

# SOFTBALL

## (GIRLS • ALL CLASSIFICATIONS)

### A. SEASON 2010-11

First day of Season: February 28, 2011  
Last Regular Season Contest Date: May 28, 2011

### B. PRESEASON

No restrictions on students.

### C. MINIMUM DAYS PRACTICE

Each participant must have a minimum of ten (10) different days of physical practice before his/her first day of competition.

### D. CONFERENCES

There are two classifications for softball. Schools with enrollments of 850 or greater are in the Large School Classification, and those schools with fewer than 850 students are in the Small School Classification.

#### LARGE SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

- **Cook Inlet Conference:** Bartlett, Chugiak, Dimond, Eagle River, East, Service, South, and West
- **Railbelt Conference:** Colony, Juneau-Douglas, Lathrop, North Pole, Palmer, Wasilla, and West Valley

#### SMALL SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

- **Northern Lights Conference:** Homer, Kenai, Kodiak, Skyview and Soldotna
  - **Southeast Conference:** Ketchikan, Sitka, Thunder Mountain
  - **Mid Alaska Conference:** Cordova, Delta Junction, Eielson, Monroe and Valdez
- Conferences are responsible for setting guidelines for qualifying teams to the state tournament.

### E. GAME LIMITATIONS

1. Maximum Contests: Teams are limited to a maximum of 22 games exclusive of conference or state tournaments.
2. Jamborees: A softball jamboree shall include three or more teams. A team may play in not more than one (1) jamboree each season. Jamborees do not count as a game against the twenty-two (22) game limit. A team is limited to no more than six (6) innings total, with no more than two (2)

innings against any other team. Each pitcher is limited to not more than two innings.

3. Invitational Tournaments: Each team will be allowed to attend one invitational tournament (pool play) per season, with games limited to no more than 1 hour and 5 minutes (allowing the teams to finish the inning), which will not be considered full games and do not count against the 22 game limit. The Mercy Rule will be in effect. During these regular season tournaments, each day of a tournament involving pool play shall count as one game against the 22 game limit."

### F. INDIVIDUAL NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

ASAA has no limitations on students participating on non-school softball teams while they are members of a school softball team.

### G. RULES

National Federation — Fast Pitch

### H. ADDITIONAL RULES

Called Game: When a game is called by an umpire before the completion of the required number of innings, the game is declared a "no game". The game can be replayed.

Suspended Game: A game called for any reason by an umpire after the required number of innings, where a winner cannot be determined (i.e. home team is behind and has not batted or score is tied) will be treated as a suspended game. The game shall continue from the point of suspension at a later time. The lineup and the batting order of each team will remain exactly the same lineup and batting order as when the game was suspended.

If a winner can be determined (both teams have equal at-bats or home team is ahead) the team that is ahead is declared the winner. If the game ends in a tie and the suspended game cannot be completed because of scheduling conflicts the game is considered a tie game.

#### Softball Tie Breaker Rule

If, after the completion of seven (7) innings of play, the score is tied, the following tie-breaker rule will be played to determine a winning team. Starting with the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin

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its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (if the number five batter is the lead off batter, the number four batter in the line up will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner).

Courtesy Runners: By Board of Directors approval, local leagues may adopt courtesy runner rules for league play. Courtesy runner rules may be used during state tournament play. If a team decides to use a courtesy runner, they will follow these guidelines:

- The team at bat will use courtesy runners for the pitcher and catcher as soon as they get on base. The same runner may not be used for both positions. Neither the pitcher nor catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
- Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
- A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a runner or batter for another player in that inning.
- For illegal substitution of a courtesy runner, such substitution shall be disqualified for the duration of the game.

Ending a Regulation Game: By State Association adoption, the game shall end when either team is 15 runs behind after 3 innings, 12 runs behind after 4 innings, or 8 runs being after 5 innings.

## I. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. DATE: June 3-4, 2011
2. SITE: Cartee Fields, Anchorage
3. TOURNAMENT FORMAT  
There are two separate state tournaments that are conducted simultaneously at the same venue. State tournament berths and bracketing is as follows.

### LARGE SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

- Berths to State  
Cook Inlet Conference - 4 berths  
Railbelt Conference - 4 berths
- Bracketing  
Eight-team bracket; double elimination

- Seeding  
Top Bracket  
Railbelt #1 vs. Cook Inlet #4  
Cook Inlet #2 vs. Railbelt #3  
  
Bottom Bracket  
Cook Inlet #1 vs. Railbelt #4  
Railbelt #2 vs. Cook Inlet #3

### SMALL SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

- Berths to State  
Southeast Conference = 2  
Northern Lights Conference = 2  
Mid Alaska Conference = 2
- Bracketing  
Six-team bracket; double elimination
- Seeding for 2011:  
Northern Lights #2 vs. Mid Alaska #2  
Mid Alaska #1 vs. Southeast #2  
Southeast #1 = bye  
Northern Lights #1 = bye
- Seeding for 2012:  
Mid Alaska #2 vs. Northern Light #2  
Northern Lights #1 vs. Southeast #2  
Mid Alaska #1 = bye  
Southeast #1 = bye
- Seeding for 2013:  
Mid Alaska #2 vs. Southeast #2  
Southeast #1 vs. Northern Lights #2  
Northern Lights #1 = bye  
Mid Alaska #1 = bye

## 4. OTHER STATE EVENT GUIDELINES

- a. Coaches Uniforms — Any coach participating in either pre-game or regular game activities must be in the uniform of the school at all times. The minimum uniform: hat, pants, appropriate socks, shoes and a warmup jacket or regular uniform top.
- b. Coaching — Coaches boxes may be occupied by a coach, player or eligible substitute. This means that there may be one coach in each coach's box as long as that person is a regular coach of the school. The coach shall be in proper uniform.

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- c. Selection of Home Team – The state tournament director or head official will conduct a coin toss with the two coaches. Coin tosses for the first games at the state tournament will be conducted at the coaches meeting. Afterward, the coaches of each game will meet with the tournament official for the coin toss. The winner will choose to be the home team or visitor. The loser will choose dugouts. For the championship game, the undefeated team shall be the “home team.”
  - d. Player Provision — It is not a regulation game if a team does not have nine (9) players in its lineup throughout the game, and the game will be forfeited to the opponents by the umpire-in-chief.
  - e. Length of Game — A regulation tournament game shall be seven (7) innings in length unless extended because of a tie, or shortened because the home team needs none of its half of the seventh inning or only a fraction of it, or because of weather or similar conditions. (If 5 full innings or more have been played at the time of interruption, it is a regulation game.) All games except for the championship game shall be limited to one and one-half hours.
  - f. Continuation of Suspended Game — Any game that is interrupted with teams having played less than the required number of innings will be continued from the point of suspension. The tournament director shall determine when the game will be completed. Team lineup and batting order shall be exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to rules governing the game.
  - g. Postponed Games — When necessary to postpone any tournament game, it shall be the responsibility of the tournament manager to re-schedule according to ASAA policy. The tournament director shall have a plan for rainouts worked out in advance. The Director shall keep everyone informed, including the ASAA office.
  - h. ASAA-adopted Game-ending Procedures:
    - 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings.
    - One and ½ hour time limit except for state championship games.
6. AWARDS
- The following awards are presented for each classification:
- a. First and second place team trophies.
  - b. Eighteen (18) individual medallions for first and second place team members. One (1) medallion is awarded to a team manager and one (1) for a coach of each team in the championship game.
  - c. TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD
  - d. ACADEMIC AWARD for the team with the highest GPA.
  - e. ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM  
All-Tournament team selections are based on outstanding performance during the tournament, regardless of position.
    - Large School Classification - Twelve (12) selections
    - Small School Classification - Nine (9) selections
  - f. GOOD SPORT TEAM - Two selections from each team are recognized for season-long citizenship and sportsmanship. GOOD SPORT TEAM T-SHIRTS are awarded to each team member.