

2012 NAFA Topeka World Series Tournament Rules

Tournament Rules Protest Committee: Benjie Hedgecock, Executive Director, Robert Hernandez, Tournament Director, Carley Parish & Pete Davis, Umpire-In-Chief's, Mike Watson, Tournament Director. THE UIC and 1 of the others listed above must hear any protest and it must be made for the next pitch legal or illegal on rules and not on judgment.

Player and Team Roster Protest Committee: Benjie Hedgecock, Executive Director, Robert Hernandez, VP, Mike Watson, VP, Ronn Kopp, President, Loren Lathrop, VP, Jon Kegel, VP, Mike Clark, Executive Committee.

NAFA Golden Rule: Games are won and lost between the white lines. Great Fastpitch teams don't rely on technical rule interpretations and rule or procedure manipulations to win. Great teams win with great athletes exhibiting fine sportsmanship. Always treat your opponents and the officials with the same mutual respect that we all desire. Play by the NAFA Golden Rule, and we will have a great organization and World Series. I.E. UNANNOUNCED/UNREPORTED SUBSTITUTE: **If a substitute fails to report, the substitute is legally in the game when: he enters the batter's box and a pitch is thrown or declared (illegal), he replaces a player on base or he takes a defensive position. There is no penalty.**
EJECTIONS and BEHAVIOR: Profanity of any kind will not be tolerated. The umpire has the choice to warn, or eject a player or team for profanity. If you are ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior prior to the 6th inning you are only ejected for the remainder of that game. If you are ejected in the 6th inning or later, you are ejected for the next game as well as the remainder of that game you got ejected in.

1-Tournament Rules Order: These tournament rules are the first priority in regards to a rulebook. The second priority is any decision made by the Tournament Committee in relation to an item not addressed in these exceptions. The Third priority is the NAFA Rule book for any item not specifically covered in these rule exceptions and not ruled on by the Tournament Committee.

2-No courtesy runners. No Tie breakers, No Time Limits in the regular World Series.

3-UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT: All players must be in like uniforms with a number on the jersey. Each player must wear a hat. The catcher must wear a protective mask and throat protector. Batters and base runners must wear a helmet (preferable NOCSAE approved) with double ear-flaps. Metal Cleats are allowed. The Official bat list is included and is listed on the website.

4-A team consists of (8), 9 players or (10 with the DB/DS Rule). You must have 8 players to start and finish a game or it is a forfeit. If you start with 8 you must take an out in the 9th spot in the batting order. **Shorthanded rule.** You may finish with less than you started with by taking an out in the lineup for the person that is dropped due to injury or illness. You may NOT drop a person due to an ejection.

5-THE RUN RULE: 10 Run Rule after 4, 7 run rule in the 5th inning and later.

6-LEADING OFF Baserunners may leave the base when the ball leaves the pitchers hand. Penalty: Dead Ball, No Pitch, runner is out.

7-ON DECK: The on deck batter may use either on deck circle as long as he is behind the batter when using the opposite circle.

8-REENTRY: Only the starting players including the DB and DS(see note) (providing you stay at 10 players), may leave the game and re-enter one time. The Starting players must occupy the same batting position in the lineup. **NOTE: Substitutes may not re-enter and once the DS bats, he loses his reentry privilege.**

9-NAFA DB (DESIGNATED BATTER) & DS (DEFENSIVE SPECIALIST) RULE(SEE Explanation Sheet)

10-PITCHING: The pitcher must start with one foot on the pitching plate. The pitcher may lift his foot above the pitching plate as long as he sets it back down on the plate prior to leaping. Leaping is legal as long as the pitcher does not replant and push off again from the back foot. A Crow hop is a step in front of the plate and is illegal whether the pitching has a traditional style or leaping style. PENALTY: Delayed dead ball, ball on the batter, There is no advancement of runners penalty unless forced by a walk on the batter. The offense gets the choice of the result of the play or the illegal pitch penalty. Pitching Warm-ups. Five (5) pitches to start the game and Three (3) between innings. Five (5) for any new pitchers.

Pertinent Information about Coin Toss, Dugouts, Lineup Cards:

- Lineup cards are in the Coaches Packets and are due at the coin toss.
- Balls, additional lineup cards and the double coin toss for home and visitor will be controlled by the NAFA Rep at the Bracket Board, 30 minutes prior to the start of each round of games at the Bracket Board.
- The team at the top of the bracket will take the 3rd base dugout unless a team is staying for back-to-back games.
- The tournament committee reserves the right to change any aspect of this event that they see fit including field assignments especially to protect teams playing in multiple classes and for sun fields, game times, playing rules, behavioral exceptions, **limiting players to non-pitching roles** and **disqualifying players from pitching or playing** if in their sole judgment it is determined to be beneficial to the event.
- Team medical and liability insurance is the responsibility of each individual team and player and spectator in the event. Each player and coach waives their right to sue any NAFA official and agrees to hold harmless both NAFA and all host cities. Each player by taking the field, and each spectator by entering the park, or anyone parking their car near a park understands and agrees that the game of Fastpitch softball is a dangerous athletic activity and that it can cause serious injury and even death in rare occasions to participants and spectators and harm to their cars or property.