

# **BELLINGHAM BASH 2022 Tournament Rules**

**Please text scores to Billy Clinton@ 617 650-8483**

14 and Under – July 15th - 17th

## **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 training.

## **General Information Applying to All Divisions**

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. **There is no smoking or vaping allowed at the High Street Fields. The only smoking area is by the street. No exceptions.**
6. Parking on High Street is not permitted per BPD.
7. Please, NO GRILLS at the High Street Fields.

## **GAME RULES AND PROCEDURES**

USA RULES WILL BE FOLLOWED IN ADDITION TO THE FOLLOWING:

SPECIAL NOTE: USA RULE CONCERNING FACE GUARDS: All players wearing a helmet must have an approved face guard.

1. No infield or batting practice is allowed on the playing field.
2. 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  $\frac{1}{2}$  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. **Please text scores to Billy Clinton @ 617 650-8483**
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. 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.
11. 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.
12. Catcher's equipment will include a mask, throat guard (or hockey style mask instead), helmet, and chest protector.
13. On-deck batters need to be behind the fence and cannot warm up on the playing field.
14. Mercy rule is in effect for all games 15 runs after 3 complete innings, 12 after 4 and 8 after 5. If losing, home team will get to bat in the bottom half of the inning.
15. All other USA rules apply.
16. Please clean up the dugout after each game.

## 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.

### Pool Play

1. All games will be decided in all games by a coin toss at least 5 minutes prior to game time.
2. **All games will not start a new inning after 1 hour 30 minutes.** Once an inning begins and time expires, the inning must be completed per USA rules. Clock starts on the first warmup pitch.
3. The umpire will start the clock in each game and notify teams of the start time. The international tiebreaker\* will be used in pool play only if played within the time limit.
4. **\*\*\*\*\*Pool Play Games may end in a tie.**
5. **TEAM LINEUPS** (Updated 5/24/2022) following batting line-ups are allowed.  
**Pool Play Games-** The following batting line-ups are allowed.
  - Straight 9 and/or DP/Flex - Teams may bat 9 players with or without the DP/Flex.
  - Continuous Order - When 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 as any position.○ Example - A team may choose to bat 11 players and list one additional player as a substitute. A team is NOT required to bat all 12 players.
  - Teams that bat everyone in their line-up will take an out if a player is removed for any reason other than an ejection.
  - Teams will not be allowed courtesy runners, pinch runners or pinch hitters when batting everyone.
  - If a player is ejected when batting everyone, the game will be forfeited.

\* **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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### Pool Play and Brackets:

1. Rank teams by winning percentage in their pool
2. If two teams are tied, compare head to head win loss. If more than 2 teams are tied, skip this step.
3. If teams are tied, rank based on fewest runs allowed per game.
4. If teams are tied, rank based on most runs scored per game.
5. If teams are tied, a coin toss is used.

### Single Game Elimination:

1. The umpire will start the clock in each game at the first warm up pitch and notify teams of the start time.
2. The home team will be the higher seed and will get to choose the dugout they would like to use. (Ex: #1 is considered a higher seed over #2)

3. Game time will be 1 hour and 20 minutes and finish the inning. Then play one more inning or half inning if the home team is ahead. If after the additional inning the game is tied, the Tie Breaker rule will be used until a team is declared a winner. The only exception to this rule will be in the event of inclement weather.
4. **Elimination Game Team Lineups-** •Teams may use “straight 9” or DP/Flex. Both lines may use only one EP in their lineup (a max batting order of 10 players).
5. Semifinal and championship games have no time limit and the international tiebreaker will begin after the seventh inning has been completed. A time restriction may be imposed at the discretion of the tournament director in the event of extraordinary circumstances.

### **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 cancelled 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:

#### **14U Division**

1. Games are 7 innings.
2. A 12 inch ball will be used.

3. Pitching distance is 43 feet from home plate.
4. Runners are allowed to steal upon release.
5. Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike and can steal home.
6. Continuous running is allowed.
7. All fields will have a double safety bag at first base.
8. Metal spikes are allowed.