

12U Fire On The Fox Tournament Rules

Players

- Teams are limited to 15 players that have not reached their 13th birthday as of September 1st of the previous year.
- Proof of age (birth certificate) must be available if requested by the tournament committee. Any games in which an ineligible player is used will be declared a forfeit.
- Teams may play up to 10 defensive players (4 Outfielders).
- 9 players are required to start a game and 8 players are needed to complete a game.
- The entire roster will bat with free substitutions on defense. Late arriving players will be added to the bottom of the line-up
- Injured players who can't continue the game and miss their batting spot will be out for the remainder of the game.)
- Final rosters and liability waivers must be turned into the concession stand at least 30 minutes prior to the team's 1st game.

Games and Length

- All elimination games will be 7 innings or with a time limit of 1 hour and 15 minutes. (No new inning after 75 minutes)
- All elimination games tied at the end of regulation innings or after time expires, the international tie-breaker (last out on 2nd base) will be used until a winner is declared.
 - **Pool Play Games** ends at 75 Minutes, (**Drop Dead Rule**).
 - If the batter is in the box (Umpire Discretion) she will be able to bat. Otherwise Game Over.
- The Championship game will be 7 innings with a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Home team is decided by a coin flip for pool play. For Bracket play, Home team is based off the higher seeded team.
- The official start time will be determined by the home plate umpire, acknowledged by both teams, and recorded by home team.
- A new inning begins when the last out of the previous inning is made.
- No new inning will start after the time limit has expired.
- Pool games tied at the end of the time limit will be declared a tie for seeding purposes
- All non-pool games tied at the end of regulation innings or after time expires, international tie-breaker (last out on 2nd base) will be used until a winner is declared
- A limit of 6 runs may be scored per inning in all innings in all games (including final inning)
- The Mercy Rules are as follows (15 Runs after 3, 12 Runs after 4, and 10 Runs after 5)

Pitching

- USA Softball regulated 12-inch ball at a distance of 40 feet will be used for all games.
- Pitchers are limited to 4 innings per 7 inning game.
- Pitchers are allowed an additional 4 innings in a game going over 7 innings.
- New pitchers are allowed 5 "Warm Up" pitches while returning pitchers are allowed 3 "Warm Up" pitches
- USA pitching rules are followed.
- The 3rd strike must be secured by the catcher or it is considered a live ball
- Dropped 3rd strike rule in effect

Offense

- Runners may lead off once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.

- Base runners are highly encouraged to slide into all bases (except 1st) when play is made upon them. It is the umpire's discretion to make the call. If the runner doesn't slide and makes contact with fielder and/or obstructs the play, that runner will be called out.
 - Batters must keep one foot in the batter's box when taking signs.
 - Fake-Bunt-Swing will result in an out.
 - The look back rule is in effect.
 - A courtesy runner is allowed for the catcher and pitcher on record. The courtesy runner will be the last out or last batter if no outs occurred.
 - Obstruction rules will be followed to minimize contact at the plate
 - Obstruction is the act of a defensive team member.
 - Who hinders or impedes a batter from striking at or hitting a pitched ball
 - Who impedes the progress of a runner or batter-runner who is legally running the bases unless the fielder is:
 - 1. In possession of the ball
 - 2. In the act of fielding a batted ball.
- b. Contact is not necessary to impede the progress of the runner

Defense

- Infield fly rule is in effect
- Outfielders must start in the outfield grass until the ball is pitched.

Additional Rules

- Any intentional stalling as deemed by the umpire will result in forfeiture of that game.
- Metal spikes are not allowed.
- The umpire's decision is final.
- Tie Breakers for seeding purposes are as follows:
 - A. Wins/Losses
 - B. Total pool play runs allowed
 - C. Total pool play runs scored
 - D. A coin flip
- In the event of inclement weather, games and/or tournament format may be adjusted at the sole discretion of the tournament committee. If the remainder of the tournament needs to be cancelled, the final tournament standings will be determined as follows:
 - a. If Championship games have been started, the game will be decided by the score of the last full inning
 - b. If Championship games have not started, a complete inning hasn't been played, or tied, then bracket seeding will be final standings

Any rules not covered here are governed by USA rules.

The tournament committee reserves the right to change any rules listed above

Home team will hold the official book

Coaches and players are responsible for maintaining and cleaning the dugouts after each game.

No alcoholic beverage carry ins. Smoking is prohibited

Profanity, Harassment, or intentional distractions by a coach, team member, or fan toward an opposing team or umpire will not be tolerated. Good sportsmanship is required. Unsportsmanlike conduct can lead to ejection without warning by a tournament member

or umpire. Repeated or grievous offenses will result in the team being eliminated from the tournament. Parking on the grass is prohibited unless otherwise stated.