

USSSA Fastpitch Softball
2007 USSSA Pates Park Summer Blowout
7/28/2007 – 7/29/2007

Tournament Rules & Information

1. The tournament will be played at the following sites:

18 & Under Pates Park Allentown,
Fountain Park Allentown

16 & Under South 4th St Emmaus

Directions to all are located in the link that you use to get the schedule or at www.paussaeast.com for PA directions and www.njussa.com for New Jersey directions or on the last page of this document.

2. State Fastpitch Director Jeff Kittle Cell phone number: 610-216-9287

Site Director John Jacobs: 484-553-6144 contact him during the tournament or
Mike Kapanka: 610- 703-5241.

Any questions prior to the tournament please contact Jeff at 610-216-9287.

Schedules, Click Here

16 & Under

18 & Under

This link will be the same link to use to find out your Sunday schedule. No phone calls will made an no emails will be sent. If you are staying at a location with no internet access please let the site director know that you would like a phone call with seeding information.

3. In the event of inclement weather, a message will be left at 610-298-2650(**State Office Line**) or 484-224-5550 (you will not get a busy tone on this line if others are calling). Please only have one member of the team make the call in order to not tie up the phone line. We may also use email and the www.paussaeast.com and/or www.njussa.com website (front page and message board) as a way to communicate any schedule changes. Beyond these means, if a team is still unclear as to their game situation, the manager only may also call the site director listed above or Jeff Kittle at 610-216-9287. Please note that as a general rule we do not individually contact each team in the event of adverse weather conditions. Rather, it is the team's responsibility to check the lines of communication listed above.
4. We need each team to provide us with whatever numbers they can be reached at during (and immediately preceding) the tournament (eg, cell, pager, hotel) if they are different than those used when registering your team by sending them via email to jeff@paussaeast.com or jeff@njussa.com as soon as possible, but before **Friday the 13th**. Also, once you're at the tournament please provide the site director at your park with the same information. These numbers will only be used if we specifically need to contact your team on a non-weather related matter.

5. Check your email and/or USSSA schedule link sent each day leading up to the tournament (including the night before) in the event that important information needs to be passed on (eg, schedule changes, weather conflicts, etc.). Email and the USSSA schedule link are two ways we will attempt to notify managers if a large number of teams have to be contacted in a short period of time. Make sure the email address that you provided when you entered your team is still valid.
6. Teams will find that the parks we have chosen for this tournament are in excellent condition and are kept very clean and manicured. To cooperate with this effort we have been requested by Field Owners to assist in maintaining a clean environment throughout the tournament. Accordingly, we ask that each team do their part to make sure their dugout is free of all debris as they leave the playing area and that the areas where teams rest between games are properly maintained.
7. Teams should report in to the tournament/site director 1 hour before the start of their first game, letting the director know that they have arrived and to receive any last minute instructions.
8. Forfeit time is game time; however, the director's discretion may be used if unique circumstances warrant otherwise.
9. Teams must be prepared to play 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of a game, or 1 hour ahead of schedule if we were to have bad weather. Otherwise, a forfeit may be declared.
10. In pool play, the winner of a coin toss prior to the start of a game will have choice of being home or visitors. In championship play the higher seeded team will have the choice. If both teams are equally seeded in championship play then a coin toss will be used.
11. **All games will be subject to a time limit of 1 hr 30 minutes (including the semi-finals and finals).**
There is NO drop dead rule. No new inning may begin after the time limit has elapsed. The clock begins immediately from the time that the pre-game conference ends. It is the home plate umpire's responsibility to record the start time and to announce it to both teams. Failure of the umpire to make such announcement, however, does not change the game's official start time. Also, if the time limit is up and the home team is leading and at bat, then the game ends at that point (ie, the final inning is not completed in this case – this is not the same as the drop dead rule).
12. All games will be subject to the Tiebreaker Rule,. In pool play, the tiebreaker will be in effect only after 7 innings have been completed and if the time limit hasn't elapsed. In pool play, only one tiebreaker inning will be held. Once the time limit has elapsed and the game is tied, then the game is considered final and a tie will be awarded to both teams. In championship play, the tiebreaker will be in effect when 7 innings have been completed or the time limit has expired, whichever comes first. Games in Championship Play cannot end in a tie - the game must be played to completion.
13. All games will be subject to the Run Ahead Rule. We will use an 8 run rule after 5 innings, 10 run rule after 4 innings and a 12 run rule after 3 innings. Losing team must bat in the inning in which the rule is invoked.
14. Protests on any issue other than an umpire's judgement will require a \$100 cash fee. Protests on an umpire's judgement will not be allowed and no fee will be accepted. 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. Protests on player eligibility must be made before either team starts their next game and will be decided upon before either team continues play. 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 \$100 will be refunded. If the protest is denied the fee will be forfeited.
15. If an illegal player participates at any time during the event, the player and team manager will be ejected from the remainder of the tournament and all games in which that player participated will be forfeited.

Participation is defined as either actively playing in the game or appearing anywhere on the official lineup that's presented prior to the start of a game. Examples of illegal players include, but are not limited to, playing on two teams in the same event, not being listed on the team roster that was presented prior to the tournament, violating the age requirement, playing under an assumed identity, use of a fraudulent birth certificate, not presenting a birth certificate when requested to do so, etc.

16. The winner of a game must report the game score to the tournament director immediately after the game. For tie games, the home team must report the score.
17. Once pool play is completed, the order of finish will be determined as follows:
 - 1) Winning Percentage - Descending
 - 2) Number Wins - Descending
 - 3) Number Losses - Ascending
 - 4) Tied Teams (vs. each other) Winning Pct - Descending
 - 5) Avg Points Allowed - Ascending
 - 6) Avg Run Differential with a maximum of (8) - Descending
 - 7) USSSA Points - Descending
 - 8) Date Team Entered USSSA Database
18. It is the manager's responsibility to find out if, when and where their team is playing in Championship play. That information will be posted at the USSSA site immediately at the conclusion of pool play. You can access this by selecting the link contained in the email sent with the schedule information. Team managers will not be called. If you need to have a phone call please let the site director know that a call is requested and what number can be used to contact you.
19. If inclement weather or other conditions impede the normal progress of the tournament, the director reserves the right to change the tournament format in order to achieve the maximum number of games played or to declare an order of finish. If the tournament is unable to finish, then refer to the document, "Determining Final Order of Finish if Tournament is Not Completed", which will be posted at the tournament site.
20. Teams need to pay particular attention to the USSSA jewelry rule. After one warning is issued in the game (most likely done at the pre-game conference), any player that's discovered by an umpire to be wearing jewelry will be ejected immediately.
21. All Bats used in the tournament must be listed on the USSSA approved bat list.