



2023 WEST HILL SOFTBALL HITS & SPITS TOURNAMENT

Game Play & Tournament Rules

(The CMSA 2023 Handbook shall be referenced for all rules not summarized in this document)
http://calgaryminorsoftball.com/files/2023_calgary_minor_softball_rulebook2.pdf

ROSTER / LINEUPS:

- **Roster:** If your team is picking up players at a higher level or overage, you must disclose this to the tournament committee at tournament@westhillsoftball.ca for approval.
- Line-Up Cards to be completed in full prior to the game starting and provided to umpire and opposing team.
- Universal substitutions will be used during this tournament (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.
- Players arriving late can be added to the end of the batting order
- Injured players or missing players 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).
On TeamSnap, the team listed on the top marked with “(H)” will be the home team. Each team should 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)
- Home teams are to take the third base bench area for the game and warm-up

PLAYER RULES:

- All Pitchers must wear a protective face mask when pitching.
- All Infielders are strongly encouraged to wear a protective face mask. (Mandatory for West Hill players).

TIME LIMITS:

- No new innings permitted after the following:

Age Category	Pool Play (Fri & Sat)	Elimination Games (Sun)	Gold Medal Games
U9	1 hr, 15 min	1 hr, 15 min	1 hr, 15 min
U11	1 hr, 15 min	1 hr, 30 min	1 hr, 30 min
U13	1 hr, 20 min	1 hr, 30 min	1 hr, 40 min
U15	1 hr, 20 min	1 hr, 30 min	1 hr, 40 min
U19	1 hr, 20 min	1 hr, 30 min	1 hr, 40 min

- All Pool games **have strict time limit cut off at 1 hr 40 min.** If an inning cannot be completed, the score will revert back to the previous inning. There is NO cut off for an elimination or Medal game.
- 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.
 - If the “no new inning” time limit is reached, and either team has a lead greater than is mathematically possible to catch up, the game will be declared over, and the score reverts to the previous completed full inning. (E.g. Away team is batting and leads 10-4 at time limit. Home team can only score 5 runs).

RUN LIMITS:

- The following run limits will be enforced in the Hits & Spits Tournament:

	Pool Play (Fri & Sat)	Elimination Games (Sun)	Gold Medal Games
U9 / U11 / U13D	4 runs	4 runs	Inning 1-3 = 4 runs Inning 4+ = 6 runs
U13C / U15D	4 runs	Inning 1-3 = 4 runs Inning 4+ = 6 runs	Inning 1-3 = 4 runs Inning 4+ = 6 runs
U15C / U19	5 runs	Inning 1-3 = 5 runs Inning 4+ = 7 runs	Inning 1-3 = 5 runs Inning 4+ = 7 runs

RUN AHEAD RULE (Recorded Scores):

- Tournament Run Ahead Rule: 15+ runs after 3 innings, 10 after 4 innings, or 7+ runs after 5 innings
- 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 *	No Max	No Max

* **Exclusive Tournament Rule** (Sunday game limits align with Calgary Minor rulebook)

GAME RULES:

- Max 5 warm-up pitches each inning. (3 for the second inning for a pitcher)
- Catchers may have a replacement runner with 2 outs OR if the catcher represents the max run or higher. (e.g. If your u111 has scored 3 runs and your max 4th run is at 3B, and your catcher is on 2B, you may replace)
**Exclusive Tournament rule*
- 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.
- Min. 2 innings for pool games & 3 innings for elimination games to be considered an official game
- CONFERENCES:** Max 2 defensive & 2 offensive conferences per game (Max 1 per inning).
- 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.

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, Offensive Runs/Inning, Defensive Runs/Inning, Coin Toss
 - *Note: All game scores capped at 7 run differential max.*
- *Note: In 5 team divisions, one team will play an extra (4th) game – but standings are NOT by total points, but rather Points percentage.*

PLAYOFF SCHEDULES:

- Will be posted on TeamSnap Tournament. Teams are responsible to know when/where to play.

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.**

MEDAL ROUND FORMAT:

- Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals will be given to all divisions
- 4 Team Divisions:
 - All teams advance to semi-finals
- 5 Team Divisions:
 - Top team will advance directly to the finals
 - 2nd and 3rd place teams play in Semi-finals. Winner to finals, loser to Bronze game.
 - 4th and 5th place teams play in Consolation semis. Winner to Bronze game, Loser is out.
- 6 Team Divisions:
 - Top 4 teams advance to the semi-finals
 - 5th and 6th place teams advance to the 5th Place “Ice Cream Cup” (winner gets \$75 gift card)

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