**9U Memorial Day Classic Rules**

**General**

* Games will be played at Evergreen Park West Diamond.
* **No warming up on the foul lines.**
* Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any player or coach ejected from a game will sit the remainder of that game plus the next game. Managers and coaches are responsible for the behavior of their team as well as their parents. Umpires have the right to remove unruly fans at their discretion. If a fan is ejected, he or she will be banned from park district grounds for the remainder of the tournament.
* **The tournament director reserves the right to alter any schedules or formats at any time in the event of inclement weather or any other circumstance that may arise.**
* **Please be ready to play at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled game time.**
* Concessions will be available for your convenience. **No outside coolers or grills**.
* Dugouts are not assigned. A coin flip will determine home team during pool play. The higher seeded teams will be the home team during the elimination tournament.
* **The home team will be responsible for keeping the official scorebook. The visiting team will be responsible for running the scoreboard.**
* **April 30th will be the cutoff date to determine a player’s proper age and grouping. Teams caught using illegal players will be automatically removed from the tournament and NO REFUND WILL BE ISSUED. Birth certificates should be available upon request.**
* **Rosters should be submitted to the tournament director 30 minutes prior to your first scheduled game.**

**Game Rules:**

* **Only ALL-NATURAL Wood Bats are allowed. - ABSOLUTELY NO COMPOSITE WOOD, BAMBOO OR HYBRID WOOD BATS ARE ALLOWED.**
	+ **Any player caught using an illegal bat will be an automatic out and the team will receive a warning. A 2nd offense will be an automatic forfeit of that game.**
* Mound is 46’. Bases are 60’.
* Mercy rule; 12 after 3, 10 after 4, 8 after 5.
* 6 innings constitutes a full game.
* 3 innings constitutes a full game in the event of a rain shortened game or 2 1/2 if the home team is ahead.
* A new inning shall not be started once the 1:30 mark has been reached. You can tie during pool play. If the game is tied during the elimination tournament, extra innings will be played until a winner is determined (last out of previous inning starts on second base and batters begin with a 1-1 count and 1 out).
* Games will be played with 4 outfielders.
* Teams can bat any kind of lineup, they must declare before each game how they will proceed. (Sub rules - If you bat 10 and have subs, subbed out player can re-enter 1 time and only for player that entered the game in his place. If you bat whole roster, subs are free flowing but batting order doesn't change.)
* **Courtesy runners can be used for the pitcher and catcher at any time. Runners will be the bench players unless batting the entire roster, then the player that made the last batted out will run.**
* Pitchers are limited to 3 innings per game; 1 appearance per game, with a maximum of 5 innings per day. 1 pitch constitutes an inning pitched. Pitchers must be removed on the 2nd visit to the mound in an inning.
* There is no dropped 3rd strike. Batter is out on strike 3 whether ball is caught or not.
* Live ball from catcher to pitcher
* No lead-offs- Runner may steal after the ball crosses home plate or on a passed ball. Including stealing home on a passed ball.
* Infield fly rule is in effect
* Intentional walks, inform the umpire you want to put the batter on base. Pitchers are not required to throw the pitches.
* Absolutely no protests. All umpire decisions are final.
* Infield warm-up will not be allowed. Warm-ups must be done outside the playing field to ensure the tournament stays on schedule. Batting cage(s) will be available at the park. **Pitchers should not warm on the mound prior to game time. He will be allowed 12 warm up pitches during his half of the first inning and no more than 6 for the next inning.**
* Slide rule is in effect. Players must slide or attempt to avoid contact on close plays where a tag may occur. A collision between a runner and fielder may be cause for ejection based on umpire’s discretion. Any player ejected for failure to slide/avoid collision will be out for that game only.
* In the event of inclement weather; $225 of entry fee will be refunded if entire tournament is rained out plus you receive the 2 Dinger Bats. $100 if 1 game is played. No refund will be given if 2nd game is started.

**Tournament/Seeding**

* The top 8 teams will make the elimination bracket.
* Seeds # 9 and Seed #10 will play each other for their 3rd game.

Seeding will be determined based on the following:

* Overall Record
* Head to Head (If applicable)
* Fewest Runs Allowed
* Run differential (Maximum of 8 per game)
* Coin Flip
* There will be no time limit for the championship game.