

Big Sioux Round Up Softball Tournament Rules

AGE: Players must be at minimum 18 years of age by the first date of tournament play to register and play. Non-players must be at minimum 16 years of age to register. Age requirements will be enforced by sponsor bars per the policy of the establishment.

1. **RATINGS:** We will follow the 2018 NAGAAA Player and team rating guidelines. Submit 2018 player ratings when completing official team roster. Player ratings must be submitted on the official BSRU roster form at minimum of 2 weeks prior to the tournament for validation by the Tournament Committee.
2.
 0. C Division: No player rated over 15 with a team maximum of 140.
 1. D Division: No player rated over 12 with a team maximum of 110.
 2. E Division: No player rated over 8 with a team maximum of 75.
3. **ROSTER:** Teams may have up to 20 players on the roster and bat no more than 12 players. USA Softball substitution rules still apply.
4. **REGISTRATION:** All players, coaches, and managers must register by checking in with a valid form of identification and signing the tournament release form (i.e. registration book) prior to stepping on the field. No one is allowed on the field or in the dugouts (including score keepers, fans, etc.) without first signing the tournament release form.
5.
 0. Playing an unregistered player in any game will result in forfeit of the game and the unregistered player will be disqualified from continuing to play in the remainder of the tournament.
 1. The registration book with the official team roster will be available at the Registration Party on Friday, and at fields located near the concession stand on Saturday and Sunday approximately 1 hour prior to the first scheduled game.
6. **UNIFORMS:** All players should wear a like color jersey with a unique number. Temporary numbers and marked jerseys of a different color are discouraged, but permitted. Jewelry must be removed or securely taped prior to playing. Tournament wristbands may be worn during play.
7. **PRACTICE:** No practice is permitted on the tournament fields.
8. **SUBSTANCES:** The use of alcohol or smoking is not permitted within a dugout or on a field of play.
 0. Must be 21 years of age to purchase or consume alcohol.
 1. Alcoholic beverages purchased onsite can be consumed within the confines of the complex, but is not permitted within a dugout or on a field of play.
9. **MINIMUM PLAYERS:** Teams must start the game with at minimum 9 players.
 0. If a team plays with 9 players, the number 10 spot in the batting lineup is taken as an out.
 1. Once a game starts, if an additional registered team player arrives, they can be added as the number 10 spot at the bottom of the batting lineup.
 2. Any additional late players can be added as a substitute player, but cannot be added to the batting lineup without substitution. Scheduled game start time is forfeit time.
 3. Teams playing back to back games will be permitted a reasonable amount of time to move fields for consecutive games.
 4. It is encouraged that teams are aware of potential game times before leaving the complex between pool play and tournament play, or other breaks between games.
10. **LINEUP CARDS:** Starting lineup and available substitutes must be filled out on lineup cards (provided) prior to the start of the game. A copy must be given to the umpire and opposing team manager during the pregame conference. Additional cards will be available at concession stands and designated locations.
11. **HOME TEAM:** Home team will be determined by the following:
 0. Coin toss for pool play games; the officiating umpire will determine who will call the coin toss.

1. Higher seed for all bracket games.
 2. Undefeated team for the championship game, and by coin toss if an "if game" is required.
2. **PITCHING:** Pitch arc is 6-12 feet per NAGAAA rules.
3. **BATS:** USA Softball banned bats will not be permitted within a dugout or on a field of play. Permitted bats must be in "good" playing condition and will be evaluated upon the discretion of the officiating umpire.
4. **BATTING:** Each batter will start with a 1-1 count.
5. **COURTESY FOUL:** No courtesy foul will be provided. A foul hit with a 2 strike count will be counted as the third strike and the batter will be called out.
6. **SAFETY BASE:** The double base shall be used at first base as outlined by USA Softball rules. Noting, when a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white portion and the batter-runner the contrasting color portion of the base.
7. **BASE RUNNING:** Base stealing and leading off is not allowed.
8. **HOMERUN:** Any homerun on Sherman fields E, F, or G are automatic doubles.
9. **SUBSTITUTIONS:** USA Softball substitution rules apply. This means that to replace a player on the lineup, you must enter a legal substitute. If the original player re-enters the game, they must do so in their original lineup position. Once a player has exited the game a second time, he/she cannot re-enter the game. This only applies to substitutions which change the batting order. Players in the batting order changing fielding positions or going between extra hitter and fielding positions are not considered substitutions.
10. **COURTESY RUNNER:** The USA Softball rule for courtesy runners will be used. Any eligible player on the official lineup including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner. A single courtesy runner may be used once per inning. If a player is a courtesy runner and remains on base when required to bat, the player is called out.
11. **GAME TIME:** The official game start is when the officiating umpire calls the start of the game. The official game end is after the final pitch within the limits defined herein or at time expiration.
 0. No new inning shall start after 55 minutes in pool play and tournament play, no time limit (7 full innings) in championship games and "if" games.
 1. Pool play games may end in a tie at the end of inning 7 or at the end of the current inning once time has expired.
 2. The international tie-breaker will be used in the event that tournament play games end in a tie.
12. **OFFICIAL SCORECARD:** The coach or manager from each team must sign or initial the official umpire's game scorecard at the end of each game to confirm the correct score and winner is marked. Signed official scorecards are final and cannot be later disputed. The official scorecard is used to determine seeding and brackets for tournament play.
13. **PROTESTS:** Protesting is permitted using the following guidelines.
 0. The protesting team's manager must notify the officiating umpire (or if multiple umpires are officiating, the umpire behind home plate) prior to the official game end (refer to game time above) of his/her intention to protest by handing the umpire a completed protest card (available at information table) and the protest fee in cash.
 1. The protest fee is \$100 for the first question and \$50 per question for all subsequent questions.
 2. All protests will be given to the Protest Committee which will consist of a BSRU Tournament Director, BSRU Committee Members, or League Officials (total of 3 members).
 3. Protests filed without written explanation and the proper fee will be rejected by the officiating umpire or Protest Committee and play will continue.
 4. After the Protest Committee has met with both team managers, they will render a decision before either team is allowed to continue further pool play or tournament play games.
 5. In the event the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded to the protesting team; otherwise the fee is forfeited and retained by the BSRU.

6. Protest Committee decisions are final. It is the sole discretion of the Tournament Director to determine whether the conditions for a protest are accepted.
7. Protests based solely on a decision involving accuracy or judgement on the part of an umpire will not be considered.
8. Note: If Tournament Director/Committee notice player(s) that are clearly playing with incorrect ratings or in the wrong division, they may, upon the jurisdiction of the Tournament Director, remove the player from the tournament.