Softball run rules will apply.

E. The top two teams in championship brackets receive awards.

Protests

All on-field complaints, questions, or protests must first be handled by the field umpire, or the Umpire-in-Chief. The Event Director does not override, adjust, or change any on-field initial ruling.

Protests involving player eligibility must be presented to the field umpire or Umpire-in-Chief and Event Director. Once a game has ended and umpires have stepped foot off of the field of play, protests will not be considered.

Prohibited at USCCP/Park Rules

- **NO METAL CLEATS** permitted under any circumstances.
- NO SUNFLOWER SEEDS or TOBACCO products.
- NO pets (exception: service animals).
- NO alcohol.
- NO overnight RV parking.

Park Admission Fees

- Park admission fees \$5.00 for a weekend pass or \$3.00 /day.
- Children under 18, players and coaches admitted free.

U.S. Cellular Community Park Code of Conduct Policy

Any parent or coach ejected from a game must immediately leave U.S. Cellular Community Park and may not return to the complex for the remainder of the day.

The Tournament Director and Umpire-in-Chief will decide whether an ejected parent or coach may return for subsequent games at USCCP.

Any player, parent, or coach exhibiting physically threatening, malicious behavior or verbal harassment toward event officials, umpires, participants or spectators will be asked to leave USCCP for the remainder of the event, and may be subject to police action.