



## Official Rules

**\*\*A copy of your team insurance must be uploaded through the Stateline Sports Group Website a minimum of 72 hours of the date of the event.**

**\*\* Unless notified prior to the event each team will provide their own softballs while playing defense. Softballs must be in the umpire's decision good for tournament play.**

**\*\* When entering this event, it is understood additional guidelines may be added to address any government restrictions and guidelines instituted for the safety of all during the Covid-19 pandemic.**

1. All teams must complete an online roster. Teams will be notified and provided a link a minimum of 72 hours prior to the event. Birth certificates must be available upon request.
2. All Independent teams will use Roscoe Swanson Park as their home venue.
3. No player may be on two rosters in the same age division, regardless of age group.
4. Awards will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams. The league winners will be determined by the end of the season league championship tournament with teams seeded by their league records.
5. Teams must be prepared to play 30 minutes prior to scheduled game time.
6. Bracket seeds will be determined by league standings.
7. Coin toss will determine the home team throughout the league game portion of the event.
  - a. 90 min time limits for league play
  - b. League games are suspended at time limit (drop dead)
  - c. **FINAL SCORES WILL REVERT BACK TO LAST COMPLETED INNING UNLESS HOME TEAM IS AHEAD.** Ties will be recorded into standings.
8. The 60 second rule will be in effect for the duration of the league.
  - a. If after 60 seconds the pitcher & catcher are ready to play and the batter is not ready, then the batter will be awarded a strike.
  - b. If after 60 seconds the batter is ready, and the pitcher and catcher are not ready then the batter will be awarded a ball. (Umpires will award additional time if catcher is the last out)
9. League uses USSSA rules unless listed in these rules.
  - a. All 12U & 14U will use straight USSSA rules with the exception of any noted rule changes here.

- b. In the 8U & 10 Divisions there will be additional special rules.
  - c. All ages will use a continuous batting roster.
  - d. In all ages No player can sit out on defense for two consecutive innings
10. 8U & 10U Special Rules
- a. 8U Coaches will pitch the first two innings of all 8U games. Player pitchers will pitch the rest of the game and follow all coach pitch rules.
  - b. 10U will use the Coach pitch rules.
  - c. Coach Pitch Rules
    - i. After the 4<sup>th</sup> ball or a maximum 6 pitches, regardless of the count, the offensive coach will come into pitch. The batter will then be allowed two pitches to put the ball in play. The batter will be allowed one additional pitch only if the batter fouls off the 2<sup>nd</sup> coach pitched ball. (Maximum 3 coach pitches) If the ball is not put into play by the 3<sup>rd</sup> coach pitch the batter is out.
    - ii. The pitcher coach must pitch with one foot on the pitching plate.
    - iii. The pitcher coach is not allowed to do any coaching while the ball is in play and must remain in the pitchers look back circle until the play is completed. The play is completed when the umpire calls time out.
    - iv. If at any time a hit ball makes contact with the pitcher coach the play will be ruled dead and the pitcher coach will start over with the same count.
    - v. The pitcher player must have one foot in the pitchers look back circle and one foot out.
    - vi. All foul balls are live if they go over the batter's head and normal rules apply. If a foul ball does not go over the batter's head it will be ruled foul, even if the catcher catches it. The batter will continue up to the maximum three pitches.
  - d. Stealing will be allowed in 8U & 10U with 3<sup>rd</sup> base locked meaning a player can not steal home under any situation.
  - e. 8U & 10U will not use the infield fly rule
  - f. 8U & 10U will not be allowed to advance to 1<sup>st</sup> on a dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike
  - g. 8U & 10U will only be allowed to score a maximum of 4 runs per inning
  - h. 8U will be allowed to have a maximum of two coaches on the field when their team is on defense.
  - i. 8U & 10U teams will provide a coach to stand behind the umpire to retrieve pitched balls from the pitcher.
11. Run rules-12 run lead after 3 innings, 10 run lead after 4 innings, 8 run lead after 5 innings.
12. Courtesy runner-/ last made out
- a. Catchers **MUST** use courtesy runner if there are less than two outs.
13. Tiebreaker for Tournament Championship seeding. Record-Head to Head- Runs Allowed-Coin Flip
14. Team managers must download and use the Stateline Sports Group app for all announcements. The league director reserves the right to alter the league format due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.
15. Any forfeited games will be scored as 7-0.
16. Home team is the official scorekeeper. Scores should be verified every ½ inning by the visiting team. Scorekeepers should verify their game scores with the plate umpire.

17. Only coaches and players are allowed on the playing field and warm up areas.
18. If thunder is heard or lighting is sighted all games will be suspended for a minimum of 30 minutes .
19. Playing short
  - a. If a team loses a player for any reason, they may continue playing as long as they still have 7 players. No automatic out is imposed unless the player is ejected
  - b. Any ejected player will result in an automatic out in their batting position.
  - c. If a player, batter, or runner is injured, the injured player may be replaced by a player not currently on base. The sub will be the last batted out. If replacing the batter, the current ball/strike count remains. Defensive players can be replaced at any time without penalty
  - d. A team may begin the game with 7 players. Late player(s) shall be added in the last batting position(s) and the team will not be charged an out at this position in the batting order. • Teams may not play short if there is an eligible player available. If an eligible player arrives, they must enter the game immediately
20. 2021 Gate Fees T Swanson Park:
  - a. \$3.00 Adults (65 & Older free)
  - b. \$2.00 Children (6 & Younger Free)
21. **SPORTSMANSHIP – Stars of Tomorrow League is a ZERO Tolerance Event.**  
Sportsmanship is a behavior and attitude from players, umpires, coaches, parents/fans that demonstrate mutual respect. Any person at a Stateline Sports Group event that demonstrates behavior that is detrimental to that mutual respect will be removed from the event. Detrimental behavior includes any action, verbal or otherwise that abuses players, coaches, spectators, umpires, or Stars of Tomorrow staff.
22. **Any coach ejected from a game will be removed from the venue till after the next game is completed by their team.** Coach misses game ejected from, plus one.
23. **Any coach ejected from a game for the second time during the season will be removed from the venue till after the next two games are completed by their team.** Coach misses game ejected from, plus two. Any person removed by an umpire or director will be subject to removal for the remainder of the league.
24. Borrowing players
  - a. Teams may borrow players only if they have less than 10 rostered players available. If there are 10 rostered players available, they may not add a borrowed player.
  - b. If there are borrowed players playing and a rostered player arrives after the game has started, they must sub in for the borrowed player unless the team will still have less than 10 players. In this circumstance do not switch the order, just add the late player to the end of the lineup
  - c. Teams knowing they will be short players are encouraged to work within their organization to borrow players from another team. In all cases of substitute players, the opposing coach and umpires must be notified of substitute players when arriving for the game
  - d. Borrowed players shall come from the same age group or younger. Same age players that are registered in an older division may not play down; this will be considered the same as playing an older player and result in a forfeit.
  - e. At no time may a team use a player that is not registered in one of the Stars of Tomorrow Programs. This will result in a forfeit.

- f. A team must have at least 6 rostered players playing or they will forfeit.
- g. Players borrowed from younger age divisions may play/bat in any position.
- h. Players borrowed from the same age division may not pitch or catch, and must bat after all original rostered players.

**Prohibited from the Swanson Park Venue**

- **No outside Food or Drink allowed inside of the venue**
- **No Coolers**
- **No sunflower seeds or gum**
- **No smoking or Tobacco products**
- **No Firearms permitted on the premises.**
- **No Pets Allowed inside the gates**
  - (Service dogs **Must** be marked)
  - Service dogs **Must** be harnessed, leashed, or tethered (Unless these devices interfere with the service animals work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices.
  - Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support **DO NOT** qualify as a "Service Animals" under the **Americans with Disabilities Act.**

**WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REMOVE AN INDIVIDUAL THAT IS BEING DISRUPTIVE OR NONCOMPLIANT WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE.**