



2024 WEST HILL SOFTBALL HITS & SPITS TOURNAMENT

Game Play & Tournament Rules

(The CMSA 2024 Handbook shall be referenced for all rules not summarized in this document)
http://calgaryminorsoftball.com/files/2024_calgary_minor_softball_rulebook.pdf

ROSTER / LINEUPS:

- **Rosters** must be entered via TeamSnap Tournament, or emailed no later than Thursday, June 6
- **Pick-up/Affiliated Players:** If your team is picking up players at a higher level or age category, you must disclose this to the tournament committee at tournament@westhillsoftball.ca for approval. All regularly approved affiliated players may be added as required.
- Line-Up Cards to be completed (full names & #s) prior to the start of each game (to umpire and opposition).
- Universal substitutions will be used (See rule 10.3.2 of [CMSA Rulebook – linked here](#))
- Defensive rotation is defined such that **no player shall sit more than one inning until all players have had an inning on the bench.**
- All players present are listed on the scoresheet and bat in the order listed.
- Rostered players arriving late can be added to the end of the batting order
- Injured players or players not at the diamond will be skipped, there will be no automatic outs considered

HOME TEAM:

- Home team for round-robin games is randomly pre-determined by schedule (no coin flip to save time).
- Team listed on the top marked with “(H)” is the home team. Each team to have a minimum of 1 home game.
- Home team for Medal Round games will be determined by the higher seed (their choice of home or visitor)
- To simplify, home teams are to take third base bench area for the game and warm-up where possible.

PLAYER RULES:

- All Pitchers must wear a protective face mask while pitching.
- All Infielders are strongly encouraged to wear a protective face mask (Mandatory for West Hill players).
- No metal cleats will be permitted for play in any division except for U17/19 B/C

TIME LIMITS:

- The following time limits will be used for the tournament to ensure we stay on schedule where possible

No New Innings permitted after the following:					
	Friday & Saturday		Sunday		
Age Category	Pool Play	Strict time limit cut-off	5 th /7 th Place Games	Elimination Games & Bronze	Gold Medal Game only
U9	1:10	Limit = 1:30	1:10	1:20	1:30
U11 & U13	1:15	Limit = 1:35	1:15	1:30	1:30
U15B	1:15	Limit = 1:35	1:20	1:30	1:40
U15C/D & U17/U19	1:20	Limit = 1:40	1:20	1:30	1:40
<p>All Pool games have strict time limit cut-off (“hard stop”) 20 minutes after No New Inning time. If an inning cannot be completed, the score will revert back to the previous inning. There are NO cut-offs (“hard stop”) for an elimination or medal game.</p>					

- **There is no ‘running up the score’:** If the home team is winning and batting at the “no new inning” time limit, the game is declared over and the current score is considered final.
- **Weather Exceptions:** Delays to start times due to weather or other delays will be communicated as necessary by the Tournament officials prior to game start. Game time limits may be adjusted by the tournament committee.

RUN LIMITS:

The following modified run limits will be enforced in the Hits & Spits Tournament			
	Friday & Saturday	Sunday	
	Pool Play (Fri & Sat)	Elimination Games (Sun)	Gold Medal Games
U9 / U11	4 runs	4 runs	Inning 1-3 = 4 runs Inning 4+ = 6 runs
U13	4 runs	Inning 1-3 = 4 runs Inning 4+ = 6 runs	Inning 1-3 = 4 runs Inning 4+ = 6 runs
U15 / U19	5 runs	Inning 1-3 = 5 runs Inning 4+ = 7 runs	Inning 1-3 = 5 runs Inning 4+ = 7 runs
<i>Any extra innings will be played under Inning 4+ rules</i> <i>*Note*: There will be NO open innings, just the extended run limits for inning 4+</i>			

RUN AHEAD RULE (Recorded Scores):

- Tournament Run Ahead Rule: 15+ runs after 3 innings, 10 after 4 innings, or 7+ runs after 5 innings
- If the home team is batting, and leading by the run ahead rule, the game is declared over.
- Note: Max 7 run differential is recorded for all games (E.g. Final score of 14-2 will still count only as +7).

PITCHER LIMITS

- West Hill Softball encourages teams to have multiple pitchers at younger age groups during pool play
- Here are the max innings (reminder, one pitch constitutes an inning pitched):

	Pool Play (Fri & Sat)	Elimination Games (Sun)	Gold Medal Games
U9	2 innings *	3 innings	3 innings
U11	2 innings *	3 innings	3 innings
U13	3 innings *	4 innings	4 innings
U15	3 innings *	4 innings	4 innings
U19	4 Innings *	4 innings *	5 innings *

* **Exclusive Tournament Rule** (Sunday game limits for u9-u15 align with Calgary Minor rulebook)

Runner Substitution Rules For Pitchers & Catchers (Rule 9.7 in CMSA Handbook) ***Exclusive Tourney rule addition***

- Rule as defined in CMSA Handbook (Rule 9.7) - 2 outs pitcher/catcher of record, with these extensions:
 - If the Pitcher/Catcher represents the MAX run limit or higher, with less than 2 outs
 - For all u9/u11/u13, and u15D: You may replace the pitcher or catcher for the NEXT inning (i.e. does not need to represent the previous pitch/catch of record). Removed runner MUST pitch/catch in next inning.
- *Runner substitution extensions are intended to speed up game play*

GAME RULES:

- Max 5 warm-up pitches each inning (3 for the second inning for a pitcher)
- Min. 2 innings for pool games & 3 innings for elimination games to be considered an official game
- **U9 SPECIFIC RULES:** WHS Tournament will be using the modified 6 player game found in the [Calgary Minor Softball guidebook](#) (pages 19-21). Includes coach pitch, home run line, stealing rules, etc.
- Rules CANNOT be changed at the plate or during the game.

RESPECT/UMPIRES:

- Coaches and players must be courteous and respect the umpires' decisions.
- Umpires' decisions are final. Absolutely no protests.
- U9 & U11 games will likely not have carded umpires. Tournament organizers are hoping to provide some non-parent umpires through sign-up, but teams may need to provide their own.
- UMPIRE ADVOCATES are requested to be provided by each team at any game with a junior umpire

ROUND-ROBIN STANDINGS:

- Standings will be determined by Points Percentage (2 for a win, 1 for a tie, divided by number of games).
- Tie-breakers will be broken as follows, in order:
 - Head-to-head records
 - Run Differential (*capped at a max of 7 per game*)
 - Offensive Runs / Inning (*teams must submit innings played along with their score*)
 - Defensive Runs / Inning
 - Coin Toss
- *Note: Head-to-head record for 3+ teams does not require all teams to have played each other. TeamSnap's algorithm will determine the tiebreaker result and will be final.*

PLAYOFF SCHEDULES:

- Will be posted on TeamSnap Tournament App. late Saturday evening after final pool games are played.
- Teams are responsible to know when/where to play for Sunday games via the TS Tournament App.

PLAYOFF TIE GAMES:

- Elimination games tied at the completion of the allotted time limit must be played out to declare a winner.
- **Modified Tournament Tiebreak rule:**
 - Start with batter scheduled to bat last at second base, **with ONE out.**
- **U9/U11 Only:**
 - Only one extra inning will be played
 - If games remain tied, they will be decided by base race.
 - Umpire will officiate the race, ensuring all bases are touched and no leadoffs occur
 - U9 = Only 6 players will run; U11 = Only 9 players will run.
 - If a base race is inconclusive, a coin flip with the umpire will determine the winner

MEDAL ROUND FORMAT:

- Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals are available for all divisions
- Each 6-team division will have a 5th place Ice Cream Cup (Gift Card to winning team)
- 8-team division will also have a 7th place Slush Cup (Gift card to winning team)
- Please consult TeamSnap tournament for the playoff formats.

If game rules have not been explicitly stated in this document, please consult [CMSA guidebook](#),

All other rules not covered in this document will be determined at the discretion of the Tournament organizers.

GOOD LUCK & HAVE FUN!