

2026 San Diego Summer Sizzle Rules



Current USA Softball fastpitch softball rules will be in effect unless otherwise stated below.

CHECK-IN

- Electronic check-in is required by emailing documents to ngfallstars@gmail.com by Wednesday, June 10. See procedure referenced in the welcome email sent to all team representatives.
- All teams must be registered with USA Softball as a recreational “B” or All-Star team. NO “A” TRAVEL TEAMS.
- Each team must submit USA Softball approved TeamSideline exported photo roster that includes players, showing proof of age.
- Rosters are limited to 15 players and no player may be added after the start of your first game. No player may be shared between multiple teams.
- All players must adhere to the USA Softball eligibility requirements for recreational play.
- Rostering ineligible players will result in forfeiture of games played and possible disqualification from the tournament with a loss of all fees paid.

GAME TIME

- Game time is forfeit time. Teams must be prepared to play 10 minutes prior to scheduled game time; no changes to the schedule will be granted. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to check the scoreboards or contact the UIC for possible game time or field changes. Teams playing back-to-back games at different locations will be afforded a grace period.
- The run-ahead (mercy) rule is 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings and shall be used in ALL games.
- Run limits for each inning will take place in ALL games; 8u: 4-run limit, 10u: 5-run limit, 12u: 6-run limit. Pool, Bracket and Championship Games will NOT have any open innings.

POOL PLAY, BRACKET GAMES, & CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

- All teams will play a total of two pool games to determine bracket seeding.
- Pool play games will be six (6) innings OR one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes NO NEW.
- Bracket games will be six (6) innings OR one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes NO NEW.
- Championship games will be six (6) innings or one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes NO NEW.
- Pool play games may end in a tie. Bracket and Championship games will use International Tie Breaker (ITB) inning(s) to determine a winner.

- All ITB innings will be played in their entirety. The team on offense will start each half inning with a runner, who is the player who batted last in the previous inning, on second base.



GROUND RULES

- The current USA Softball Rules will be in effect unless otherwise stated below.
- Official USA Softball approved softball bats must be used. Bats & Helmets may be inspected by Umpires at any time.
- Warm-ups: Infield practice is not permitted. Foul territory and outfields may be used. Please consult field maps for pre-game warm-up areas.
- Dugouts: The team listed first shall occupy the first base dugout. Teams playing consecutive games on the same field will not be required to change dugouts.
- Home Team: Home team will be determined by a coin toss at the pre-game meeting with umpires and managers during POOL PLAY only. In BRACKET & CHAMPIONSHIP play, the higher seeded team will be the home team. If both teams have the same seed, home team shall be determined by coin flip.
- Scorebooks: The home team will keep the official scorebook. Each team must have their own scorekeeper, and if they are the official scorekeeper, they must be ready to keep the official game record. The official scorekeeper shall not advise an umpire, coach, player, or spectator of any procedural errors (e.g. batting out of order, illegal substitution) without first being asked by an umpire. The official scorekeeper is part of the umpire staff for the game and MUST remain impartial.
- Navajo Summer Sizzle will provide an Official Score Card. The Official Score Card must be signed by both managers and the Umpire. The winning team manager will then give the card to the Summer Sizzle event coordinator at the Registration tent within 10 minutes after the game is completed. Once posted to SE Tourney app, all scores are final.
- Game Balls: Game balls will be provided and will be the only balls used.
 - 8u – Rawlings 10" RIF 1 (or equivalent)
 - 10u – Rawlings 11" DreamSeam
 - 12u – Rawlings 12" DreamSeam

LINEUPS/ BATTING RULES

- You may bat Nine, DP-Flex, EH/EP, DP-Flex and EH/EP or “bat around,” with the exception of 8u, which MUST “bat around” the entire tournament.
- USA Softball batting rules will apply.
- If a team uses “bat-around:”
 - It must declare its intention and list all players present with no substitutions. The team will be allowed free defensive substitutions.
- Courtesy runners (for pitcher and catcher only) are allowed and may be selected according to USA Softball rules.
- Players leaving the game for any reason will result in an out.

- Late arrivals must be added to the bottom of the lineup.
- A batter-runner or runner injured on a play may be replaced on base by the last player that was called out. The batter-runner or runner who was replaced must be removed from the game.



SEEDING

- Seeding for Bracket Play is determined by pool play results, in this order:
 - Win-Loss Record within Pool
 - Head-to-Head within Pool (only applicable in a two-way tie)
 - Run Differential (max 7)
 - Runs Allowed
 - Runs Scored
 - Coin Toss

CONDUCT

- Managers and coaches are responsible for their team, staff, and fans both on and off the field. Teams are responsible for cleaning up their dugouts after each game.
- No artificial noisemakers allowed (With the exception of music from speakers at walk-up and between innings).
- Improper conduct during games or anywhere on the premises may result in team disqualification from the tournament.
- Any coach or spectator that is ejected from a game will be required to leave the premises and out of sight and sound for the remainder of the game.
- A second incident of ejection of anyone associated with that team will result in the team's removal from the tournament.

PROTESTS

- There will be NO playing rule protests during Pool play.
- During Bracket/Championship play, all playing rule protests must be ruled on at the time of the protest by the home plate umpire.

Modified Rules for 8U:

- No Infield Fly Rule; no hot plate; no dropped third strike.
- Only 1 stolen base per base runner per pitch.
- Must bat around, may play 10 in the field, with a minimum of 3 outfielders. The rover may be played within 5ft of second base.
- All outfielders must be on the grass or at least 10 feet behind base path when the pitch is delivered.
- Limit 4 runs per inning / No open inning

Modified Rules for 10U:

- Current USA Softball Rules will be in effect
- Limit 5 runs per inning / No open inning

Modified Rules for 12U:

- Current USA Softball Rules will be in effect
- Limit 6 runs per inning / No open inning

