

BELLINGHAM BASH 2022 TOURNAMENT RULES

Please text scores to Billy Clinton @ 617 650-8483

12 and Under – June 24-26

10 and Under – July 22-24

CHECK IN

Team coaches or representatives must report to the Concession Stand at the High Street Fields in Bellingham at least 1 HOUR BEFORE GAME TIME OF YOUR FIRST GAME. In the event of a tournament starting on Friday night teams playing on Friday night may check their team in starting at 4:45 PM.

COACHES WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE

1. Insurance Binder/Certificate. It is recommended that a team email the binder to the tournament director before the start of the tournament.
2. Proof of Birth for all players. (Birth Certificates, USA ID cards, and adoption papers are acceptable proof of birth).
3. USA Rosters must be completed and available. Rosters are limited to 20 players. These must be turned into the Tournament Director prior to tournament starting. No additional players will be allowed once this has been turned in.
4. All coaches must have a completed USA background check and Safesport Coaches training

General Information

1. The BGSA enforces a ZERO Tolerance policy. Any infraction will not be tolerated.
2. Team coaches (head/assistant) are responsible for team parents and fans on their side of the field. All other individuals will be recognized as helpers and must follow the same rules.
3. Any display of poor sportsmanship by players and/or coaches will result in automatic expulsion from that game and any remaining games in the tournament. Any coach ejected for these reasons must leave the playing field area immediately for the rest of that game and any remaining games. Failure to comply may result in games being forfeited.
4. No consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed on the premises of the High Street fields.
5. Parking on High Street is not permitted per BPD.
6. Please, NO GRILLS at the High Street Fields.

GAME RULES AND PROCEDURES

USA RULES WILL BE FOLLOWED IN ADDITION TO THE FOLLOWING

1. No metal cleats are permitted

2. All batting helmets must have face shield per USA Softball
3. No Infield or batting practice is allowed on the playing field.
4. Both teams must submit a lineup card with FIRST & LAST NAMES, & SHIRT NUMBERS to the umpire and opposing team 5 minutes before game time. In the absence of an official scorer, the home team's book is official.
3. Scorekeepers for each team must compare scores after each ½ inning and any disputes are to be settled immediately. The home team's book is the official book for that game.
4. Both teams are responsible for reporting game scores. Phone numbers to call will be included in the tournament packet.
5. All equipment used must meet USA guidelines as determined by the Umpire
6. THE GAME OFFICIALS ON THE PLAYING FIELD WILL RESOLVE PROTESTS BEFORE THE GAME WILL BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE. THE UIC'S DECISION IS FINAL. NO PROTESTS WILL BE ALLOWED AFTER THE GAME IS COMPLETED.
7. Should any game be suspended due to weather or unusual conditions, it will be resumed at the point of suspension. See Rain Policy.
8. A minimum of 8 players must be available to start a game and play a game. An automatic out will be recorded in the 9th spot every time. During a game should injury or illness occur, a team can continue to play with 8 players in the field.
9. Game time is forfeit time for all games if teams do not meet USA Rules of eligibility.
10. Please clean up the dugout after each game.
11. It is the judgment of the umpire if an injury requires immediate medical attention, the ball is immediately called dead and the player is attended to. Placement of runners and batters is at the umpire's discretion.
12. Batters, runners, bat persons, and player coaches must wear helmets. If the helmet falls off, it must be put back on at the first opportunity. If a runner deliberately takes their helmet off while running the bases, the player will be called out.
13. Catcher's equipment will include a mask, throat guard (or hockey style mask instead), helmet, shin guards and chest protector.
14. Ondeck batters need to be behind the fence and cannot warm up on the playing field.
15. Mercy rule is in effect for all games 15 runs after 3 complete innings, 12 after 4 and 8 after 5. If the home team is losing, they will get to bat in the bottom half of the inning.
16. All other USA rules apply.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Teams will play three games in pool play for seeding in Sunday's single elimination round.

Champions and Runner up will receive trophies.

1. USA registered Umpires will be used for all games. •For 10u games, there will be one Umpire for all Pool Play and Elimination Play up to the Semi Final Games. There will be 2 Umpires for the Semi Final Games and Championship Game.
•For 12u games, there will be one Umpire for all Pool Play games and two Umpires for all Elimination Play Games.
2. Home Team will be decided by a coin flip at least 5 minutes prior to game time in Pool Play.
3. **Time Limit:** A minimum time limit of 1 hour 30 minutes. This is not a drop dead time. Once the inning begins and time expires, it must be completed per USA Softball rules. Only exception is inclement weather. Clock starts on the first warmup pitch.
4. The umpire will start the clock in each game and notify teams of the start time.
5. All games will be scheduled for 6 innings

6. **Run Rule (Pool Play):** There will **NOT** be an unlimited last inning. There will be a maximum of 5 scored runs per inning except a HOMERUN over the fence in which a team will be allowed to score more than the maximum number of runs (all runs count). The USA Softball Tie Breaker rule will only be used if the game is played within the time limit. Pool Play games can end in a tie.
7. **Run Rule (Elimination Play):** The final inning will be unlimited runs. Should the final inning end before the time limit is reached, then the game is over unless tied. If tied, the USA Softball Tie Breaker rule will be used to determine the winner.
8. **Semi Finals and Finals will not have a time limit.** These games will be played to their entirety unless the run rule has been met or inclement weather
9. **Team Line Ups for 10u and 12u:**

TEAM LINE UPS *(10C & 12C ONLY):

A team shall consist of players in the following positions: Fast Pitch:

- Nine players: Pitcher (F1), catcher (F2), first base player (F3), second base player (F4), third base player (F5), shortstop (F6), left fielder (F7), center fielder (F8) and right fielder (F9).

The following applies to all "Pool Play" and "Elimination Games" and will be at the discretion of the team manager – any one of the following options may be employed and must be made known prior to the start of the game:

- With Designated Player (DP) and Flex: 10 Players with nine batting (The DP/Flex is optional)
- Batting up to all roster players, any additional batter(s) shall be listed as an EP and may be listed anywhere in the batting order and may play defense at any position.
- JO Fast Pitch Only with one Extra Player (EP): Pitcher (F1), catcher (F2), first base player (F3), second base player (F4), third base player (F5), shortstop (F6), left fielder (F7), center fielder (F8), right fielder (F9), and one Extra Player (EP) with 10 batting.
- JO Fast Pitch with Designated Player (DP) and FLEX with one Extra Player (EP): 11 players with 10 batting

Note: Teams that bat everyone in their line-up will take an out if a player is removed for any reason other than an "ejection" or "Blood Rule."
 runners, pinch runners or pinch hitters when batting everyone.
 batting everyone, the game will be forfeited. Please reference USA Softball Rule 4 for additional clarification.

*This provision is provided on a trial basis for the 2022 season after which point it will be evaluated and assessed for future seasons.

* Tiebreaker Rule The player who is scheduled to bat last in the inning will start at second base with the player batting after her in the order leading off in the tiebreaker inning. If a winner is not determined, the next inning and each inning thereafter, the runner will begin at 3rd base. Each team has 3 outs to try to score runs. This format is to be used until someone wins or the game is called at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Single Elimination Seeding

The Tournament Staff, based on the USA Softball guidelines, shall determine the official order of finish in qualifying pool play:

1. Rank teams by winning percentage
2. If two teams are tied, compare head to head. If more than 2 teams are tied or teams did not play head to head, skip this step
3. If teams are tied, rank based on fewest runs allowed
4. If teams tied, based on the most runs scored per game
5. If teams are tied, a coin toss

RAIN POLICY/FORMAT

The Tournament Staff may change the Tournament Format at any time due to prolonged delays or severe weather conditions. If time is lost due to rain, pool play may be canceled and single elimination play will begin. In the event of rain or any cause, which interrupts a game, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was stopped, time permitting. Our ultimate goal is to be fair to all and give everyone the number of games they deserve. However, there may be unforeseen circumstances that make it difficult for the tournament staff to achieve that goal.

A. Pool Play

1. Time limit clock does not stop during a rain delay.
2. If a rain delay occurs and the time limit is expired, the score of the game will revert back to the last full inning of play.

B. Single Elimination Play

In case of rain, the Tournament Staff will determine the format for single elimination.

1. The tournament director reserves the right to call any game having progressed to the time limit, or to reduce the number of innings for a completed game to try and keep on schedule.
2. In the championship round, if the game cannot be continued, and the score is tied, the winner will be the higher seeded team.

Additional Game Rules

Our tournament is intended to provide the maximum playing experience for the players. All games will be played under USA fast pitch rules except where the following takes precedence over published rules:

10U Division:

1. An 11 inch ball will be used.
2. Pitching distance is 35 feet from home plate.
3. Runners are allowed to steal upon release. Stealing home plate is allowed.
4. Batters may not advance on a dropped third strike
5. No infield fly rule.
6. Continuous running is allowed.
7. All fields will have a double safety bag at first base.

12U Division

1. A 12 inch ball will be used.
2. Pitching distance is 40 feet from home plate
3. Runners are allowed to steal upon release.
4. Dropped 3rd strike and can steal home.
5. Continuous running is allowed.
6. All fields will have a double safety bag at first base.