Coaches,

PARK ADDRESS: All 9U games will be played on the C Pod of the complex, which is located at 1751 South Farmerville Hwy in Ruston. All 10U games will be played on the B Pod of the complex, which is located at 2001 Champions Way.

POOL PLAY:

- Teams were divided into Pools of 3 or 4.
- Pool play will seed teams into Elite 24 bracket play.
- Pool games are 60 minutes, finish the inning. The games can end in a tie.

BRACKET PLAY:

- Bracket will be seeded from pool play.
- All bracket games will be 70 minutes and the high seed will be automatic home team throughout bracket play.
- If both teams are equal seeds, there will be a coin flip for home team.
- The bracket will be seeded as pools of teams are complete. Please note that one pool in 10U had a team drop and at late notice, we were unable to fill the spot. Since we are using an Elite 24 bracket, the missing team is listed on the bracket as "Bye-1".
- The Elite Bracket consists of 4 individual brackets that come together at the end to crown a Champion. Games 45,46,47 and 48 will only be played if the undefeated team loses the game prior in each individual bracket. Rather than a full IF game in these spots, we will do a 2-inning shootout to break the tie between 2 one-loss teams. A 2-inning shootout is a new game. A new lineup is done and the last batter in the lineup starts on 2nd base for the first inning. The last completed at bat starts on 2nd for subsequent innings. The 2-inning shootout can be called at the end of 1.5 innings if the home team is ahead.

ROSTERS: All players must be listed on the online roster as either a permanent roster player or an approved guest players prior to the start of the first game. Any player not listed on the roster will be deemed ineligible to play in the event of a protest. The protested player will immediately be removed from the game and an out will be taken if in the batting lineup. They will not be allowed to play for the remainder of the weekend. The team will not face a forfeit unless the removed player puts them under the 8 player minimum to play.

LINEUP CARDS: Lineup cards must contain the FULL name of the player and the number.

PROTESTS: There will be a \$100 protest fee. Any roster protest must be done prior to the start of the third inning. (Please make sure you check guest players prior to protesting a player. To do this, pull up the teams roster history, select the event from the dropdown on the top of the page, and check the guest players listed on the bottom of the roster)

TEAM INSURANCE: All teams are required to have insurance on their team. If you purchased through USSSA, we have the policy online. If you did not, please present a copy of your insurance to the site director when you arrive at the park.

MVP AWARDS: MVP awards will be given in pools games for each team. The MVPs will be selected by the umpires and staff. Players can bring their MVP cards to the Office Building at the entrance of the B Pod to redeem their award and get their picture made. The awards will posted to the player profiles online

TOURNAMENT TRACKING: The USSSA app will allow parents, coaches, and organizations to follow the pool and bracket as scores are submitted. Any discrepancies with the scores that are entered should be reported as quickly as possible to the tournament director. This will give you a live look at how seeding is playing out during pool play and how the brackets are progressing that will keep you on track with start times.

BALL PARK ADMITTANCE: Ruston Sports Complex has one main entrance in and out of the park. This entrance will serve as the "gate" to the tournament. Fans will pay at the gate for daily admission. Up to 3 coaches and all players will not be charged admission. Cost will be \$10 per person per day. Kids 8 & Under will be free.

COOLERS, FOOD, DRINK: Concession will be available at the center of each quad. Players are allowed water jugs inside the quad areas or ONE team ice chest. Outside food and coolers are NOT allowed within the confines of the quads. However, teams are welcome to picnic in the parking lot or surrounding areas. **NO SUNFLOWER SEEDS OR GUM IN THE DUGOUTS**. Coaches are responsible for disseminating this information and enforcing these standards during tournament play.

PAY AT THE PLATE: Coaches will report to the pre-game conference with CASH in hand. PAP fees are \$45 per game.

HOTELS AND RV Parking: For teams staying in hotels, we highly encourage you to book rooms as early as possible. In addition to Ruston itself, there are hotel rooms in West Monroe, Jonesboro, Winnfield, Minden and Bossier City. All of these are in the 30 minute range from the park and easy to get to. For teams who have RVs, there is RV parking available at the complex. Please see Enclosure 1 for links to the RV reservation form and Ruston Hotel Information.

We hope this lays the foundation for a transparent and phenomenal tournament. We are happy to host your families and couldn't be more excited to press on with this event.

The links to the events are below:

Event Information

Event Schedules

Enclosure 1: Ruston Sports Complex Map



Click <u>HERE</u> for link to the Park

Click <u>HERE</u> for link to RV Reservations