



## NOVA USSSA Tournament Rules

### For 2020 Season/covid-19

USSSA Sanctioned Baseball Tournament General Information

General Information

All teams will be responsible to review their scores online with the USSSA System if a score needs to be corrected please contact tournament director or field attendant. This must be done prior to seeding completed for playoffs so please look at scores online LIVE with the link shown on [www.tricountysports.net](http://www.tricountysports.net)

**No tobacco products will be allowed into any of the parks. Usage of these products will be restricted to the parking areas only. Any coach/player found using the products on the field will be ejected from the TOURNAMENT.**

**Pets will no longer be allowed inside any of the parks that we have reserved for tournament games**

Thank you for being a part of our tournament. We hope that all of you have fun and enjoy a nice baseball experience in Fredericksburg, VA. Good luck to each team! Team trophies will be given to the champions and runner up upon completion of the tournament with individual player awards for First and Second place teams. Please make sure that you register your team and fill out your roster online with USSSA. All teams will need to check in to concession table prior to first game If you have any questions please contact Scott Jacobs

540-424-5909

# Tournament Rules

This is a USSSA sanctioned event and will be governed by USSSA rule book, unless stated below. We insist that all teams, players, coaches, and parents play in a sportsmanship manner and respect everyone that is involved during our tournament or actions can be taken by those in charge. Coaches, you will be responsible for your players and parents, if they become unruly then our umpires will consult with the coaches and request that they get the players or parents under control. If the coaches can't control the situation then the head coach will be ejected from the game. If a coach or spectator is ejected from the game then that person will not be permitted in or around ANY of the baseball fields. If a coach is ejected then that situation will be review by the tourney director and at that time will decide if the coach will be allowed to coach in the rest of the tournament. In most cases when a spectator is ejected then they will not be allowed back into the park for the rest of the weekend.

All teams must be registered with USSSA and have rosters online .If for some reason that this is not done prior to the start of the game we will look at this as a correctable error and as long as that player meets the age requirement then they can be added without penalty. Tri-County Sports will honor the age waiver if your local league approves it. No players will be allowed to play on more than one team during the same event. If your team is not registered with USSSA then your team will not be allowed to play. If you have any question or problems on entering your team or players you will need to contact your state director to help you out. Coaches this is your responsibility to make sure this is done.

**Bats** Please see the USSSA Rule book for the new bat rules.

**Playoff Seeding** will be based on USSSA System. In the event of rain outs or pool play can not be completed then seeding will be based on the first game common denominator. If all teams have completed a legal game then seeding will be based on everyone's first game results. In the event that all teams have not completed at least one legal game the seeding will be based USSSA Points System Rankings.

**Time Limit** see covid-19 additional rules below

Every weekend we have concerns about the time limit. No new inning will start after time has expired. Time starts once the pre-game meeting between umpire and coach has ended. I encourage all teams to do the following to assure your teams makes the most of the time allowed.

1-Teams should get together with opposing team to determine who home team is. This should be done prior to the umpire's arriving.

2- Upon arrival of umpires to your field the home team should take the field and start warming up while the pre-game instruction is going on. The umpire's have been instructed to hold this meeting off to the side so it will not interfere with warm ups.

- Time limits are subject to change, and could become "drop dead" time limits, meaning the game is called the moment time expires. For all games after the first game each day, the hurry up rule will be in effect, so teams must be at the field and ready to play at least one hour before their original start time.

- Time limit may be dropped or extended to 2hrs 15min in Championship Game.

- Mercy rules for all pool play and playoff 7 inning games(13U- above) 15 after 3 innings, 10 after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings.

- Mercy rules for all pool play and playoff 6 inning games(12U-below) 15 after 3 innings or 8 after 4 innings

- Base path and pitching distance will be compliant with USSSA rules for that age group. Balks are called with no warning.

- Ties will be recorded in Pool Play after time limit has expired. Straight baseball until time limit has been reached.

- International Tie Breaker will be in effect for playoff rounds only except for the championship game where there will be no International time breaker rule used, only straight baseball. If teams are tied after 7 innings and the time limit has not been reached, then play continues as normal in extra innings (straight baseball). However, if teams are tied when the time limit expires (regardless of the number of innings played), then the international rule will go into effect.

Pitching rules and restrictions can be found in the USSSA rule book.

It will be the teams responsibility to record players pitching info in their score book and make viewable to tournament director upon request.

- An extra hitter (EH) will be allowed. IF the starting EH removed from the game and re-enter, then he must re-enter in the same spot in the batting order, unless it is an injury substitution. An EH can play defense or offense.

- Each team must declare its lineup prior to the start of the game: -Bat the entire lineup with free substitution. -Straight nine: Re-entry rule below applies to substitutions. -Extra hitter (EH): Bat 10 players. Unlimited substitutions allowed for EH.

If a player is removed from the batting line up during pool play or playoff rounds due to injury or illness, and a substitution is not available then the batter will be skipped over without any penalty. Once this has happened the batter will not be allowed to return to the game. If a player is ejected and a legal sub is not available then his spot in the line up will be recorded as an out.

RE-entry rule: A starter who is substituted for may return to his original spot in the batting order once per game. Once a substitution is removed from the batting order he is no longer eligible to return to the game (unless it becomes necessary to prevent a forfeit).

- Courtesy runners will be permitted and encouraged for pitchers and catchers only with any number of outs. If not batting the entire lineup, the courtesy runner must be the player not in the lineup. Or, if batting the entire lineup, the courtesy runner must be the player who recorded the last offensive out.

- Home Team will be awarded to teams winning coin flip prior to each game. For playoff and Championship Rounds, highest seeded team has choice of Home or Visitor.

# Covid-19 NoVa Rules

June 2020

As long as we are in Phase 2 or Phase 3 we will have the additional rules and recommendations in place for all Tri-County Sports, LLC events.

**Coaches and Team Admins it's your responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the USSSA COVID-19 guidelines, resume to play / open guidelines recommended by the CDC, VDH, and Executive Order 65.**

**It is also your responsibility to explain and forward this info to all of your players, parents and coaches.**

<https://www.ussa.com/coronavirus>

<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/governor-of-virginia/pdf/Virginia-Forward-Phase-Two-Guidelines.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>

Along with the above information:

## 1-Time Limit

We will be reducing the time limits of all games to no new inning after **1hr-30mins with an approx. start time of 20-30minutes** after competition of the game in front of you. This should allow you additional time to properly warm your players up in the outfield of the field you are playing on.

## 2-Entry and Exit

All players/coaches entering their assigned field must enter through the outfield gate after team in front of you has vacated. While waiting for your time to take the field please do not meet in the ball field area. There are plenty of places for you and your teams to assemble before traveling down the walkways to the field.

## 3- The Game:

No post game meeting in the park, when your done please vacate the park.

Parents and families viewing the game are allowed to sit along the fence in outfield areas.

Players and coaches are to be situated along/in dugout and back stop areas.

Most fields have bleachers so let's define the areas as this:

From bleacher to bleacher running towards the outfield, parents/families will be allowed to view.

From bleacher to bleacher running towards back stop will be for players and coaches.

## 4- Foot Traffic

Please have parents/families wait in the vehicles/parking areas as long as possible.

Please at all times keep social distance from each other.

## 5-Concessions

While under Phase 2 we will not have any concessions at any Spotsylvania Parks. This includes teams trying to set up their own concessions.