

Tournament Rules

Open Division

The Autumn Classic will follow ASA and NAGAAA rules except for the rules listed below:

1. Registration & Rosters

All players must register to play by signing the official Autumn Classic ratings roster in San Diego. Registration will be held at The Center-SD, 3909 Centre Street, San Diego, CA 92103 on Friday evening from 6 to 9 pm and at the fields on Saturday. There will be no player registration on Sunday. All Players must register by signing their team's roster prior to appearing on a lineup card. Any player found playing a game without having signed the player roster is subject to suspension and the team will forfeit that game. Any previous games will also be subject to forfeiture. A valid, state-issued I.D. will be required at registration. All teams must submit their team roster with ratings for their players, and a registration form prior to September 24, 2011. These ratings need to include answers to the 2011 Open Division Player Rating Guidelines. Player ratings submitted on roster forms will be verified with the NAGAAA database. **Teams from cities with current and valid NAGAAA chapter status may have no more than 2 players on their roster without ratings in the NAGAAA database. Exceptions may be allowed with approval from the tournament director.** There will be no managers meeting. Manager Packets can be picked up at registration.

1B: Pick Up Players

A team may pick up added players after their final roster is due if the player(s) do not adversely affect the overall team rating (meaning put the team into a higher division). Pick Up players must bring proof of current rating signed by your League Commissioner. Pick Up players must register prior to playing. There will be no player registration on Sunday.

2. Mercy Rule

20 runs after 3 innings, 15 after 4 innings, 10 after five innings. This rule will be in effect for the Championship Games as well.

3. Home Team Rule

Home Team during pool play will be determined by flip of a coin. **Once elimination play begins, the higher seeded team will always be the home team.**

4. Official Scorebook Rule

The official scorebook will be that of the home team. The visiting team is, therefore, highly encouraged to confirm the score with the Home Team every ½ inning.

5. Tie-Breaker Rule

Ties will stand in all Pool Play games when time has expired. During bracket play, if the score is tied after the completion of 7 innings of play or when time has expired, then the International tie-breaker rule shall be in effect. When each team takes offense, the last batter from the previous inning is placed on 2nd base and normal play resumes until the tie is broken.

6. Forfeit Rule

Forfeit time is game time. If games are behind schedule then game time will be as soon as the umpire starts the game clock. If a team is unable to field at least 9 eligible players at game time or game start time they will forfeit the game.

7. Short-Handed Rule

A team must have at least 9 players present to start or continue a game. If a team starts a game with less than 10 players, then the vacant position must be listed last in the batting order. If playing short-handed and an additional player arrives, they can enter the game immediately and they must be inserted into the vacant position.

8. Courtesy Runner Rule

A team is allowed one courtesy runner per inning. The courtesy runner is the last out or, if it is the first inning and there are no outs it's the last batter in the batting line-up. If an injury occurs during a game, an additional runner will be allowed only with the approval of the opposing coach, otherwise, you need to substitute or keep the injured player in.

9. Extra Players on Offense Rule

Teams can have up to 12 players in their batting lineup. If a team starting with 12 players loses a player (except for ejection) during the game and has no one to substitute for that player, then an out will be assessed only the next time the player that left the lineup comes up to bat, no further penalties will be assessed. If you start the game with 10 or 11 players in the batting lineup you may not increase the number of batters in the batting line-up.

9A: Ejected Players

Any player ejected from a game is ineligible to play in their team's next game at the discretion of the umpire. The UIC will be notified as well as the field representative to determine if further action is required based on the situation.

10. Home Run Limits

Limit of over-the-fence home runs will be used in all divisions, per game:

- **Two (2) "B" Division** – after (2) an out will be assessed.
- **One (1) "C" Division** – after (1) an out will be assessed.
- **Zero (0) "D" Division** – a Home Run over the fence will be an inning ending out.

11. Approved Bats Rule

All ASA-approved bats will be allowed for play in all divisions. Please have your team's bats available for inspection prior to the start of your game.

12. Uniform Rule

Teams are not required to have alike-colored uniforms. However, an Arabic whole number (0-99) of contrasting color, at least 6 inches high must be worn and visible on the back of all uniform shirts. No players on the same team may wear identical numbers (Numbers 0 and 00 or 3 and 03 are examples of identical numbers.). Visible jewelry (watches, bracelets, rings, necklaces, earrings, lip rings, nose rings, bands and similar wristbands, etc.), pagers, keys, clips, bandanas, and sun-glasses on top of hats may NOT be worn during games.

13. Line-ups

Teams will exchange line-ups at the beginning of each game. Line-ups need to include player's first name or initial and last name and jersey number and list substitutes for that game, even if they are late to arrive. If a player was not listed on the lineup as a substitute at the beginning of the game they will not be eligible to enter that game, unless the team is playing short-handed not due to a player ejection.

14. Base Stealing and Bases:

Base stealing is not allowed. The ASA double bag rule is in effect: defensive players must use the inside bag at 1st base, offensive players must use the outer bag if not continuing to second base. In the event of a wild throw to 1st, both bags are open to both players. In the case of a single bag at 1st base, defensive players must use the inside half of the bag, offensive players the outside half when running through the bag.

15. Eligible Players

A player is eligible to play in the Autumn Classic Open Division if they have signed their team's roster and have a "1" for a ratings question they would answer yes to, and a "0" or no answer when the ratings question is a no, for each rating question. Their placement on a team's roster must comply with the Division Determination rules indicated below. No player is allowed to be on more than one team's roster that is playing in the Autumn Classic.

16. Strike Count

All games will begin with a 1-1 count, with NO foul to give. Championship games in all divisions will be 0-0 count.

17. Game Time Limits

Round Robin: 55 minutes; No new inning will begin after 50 minutes. No tiebreakers.

Bracket Play: 55 minutes; No new inning will begin after 50 minutes. ASA tiebreaker.

Championship Games: 7 innings, unless decided by mercy rule.

18. Tournament Divisions

Calculating Open Division Team Designation: All Open Division players must be rated. Teams or players that do not have established 2011 NAGAAA ratings must be rated and those ratings by question submitted on the established Autumn Classic ratings roster. Players that have established 2011 NAGAAA ratings must use that rating. All ratings are subject to protest. The ten (10) top rated players will be added together to give the team rating for all Open Division Teams.

D Division All teams rated 0-105. No players rated over 11 allowed on a D division team.

C Division All teams rated 106-145. No players rated over 15 allowed on a C division team.

B Division All teams rated 146-185. In B division play, teams are permitted to include a maximum of two (2) players whose rating exceeds the NAGAAA cap for B (22) on their roster.

19. Protests

There are two kinds of protests that will be allowed:

1. Player's eligibility or rating
2. Rule interpretation

The first is for a Player's Eligibility or Rating. Only opposing teams can file a protest for a Player's Eligibility or Rating and must do so prior to the end of the game. The protest must be filed with the game umpire and needs to include the specific player (or players) being protested and for rating protests it needs to include the specific questions being protested. The cost to file a protest is \$50 and \$10 per question during Pool Games and \$100 and \$20 per question during Double Elimination games. No protests will be accepted during trophy games. If any aspect of the protest is upheld the total fees will be returned to the protesting team. All protests will be heard by the established Tournament Protest Committee and that Committee's decision will be final. If the protest is upheld and the team's rating exceeds the limit for the Division they are playing in or if a player's rating exceeds the limit for a player in that division the protested game will be forfeited. The team can continue to play in the tournament as long as it wasn't their 2nd loss in Double Elimination play and if they drop the appropriate protested players that would allow their team rating to be within the limit for their division or drop any players that exceed the player rating limit for their division.

The second is for Rule Interpretation: Rule interpretation protests need to be filed with the umpire at the time the ruling comes into question. There is no cost for a rules interpretation protest. The Umpire in Chief will resolve all rule interpretation protests. The Umpire in Chief's decision is final. Judgment calls cannot be protested. Protests during round robin play will be heard at the designated complex for each Division immediately after Round Robin play and before Bracket Play begins. Results of the protest (if any) will be applied to the protested team prior to Bracket Play. Protests during Bracket Play will be heard immediately (on site) after the game in question and will be decided before either team continues on in the tournament. Results of the protest (if any) will be immediately applied in bracket play.

20. Tournament Format

All divisions will play 2 pool games that will seed them for double elimination play. This format guarantees every team 4 games. Seeding for Double Elimination Play will be based on the following in the order presented:

- a) won/loss/tie record in the following order: 2-0-0; 1-0-1; 1-1-0; 0-0-2; 0-1-1; 0-2-0
- b) head to head
- c) run differential
- d) runs allowed (lowest number prevails)
- e) highest runs scored in any one game
- f) coin toss

Round Robin:

- A. Pools will be selected by distributing participating cities' teams across all pools in the Division.
- B. Round Robin games will have a 55-minute time limit with no new innings after 50 minutes.

21. Sportsmanship

Any player ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct will not be eligible for their next game. Any excessive unsportsmanlike conduct could result in a player being eliminated from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament field representative(s).

22. Specific Field Rules

(The umpire will also address all rules for each field at the time the line-ups are exchanged)

Poway Sportsplex:

Coors Field: Any foul ball clearing the tall netting or the batting cage along left field is an automatic out. (This is a park rule for safety of roller hockey players nearby). A foul ball clearing the left field dugout or landing in the netting of the batting cage is a foul ball. Please be sure you understand the rule before beginning your game on this field.

Sports Clips Field: The outfield has netting above the permanent fence. If the ball carries the fence and/or hits the netting in FAIR territory it is a home run.

Miller Field: Any foul ball clearing the tall netting between the two light poles along right field is an automatic out. (This is a park rule for safety of indoor soccer players nearby). The outfield has netting above the permanent fence. If the ball carries the fence and/or hits the netting in FAIR territory it is a home run.

Kit Carson Park, Escondido: Root Field: There is a net that extends from left field to center field. Any ball that hits the net is considered in play, any ball that gets hung up in the net is awarded a ground rule double. Any ball hit over the net is considered a home run.

23. Alcohol Consumption

No Alcohol is allowed at Kit Carson Park. In the case of Poway and Santee Sportsplex, No alcoholic beverages or cigarettes are allowed on the fields or in the dugouts at any time and no drinking is allowed until your games are over for that day. Any player found to be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance that could cause the person to be at risk to themselves and others will be removed from the park and could result in further

suspension from the tournament. Any player seen drinking will be disqualified from playing any further games for the rest of the day.

24. Seeding for Double Elimination

Seeding for the tournament will be posted ASAP after the completion of the last round-robin games at Poway Sportsplex, Santee Sportsplex and Kit Carson Park. Games will begin promptly thereafter. All teams should be ready to play bracket games after seeding process has been reviewed. If a seeding error is found, all affected teams need to adjust accordingly for bracket games.

25. Umpires

ASA umpires throughout North America are invited once again to work the Autumn Classic.

26. Other Information

Poway and Santee Sportsplex: No coolers or outside drinks are allowed in the park. There is a \$2.50 per day entrance fee to the complex. You will receive a token, which can be used towards a beverage in the concession stand. Make sure to have your hand stamped if you leave and plan to return.

Kit Carson Park, Escondido: There are two complexes being used. Fields 1-4 is the first complex located on your left. Fields 5 and 6 (if needed) will be the second complex located on your right. There will be concessions at Fields 1-4 only. Be cautious of parking in case of homeruns. **Alcohol is not allowed anywhere in Kit Carson or Hourglass Park.** This includes the parking lots!!

27. Awards

1st through 3rd place awards will be given in each division.

28. Special Situations

The Tournament Director will resolve and have the final say on any situation that may emerge during the tournament that is not covered by these or ASA rules.

Have a safe and fun weekend, PLAY BALL!

