

Hidden Valley ASA Softball Tournament Rules – 2009

ASA rules will govern all play except as noted herein.

1. The home team will be the official scorekeeper in pool play and bracket play. The visiting team will be responsible for running the scoreboard.
2. Each team will need to furnish one game ball for each game. Game balls must be yellow optic with red stitches. The COR must be .470 or under with a ball compression of 375.0 lbs or under.
3. Pre-game conference and coin flip between managers and umpires will take place 5 minutes prior to the start of the game.
4. No live batting practice is allowed on the fields or in the complex at any time.
5. The standard time limit for games is 1 hour and 10 minutes. The official game time will start 1 minute after the pre-game umpire/managers conference. **All elimination round games are 1 hour and 5 minutes plus 1 full inning.** The championship game time is 1 hour and 30 minutes or 7 innings. Game time limits could be altered in the case of tournament interruption, or as deemed necessary by the tournament director.
6. All tournament games may start up to 10 minutes prior to the scheduled game time.
7. An International tiebreaker is to be used in all tied games after the completion of the inning in which the time limit expires, or after 7 innings of a tie game. During pool play, only 1 extra inning will be played. If a tie still exists, the game result will be recorded as a tie.
8. The mercy rule for the conclusion of a game will be as follows: 12 run lead after 3 innings; 10 run lead after 4 innings; 8 run lead after 5 innings.
9. The team manager may consult with the umpires during the game, but players, coaches, and fans are to stay out of discussions with the umpires.
10. No tobacco products are allowed on the field or in the dugouts. Smoking is not allowed in the bleachers or around the dugout areas.
11. No music is allowed inside the complex.
12. Players are not allowed to wear steel spikes.
13. Managers may bat their scorecard and have free defensive substitution at their discretion unless noted otherwise by the tournament director. Batting the scorecard is not a requirement, but if not batting the scorecard, the manager must report substitutions to the umpire and opposing team following standard substitution rules. **When batting the scorecard, the last player to complete an at-bat that is not currently on base shall be the courtesy runner. If that player is the current pitcher or catcher, then go to the next player that has completed her at-bat and is not currently on base. In the event that the game goes into international tiebreaker, the last batter to complete an at bat in the previous inning shall start the international tiebreaker inning on second base. If a player leaves the game, the team shall not be forced to take an out in the absent player's position in the batting order unless there are 8 or fewer players remaining. The player that left the game shall be ineligible to return.**
14. The winners of pool play shall be determined by won-loss record. Tie breaking determination shall be as follows: 1. Head to head winner if 2 teams are tied. If these teams tied in their own game, go to total runs allowed to break the tie. If tied again go to total runs scored, and if tied again flip a coin. 2. Three way ties will be broken by total number of runs allowed to determine seed #1 thru #3. Head to head tie breaking does not come into play after the determination of seed #1 in a three way tie scenario, total runs allowed will still govern to determine the #2 and #3 seeds. Head to head of the #2 and #3 team will be used if these teams tied in runs allowed. (Extra game rule – When a team has an additional pool play game, the extra game will only be counted in head to head tie breaking with the team they are playing in the additional game, if required. The extra game will be drawn out of a hat by the team manager after the completion of that teams pool play.) **Occasionally it is necessary to play cross-pool games. Cross pool games will count in the same manner as non-cross pool games in determining seeding for bracket play.**
15. Rainouts – If the tournament is unable to finish pool play, entry fees will be refunded fractionally according to the amount of pool games completed. If pool play has been completed, then the order of finish will be determined according to the position that the teams occupy in the bracket at the time the tournament is called. Pool play tiebreakers will be used to determine the order of finish between teams occupying equal positions in the bracket.
16. Please note that each registrant/team must carry insurance on each team member and provide proof of insurance in order to participate in any Hidden Valley Tournament. We reserve the right to prohibit play if you do not have current insurance coverage.
17. In an effort to provide the best possible playing experience, Hidden Valley is very motivated to maintain our fields in the safest manner possible. If, during your visit to Hidden Valley, you see any condition that may detract from your playing experience or may create an unsafe playing condition for the athletes, please let your tournament director or umpire know so that we may remedy the situation immediately. As our client, we are excited about your choice to play at our facility and if we may make your visit more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to let us know.