

**RULES GOVERNING THE 43rd ANNUAL 2017 MONROE COUNTY FAIR
12U ALL STAR SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**

Tournament director Jim Kitchen phone 734-819-8345 or email mcfballtournament@yahoo.com

Team entry fee is \$250, due by June 16, 2017. Send checks payable to the Monroe County Fair Association to (Mailing address): 3775 S. Custer Rd. Monroe MI 48161. **After June 16, 2017 there will be a late fee of \$25.00. The entry fee (\$250) plus late fee (\$25) is due no later than June 23, 2017. NO ENTRIES will be accepted after June 23, 2017**

The purpose of this tournament is so youth in the county summer recreation programs can represent the community they are competing in as All Stars. This should be looked at as a reward for having a good season in their in-house leagues.

1. National Federation High School Softball Rules apply when not covered by the following:
2. Age limit of players will be twelve (12) years old. A player may not turn thirteen (13) years of age before January 1, 2017.
3. Every local summer recreation program is entitled to have one team entry in this tournament
4. Teams will represent local summer recreation programs in Monroe County.
5. Teams are to be composed of All Star Players registered and competing in the township/city in-house summer leagues they are representing.
6. **At the start of the Softball Tournament, coaches must have in their possession a copy of the team rosters of all eligible competing players. This roster must be dated June 10, 2017 or before. If there is a challenge concerning a player's eligibility, the player(s) in question will not be allowed to play until the roster is produced and the player(s) is/are verified.**
7. **All coaches must have copies of recorded date of birth for all players. This could be a birth certificate, passport or church baptism. If a birth certificate cannot be produced for a player in question, that player cannot play until it is produced and verified. These will not be turned in to tournament officials as in the past.**
8. Each player must have a parent consent form signed by a parent or legal guardian. The parent consent forms must be turned in to the tournament officials at least 15 minutes prior to the player's first game. This condition must be met before a player can compete.
9. Team rosters consist of no more than fourteen (14) players. Team rosters must be submitted to tournament officials at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time of the team's first game. No changes to the roster are allowed after it has been submitted to the tournament officials.
10. The manager or coach from each team **must turn in a lineup card to the official scorekeeper and opposing team fifteen (15) minutes prior to their scheduled game time.** Batting order with uniform numbers, player's first and last name, defensive position and any substitutes must be included on the lineup card. Lineup cards will be provided by the tournament officials. The white copy is for the scorekeeper and the other is for the opposing team. *Any changes made after the sheet is turned in will constitute a player change.*
11. **ON GAME DAY, THERE IS NO PRACTICE ON THE FIELD.** This includes catch. Soft toss is prohibited against any fence in the area. Teams may practice and play catch in the area beyond the homerun fence only.
12. Each game is six (6) innings in length unless time limit or mercy occur. Each game will have a 1 hour and 45 minute time limit. The time of the game will start when the pitcher throws the first pitch of the game. When the game is tied after 6 innings of play the tie breaker will be used. **TIE BREAKER:** The last batter in the 6th inning will start the 7th inning on second base for each half of the inning. As long as the game remains tied each ½ inning will begin with the last batter of the previous inning on second base until a winner is determined.

13. No new inning will start after the 1 hour and 45 minute time limit expires, unless the game is tied. The tie breaker will be used to determine a winner.
14. Games which are started and are later called off by weather conditions or darkness and are not resumed the same day will be treated in the following manner: The completion of 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead or 4 innings if the visiting team is ahead will be a complete game. If this condition isn't met and if the game is tied after four (4) innings of play the game will resume at the exact point of the interruption.
15. All bats used must be Official Softball Approved bats. The bat may not have a diameter of more than 2 1/4 inches and not longer than 33 inches in length
16. A pitcher may pitch a total of nine (9) *consecutive outs per game*. Once the pitcher is removed from the position of pitcher the player is ineligible to pitch again in the game. The player can play any other position providing free substitution rules are followed. The exception to this rule is for the player pitching when his team makes the eighteenth (18) out. He may continue into extra innings as long as necessary. Once she is pulled as pitcher the rule reverts back to 9 consecutive outs per pitcher.
17. Stealing is allowed. A base runner may leave the base once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. The moment the ball leaves the hand will be at the discretion of the umpire. The base runner leaving the base early will be called out.
18. Running on dropped third strike is prohibited.
19. Nine (9) players will be used in the field at one time. A tenth player may be used as an extra player to be inserted anywhere in the batting order. This must be done before the start of the game.
20. If a player is ejected from the game, the player is out for the remainder of that game only. If the same player is ejected from another game during the tournament the situation will be reviewed by the tournament officials.
21. If an injury occurs and there are no eligible players left as substitutes, any player can re-enter the game regardless of the batting order. **THIS RULE DOES NOT APPLY WHEN A PLAYER IS EJECTED FROM THE GAME.**
22. Mercy rule is as follows: 15 runs ahead after 3 innings or 10 runs ahead after four innings of play
23. Courtesy runner may be used for the catcher only and can be inserted at any time. The runner must be a player not currently in the game.
24. The team on the top line of the game bracket will use the dugout on the first base side of the field. The team on the bottom line will use the dugout on the third base side of the field. This is for individual game brackets. The only exception is when one or both teams have competed in the previous games.
25. Home team will be decided with a coin flip before the start of the game.
26. Protests can be made only on tournament rule interpretations. Interpretations will be decided by the tournament officials.
27. The appeal play will not be used. Umpires will make calls on missed bases, leaving early, etc.
28. Designated hitter is prohibited.
29. Infield dimensions: Bases are sixty (60) feet apart. Distance from pitching plate to home plate is forty (40) feet.
30. As stated in the High School rules, helmets must be worn by the offensive team while on the field of play at all times.
31. Two umpires are scheduled for each game. Only one umpire is required.
32. Steel cleats or spikes are prohibited.
33. Any situation not covered by the previous or High School baseball Rules will be reviewed by the tournament officials and a decision will be rendered.