## **Bubble Series Tournament Rules**

We will be playing with USA Softball rules with the modifications listed below.

#### **Intentional Walks:**

All pitches including a pitch-out must be legally pitched to the catcher and ball is live

## **Courtesy Runner:**

Courtesy runners must first be utilized first by an eligible sub that has not been entered into the game at any capacity. The sub utilized is tied to the position of the courtesy (for example, if the runner runs for the pitcher, they can only run for the pitcher position and not the catching position as well). If there are no more subs available or if the team did not list any subs due to batting the entire roster, then the last recorded out may be used as the courtesy runner.

# **Lineup Modifications:**

This is a free defensive substitution event as we want to give as many girls as possible the opportunity to get early season reps. You are required however to maintain the integrity of your batting lineup throughout the event, so you will need to submit a lineup card to the umpire and opposing team. You may choose any combination of options that include multiple EP's, a DP/Flex, etc. If you list a flex, they must be on the field defensively at all times or else it will count as a substitution. Positionally, the only ones that require being listed on the lineup card are the starting pitcher and catcher, and DP/Flex if you choose to utilize one.

## THIS IS A NO PROTEST EVENT

## **Rosters:**

You will be required to submit rosters for this event prior to the start of your first game through tourney machine. All athletes are required to be age eligible for the division(s) that they play in based upon the USA Softball September 1 date of age.

## **USA Softball:**

All teams will be required to have a team submitted and all coaches must complete background checks and SafeSport through USA Softball at registerusasoftball.com. Individual players are not required to complete USA Softball registration but can be subject to a birth certificate check at any time.

## **Game Balls:**

We will be providing game balls. Please have players, parents, and coaches on top of retrieval of foul balls and ensure that all game balls get returned. We hope that we can get all of our game balls back at the end of the tournament, so if they get scuffed or damaged please return them to the scoring table to be traded in for a new one. All fields will start with 3 balls to be replaced only as needed.

## **Score Reporting:**

Please have the winning team report scores to the scoring table immediately following the game to allow a speedy relay of standings.

#### Tie Breakers:

This is a round robin style tournament so games may end in a tie.

## **Run Rules:**

The run rule for this event will be 12 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings.

#### **Game Times:**

The game times for all games of this tournament will be 75 minutes drop dead finish the batter. Please make sure to enter and exit fields in a timely fashion so that we can run on time. Scores will be final at the time of the drop dead.

## Home and Away:

Home and away will be predetermined on your schedule for pool play. This is to speed up the time in between games to ensure we stay on schedule. Please still engage in a brief plate meeting to exchange lineups and start the clock.

## **Zero Tolerance:**

There will be zero tolerance for verbal abuse of staff, umpires, coaches, or players. Failure to abide by this policy will result in dismissal from the facility with possible forfeiture of games or future participation.

## **Seeding Rules:**

Eventuality of Tie (Same Pool) 1. Win/Loss Record, 2. Head to Head, 3. Total Run Differential, 4. Runs scored, 5. Runs allowed, 6. Coin Flip

## **Umpires:**

Umpires for this event will be running as a one man crew. Please be understanding of their limitations and treat them with the upmost respect. Coaches will be asked to participate in a brief umpire survey upon completion of the games in order to reward our umpires for their performance!

## **Act of God Refund Policy:**

If an event is lost due to weather or any Act of God the entry fee will be refunded via check minus a 20% administration fee. If one game is played you will receive 70% of the registration fee. If two games are played, you will receive 50% of the registration fee. If three or more games are played there is no refund.

## **Bubble Specific Rules:**

If a ball hits the ceiling or lights in a location that the umpire determines to be fair territory, the first offense of the at bat will be a dead ball, foul. The second time it happens in an at bat, the batter will be called out.

The basketball court area will be utilized as a warmup area for all teams. In this area, permitted activities include stretching, playing catch, and hitting of whiffle balls, heavy balls, etc as well as

hitting into a net. Pitching and ground ball fielding warmups must be performed in designated areas of the turf area as to protect the court flooring. Please make sure all teams warming up have adequate warmup space.

Spectators and athletes/coaches that are not currently participating in the game will be required to enter the turf space through the opening behind left field of field 1. They will not be permitted to walk through the dugout space on the first base side of field 1

There is no outside food permitted inside the bubble. Upon arrival, patrons could be subject to bag inspection. There will also be a \$5 per day