

**STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT
PRE-GAME INFORMATION**

TIME SCHEDULE

A coach and/or player representative shall meet with IGHSAU field managers Mike Stanley or Craig Snider at the CONCESSION BUILDING BY PRACTICE DIAMOND #4 one hour before the scheduled game time. Teams playing on Dodger and Veterans diamonds for the consolation games will do the pre-game meeting at the Gazebo between those two fields. Specific times for the meetings are as follows:

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday Meetings

Game Time	Meeting Time
11:00	10:00
11:30	10:30
1:00	12:00
1:30	12:30
3:00	2:00
3:30	2:30
5:00	4:00
5:30	4:30
7:00	6:00
7:30	6:30

Tuesday-Wednesday at the Gazebo

Game Time	Meeting Time
11:00	10:00
11:30	10:30
1:00	12:00
1:30	12:30
3:00	2:00

Thursday Meetings

Game Time	Meeting Time
5:00	4:00 1A Consolation
6:00	5:00 1A Championship
7:00	6:00 2A Consolation
8:15	7:15 2A Championship

Friday Meetings

Game Time	Meeting Time
2:30	1:30 3A Consolation
3:30	2:30 3A Championship
4:45	3:45 4A Consolation
5:45	4:45 4A Championship
7:00	6:00 5A Consolation
8:00	7:00 5A Championship

**One game ball will be provided to you at the pre-game meeting for your pitcher to warm up with. Please return this ball to the umpire at your home plate conference.

Farm Bureau autograph balls will be presented to you at your first meeting of the tournament.

LINE-UP CARDS

Two (2) line-up cards from each team **MUST** be turned in at the pre-game meeting. A copy of the original line-up card is acceptable. Please make sure that whoever represents your school has these cards. One card will be provided to the opposing team and one to the field managers.

NEW INFORMATION THIS YEAR--Please present lineup cards with the first and last names of all players. Even though NFHS rules only require the first initial for each player, having complete names for the players on the lineup card is extremely helpful for our press box personnel, media and announcers so they have all the information ready for the start of each game.

NFHS Rules

All NFHS softball rules and Iowa Adaptations will be followed with exceptions noted. NFHS rule 3-6-15 covers the prohibition against arguing ball and strike calls or other umpire judgment calls. Umpires have been instructed to enforce this rule at the 2019 State Softball Tournament. The penalty is a warning if it is judged to be a minor offense or an ejection. It is not a requirement to have a warning prior to an ejection.

The intent of this rule is to minimize the confrontation between coaches/players and umpires regarding pitch location but not to inhibit professional discussions. Consistent badgering from across the field or having your catcher request location of each pitch are very different from a sincere request for information made between the head coach and plate umpire.

All-TOURNAMENT BALLOT

Coaches will receive their all-tournament ballot at the first meeting of the tournament. Please fill in your selections and return that ballot to Jason Eslinger before leaving the tournament.

TIME SEQUENCE

10 Minutes before the first game of each session - Coaches meet with umpires at home plate to discuss ground rules. In all subsequent games of that session, this meeting will take place 10 minutes before the scheduled game time or as soon as the field is ready for play and the umpires are ready, if later than the scheduled time.

5 Minutes before the first game of each session - Introductions. For all subsequent games, introductions will take place immediately following the pre-game meeting at home plate. Teams shall be lined up along the first and third base line in foul territory. The non-starters will line up from first or third base toward home plate from low number to high number. Assistant coach(s) will be next. The starting line-up, as per the batting order, is next, followed by the head coach (nearest to home plate). Please be careful to not smear the foul lines during the introductions and shaking hands with the opposing team players. Any other managers, statisticians, ball boy/girl, etc. shall remain in the dugout.

2 Minutes before the first game of each session - National Anthem.

Following National Anthem and/or introductions - First Pitch.

Immediately following your game, please remove your equipment from the dugout so the next teams may prepare for their game.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FIELD ENTRANCES

Please enter Fields 1 and 2 from the outfield fence gate. Following your game, please exit the field at the gate by the dugouts.

WARM-UP

All warm-up (excluding pitching) must be inside the diamond fences or in the bullpen area. There shall be no throwing in the spectator area. ALL PITCHING WARM-UP OR OTHER WARM-UP DURING THE GAME SHALL BE DONE IN THE BULLPEN AREA. No pitching warm-up is allowed on the actual diamond. Reminder - anyone (non-adult) warming up the pitcher must wear the appropriate catcher's mask, etc.

All batting practice will be on the practice diamond, or off site. No infield is allowed on the game diamond.

Warm-up on the game diamonds is allowed on the grass areas. Upon completion of the grounds crew work on the diamond, coaches may hit ground balls to infielders on the field in front of their own dug out in foul territory, but

not inside the foul lines on the diamond. Please have players taking grounders line up at the edge of the grass with coaches as far from home plate as possible. Please provide a player to serve as a backup catcher near home plate to avoid overthrows hitting ground crew members or officials. It is possible that timing constraints may prevent teams from taking ground balls.

No one will be allowed inside the baseball diamond by Fields 1 and 2. No game will begin prior to the published starting time. If games fall behind schedule, the next game will begin in approximately 10 minutes following completion of the previous game.

PRACTICE FIELD PROTOCOL

See attached practice time schedule along with a map of the diamonds at Harlan Rogers.

Fields 4, 5, 6 and Yankee are available for teams to utilize for practice. Any team may practice on the four fields until the first practice time noted on the schedule. After that, game times determine which teams may utilize the practice fields.

Teams needing more practice time may use Wrigley and/or Fenway fields. Please note: those fields have grass infields and are baseball fields, but can be utilized for hitting.

HOME/VISTING TEAM

The highest (best) seed will be the home team. The home team will occupy the third base dugout. The visiting team will occupy the first base dugout. No coin flip will be held to determine visiting/home teams.

TEAM AWARDS

Awards presentations will take place after each team's final game of the tournament. Teams should gather in front of their dugout after shaking hands **AND BE READY TO COME OUT TO ACCEPT THEIR AWARDS.**

TEAM PARTY & PASS GATE

The team party (including players, managers, statisticians, trainers, coaches, etc.) of 28 maximum people will be admitted into the park. You may have as many players suited within the 28 as you desire, but no more than 28 can be admitted through the pass gate. Please list only those who have a softball or team-related duty on the pass list. Spouses and children should not be listed.

Any time your team is entering the complex (whether playing or watching), you must enter through the PASS GATE. This Pass Gate is located on the north side of the complex immediately west of the main spectator admission entrance (under the scoreboard on Diamond 1). A coach must accompany the team when entering, and the entire team must enter together as a group. Remember that your team travel party is limited to 28 total people.

SPECIAL AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

Jack North winner will be presented prior to the 3A Championship game. The Hall of Fame recipients will be presented prior to the 1A Championship game. Two 100-game winners will also be honored prior to the 1A Championship. Distinguished Coach will be prior to the 5A Championship game. Teams playing in the game immediately to follow shall be warmed up and in the dugouts for these presentations. Introductions will follow immediately after these presentations.

WINNER'S CIRCLE

Following the state championship games, awards will be presented to the 2nd place team, followed by the first place team. Team photos for the second place team will take place in the grassy area of the outfield on Field 1 and then the team is asked to gather their belongings from the dugout and exit the field. Parents are not allowed onto the field.

Championship teams are asked to gather their belongings and gather at the Winner's Circle, an area that has been created on the baseball field behind Diamond 1. Teams may stay in the Winner's Circle as long as they wish and parents and family members will be allowed in the Winner's Circle to take pictures and celebrate the state championship.

CONSOLATION GAMES

All consolation games will use a 90-minute time limit and the international tie-breaker rule (8th inning). If the score is tied and the 90 minutes have elapsed, the international tie-breaker will begin with the next inning. **This will include the Thursday and Friday consolation final games for third and fourth place.**

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Players and coaches will meet with media members at the IGHS AU Black and Pink tent located between fields 1 and 2. Jason Eslinger will coordinate media requests for specific players following each game.