

**2023 STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT  
PRE-GAME INFORMATION**

**TIME SCHEDULE**

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

**Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday Meetings  
(Kruger/ICCC)**

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

**Tues.-Wed. at the Gazebo  
(Dodger/Veterans)**

<b>Game Time</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>
11:00	10:00
11:30	10:30
1:00	12:00
1:30	12:30
3:00	2:00

**Thursday Meetings**

<b>Game Time</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>
3:30	2:30 5A Consolation
5:00	4:00 5A Championship
6:00	5:00 4A Consolation
7:30	6:30 4A Championship

**Friday Meetings**

<b>Game Time</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>
1:00	12:00 3A Consolation
2:30	1:30 3A Championship
3:30	2:30 2A Consolation
5:00	4:00 2A Championship
6:00	5:00 1A Consolation
7:30	6:30 1A Championship

\*\*One game ball will be provided to you at the pre-game meeting for your pitcher to warm up with. Please have your pitcher keep the ball and take with her to the mound to begin the inning. **Game balls have the IGHSAU logo on them. Please do not substitute other game balls.** The official state tournament ball is the Dudley SB 12L RF Y FP — Red stitch (.47 COR).

**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.

***REMINDER--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.

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 2023 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.

### **COACHING ATTIRE**

Coaches are reminded to dress appropriately and professionally during games. Rule 3-5-3 states:

Any time a coach is in live-ball area to confer with players or an umpire, or occupy a coach's box, the coach shall be attired in school uniform or jersey/coaching **shirt** with coaching shorts/slacks or warm up suits (including fleece warm-ups) in school colors or colors of khaki, black, white or gray. Cut-offs or any type of jeans are prohibited. Jackets are not considered part of the coach's uniforms.

Halter tops, tank tops, running shirts are NOT considered part of the coach's uniforms. This also applies to players serving as coaches in the coaching box.

### **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 - Head 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. Please space out individuals. 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. Any other managers, statisticians, ball boy/girl, etc. shall remain in the dugout.

2 Minutes before the first game of day - National Anthem. The National Anthem will be played for the Kruger Field/Iowa Central Field games as well as the Veterans/Dodger Field games

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 Kruger Field through the right field fence and Iowa Central Field from the leftfield fence gate. Following your game, please exit the field at the gate by the dugouts. Please enter Veterans and Dodger through 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 Kruger Field or Iowa Central Field for practice or warm up. 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. Fort Dodge grounds crews will drag and work on the practice fields as noted on the time schedule.

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.

### **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 acknowledging the opposing team at the end of the game **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 people 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 travel party **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 5A Championship game. The Hall of Fame recipients will be presented prior to the 5A Championship game. One 100-game winner will also be honored prior to the 5A Championship. Distinguished Coach (Bob Bunting, Lisbon) will be prior to the 2A 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**

Consolation games will no longer have a 90-minute time limit. All consolation games will utilize the international tie-breaker rule (8<sup>th</sup> inning). If the score is tied after 7 innings, a baserunner will be placed on second base. **This will include the Thursday and Friday consolation 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 the Kruger Seeds and ICC C fields. Nicole Merical and Ted Schultz will coordinate media requests for specific players following each game.