

2023 OYO David Manlove Memorial Tournament

12U Softball Division | Roster Eligibility/General and Age-Specific Tournament Rules

Team and Player Eligibility	
Age Cut Off	<u>12U:</u> Players must not have reached their 13th birthday before midnight January 1, 2023. Players must be 12 years old or younger as of December 31, 2022.
Roster Information	Coaches are required to carry at all times birth certificate copies as proof of age in the event of challenge during tournament.
Insurance Requirements	Each team must provide insurance or signed waiver before their first game. No team will be allowed to play their first game until insurance or the waiver form is received.
Number of Players	Teams must consist of no more than (13) players.
Sportsmanship and Park Policies	
Team & Fan Conduct	The team manager is responsible for the conduct of his coaches, players and fans. Foul language by players, coaches, or fans will not be tolerated. Good sportsmanship must be displayed at all times. A warning will be given for any inappropriate behavior. In conjunction with a warning, an umpire or tournament representative has the discretion to remove one or more individuals (coaches, players, and fans) from the grounds. A team may be forced to forfeit a game and/or the tournament for repeated violations of conduct.
Park Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ There is no smoking on the diamonds or in the dugouts, or anywhere in the park. ✓ No pets are allowed in the park. ✓ No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the park.
Game Preliminaries	
Rules	NFHS rules and regulations apply. However, exceptions have been noted below. Be sure to consult rule deviations notated in this document.
Home Team Designation	<u>For Pool Play games:</u> Home team designation will be determined by the flip of a coin. <u>For Tournament games:</u> Home team designation is awarded to the team with the higher seed.
Field Dimensions	Bases are to be sixty (60) feet apart. Infield is sixty (60) feet square. The pitcher's mound rubber is to be 40 feet to the back edge of home plate with a 16' diameter pitcher's circle.
Game Length	Games will be six (6) innings in length.
Time Limit	A 1 hour 30 minute time limit is in effect for all games, including the championship game. A new inning cannot start after the time limit has expired.
Game Starting Times/Grace Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Home team designation will be determined by the flip of a coin before each game. To ensure games start on time, teams should be at the diamonds at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled game time. No grace period will be extended after the scheduled start of the game. If, after this period of time has expired, a team has not shown itself ready to play, then the game will be forfeited. ✓ Home team keeps the official scorebook for the game. Please note the game start time called out by the umpire. ✓ In the event of forfeiture, the official recorded score will be 6 to 0.
Uniform Requirements	Each player must wear a numbered uniform. Every batter MUST wear a helmet.
Cleats & Attire	Metal spikes are not permitted. No jewelry or earrings may be worn during any game.

Playing Time Requirement	All players, except in the case of injury, must play a minimum of two (2) innings in a six (6) inning game. The team will bat the entire roster. Free defensive substitution is allowed.
Team Protocol	When a team is at bat, all players are to be in the dugout except the batter at the plate and the on-deck batter.
Mercy Rule	A complete game will consist of six (6) innings. However, a mercy rule consisting of 15 runs after three (3) innings, 10 runs after four (4) will apply, and the team that is leading will be declared the winner.
Game Completion Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A minimum of four (4) innings played, (3-1/2 if the home team is ahead) will constitute a complete game. If a game is stopped before three (3) innings have been completed, the tournament director reserves the right to award a winner or suspend the game and continue at a later time. If a game is suspended and played later or on another day, the game will be continued from where it left off when play is resumed, even if the game is resumed on a different day. ✓ If a game is suspended in the middle of an inning due to weather or darkness and has completed the minimum number of innings to constitute it as a complete game, then the final result of that game will revert back to the previous full inning played unless the home team is ahead and batting. This suspension will be made, if necessary, by the plate umpire, OYO Advisor on Duty, and/or the Tournament Director.
Judgment Calls/ No Protested Games	All judgment calls by an umpire may not be protested or argued. Umpires have the final say. Rules protests can be made to the Tournament Director. All rulings by the Tournament Director are final. Rules interpretation may be discussed as soon as the dispute arises. The umpire and/or Tournament Director will resolve the dispute before play resumes. All decisions are final.
Tie Game in Pool Play	<p>If a pool game is tied and they are still under the time limit, play continues. If it is a tie and the time limit has passed, the game is recorded as a tie.</p> <p>Championship games will be played until a winner is determined. If the six-inning game is completed and the score is tied, then the California tie breaker rule will apply. Each team will start their at bat with no outs and a runner on 2nd base. The runner on 2nd base will be the player who was the last batted out. Play until a winner is determined.</p>
Tie Breaker	<p>Tie breaker is broken down as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record 2. Head to Head 3. Fewest runs allowed 4. Runs differential 5. Run scored 6. Coin toss
Rule Deviations for 12U	
Maximum Run Rule	A team may score a maximum of six (6) runs per inning, excluding inning six (6) or subsequent innings. In inning six (6) or beyond, a team can score an unlimited number of runs. A game will be called if a team is ahead by 15 runs at the completion of 3 innings or ten (10) or more runs at the completion of four (4) or more innings.
Defensive Positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Teams will play 10 girls in the field (4 outfielders). ✓ Unlimited pitching, but a pitcher may re-enter only one (1) time per game
Home Team Ahead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ If the home team is ahead going into the bottom of the sixth (6th) inning, the home team will not bat (even though the tie breaker includes runs scored and runs against).

Game Rules	
Runners Leaving the Base	Base runners may not leave their base until the pitched ball leaves the pitcher's hand. If the umpire determines that a base runner leaves early, the team will be given a warning. Any additional occurrences will result in the base runner being called OUT.
Steals	Base runners may steal or advance to any base, including home plate. Base runners may not leave their base until the pitched ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
Steals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A runner may steal home. ✓ Stealing only on the release from the pitcher.
Infield Fly	Infield fly rule is in effect for 12U.
Dropped 3rd Strike	The dropped third strike is in effect for 12U.
Automatic Outs	Coaches may not touch or assist a player between the bases during a play. This is an automatic out.
Head-First Slides	Head first slides are permitted.
Courtesy Runner	A team may substitute a courtesy runner for the catcher on base with two outs. This applies to the catcher who will play the position in the following inning. The catcher must catch the entire inning.
Overthrows	Overthrows that land in out of play territory shall result in the base runner(s) advancing two (2) bases from the time the ball was thrown.
Close Plays	On close plays at any base, baserunners must make an attempt to avoid contact when a tag is waiting. Malicious contact will not be allowed and will result in an ejection.
Extra Innings	California Rules apply. The last completed at bat starts at 2nd Base with no outs.
Minimum Number of Players	Any runner sustaining an injury while running will be replaced on base by the last completed at bat.
Player Injury	The minimum number of players to start and finish a game is eight (8). There will be an automatic out in the ninth batting position.
Injured Baserunner	Any player that is removed from the game will not have his/her place in the batting order result in an automatic out, unless this leaves the team with less than nine (9) players. Each batter following a removed player will move up in the batting order.
Batting Order	Teams may bat their entire roster if they wish. Teams must bat at least 12 players from their roster if they are present for the game. If a team has more than 12 players present for a game, they may choose 12 players to play in the game, but the remaining players not in their lineup may not play in the game defensively or offensively.
Batting Rotation	If a player is injured or becomes ill and cannot bat, they will not take an out for their missed turn at bat. If the player misses their turn at bat due to injury or illness, they may re-enter the batting order their next time at bat.
Bat Size Requirements	Teams are entitled to use the bats of their choice.