2025 WEST HILL SOFTBALL HITS & SPITS TOURNAMENT

Game Play & Tournament Rules

*(The CMSA **2025** Rulebook shall be referenced for all rules not summarized in this document)*

1) ROSTER / LINEUPS:

a) **Rosters** must be entered via TeamSnap Tournament, or emailed no later than Thursday, June 5
b) **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.
c) **Line-Up Cards** to be completed (full names & #s) prior to the start of each game (to umpire and opposition).
d) **Scoresheets** are to be completed by BOTH teams on BOTH sides of the paper, with full information filled on top
e) **Submit Scoresheets** to Glamorgan or Optimist Info Tent within 30 minutes of the end of your game.
f) Exception for other diamonds: Please deliver to Glamorgan tent, or email photo: tournament@westhillsoftball.ca

2) SUBSTITUTION RULES:

a) Universal substitutions will be used (see rule 10.3.2 of CMSA Rulebook – linked here).
b) Defined such that **no player shall sit more than 1 inning until all players have had an inning on the bench**.
c) *Tournament Exception: Pitchers and catchers may continue to play defensively until the equivalent pitching limit has expired (applied for both pitchers & catchers)*
d) Continuous batting order rule is in effect; everyone on the line-up card bats, in order
e) Rostered players arriving late can be added to the end of the batting order
f) Injured players or players not at the diamond will be skipped, there will be no automatic outs considered

3) HOME TEAM:

a) "Home team" (top team) on the schedule takes the THIRD BASE bench, no exceptions.
b) However, each pool game will have a **coin flip at the plate meeting** to determine the home team for the game
c) Home team for Medal Round games will be determined by the higher seed and will take 3rd base bench.
d) If a team plays consecutive games at same diamond, they MAY stay on their bench, not required to move.
e) Higher seed in playoff games may choose home or visitor at the plate meeting (but remains on 3rd base side)

4) PLAYER RULES:

a) All Pitchers must wear a protective face mask while pitching.
b) All Infielders are strongly encouraged to wear a protective face mask (mandatory for West Hill players).
c) **NO METAL CLEATS** will be permitted for play in all division ***except for u17/19 B/C Division (Div 1)***

5) GAME RULES:

a) Max 3 warm-up pitches each inning. Max 5 warm-up pitches for any NEW pitchers.
b) Min. 2 innings for pool games & 3 innings for elimination games to be considered an official game
c) **U9 SPECIFC RULES:** WHS Tournament will be using the modified 6 player game found at: https://calgaryminorsoftball.com/content/u9-rules, Includes coach pitch, home run line, stealing rules, etc.
d) Rules CANNOT be changed at the plate or during the game by umpires or teams.

6) RESPECT/UMPIRES:

a) Coaches and players must be courteous and respect the umpires' decisions.
b) Umpires' decisions are final. Absolutely no protests.
c) U9, U11, and some U13 games will likely not have carded umpires. Although tournament organizers are hoping to provide some junior / non-carded umpires, **teams may need to provide their own volunteer umpires.**
d) UMPIRE ADVOCATES (see rules) are requested to be provided by each team at any game with a junior umpire

7) TIME LIMITS:

No New Innings permitted after the following time limits:				
	Friday & Saturday (pool play)		Sunday (Playoffs/Medal games)	
Age Category	**Time Limit**	**"Hard Stop" cut-off**	**Playoffs & Medal Games**	**"Hard Stop" cut-off**
u9	**1:00**	Limit = 1:30	**1:15**	None
u11, u13,u15,u19	**1:15**	Limit = 1:35	**1:30**	None
All Fri & Sat Pool games **have a time limit cut-off** *except for lead change rule 7a-ii below* If an inning cannot be completed, the score will revert back to the previous inning "Hard Stop cut-off only applies at the conclusion of the current batter's at bat There are NO cut-offs ("hard stop") for elimination or medal games				

a) LEAD CHANGE EXCEPTION: During an incomplete inning at Hard-Stop time, IF:

- **i.** Away team batting, and they have taken lead/tied game, score still auto-reverts back to previous inning
- **ii.** Home team batting, and lead has changed (win/loss OR tie) during incomplete inning, the inning MUST be played out to completion (or if home team has taken lead). *E.g. Home team leads 8-7 after previous inning, but is currently batting and game is tied 8-8 or losing 10-8; then play out the inning to completion.*

b) 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.

8) RUN LIMITS:

The following modified run limits will be enforced in the Hits & Spits Tournament			
	Friday & Saturday	**Sunday**	
	Pool Play	**All playoffs & Medal Games**	
U9 / U11	4 runs	Inning 3+ = 6 runs	Inning 3+ = 6 runs
U13		Inning 4+ = 6 runs	Inning 4+ = 6 runs
U15	5 runs	Inning 4+ = 7 runs	Inning 4+ = 7 runs
U17/U19			
Any extra innings will be played under final inning 4+ rules. There will be NO open innings.			

9) RUN AHEAD RULE (Recorded Scores):

All games are to be played in their entirety to the game's time limit, unless the following run ahead rule is reached.

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

There is no 'running up the score' after the game's Time Limit. When the Time Limit is reached:

d) If the home team is winning and batting, the game is declared over and the current score is marked final.
e) If either team is ahead by more runs than is possible for a comeback in the current inning, the game is over, and the score reverts to the score at the end of the previous inning.

10) PITCHER LIMITS

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

	Pool Play (Fri & Sat)	Playoff Games (Sunday)
U9 / U11	2 innings *	3 innings
U13 / U15	3 innings *	4 innings
U17 / U19	4 Innings *	5 innings *

11) TEMPORARY RUNNER (For Catcher or Pitcher) *Rule 9.7 in CMSA Handbook*

2 outs pitcher/catcher of record, with these ***exclusive tournament rule additions*:**

a) If the Pitcher/Catcher represents the MAX run limit or higher, with less than 2 outs
b) For u9 to u13 only: Replace your NEXT catcher (i.e. does not need to be the current catcher of record). The removed runner MUST catch next inning. Penalty: If the temporary runner scores, and the removed runner does not catch the next inning, their run will not count. This rule cannot be applied after the time limit has been reach (ie. Guaranteed no next inning)
c) *This rule is ONLY intended to be used to speed up the breaks between innings*

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12) ROUND-ROBIN STANDINGS:

a) Standings will be determined by Points Percentage (2 for a win, 1 for a tie, divided by number of games).
b) Tie-breakers will be broken as follows, in order:
    - Head-to-head records (for all tied teams)
    - Run Differential in H2H games only (for all tied teams)
    - Run Differential *(capped at a max of 7 per game)*
    - Defensive Runs / Inning
    - Coin Toss
c) Note: Head-to-head record for 3+ teams does not require all teams to have played each other.
d) In all cases, TeamSnap's algorithm will determine the tiebreaker result and will be deemed as final

13) PLAYOFF BRACKETS & SCHEDULES:

- Will be posted on TeamSnap Tournament App asap Saturday evening after final pool games are played
- Please consult TeamSnap tournament for the playoff bracket format for your division.
- Teams are responsible to know when/where to play for Sunday games via the TS Tournament App; no other notification will be provided to teams.

14) PLAYOFF GAME TIEBREAKERS: ***(Does not apply for pool games, which can end in a tie)***

a) Elimination games tied at the completion of the allotted time limit must have a declared winner.

b) Modified Tournament Tiebreak rule = "Defensive Outs":
1. ***Team that recorded the most outs defensively during entire game will be declared the winner.*** (E.g. Game ends tied 12-12. But Team A recorded 7 outs on defence and Team B only recorded 5 outs on defence, Team A is declared the winner)
2. If still tied, teams will play extra Innings: Start with batter scheduled to bat last **at 2nd base, no out.**
3. If still tied (runs), once again Defensive Outs in the extra inning will determine a winner.
4. Teams will continue to play extra innings until a winner can be determined.

c) **U9/U11 Only: ONLY ONE** extra inning will be played; If games remain tied, it will be decided by base race.
    - Umpire will officiate the race, ensuring all bases are touched and no leadoffs occur
    - Coaches may (recommended) 'hold'/'direct' players to ensure they don't leave early
    - U9 = Only 6 players will run; U11 = Only 9 players will run (no running twice required)
    - If a base race is inconclusive or disputed, a coin flip with the umpire will determine the winner

15) If game rules have not been explicitly stated in this document, please consult CMSA guidebook,
16) All other rules not covered in this document will be determined at the discretion of the Tournament organizers.

GOOD LUCK & HAVE FUN!