

Beantown Softball League

Minuteman Classic 2018 Tournament Rules

There will be a managers meeting held during the Registration Party, however, all teams are expected to know and comply with all USA Softball rules and modifications outlined in these tournament rules. By completing registration, all registered players and non-players are in agreement. Direct your questions regarding the rules to the Tournament Director, Christopher Atwood, chrisa@minutemanclassic.com.

The Tournament will use USA Softball rules to govern Tournament play with these exceptions.

1. **Eligibility:**
 - a. Teams are under no obligation to have any percentage of male or female players.
 - b. The umpire shall determine what jewelry is allowable on the playing field.
 - c. The only uniform requirement is that all players on a team wear uniform shirts that are alike in color and style, possessing unique and visible numbers. There are no hat requirements. Outer garments required due to medical reason or inclement weather will be allowed with agreement from the opposing manager.
 - d. A player with prosthesis may use a wooden bat.
 - e. This League will adhere to the American Disabilities Act of July 25, 1990 as outlined by USA Softball.
 - f. All USA Softball approved bats may be used at all games played with a 44 core ball. No bat indicating it is "titanium" or "triple-walled" will be permitted.
2. **Registration:** All players, coaches, and managers must register by checking in with a valid form of identification and signing the tournament release form (i.e. registration book) prior to stepping on the field. No one is allowed on the field or in the dugouts (including score keepers, fans, etc.) without first signing the tournament release form.
 - a. Playing an unregistered player in any game will result in forfeit of the game and the unregistered player will be disqualified from continuing to play in the remainder of the tournament.
 - b. The registration book with the official team roster will be available at the Registration Party on Friday, and at fields on Saturday and Sunday approximately 1 hour prior to the first scheduled game.
3. **Playing Rules:**
 - a. Pitching Arc: The pitching arc is a minimum of 6 ft. and a maximum of 12 ft.
 - b. Home team
 - i. Round Robin: A double coin toss at the pre-game conference with the Umpire will determine the home team.

- ii. Double Elimination: the higher seed will be the home team for all games until the Championship game
 - iii. Championship game: the Winner's bracket team will be the home team
 - iv. "If" game: Double coin toss at the pre-game conference will determine the home team.
- c. Time Limit
- i. Round Robin: The game will end after 45 minutes has expired. Any play in progress will complete. Tie scores are allowed.
 - ii. Double Elimination: No new inning shall begin after 50 minutes unless the game is tied (see rule k below).
 - iii. The Umpire will begin the game clock at the conclusion of the pre-game meeting.
 - iv. Championship and "If" games: no time limit.
- d. The batter will start with a 1-ball 1-strike count for all games.
- e. No courtesy foul.
- f. Up to 2 extra hitters are permitted in the batting order.
- g. The official scorebook of the game will be that of the designated home team.
- h. Each team's scorekeeper will verify the number of runs scored with the umpire after each half inning.
- i. Forfeit Time is Game Time: A team not able to field at least nine (9) players at the game scheduled start time will forfeit that game; extenuating circumstances (playing on a different field, for example) will be taken into consideration. A forfeit may affect participation in remaining tournament games at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- j. If a 10th player arrives during the game they may join the game but he/she must have been listed on the line-up card provided to the umpire before the start of the game. The 10th position will be an out in the lineup until the position is filled.
- k. Courtesy Runners:
- i. Each team may use one courtesy runner per inning who may be ANY player on the line-up card.
 - ii. If a courtesy runner is on base when their turn at bat comes - the player who is being run for will be called out. The courtesy runner will be removed from the base and take their turn at bat.
 - iii. A second courtesy runner or a substitute is not allowed.
 - iv. A player needing a courtesy runner must take the replacement at the last base reached safely after their at-bat and before the first pitch to the next batter.
- l. USA Softball Run Ahead Rules will be enforced:
- i. 3 innings: 20 runs; 4 innings: 15 runs; 5 innings: 10 runs
- m. Tie games will go to a one-pitch format after the time limit has expired. The player last at bat will be the runner on 2nd base at the beginning of each inning. All other rules apply from that point.

4. Umpires:

- a. There will be no protest on any decision involving accuracy of judgment of the umpires.
- b. Protests on rule or procedural interpretations during a game must be made before the next pitch and will be decided upon before the game is allowed to continue. Protests on rule/procedures that occur at the end of the game must be made before the next game begins on that field.
- c. Ejections for any reason other than a non-approved bat may be extended beyond one game as determined by the Tournament Director, Tournament UIC or site UIC, based upon the severity of the offending behavior and risk to other individuals.

5. Equipment:

- a. The yellow optic color, red stitch 12-inch ball with a ball COR of .440 or under and a ball compression of 375.0 lbs or under will be used. Balls will be provided by the League.
- b. All bats must bear either the ASA 2000 certification mark or the ASA 2004 certification mark and MUST not be listed on the USA Softball Non-Approved Bat List.

6. Protests on Player Ratings/Eligibility

- a. Protests on player ratings or eligibility will require a \$200 cash fee, must be made before the end of the game and will be decided upon before either team continues play.
- b. The protest committee will be made up of any part of the following: tournament director, site director, tournament UIC, site UIC or any of their designees. If the protest is upheld the \$150 will be refunded and the rating challenged will be reported to NAGAAA. If the protest is denied the fee will be forfeited.