



Presents



Stateline Showdown Tournament Rules 2026

1. All games will be played in accordance with the current **2026 USA Softball Participant Manual**, except where modified by these supplemental rules for the **10U, 12U, and 14U** divisions.
2. Please refer to the **2026 NorCal Tournament Special Rules** for the **8U** division [NorCal 8U tournament Rules](#)
3. All USA Softball team managers, coaches, and volunteers assisting with youth teams on the field or in the dugout must be currently registered with USA Softball and have a valid **2026 Background Check** and **SafeSport certification** before entering the field of play. Printed coach cards must be presented at check-in to receive a wristband. Wristbands must be worn each day and remain visible at all times. One wristband color will be used for the tournament.
4. Each team will play three (3) pool games on Friday/Saturday and Sunday is a single elimination bracket play (4 game guarantee).
5. There is a 75 minute *finish the inning* time limit for all games or 7 innings whichever comes first. Time begins at the first warm up pitch.
6. On Friday/Saturday pool play, games can end in a tie.
7. USA Softball tiebreaker rule will be used on Sunday, after time has expired or after 7 innings, until there is a winner.
8. A modified run rule will be in effect for **all games, including championship games: 12 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings.**
9. All championship bracket games will consist of **7 innings or a 90-minute time limit, whichever occurs first.** The modified run rule will remain in effect.
10. Game time is forfeit time.
11. There is no infield practice.
12. Team listed first on schedule will occupy the 3rd base dugout. Teams playing back to back games shall remain in the same dugout if they are on the same field.
13. Home team will be determined by a coin toss during Friday/Saturday pool play. During elimination play on Sunday, the higher seed will be the home team.
14. **No protests. The umpire's decisions are final.**

15. The home team is the official scorekeeper for each game and is responsible for completing the official scorecard and obtaining the umpire's signature following the game. The completed scorecard must be returned to the Home Plate Umpire or Tournament Headquarters for score reporting.
16. All lineup changes must go through the umpire. Continuous batting lineup may be used for Friday/Saturday pool play & bracket play. DP/Flex may also be used.
17. Courtesy runners for pitcher/catcher (only) may be either the last out in the lineup or a substitute off the bench.
18. 8C & 10C divisions may field 10 players (four outfielders).
19. Sunday seedings will be based on a point system. 10 points for a win, 5 points for a tie, and 0 points for a loss.
20. If point system results in a tie, seeding for single elimination will be based on the following order:
 - a. Win/Loss Record
 - b. Head to Head Record
 - c. Runs Allowed (RA)
 - d. Runs Scored (RS)
 - e. Coin Toss

Note: if you have a fourth pool game, our system will randomly remove one game when creating the bracket play seeding.

21. Game times and fields are subject to change by the tournament director. Check our schedule! Weather conditions may impact our scheduling!
22. Teams will be allowed to bring coolers for the dugout. Please clean up after your game.
23. Dogs are permitted on leash as per park rules. Please clean up after your pet.
24. The tournament director at any time has the authority to make the final decision in any dispute and the authority to make changes to benefit and better the tournament.
25. No artificial noisemakers of any kind will be allowed.
26. Walk-up music is permitted; however, the volume must be kept at a reasonable level and must not be disruptive or interfere with game play. If deemed an annoyance, umpire and/or tournament official may have it removed.
27. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are strictly prohibited at the facilities, parking lots, and adjacent areas. It is the responsibility of the coaches to ensure that the parents are aware of these rules. Failure to comply with this may result in immediate ejection of the team for the remainder of the tournament and the loss of eligibility for future tournaments.
28. **LASTLY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY**, sportsmanship is of the utmost importance. Any player, coach or spectator who exhibits behavior deemed unsportsmanlike by either the umpires or tournament officials may be asked to leave the premises. Failure to comply with these decisions may result in immediate ejection of the team for the remainder of the tournament and the loss of eligibility for future NorCal tournaments.

USA Softball of Northern California thanks you for attending our tournament and hope you have a great time!