

Fall Slam Tournament Rules

Thank you for your participation in the Fall Slam. Below are the tournament rules. We will utilize USA Softball rules for this tournament.

The tournament is set up as pool play in the morning, each team playing 3 pool play games. In the afternoon, teams are entered into a single game final based on pool play outcome. The overall #1 seed will play the overall #2 seed for the championship. 3 seed will play 4 seed, 5 seed will play 6 seed, 7 will play 8, etc... 10U-12U on Saturday, 14U-18U on Sunday. *If the number of teams makes sense to divide into pools, we'll match up the Pool 1 #1 seed v the Pool 2 #1 seed, etc....* **Format is subject to change by the director.**

COACHES/ADMINISTRATIVE/CONDUCT:

1. Teams must sign in at the tournament check-in table before the start of their 1st game. We will NOT provide paper packets. All information for coaches will be found online. **Coaches must have completed rosters with players' names and birthdates as well as insurance submitted to the tournament director digitally.** Coaches must have completed rosters with players' names and birthdates. Please have copies of birth certificates available should there be a challenge from an opposing coach. Failure to provide proof of age shall eliminate player in question.
 - 1.1. If a World Series Qualifier, National Qualifier, or State Tournament,
 - 1.1.1. Champions will be required to enter their official roster online prior to accepting any berth.
 - 1.1.2. Tournament director will verify the online roster coincides with the roster provided at the tournament. Changes may be authorized at the discretion of the State Director.
 - 1.1.3. If the tournament provides a paid entry to a national tournament to its champions, the sanction fee must still be paid by the team earning the berth.
2. All coaches, by participation in the plate conference at each game, agree that all equipment used by their teams complies with the rules and assumes ALL liability for use of illegal equipment by his/her team members.
 - 2.1. Specific equipment approval stamps MUST include the USA Softball logo.
 - 2.2. Alternatively, any bat with the USSSA stamp is authorized.
3. Only **Head Coaches** may consult with the umpires. Failure of a non-manager to remove themselves from any discussion after being warned will result in ejected from the tournament and subjects the Head Coach to possible ejection or restriction.
 - 3.1. Any persons exhibiting poor sportsmanship or abusive behavior to players, officials, or ANY person will be removed from the event with no return privileges for the balance of the event as well as liable for criminal charges is applicable.
 - 3.2. Head coaches are responsible for actions of players, fans and assistant coaches. Head Coach will be warned to curb improper behavior and failure to do so will result in his/her ejection.
 - 3.3. Smoking, tobacco, or alcohol use on the field, in the dugouts, or around the fields is prohibited. No exceptions.
4. Unless authorized by the respective city or park ownership, alcoholic beverages are not permitted to be consumed or displayed at the facilities, including parking areas. Persons found in violation are subject to removal for the balance of the tournament and any applicable State or Local laws. Parking areas may be subject to routine police patrols to ensure adherence to local laws, provide safety, and aid security of facilities. However, vehicle owners ultimately park at their own risk.
5. All facilities have rules pertaining to pets, grills, smoking and use of the facilities. The Tournament Director does not have the authority to make changes, grant waivers or alter these requirements. It is the Coaches, parents and fans responsibility to know and adhere to facility rules.

6. Notwithstanding any other rules, this tournament will follow USA standards regarding Thunder and Lightening occurrences. This includes games will be stopped and shall not resume for thirty minutes after the last sighting of lightening or hearing of thunder. Coaches are required to take players to a safe space as they determine with the parents. **The ONLY exception to this is for indoor tournaments.**
7. Game results must be reported to the Tournament Headquarters immediately following the completion of your game. Alternatively, coaches may text the score of their game to (419) 540-2136 (Sample: Buckeyes 2, Wolverines 1). Scores recorded at the tournament headquarters will be final when the tournament director leaves the park at the end of each day. No changes may be made after the tournament director leaves unless the director transposed the reported score incorrectly to the tournament website (director error).
8. Teams playing an extra pool game (if necessary) will not have the runs scored or allowed, nor the win/loss counted toward their seeding. If playing an extra game, the last game listed on the schedule for the team playing the extra game will be the game that does not count.
9. The tournament reserves the right to change the schedule as needed to ensure safety or to adjust for weather. Any changes will be sent via the online tournament system. Coaches are to be responsible to check their email and/or text messages for any changes. If a coach has opted “out” of the text messaging system, there may be delays in notifications.
 - 9.1. All coaches should verify they have a valid account and that their team is listed in the tournament at: <https://nwoladyirish.leagueapps.com/login>. This will be the most expedient method to receive game, schedule, and other tournament updates.
10. Refund and Rain Policy: There is no refund for for withdraw within 30 days of tournament. If 50% of the tournament games are played by a team, no refund is required. If less than 50% of the games are played, a percentage will be refunded (less unrecoverable costs, plus an amount not to exceed 5%).
 - 10.1. The priority is to play as many games as possible without exposing any person to excess games or unnecessary dangers due to weather or conditions.
 - 10.2. The TD may modify the pool or bracket schedule and reserves the right to remove lower seeded teams in order to complete brackets if necessary.
11. Awards will be presented to the Champions and Runners up in each age bracket. Players on the championship teams will also receive an individual medal or award. Other awards may be given based on the individual tournament.
 - 11.1. If bracket games are rained out, awards will be given based on pool play records.
 - 11.2. If bracket games have started and subsequently rained out, awards will begin based on the records, including any tie breakers listed below, of all remaining teams.

GENERAL GAME RULES:

1. All USA rules apply, unless specified otherwise.
2. Pitching Distance: 10U - 35', 12U - 40', 14U and above - 43'.
3. Metal cleats are permitted for 14U and above. Molded cleats are authorized for 12U and below. No Metal Cleats are allowed at indoor tournaments.
4. LINE UPS & CARDS.
 - 4.1. Line up cards **may** be submitted to the home plate umpire 5 minutes prior to the start of the game.
 - 4.2. Teams are permitted to bat their entire roster in pool play. If you are batting all your players, you are allowed free defensive substitutions and may use last batted out as a courtesy runner. If a team bats its entire lineup and an injury occurs, an out will **NOT** occur when that batter's spot comes up, as long as the team doesn't fall below 9 batters in its line up.
 - 4.3. Any substitutes on a lineup card are to be used as a courtesy runner. If a team has a substitute listed on the line up card and a courtesy runner is to be used, the courtesy runner **MUST** be the substitute - no exception. An alternative to 4.2, teams may instead choose to bat 9, or utilize the DP/Flex. In this case, courtesy runners **MUST** be a substitute not already entered into the game (if there is a substitute on the lineup card). Standard substitution rules apply.
 - 4.4. In either case, courtesy runners may run for a pitcher or for a catcher but may not run for both in the same inning.
 - 4.5. Players may **NOT** be added to the line up card after it is accepted as official by the umpire.
5. Mercy rules for all games, both pool play and bracket play, are 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings.
6. A team not on the field ready to play at game time forfeits that game unless granted an extension by the tournament director for good cause. Forfeited games will be scored 7-0 for the winner. Teams must be at the field and ready to play 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Games will start early if possible.
7. If an official protest is to be filed, the umpire and the official scorer must be notified before the next pitch (play). *Current game situation, strike count, base runner positions, and game time must be recorded by the home book.* Play will then resume under protest. The protesting team must immediately send a team representative to the Tournament Director. Failure to take these actions immediately will result in the protest being overruled. If all steps were followed, the Tournament Director will rule on the protest.
 - 7.1. If the protest is granted, play will cease and the game will be resumed from the point of the protested call.
 - 7.2. If the protest overruled, play continue at its current spot.
 - 7.3. A \$100.00 non-refundable fee will be collected in advance of any decision. If a protest is upheld, the \$100 will be refunded.

POOL PLAY SPECIFIC RULES: FALL SLAM

1. One hour and fifteen minute time limit (1:15) per game, or 7 innings. No inning shall start after time limit has expired. Complete any inning already started. The new inning starts when the final out of the previous inning occurs. Games may end in a tie.
2. Coin flip shall determine home team. Home team book is official. Coaches may present line-up cards to the plate umpire.
3. Seeding for championship play is determined by pool play record. If teams have the same pool play record, the higher seed will be determined as follows:
 - 3.1. *Head to head
 - 3.2. Total runs scored against
 - 3.3. Total runs scored
 - 3.4. Coin flip
 - 3.5. *If more than 2 teams are tied with the same record, Head-to-Head is thrown out.

CHAMPIONSHIP (BRACKET PLAY) SPECIFIC RULES: FALL SLAM

1. One hour and twenty minute time limit (1:20) per game, or 7 innings. No inning shall start after time limit has expired. Complete any inning already started. The new inning starts when the final out of the previous inning occurs. Games **MUST** end with a winner. If tied at the end of 7 innings or at the end of the time limit, International Tie Breaker (ITB) rules will be in effect, until a winner is determined.
 2. Higher seeded team shall be the home team. Home team book is official.
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TOURNAMENT AWARDS:

- Champions teams will receive a championship trophy and individual awards.
- Runner up teams in each age division will receive a second place trophy and individual awards.
- Ribbons will be provided for each home run hit during both pool play and bracket play.
- Ribbons will be provided for each no-hitter throw and each perfect game thrown.

For Fall Slam tournament questions, contact
Cory Bryan
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(419) 540-2136
<https://nwoladyirish.com/our-tournaments>

