

ASA Summer Heat Rules

Official 2009 ASA Fast Pitch rules apply except as noted. **Teams must be ASA sanctioned and rostered. Team managers must check-in with the field director about 1 hour prior to the team's first game.**

In case of weather or other related questions, please contact the field director, Glen Warholic at 443-745-3177. Please limit calls to one person per team to preserve battery life.

Every attempt will be made to honor the 4 game guarantee, however if a situation develops and teams forfeit or the weather does not cooperate, the Tournament Director will attempt to reschedule games, shorten games, and/or cancel games to complete the tournament. The Tournament is considered complete when 40% of the games have been played and trophies will be awarded to the winners based on the rule for breaking ties.

Forfeit time is the scheduled game time unless teams are moving from another field location and playing in the immediate time slot before the scheduled game. **Teams should be ready to play 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game time.**

Time limit for all pool games is 1 hour and 20 minutes after which no new inning may start. A new inning starts immediately upon the recording of the third out in the bottom of the inning.

Time limit for all elimination games (**except the Championship games**) is 1 hour and 30 minutes after which no new inning may start. **Championship Games for each age group have no time limit, but run ahead rules still apply.**

No international Tie Breaker will be used during pool play.

International Tie Breaker (ITB) will only be used for single elimination games when a game ends in a tie (due to either 7 innings being played or the time expiring). If a single elimination game is tied after 7 innings or the time has expired, each additional inning will be played using the International Tie Breaker. 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 (i.e. , if the number 5 batter is the lead-off batter, the number 4 batter in the batting order will be placed on second base.

Order for determining single elimination seed positions, and if necessary, the tournament winners:

The order of finish will be determined by an average point system, whereby two points are awarded for each win, 1 point for each tie and no points for a loss. Teams are ordered by the average points earned per game played. To break ties, the following are used in order:

- a) head to head (only applies when two teams are tied)
- b) lowest average runs allowed per game played
- c) head to head (only if two teams remain after tiebreaker "b")
- d) highest average runs scored per game played
- e) head to head (only if two teams remain after tiebreaker "d")
- f) number of wins

g) coin toss

Note 1: A team will receive two points as a result of winning by forfeit and the score will be recorded as 7-0 in favor of the non-forfeiting team. This score will be factored into the runs allowed and scored by the teams involved.

Note 2: Once a tie is broken such as in the case where more than 2 teams were tied, the tiebreaker order is reset to the top.

Note 3: Games that have not been played to a regulation completion do not count toward any of the tiebreakers above. This may not necessarily mean seven innings. If this is considered a regulation game by the ASA rulebook (lossign team has completed 5 innings of batting), then the game will count.

It is the responsibility of the team manager to confirm with the field director where their team is seeded into bracket play and when they play their first bracket game. All games will be subject to the Run Ahead Rule.

Eight (8) runs after 5 innings, ten (10) runs after 4 innings, and twelve (12) runs after 3 innings will be used. Losing team must complete their offensive half an inning in which the rule is invoked.

In the spirit of this tournament and to get players playing time the use of up to 2 extra hitters will be allowed. These hitters may be moved in and out of a defensive position just like moving players field position. Note that if a player gets hurt and cannot continue and the team does not have a substitute, the team will take an out for any "open" spot in the batting order.

A courtesy runner is allowed for the pitcher and catcher. The courtesy runner must be a player who is not in the game or has participated in the game in any other way. The courtesy runner may not run for both the pitcher and catcher in the same game. The courtesy runner may not run for the DP if the DP is batting for the pitcher or catcher.

Home team for all pool play games will be determined by a **coin flip** prior to the start of each game. **Home team for all elimination play games** will be determined by the **higher seed**.

The **home** team shall report the final and exact score to the site director for recording in all games not just pool play. Scores of all games will be posted at the tournament web site at the completion of the tournament.

No protests are allowed on an umpire's judgment call. The umpires, Tournament/Field Director and/or UIC will settle all protests on rule interpretations. **A \$100 cash fee is required immediately upon request for the protest.**

The stoppage of play due to weather is the decision of the umpires and the Tournament/Field Director. The Tournament/Field Director will make adjustments to the schedule to get the tournament played if weather dictates so.