

2009 RULES FOR N.C.S.S.A. SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS
Senior Softball-USA rules apply except as follows:
(Copy of Senior Softball USA rules can be found on their website www.seniorsoftball.com)

1. NCSSA does not use the Senior Softball-USA pitcher protection rule.
2. The defensive line-up must consist of no more than 10 players except 70 or older who may have 11. If 70 and older teams have to play younger teams they may still use 11 players on defense. A minimum of eight defensive players must be available to start a game. If other players arrive they must be put at the bottom of the batting order. The team that has less than 10 players will be the visiting team.
3. The home team will be determined before each game by a toss of a coin between team representatives. Exception rules 2 & 4.
4. Five team brackets: All games will be played as regulation games and teams who are scheduled to play each other twice will receive either ½ of a win or ½ of a loss for each game played. The home and visitor roles will be switched for the second game played between the two teams.
5. A committee composed of the tournament director or his assistants and the game umpire will make the final decision on protests. Protests must be made to the umpire immediately following the questioned decision or ruling and before play resumes.
6. A team should not be scheduled for more than three games per day, no more than two back to back games, and not under lights for 60 or over divisions. Travel distance is determined by the team zip code. The current NCSSA recommended schedule/bracketing format should be used.
7. A team should play a minimum of five games per tournament. (If less Tournament Director should note it on the announcement.) All games must be played. No team may refuse to play an opponent but may play any game under protest. Unless mutually agreed upon by both managers, a team that does not play all its games will not be eligible for any prize and will pay a fine of \$50 per game not played to NCSSA and subject to rule 15. The fine will then be forwarded to the team(s) involved.
8. Tournament directors will have a cut-off date at least ten days prior to the start of their tournament. Brackets must be approved by their Region Representative. Game schedules must be out at least seven days in advance. Entry fees and the NCSSA approved rosters must be in by the cut-off date. The most recent NCSSA roster is the official roster for that tournament. Tournament Directors are allowed to make adjustments to bring parity to a bracket. (Example, spotting a team five runs giving them one run each inning from the 2nd to the 6th.)
9. NCSSA rosters are limited to 20 players. Players are restricted to one roster with the exception that a 75+ player can be on two rosters of different age groups. Rosters of 75+ teams can have five 74+ players on them. The rosters of 70+ teams can have three 69+ players on them for the year 2009 only and will change to the Senior Softball-USA rule for the 2010 season. Any team may add two players for a tournament but they must be of the same age or older than their roster age group.
10. A team's tournament roster is frozen at the beginning of their first game. Any team adding three or more players to its latest approved NCSSA roster will not be eligible for awards and the games will not count in the standings and recorded as exhibition only. Player(s) added must be on the team's submitted roster prior to their first game. Managers must declare to the Tournament Director if he has add-ons, who the add-ons are and if his team is playing games as exhibition. Any team failing to declare as exhibition when adding 3 or more players for any given tournament will pay a fine of \$250 to NCSSA and be subject to rule 15.
11. All players are restricted to one roster during a tournament. A player who plays on two teams will cause the second team to forfeit any games he plays in. The first team he plays for becomes his only team for that tournament.
12. Any team dropping out of a tournament after the schedule is out will automatically be suspended commencing one month after that date until the board can review the problem and enact penalty or reinstatement. If a team drops after the cut-off date, it will lose its entry fee.
13. Fees:
Team registration of \$30 along with the NCSSA approved roster must be in before a team can play. Team fee includes team registration for current season to Senior Softball USA.
Tournament directors must send \$25 to NCSSA per tournament for administrative fees before their scheduled tournament date(s).
14. One up home run rule: A team cannot have more than one home run (untouched ball hit over the fence) than its opponent. All subsequent home runs (untouched balls hit over the fence) will be counted as a single and base runners may only advance one base if forced. Homeruns hit over the fence are walk offs for the batter & base runner(s). (Runners don't have to touch any bases.)
15. Discipline: Any violations of these rules will be reviewed by the board and the appropriate punishment shall be administered.