



12th Annual Berkshire Blaze /NWS Elite
PONY National Qualifier
Tournament Rules
July 16th – July 18th, 2010

1. Tournament structure – 3 games complete a first round, followed by a single elimination Championship round. There are 20 teams in this year's tournament, broken into 5 brackets of 4 teams each. Each team will play the other 3 teams in their bracket once. After Friday / Saturday's pool play results are official, teams will be seeded into the single elimination championship bracket based on the results of all 20 teams. The 12 top seeded teams will receive a bye into the round of 16. Home team during all Championship round play will be the higher seeded team.
2. Time limit - All games except championship will have a 1 hour 20 minute time limit. No new inning may start after 1 hour 20 minutes.
3. Championship game will have no time limit.
4. PONY mercy rules of 12 / 10 / 8 runs after 3 / 4 / 5 innings will be in effect for all games.
5. First round games that are tied when time expires will be recorded as a tie. In the case of a game being tied after 7 innings and the time limit not being expired the game will start the 8th inning with the international tie breaker rule. Still no new inning can begin after the time limit is met.
6. All games are seven (7) innings when time permits.



7. The criteria used for Sunday's seeding are in order as follows:
 - a. Wins (overall Record , ties trump losses)
 - b. Head to Head
 - c. Least runs allowed
 - i. Please note, runs scored will not be used as a tiebreaker, so please use discretion when holding a lead.
 - d. Coin toss
8. A coin toss will determine home team during first round play. Failure to appear when umpires call for coin toss will result in a 7-0 forfeit. Higher seed team will be home team during Sunday's single elimination play.
9. The tournament director will make every effort to bring the tournament to a successful completion, but reserves the right to cancel, reschedule, or change the time limits of games to accomplish this goal.
10. In case of rain Friday / Saturday, seeding for Sunday will be drawn at random. In case of rain on Sunday when no games can be played the Friday / Saturday results will be used to determine a champion. PONY weather rules for refund of tournament fees in case of bad weather will be in effect.
11. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st and 2nd place teams. Trophies will be presented at the field after the championship game is completed. Team Most Valuable Opponent medals will be presented in all first round games. Most Valuable Player Plaque will be given to a player of the tournament winning team's choice. Winning team will receive a PONY 2010 Championship Banner
12. This is a PONY tournament. All Pony rules from the 2010 Pony Girls Softball Rules and Regulations apply.
13. Courtesy runner will be allowed for the pitcher and catcher once they have reached base safely. Use of the courtesy runner will adhere to the rules for courtesy runners listed in the Pony Rules book.



14. Home plate umpire will control game time and collect game balls at the end of each game. Home plate umpire or the umpire in chief can stop game time if he/she decides it is in the best interest of the integrity of the game being played.
15. There are no protests allowed of umpire's judgment calls or game time. All valid protest requests will be dealt with before game continues. Tournament Director or his designee's decision is FINAL.
16. The tournament Director and the Umpire in Chief and or their designee will control all aspects of the tournament once the tournament begins.
17. Tournament Director is Joe McGovern. Umpire in Chief is Ron Stapleberg.
18. International tie breaker will be used. A base runner will start at second base with no outs. The runner will be the last out of the previous inning. (No Time limit or Tie breaker rule in Championship game).
19. All questions or concerns should be directed to the tournament field director by coaches.
20. The champion and at least one other team (possibly as many as 3 teams) will receive a berth to the PONY National Tournament.
21. Check-in - All teams must check in at the field 30 minutes before their first game and have ready to supply to tournament Director with birth certificates, proof of PONY Registration, PONY roster, and proof of Insurance.
22. All teams will fill out and return to KAmeen2128@aol.com a team contact sheet. This will be used to contact your team during the weekend at your hotel or your team contacts phone numbers in case of weather or other game related issues that we all know arise from time to time.



Any questions please feel free to contact me at

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413-281-0174 (cell #)

Thanks,

Mike Ameen

Head Coach - Berkshire Blaze/NWS Elite 18 & under
Massachusetts PONY Softball Director