

2023 Nebraska State Tournament Baseball Rules and Refund Policy

All Tournaments that are run by Nebraska Youth Sports will follow USSSA Baseball rules with the following exceptions.

1. Time limit of 1 hour 40 minutes for all age groups. A new inning will not start after the time limit has expired. **Time limit of 2 hours in the Championship game.**
2. In the case of rain, the tournament director has the discretion to change any rule that will allow the tournament to be completed.
3. Team and individual awards for 1st and 2nd place in each age group and division.
4. Protest fee: \$100 cash (on rule interpretation only)
5. Game Time: Starting time is forfeit time.
HOME TEAM: Pool play – Coin Flip. Bracket play – Higher seed.
6. Home team is the official book. **Both scorekeepers should record game start times.** Both scorekeepers should meet between innings to confirm scorebook status.
7. **Ties will be allowed in Pool Play.** In Bracket Play we will use the Tie Breaker System. If a game is tied after regulation innings have been completed OR the time limit has expired, the following tie breaker rule will go into effect. Each team will put the last scheduled hitter in the extra inning on 2nd base AND the 2nd to last scheduled hitter on 3rd base. There will be one (1) out. This will continue until a winner is declared. There will not be a tie breaker rule in the Championship game, but the run rule and 2-hour time limit will be enforced.
8. Infield Warm-Ups: All teams are encouraged to warm-up as much as possible before game time. NO pre-game infield! Stay away from ground crew if they are working in the field.
9. **Refund policy:**
 - Team's withdrawal from tournament up to entry deadline. Entry fee minus \$150 administrative fee.
 - Team's withdrawal from tournament after entry deadline: No refund.**Refund schedule due to weather:**
 - **0 games started** – Entry fee minus \$150 administrative fee.
 - **1 game started** – 50% of entry fee refunded.
 - **2 games started** – No refund.
10. All rules and game guarantees are subject to change at the discretion of tournament officials. Forfeits count as a game played.
11. Teams can bat the line-up, bat 9 or bat 9 plus a EH. **NO DH.** They must declare which order they are going to use before the game starts and once the game starts, they must continue that for the game. For teams batting the line-up, the courtesy runner must be the player who recorded the previous out. If no proper courtesy runner is available, the pitcher and /or catcher must run for themselves. For teams that bat 9 or bat 9 and use EH, any player not currently in the line-up may be the courtesy runner. A courtesy runner **MAY NOT** run for the pitcher and catcher in the same inning. USSSA pitching rules will be enforced & tracked. **Pitching will be tracked online using the National Website. Steel spikes may NOT be used on any Portable Mounds.**
12. **2023 USSSA Bat Rules will be enforced with this exception, 14 Majors Must Use BBCOR or wood bats only.** Tournaments that combine 14M & AAA will use the 2023 Bat Rules that USSSA has posted on the National Website. 8's through 10's will have one umpire. 11's through 14's will have 2 umpires.

USSSA RUN RULES:	
7 inning games - 15 after 3, 12 after 4 and 8 after 5.	
6 inning games - 15 after 3 and 8 after 4.	

USSSA PITCHING RULES:			
AGE	COLUMN A	COLUMN B	COLUMN C
7U – 12U	3	6	8
13U – 14U	3	7	8

COLUMN A – The maximum number of innings a pitcher can pitch in one (1) day and still pitch the next day.
COLUMN B – The maximum number of innings a pitcher can pitch in one (1) day.
COLUMN C – The maximum number of innings a pitcher can pitch in three (3) consecutive days.

A pitcher that pitches three (3) consecutive days MUST rest the next day.
One out equals 1/3 of an inning. Pitching will be tracked, enforced and posted online.