

# 2011 ELIZABETH SPANO MEMORIAL

## GIRLS FAST PITCH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT RULES

### GENERAL RULES

#### 1. ELIGIBILITY:

- a) Age cut-off for all divisions will be January 1st.
- b) A player's age on January 1st of the current year will determine eligibility to play in a division.
- c) With the prior approval of the Tournament Director - a player may play up one division.
- d) Players will not be allowed to play down in a younger division.
- e) A player cannot be on more than one roster in the tournament.
- f) Violation of the Eligibility Rules may result in the player being disqualified, and the forfeiture of games played, at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- g) With the prior approval of the Tournament Director, exemptions may be granted for players with special needs.

#### 2. MANAGERS & COACHES:

Teams will be limited to one (1) manager and two (2) coaches.

#### 3) TEAM ROSTER:

Each team will be limited to maximum of (15) players. The roster is due prior to the draw and must include birth dates and be signed by a league official.

- a) No player may be added to the roster after the tournament starts.
- b) Players can only be on one team roster in the tournament.
- c) No alternates may be listed on the roster.

#### 4) AWARDS:

Individual awards will be awarded to the players on the first and second place team in each division. Fifteen (15) awards per team.

#### 5) GENERAL RULES OF PLAY:

- a) It will be at the discretion of the managers as to who will coach bases: coaches, players or both.
- b) Only the manager, coaches, players and the batboy/girl are allowed in the dugout during a game. All players must remain in the dugout.
- c) Only the manager, or acting, will be allowed on the playing field to discuss a decision with the umpire. Any others will be ejected from the park.
- d) If a team fails to field nine (9) eligible uniformed players by game time, the umpire-in-chief will declare a game forfeited in favor of the opposing team. There will be no grace period.
- e) All catchers must wear a face mask when warming up the pitchers.
- f) Free substitution will apply to 8U, 10U, & 12U.
- g) The batting order in 8U, 10U, & 12U will be continuous and will consist of all players present and eligible to play.
- h) Re-entry Rule will apply to "18 and under"
- i) Runners must slide to avoid malicious contact on all close plays. Failure to do so will result in the runner being called out. Flagrant violations will result in the ejection of the runner from the game. **"NO WARNINGS WILL BE GIVEN"**.
- j) **NO** infield practice will be permitted.
- k) Batters will not throw the bat. After one team warning, any batter throwing her bat will be called out.
- l) All equipment must be kept in the dugouts.

- m) A time limit of 75 minutes will be enforced; **NO** new inning may be started after 75 minutes.

#### 6) RULES OF CONDUCT:

- a) The umpire-in-chief has complete authority over the game being played.
- b) Any player, manager, or coach that exhibits gross misconduct, poor sportsmanship or abusive language shall be removed from the game and field, preferably by the manager, or by the umpire-in-chief, immediately. Refusal to comply will hold his team subject to forfeiture.
- c) No shouting at or baiting of any player or umpire by an opposing coach, player or spectator will be allowed. The umpire will issue only one (1) warning and upon the second offense the person doing such will be removed from the game and the park. Refusal to comply will hold his team subject to forfeiture. **THIS ALSO INCLUDES ANY CHATTER ON THE FIELD.**
- d) The team manager has the ultimate responsibility for the actions of his coaches, players and fans.
- e) Spectators will not be allowed on the playing field, in the dugouts, or to stand behind the backstop while the game is in progress.
- f) No smoking is allowed in the park. No use of tobacco or tobacco products will be allowed on the playing field or in the dugout at any time.
- g) **No protest allowed. THE UMPIRES DECISION IS FINAL.**

#### 7) SAFETY PROTECTION:

- a) No steel spikes permitted in the all star divisions. Rubber spikes will be allowed, tennis shoes are required as a minimum.
- b) All batters and runners are required to wear protective helmets with ear protection on both sides. Runners intentionally losing their helmets, in the umpires' opinion, will be called out.
- c) All helmets must have chin straps, the straps must be fastened when the player is wearing the helmet.
- d) All batgirls/batboys and base coaches under the age of eighteen (18) must wear a protective helmet during the game.
- e) All catchers must wear full gear including protective helmet, mask with throat protector, shin guards, and chest protection.

#### 8) SCORES:

Scores of each game shall be turned in to the Tournament Director or the Division Manager by the home team immediately following the game.

- a) Home team will be the official scorekeeper.
- b) Home team will be determined by the tossing of a coin prior to the game.