



2025 State Championships

TOURNAMENT RULES

The USA Fastpitch sanctions this tournament and will be conducted in accordance with the 2025 Official NHSF Rules, except as noted.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT: 3 pool into a double elimination bracket.

PLAYER VERIFICATION: Player eligibility is subject to verification at any time.

SAFETY: Only team players, coaches, scorekeeper, sponsor, and well-trained bat person are allowed in the dugout. Coaches are requested to ensure safety of all during pre-game warm-up outside the playing field.

DUGOUT ASSIGNMENT: The team who appears at the top of the game bracket will occupy first (1st) base. Exception: This will not apply in the case of a back-to-back game.

GAME TIME: Game time is forfeit time. Official game time will be kept by Plate Umpire.

LINE-UP: Teams will present a copy of their line-up to the Plate Umpire and opposing team manager during the pre-game conference. First and last name of each player, position number and uniform number must appear on the line-up.

During pool games, teams may bat the entire roster. For bracket games, NHSF batting lineup rules apply, with the following additions.

Teams opting not to bat their roster may utilize one EP and bat up to 10. They may also utilize the DP/Flex rule in addition to the EP; the flex player would be listed last. The EP may play anywhere on defense only if it is properly reported.

OPTIONS: Any option below may be used, in place of bat your roster.

1. Straight nine- Those nine can play any position on defense without reporting to the umpire.
2. DP/Flex- 10 players are listed on the line-up, but only 9 bat. The DP can bat for any player that you designate prior to the start of the game. That player is designated as the Flex and should be listed in the 10th spot on the line-up card. Any of the 10 players can play on defense.
3. EH/EP- This gives you the option to bat 10 players and any 9 can play defense. This player can be placed anywhere in the line-up.
4. DP/Flex and the EP/EH- This allows you to have 11 players listed on the lineup, only 10 will bat any 9 of these players can play defensively. The Flex is listed at the bottom of the lineup.

Teams that bat the lineup will utilize the last recorded out as a courtesy runner. Those who do not bat the lineup must use an eligible substitute.

HOME TEAM: A coin toss during the pre-game conference will determine home team.

TIME LIMIT: All pool games shall be 1 hour and 25 minutes to finish the inning. All bracket games will be 1 hour 25 minutes finish the inning.

** No new inning shall start after time limit has expired.

A ten (10) run rule after three innings, eight (8) run rule after four and six (6) run rule after five complete innings will be in effect throughout the tournament. The time limit and run rules shall apply for the Championship game as well.

PROTEST: All protests will be handled at the time of infraction by the UIC.

SMOKING: No smoking is permitted on the playing field, in the dugouts or in the stands.

ALCOHOL: No alcohol of any kind shall be permitted on the playing field, in the dugouts or in the stands.

WEATHER CONDITIONS: It is the team manager's responsibility to maintain contact with the Tournament Director in the event of weather or other delays. All games shall commence from the point of suspension on the field and at times determined by the Tournament Director.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT: Any team member or spectator who displays unsportsmanlike conduct (on or off the field) shall subject themselves and their team to forfeit the game, suspension from the tournament, and removal from the playing facilities. Managers are responsible for their players and spectators and are requested that all are made aware of this policy.

BATTING HELMETS: All batting helmets must have a face mask. Both helmet and mask must have NOCSAE approval.

COURTESY RUNNER: Courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers and catchers. If batting entire lineup, the last recorded out will be the courtesy runner.

EJECTIONS: Any coach or player ejected from a game shall be required to sit out the next game. Ejections can NOT be appealed.