

Bridgewater Softball

Tournament Rules

Tournaments are Pay-At-The-Plate format

ALL Games are scheduled with two umpires – fees are \$70 per team per game, including finals

If a game needs to be played with one umpire - \$50 per team per game

Please check in 30 minutes prior to your first game. Teams will need to show proof of insurance and have copies of birth certificates on hand for any challenges.

We are using ASA rules for this tournament for all ages with the following exceptions included in this document. Regardless, the umpire decision is the final decision.

There will be no pre-game warm-up allowed on infields in front of the baselines. Pitchers may use the foul line between first and third.

Please arrive to all games 15 minutes prior to game time and be prepared to start play.

Metal cleats are permitted at 14u, 16U and 18u levels.

Tournament Format

3 game pool play to determine seeding for single elimination

Time Limit & International Tiebreaker (ITB)

Pool play (Friday/Saturday) - No new inning will begin after 80 minutes. Ties are allowed in pool play.

International Tiebreaker is possible in Pool games if the last inning is played and time remains on the game clock. ITB will begin after the 7th inning for 12U – 18U, and the 6th inning for 10U

Play-off games (Sunday) – No new inning will begin after 90 minutes.

Mercy rules apply for all games.

All timed play-off games must go to International Tie Breaker rule (ITB) after the 7th inning (6th inning for 10U) or at the discretion of the umpire, as in the case if time is running out

The umpire will keep the game clock. It is the umpire's responsibility to record the start time and to

announce it to both teams. Failure of the umpire to make such announcement, however, does not change the games official start time

Home Field

For all pool games a flip of a coin determines the option of home or away – Farthest traveling team calls it.

For all elimination games, higher seed may choose Home or Away. If two seeds are tied, e.g. B3 vs C3, a coin flip decides.

Pitching Distances

10U – 35 feet

12U – 40 feet

14U, 16U, and 18U – 43 feet

Run Ahead Rules

AS FOLLOWS WILL BE IN PLACE FOR ALL GAMES:

12 Runs after three (3) Innings.

10 Runs after four (4) Innings.

8 Runs after five (5) Innings.

5 run rule 10u division - Can only score 5 runs per inning, any inning, including the last.

Fielding

12U - 18U: 9 players in the field

10U: 10 players may be allowed (only if agreed by both teams)

All ages can play w/ a minimum of 8 players

Batting

Following options are all acceptable:

1) Teams can choose to bat their entire line-up. If batting entire line-up, then all players must bat. Any late arriving players may be inserted into the end of the batting order, up until the top of the lineup has had a second plate appearance. If a player leaves the game early or is injured and can't continue, then her spot in the batting order is an out.

2) Other options are: Teams may elect to bat 9 players (with option of using DP/Flex). Or teams may bat 10 players by utilizing an EH.

Before the game starts Coaches tell the umpire on the field which batting option they will be using. The umpire makes the final decision on rules.

10U - NO fake bunting and swinging away. Once, you offer a bunt you only have (2) options, to bunt or pull back the bunt. Warnings and possible ejection of players and coaches will be issued for swinging away on fake bunts.

Fake bunting and swinging away is allowed **12U - 18U**.

Stealing and Base Running

12u - 18u - All bases can be stolen. Plus, batters can advance to first on dropped third strike.

10u - Only 3rd base can be stolen. If the runner does advance to 2nd or home, then the umpire sends back the runner. No advancing to next base on pick off attempts from catcher. No advancing to first on dropped third strike.

Leading – base runners may leave the base once the ball is released from the pitcher's hand in **all divisions**

Infield fly rule is not in effect for 10u

Courtesy Runners

- Courtesy runners are allowed for pitchers and catchers at any time.
- The courtesy runner is a substitute not in the game (if not batting entire line-up), or the last batted out (if batting entire line-up). Or an injured player that has been identified and agreed to by both coaches and umpires
- The pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position.

Weather and refunds

Inclement Weather – in the event of inclement weather it may be necessary to play shortened games or to adopt an alternate format for the tournament. Information will be e-mailed to the address used to register team. **We reserve the right to change the tournament format as needed.**

We respectfully reserve the right to adjust the rules, schedules, brackets, and field locations if necessary, in order to complete the tournament. Every attempt will be made to honor the game minimum – however, if a situation develops where a team forfeits or the weather does not cooperate, every attempt possible will be made to reschedule games, shorten games, or cancel games, to complete the tournament.

Games where the trailing team has had a minimum of 3 at-bats is considered a complete game.

Two games played are considered a complete tournament. In the event of a total rainout, registration fees will be refunded less a \$100 admin fee per team to cover fixed costs. Teams playing one game will receive a 50% refund. **Teams forfeiting or withdrawing from tournament are not eligible for refunds and may be asked to cover umpire fees.**

Speed up Rules and Rules encouraging fair play WILL APPLY

- To get in a full 6 or 7 innings of play, a pitcher will receive 5 warm ups the first inning, 3 every inning thereafter. A new pitcher will receive 5 warm ups.
- Only one trip to the mound is allowed per inning, per pitcher, all subsequent trips in the inning must be to remove the pitcher from pitching.
- Stalling will not be tolerated as determined by the umpire – if so determined; the umpire may override the time limit if a team is determined to be intentionally stalling.

Score Reporting

UMPIRES will report the scores to the registration table attendant, who will then record the games results. Managers are encouraged to confirm final scores at the end of games and at the registration table at the end of the day. NO CHALLENGES will be considered once the seedlings have been compiled.

The Umpire/UIC has the final say on all disputes.

Seedings

Seedings will be available on Tourney Machine as soon as the last score in the age group has been entered. There is no need to call or email.

Sunday seedings will be determined by brackets:

- Overall record
- Head to head (applies only in the case of a two-team tie, and those two teams played each other)
- Fewest runs against
- Greater run differential
- Coin flip
- If an age divisions has 8 or 12 teams, then teams will be seeded based on results within their

bracket. This is to allow your team to play a different team on Sunday (see Sunday schedule)

- **All other age divisions, teams will be seeded as one group (see Sunday Schedule).**

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

Game time is forfeit time – to be enforced by the game official (umpire) and/or at the tournament director's discretion. In rain / inclement weather situations, please do not leave the fields as the schedule may be adjusted without prior notice. ☹

Umpires decisions are final. There are no protests allowed.

Please do not impede the progress of the game – any signs of poor sportsmanship, actions that demean opposing players, fans, or the umpire may be grounds for the offender(s) to be removed permanently from the game and premises . . . and, if serious, the possibility of their team even forfeiting the game. **Any coach/player ejected from a ball game by an official, will also be suspended from the team's next game (at the least) – with further penalty if warranted.**

Alcohol is forbidden at ALL complexes.

There is no smoking allowed at any park.

Teams are responsible for CLEANING out their dugout! PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING BEHIND and put all trash in the proper containers or bag. WE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN PROPERTY! **Please have the girls, coaches, and parents clean up after themselves.**

All teams are to present a copy of their lineup to the umpire and opposing coach at least 5-minutes prior to their scheduled start time.

Getting There:

It is highly suggested that you view the map ahead of time and see parking options and field locations for NB 1-3 and PR4 fields

<http://leagueathletics.com/Page.asp?n=88139&org=BRIDGEWATERBASEBALL.COM>

GPS addresses:

- North Bridge 1&2 (NB 1-2) - 1357 Prince Rodgers Ave, Bridgewater NJ 08807
- North Bridge 3 (NB 3) - 962 Sussex St, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
- Prince Rogers field #4 (PR 4) -140 Federal Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

look for small, sign off Prince Rogers Ave. that reads "PRC field 4 and 5"

-Chimney Rock (CR 1-4) 748 Chimney Rock Rd, Martinsville, NJ 08836

Please keep in mind that this tournament is intended to be for the enjoyment and development of the players.

Players and their parents take their lead from the team's coaches.

You are their role model.

Tournament Directors:

Dominick Mazzagatti
On-site Director
908-625-8322

Rob Morrison
Administrative Director
908-377-3105