

2023 - IABA Tournament Rules

Revised: 7/24/2023 - 2:45 PM

1. **The IABA** will create the tournament brackets, select host sites, and provide: baseballs, awards and prize money.
2. **Host Sites** retain all revenue from advertisements, fundraising, gate fees (**Gate Fees: \$5 for adults, \$2 for high school and college students. Children, and ball players in uniform, are free**) and concessions. Host sites are responsible for a site manager, grounds keeping, two umpires per game, lights as needed, an official scorer and any other ordinary expense.
3. **MLB Rules** - Major League Baseball Rules will govern all games, except as herein revised:
 - Games are scheduled for seven (7) innings.
 - A Complete Game is defined as at least five (5) innings of play.
 - A Ten-Run Rule is in effect after five (5) innings of play.
 - No Time Clock will be employed and either 15 or 18 inch Bases may be used.
4. **Alcohol Usage** - No alcohol may be consumed by anyone in a dugout or on the field, during tournament play.
5. **Pre-Game Infield / Batting Practice** - No pre-game infield or batting practice is allowed on the field at any host site; on-site batting cage practice by the host team, or any team, must cease one (1) hour before the scheduled start time of the day's first game.
6. **Umpires** - No umpire may be scheduled to be behind home plate in more than one game a day; if the host site wishes, an umpire may work an additional game on the bases to have three umpires for the championship game.
7. **Weather Delays** - An umpire may temporarily stop play at any time due to rain or nearby lightening, then resume play when, in their opinion, weather conditions permit.
8. **Rainouts** - In the event of heavy rain, or other dangerous weather conditions, a game may be called by an umpire; if the game is a complete game, the team leading is the winner, otherwise the game is suspended.
9. **Suspended Games** - If a game is called before it is complete, the game is suspended. The game will resume when conditions permit, or at the next possible location; such games shall continue where they were halted and, if possible, with the same lineups on the field. IABA directors in attendance, along with the site manager, will decide when play can continue, or when a site change may be required. The IABA President will settle any disputes.
10. **Protests** - Only a manager may lodge a protest, but under no circumstance will a protest be entertained that involves a judgment call made by an umpire. In the event of a protest, the game shall be stopped immediately and the umpires, along with the IABA Directors in attendance, must settle the protest before play is re-started; if necessary, the IABA President will be the final arbiter of the protest.
11. **Player Eligibility:**
 - a. All players must be eligible to play in their respective league and have played in at least three (3) regularly scheduled games in the league.
 - b. High School Players are Not subject to Player Eligibility Rules.
 - c. Managers shall provide proof of eligibility before a player in question will be declared eligible; once IABA directors have declared a player eligible, they are eligible for the entire tournament.
12. **League Rosters** – Teams involved in the tournament must submit their league roster – **with names and, if available, jersey numbers** – to the IABA President, by Monday (7/31/23), no later than 7PM, the week before the start of the tournament; a team may use the IABA release of responsibility form to submit their league roster.
13. **IABA Release of Responsibility** - Before the start of the first game played by a tournament team, the IABA Release of Responsibility form, if not already completed, must be signed by the manager and players who are present – **in their own handwriting** – and submitted to the Site Manager. Any player, who wasn't present to sign the form, must sign the form before they are eligible to play in subsequent tournament games. **NOTE: A parent, or guardian, must sign for a player under the age of eighteen.**
14. **21 Man Tournament Roster** – The names listed on the IABA release of responsibility form must come from a team's league roster – **except for high school players** – and will constitute the team's Tournament Roster. Up to three (3) high school players may be added to the Roster before they count against the 21 man total. No changes may be made to this roster after 10 AM, on Friday (8/4/23), the day before the start of the tournament.
15. **Penalties:**
 - a) Teams playing an ineligible player will forfeit any game in which the player participated.
 - b) A team failing to play a scheduled game will be fined \$125 by the IABA, and they will be ineligible to play in any subsequent IABA Tournament until the fine is paid. The legitimacy of the failure to play will be determined by IABA Directors; any fine assessed to a team will be paid directly to the IABA, who will in-turn, forward the money to the host site involved.
16. **Eight Team, Single-Elimination Tournament** - Play begins, Saturday (8/5/23), with a preset four (4) team bracket at each of two (2) host sites. Two (2) games will be played at both sites and the winners from both sites will advance to the championship site on Sunday (8/6/23). A preset four (4) team bracket will provide the two teams who will play for the State Championship. Start Time: 1 PM at both sites on both days.