



Arkansas Tournament Rules

2024 Season

Updated 4/21/2023.

THESE RULES SHOULD BE USED BY ALL ARKANSAS TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Additional Individual Park Rules May Be Added

Any individual park rule changes must be clearly visible on the tournament sites web page.

For Rules not covered in the Arkansas State rules, please refer to the USSSA National By-Laws and MLB rules.

ENTRY FEE PAYMENT POLICY:

ALL tournament entry fees are required to be Paid Online at USSSA.com. If you are NOT PAID, you will not be included in the brackets. NO TEAM WILL BE ALLOWED TO PLAY UNTIL ALL PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. If you back out of an event after the Monday at 11:59pm, deadline you will be responsible for the entry fee.

DOUBLE BOOKING:

ANY TEAMS THAT DOUBLE BOOKS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BOTH ENTRY FEES AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY UNTIL THEY ARE PAID. YOU MUST EMAIL THE DIRECTOR AND REMOVE YOUR TEAM BEFORE ENTERING ANOTHER. YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED DOUBLE BOOKED IF YOU ARE IN MORE THEN ONE EVENT PRIOR TO 11:59 PM ON THE MONDAY BEFORE THE EVENT.

GATE FEE:

The Gate fee for a qualifier, NIT or Global tournament is \$5.00 to \$7.00 for ages 12 and over and \$5.00 for ages 11 and under.

The Gate fee for a one-day event is \$8.00 - \$10.00 for 12 and up and \$5.00 for 11 and under.

The Gate fee for state tournament is \$8.00 - \$10.00 for 12 and up and \$5.00 for 11 and under.

Team Gate fee for a qualifier, NIT or Global tournament is \$250.00 to \$300.00.

Team Gate fee for all State tournaments is \$350.00 to \$525.00.

REFUND POLICY:

If you have paid your tournament entry fee and the tournament is canceled due lack of teams, you will receive a FULL refund. If you pull out of the tournament after the Monday prior to the start of event or you are a “no show” you will receive NO refund.

RAIN OUT REFUND POLICY:

If a TEAM has played:

NO games – 90% REFUND

ONE game – HALF REFUND

TWO games or more – NO REFUND

It is the team Managers responsibility to contact the tournament director for rain out information. Information should be posted on the city’s website. The tournament director cannot be expected to contact each team if a tournament is rain out.

In case of rain the tournament director, with the assistance of the state director, has the right to modify or amend the tournament in order to finish the event and award points.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

GOOD sportsmanship is expected by players, coaches, and fans at all times. Razzing, heckling, chanting, or making rude remarks towards opponents is strictly prohibited. Unruly coaches, fans or players can be removed from the park for the duration of the game. Any Coach, Player or fan using loud OBSCENE LANGUAGE WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE GAME if severe enough they will also have to sit out the following game. Each Park and or Tournament Director has the right to ban Boom Boxes or any loud noise makers.

ANY COACH OR FAN THAT IS CONSISTENTLY EJECTED FROM THE GAME CAN BE SUSPENDED UP TO 1 FULL SEASON

Directors have the right to refuse entry to any team.

GAME TIME LIMITS:

6 – 8u 6 innings / 1 hour 15 min

9 – 12u 6 innings /1 hour 30 min

13 and over 7 innings /1 hour 30 min

Championship games can either be played out to the complete number of innings allowed in their age group or have time a limit of: 8U and below of 1 hour and 30 min or 9U to 15U of 2 hours.

RUN RULES:

6 Innings 15 runs 3rd Inning.

6 Innings 8 runs 4th Inning.

7 Innings 15 runs 3rd Inning.

7 Innings 12 runs 4th Inning.

7 Innings 8 runs 5th Inning.

If a team is 20 runs ahead after the competition of the 1st inning the game is automatically over.

The 20-run rule does not apply to any events played outside of Arkansas, or the Fall or Spring State Championships or any World Series.

FORFEITS:

All forfeits must be approved by the State Director.

1. If a team forfeits for any reason other than pitching, they are removed from the event and they cannot continue in the event.
2. If a team forfeits for a pitching violation in pool play or in the winner's bracket of elimination play, the game will be recorded as a forfeit and the team will be moved into the losers bracket. The violating pitcher is no longer allowed to pitch for the remainder of the event and the team manager is ejected for the remainder of the event.
3. Any forfeit shall be entered into the system as a forfeit. No score will be entered.
4. If a team forfeits, they are automatically placed into the last position of teams with the same record as them. If they are 1-1, they will be the last seeded 1-1 team. If they are 0-2, they will be the last seeded 0-2 team.

If the team forfeits for not having a player on the roster, the team can advance but the player not on the roster cannot.

*Note a missing player from a roster is not an automatic forfeit. Each case will be reviewed by the State Director to determine eligibility.

BRACKET GAMES:

Bracket games will be played out until there is a winner. We will be using MLB Rule: 7.01(b) as the tie breaker.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Any team can be re-classified at any time during the season.

The top 2 teams in the Spring State Championship will be moved to a higher class for the following season.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

All teams must play in the same class in which they are playing in the World Series. No team can play up in age in a lower class. (Example- an 11 Major cannot play 12 AA or 12 AAA). A team can play up in class in the same age but can be reclassified depending on their finish.

A team CAN NOT add more than 1 higher classed player from a younger team to their roster prior to the state tournament without the players playing in at least two events with that older team before the state tournament.

The Arkansas State Director reserves the right to alter, change, or abbreviate the tournament format, when necessary, in order to complete the tournament or correct errors.

In case of rain on Friday, pool games times will be reduced, or teams will play one pool game. In case of rain on Saturday, bracket games will be seeded by the national system using all complete games. If games are rained out on Sunday, there will be one attempt to complete the tournament on Monday. If no games are played, the tournament will be rescheduled for the following weekend. All games that cannot be completed due to Weather, light failure or other acts of Nature will be considered a suspended game and will be resumed exactly where left off when the tournament resumes. (Exceptions: field availability or time restraints.)

FALL SEASON:

Rosters are required for all Arkansas Fall tournaments.

FALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP:

Teams must play in at least 1 fall tournament to play in the AA division. Teams that have not played must play in the Open Division or have an approved AA roster from the previous season.