



Vernon Minor Fastball

PO Box 20003, Vernon, BC, V1T 9L4

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Softball B.C. rules will apply, unless otherwise noted.
2. **NO VAPING OR SMOKING ON TOURNAMENT GROUNDS**
3. **TIME LIMIT:** No new innings can start (signified by the last out in the bottom-half of an inning) after 1 hour and 20 minutes for all games with the exception of Gold & Bronze Medal Games, which will be 1 hour 30 minutes. The umpire will announce the game's official start time immediately after the plate conference. Maximum of 7 innings for all games.
4. **AFTER TIME HAS EXPIRED:** The top-half of the inning is played to completion. If the visiting team does not gain the lead in the top-half of the inning, the game is over and the score stands. If the home team is trailing, the bottom-half of the inning is played. As soon as the home team takes the lead in the bottom-half of the inning, or if already leading in the bottom-half of the inning when time expires, the game is over, regardless of the outs. The score stands.
5. **RUN AHEAD RULE:** Applies to all Round Robin and Play-off games
 - a. 15 runs after 3 complete innings
 - b. 10 runs after 3½ or 4 complete innings
 - c. 7 runs after 4½ or more innings
 - d. Five (5) run maximum per inning, open inning after the 4th inning
6. **ALL GAMES** will be played with all players bat with unlimited defensive substitutions. A courtesy runner can be used for the catcher when there are two outs. The runner shall be the last player available in the lineup immediately preceding the catcher.
7. **ALL ROUND ROBIN GAMES** will have MVPs awarded to one player from each team. A player can only receive one MVP award for the tournament. Opposing coach will pick the MVP. The home team will be determined by a coin flip at home plate. If a round robin game is tied after time has expired or 7 innings, the game will end in a tie.
8. **PROTESTS:** All games are "no protest". Decisions of the Umpires are final and not subject to appeal.
9. **PLAY-OFF SEEDING:** Teams to be seeded 1st - 6th in each pool; 5th and 6th Placed Teams will play on the B Side
 - total points (**2** for a win, **1** for a tie, **0** for a loss),
 - runs scored differential to a maximum of +7,
 - least runs allowed,
 - most runs scored.
 - Tie Breakers for play-off seeding, if needed, use a coaches race around the bases



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10. **ALL PLAY-OFF GAMES** will give the higher seeded team the choice of home or away. If a play-off game is tied after time has expired or 7 innings, the game will continue in the top-half of the inning using the "International Tie-Breaker Rule" until a winner is declared.
11. Teams may play with a minimum of 8 players. Any team fielding 8 players will not be penalized with an automatic out in the 9th spot in the batting order. Any player showing up late may be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
12. Any player, coach or official team representative ejected from a game will also receive minimum next game suspension. Further disciplinary action may be taken at the discretion of the UIC and/or tournament committee.
13. Team rosters - Pick Ups for "C" teams are not allowed without confirming with the tournament coordinator prior to the tournament start. If a team is found using pick up players, it is up to the tournament coordinator and umpire in chief to decide how to proceed.
14. The wearing of jewelry while playing is highly discouraged; however, it is at the discretion of the player and coach and will not be monitored by the umpiring crew.
15. The winning team must turn in the game's score sheet, signed by both the away and home team score keepers, to the tournament office no later than 10 minutes after the game has finished. Game score sheets will be included in the coaches' packages.
16. Pitchers may warm up on the infield; however, holes must be raked prior to the start of the game. There will be a rake available at each diamond.
17. Please be courteous and clean out your dugout after your game is over.



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RAIN OUT PROCEDURE

18. Due to the climate in British Columbia and the possibility of rain on any given day, games may be called due to heavy rain or water build up on the fields. The umpires will make the call at game time. If there is lightning in the area get players and umpires off the fields. They will continue to stay off the fields for a minimum of 15 minutes following the last lightning strike.
19. During inclement weather, the tournament director reserves the right to shorten games or introduce a drop-dead time limit for games to get all or most games played. If a drop-dead time for games is introduced, the game ends immediately at time and the score as is stands regardless of top or bottom of inning.
20. Round robin standings will be determined by same number of games. If necessary, we will revert to games played in the most recent full round of games and move into play-offs.
21. If necessary, play-offs will go straight to the final rounds with 1st vs 2nd and 3rd vs 4th according to the round robin standings.
22. If play-offs cannot be completed, we will revert to round robin standings for medal awards.
23. A game is considered to have begun upon the first pitch in the top-half of the first inning. A game will be considered a complete game for the tournament standings when 5 full innings have been played. If teams can play or begin to play three (3) games during the tournament, then VMFA is said to have substantially fulfilled their commitment to teams to play a certain number of prescheduled games. If teams play in less than three (3) games, they will receive a refund as outlined below:
 - Play or begin to play one (1) game => Receive 60% of entry fee as a refund
 - Play or begin to play two (2) games => Receive 40% of entry fee as a refund