



MINNESOTA SOFTBALL FALL STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

1. 8U please refer to your rules from summer.
2. Each team will pay a \$100 gate fee to the tournament host before their first game.
3. **ROSTERS:** We are using online rosters. The only players that can participate in the state tournament will be on your online roster on your team page. An eligibility protest will require a \$200 cash deposit to the tournament director. A successful protest will result in a refund.
4. Lineup rules for Fall State:
 - 10U/12U – bat all your players. If you reduce a player there is no penalty until you reduce below nine (9) batters. If you reduce to eight batters (8), the ninth position is an out. If you reduce to seven batters (7), the game is over.
 - 14U/16U/18U – you have the option to bat as many players as you want or go 9/DP/Flex. If you reduce a player there is no penalty until you reduce below nine (9) batters. If you reduce to eight (8) batters, the ninth position is an out. If you reduce to seven batters (7), the game is over. You must declare how many players you are using before the game to the umpire and the opposing coach.
5. The home team is determined by flip of coin at the pre-game meeting.
6. Games are scheduled every 1 hour and 30 minutes or 90 minutes. Games are 1 hour 10 minutes or 70 minutes. No new inning will start after 70 minutes.
7. The run ahead rule is, fifteen (15) runs ahead after three (3) innings, twelve (12) runs ahead after four (4) innings, and eight (8) runs ahead after five (5) innings.
8. 10U will only be allowed to score five (5) runs per half inning.
9. **DROPPED THIRD STRIKE:** If a third strike is caught, missed, or dropped, the batter shall be out. On-base runners may advance at their own risk. Tiers using this rule will be designated on the 10-Under state tournament webpage
10. Courtesy runner for catchers and pitchers will be the last out unless the last out is coming up to bat then it would be the last batter crossing the plate.
11. Tie Breaker Rule: The offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number five batter is the leadoff batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner if that player is a pitcher or catcher).
EXCEPTION: For 10U the inning will start with two (2) outs and a runner on second base.
12. All rule protests will be handled by the umpire on the field.
13. All other rules are governed by the USA Softball rule book.

