



city of  
**Southaven**  
Mississippi

## America's Premier Youth Sports Destination !!

### THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN OFFICIAL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT RULES & GUIDELINES

THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN IS PROUD TO ADOPT THE SANCTIONING HOST RULEBOOK, WITH EXCEPTIONS, AS THE PRIMARY RULEBOOK GOVERNING ALL TOURNAMENT PLAY.

#### EXCEPTIONS

Any State Tournament and/or World Series play will be governed strictly by the sanctioning hosts' rulebook.

#### TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES

Tournament entries are only guaranteed after receipt of the entry fee. Online payment for entry fee is available @ [www.jbjsports.com](http://www.jbjsports.com) or you may mail the entry fee to: City of Southaven Parks Dept. --Tournament Operations; P.O. Box 365; Southaven, MS 38671.

#### TEAM INSURANCE

All teams are required to provide proof of team insurance. A copy of the teams' certificate of insurance must be provided at the team check-in prior to a teams participation in any City of Southaven tournament event.

#### PROOF OF AGE

It is the Head Coaches responsibility to have his players proof of age in his possession and be able to produce on demand his players' birth certificates or legally accepted proof of age in the case of any question regarding the age of his players.

#### GAME TIME LIMITS

Age Division	Time Limit	Game Length
5-8	1 hour 15 minutes	6 innings
9-10	1 hour 35 minutes	6 innings
11-12	1 hour 40 minutes	6 innings
13-14	1 hour 50 minutes	7 innings
15-16	2 hours	7 innings
17-18	2 hours 15 minutes	7 innings

*\*\*The City of Southaven Reserves the right to modify Game Times as needed.*

## REFUNDS

Full refund if no games have begun; 2/3 refund if 1 game is completed; 1/3 refund if 2 games are completed. No refunds after 3 games are completed. **No gate refunds or rain checks at any time. Tell your players and fans, if play is in doubt due to inclement weather or rain, to wait until play begins to enter park.**

*The following policy is for the City of Southaven invitational events only!!!*

In the event of a rainout, the policy to determine the order of finish of the tournament will be based on the following:

### **Rainout during / after completion of pool play**

The tournament order of finish will be set by the tournament tie breakers listed in the **DIVISIONAL / POOL PLAY TIE BREAKERS** below. Two complete rounds must be completed in order to establish a tournament order of finish.

### **Rainout after completion of One Championship Semifinal Game**

No consolation awards will be presented. All awards will be presented to the Championship division. The completed game will be recorded and the winner of the completed game will advance. The loser of the completed game will finish 4th in the Championship division. The winner along with the two teams that were scheduled to play the 2nd semi-final game will have their records reverted back to pool play. The order of finish will be set by the tournament tie breakers listed in the **DIVISIONAL / POOL PLAY TIE BREAKERS** section below.

### **Rainout after completion of Both Championship Semifinal Games**

Consolation awards will be presented. The completed games will be recorded and the winners of the completed games will advance. The winners' order of finish will be set by the tournament tie breakers listed in the **DIVISIONAL / POOL PLAY TIE BREAKERS** section below.

## PITCHING LIMITS

**Any State Tournament and/or World Series** play will be governed strictly by the sanctioning host rulebook. All other City of Southaven Tournament events will be governed by the [USSSA Rule Book](#).

## RUN RULES

<b>Age Division</b>	<b>Winner of Game Declared in any team is:</b>	<b>Maximum Runs per Inning</b>
6-8	15 runs ahead after 4 complete innings or 8 runs after 5 complete innings	7 runs per inning
9	15 runs ahead after 3 complete innings or 8 runs after 4 complete innings	6 runs per inning – 1 <sup>st</sup> three innings only
10-12	15 runs ahead after 3 complete innings or 8 runs after 4 complete innings	N/A
13-18	15 runs ahead after 3 complete innings or 12 runs after 4 complete innings or 8 runs after 5 complete innings	N/A

## **HOME TEAM**

Will be determined by coin toss. Home team scorekeeper will be the official score keeper and must record starting time in scorebook.

## **GAME TIE BREAKERS**

If all regulation innings have been played or the imposed time limit has expired and the score is tied, the game shall continue using the Extra innings guideline below. The following applies to all age divisions EXCLUDING the 6, 7 and 8 year old coach pitch divisions.

\* Extra innings will be governed by the following:

1. Each team will have an opportunity to bat with no outs.
2. The bases will be "loaded" with the 3 batters in front of the proper batter in the lineup being placed on 1st base, 2nd base and 3rd base respectively as if they had been walked.
  - a. **EXAMPLE:** IF the proper batter is the 6<sup>th</sup> batter in the lineup, the 5<sup>th</sup> batter in the lineup would be placed on first base, the 4<sup>th</sup> batter would be placed on second base and the 3<sup>rd</sup> batter would be placed on third base.
3. Each team will bat until 3 outs are recorded. At the end of the complete extra inning, the team with the most runs will be declared the winner. If the game is still tied, the extra innings with the prior stipulations will continue until a winner has been declared.
4. All substitution and courtesy runner rules remain in force. For teams using a continuous lineup, the courtesy runner would be the 4<sup>th</sup> batter in the lineup prior to the proper batter until an out is recorded in the inning.

\***EXCEPTIONS:** District, State, Regional and World Series tie games will be governed by the sanctioning host tournament guidelines.

## **DIVISIONAL / POOL PLAY TIE BREAKERS**

At the end of divisional pool play teams may be tied going into the final championship rounds with the same won/loss record. The following tiebreakers\* will determine which team advances and in what order of finish.

1. Head to head competition
2. Fewest runs allowed in all games
3. Run Differential (Runs scored minus Runs allowed)
4. USSSA ranking points (Applicable only in USSSA sanctioned events)
5. Coin Toss

\***EXCEPTIONS:** District, State, Regional and World Series tie games will be governed by the sanctioning host tournament guidelines.

**In the Event of a Forfeit in Divisional / Pool Play,** the non-forfeiting teams will be credited with a 1 run differential victory. The runs allowed in the forfeited game will be the average of runs allowed by the non-forfeiting team in all pool play games actually played.

**EXAMPLE:** Team A gets a forfeit win from Team B. Team A has allowed 10 runs in their other (2) two pool play games. Therefore, the average runs allowed by Team A would be 5 runs. The credited score for their forfeit win against Team B would be 6-5.

**ANY TEAM** due to the unsportsmanlike conduct of any of the coaches or fans which results in the forfeit of a pool game for that team OR the conceding of a pool game to reduce the # of runs allowed will result in that team not being eligible to advance to the Championship / Consolation Bracket.

### **COACH PITCH SPECIFIC RULES**

**Any State Tournament and/or World Series** play will be governed strictly by the sanctioning host rulebook. All other City of Southaven Tournament events will be governed by the [USSSA Rule Book](#).

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

By players, coaches and fans are expected at all times. The Umpire in Chief will handle any rule misinterpretations (no judgment calls will be addressed) immediately and finally. There will be no Protest\*. Coaches will be responsible for their own fans behavior. Razzing, heckling, or making disparaging remarks towards opponents, in any manner, is prohibited.

*(Please see “Letter from our Umpire in Chief” following the tournament rules section)*

**\*EXCEPTIONS:** Protest may be allowed in all District, State, Regional and World Series tournament play. Check with Tournament Director(s) for protest guidelines prior to each respective tournament.

### **TEAM CHECK IN**

Teams must check in at the Tournament headquarters 30 minutes – 1 hour before commencing play in their first game. Please be prepared to produce all tournament documentation, i.e. certificate of insurance, sanction # (if required), roster (if required), etc. Failure to check in will result in a delay in starting your first game.

### **LINE-UP CARDS**

Each manager must prepare a minimum of 3 written copies of his line-up, listing first and last names and numbers of all players and substitutes prior to each game. Line-ups must be provided to the plate umpire and opposing manager. A game shall not start until this is completed. Managers are responsible for providing their own line-up cards.

### **PREGAME WARMUP**

All team pre-game warm-ups will only be allowed in designated warm up areas, or in the outfield of a ball field, no pre-game practice on any mounds or plates. **Absolutely No Soft Toss (including plastic balls) allowed into any fencing within complex.**

### **GAME BALLS**

Game Balls will be provided (with limitations) by the City of Southaven for all events.

## **AWARDS**

Awards will vary depending on the tournament event. However, individual awards will always be presented to all players of the top two finishing teams. Team awards will vary by tournament.

## **TOURNAMENT FORMAT ALTERATIONS**

The City of Southaven reserves the right to alter, change or abbreviate tournament formats, when necessary, in order to complete the tournament.

## **GATE ADMISSIONS**

All City of Southaven Tournament events will have an admission charge for all persons age 6 or over. Children ages 5 or younger and players will always be admitted free. Gate fees will vary depending on event (i.e., State Championships, World Series).

## **PETS**

No Pets Allowed.

## **COACHES' PASSES**

Each team will receive THREE (3) coaches' passes upon check-in at the Tournament Office. **Coaches who lose, forget or misplace their passes will be required to pay a non-refundable gate admission. Individuals who abuse or miss-use these passes shall forfeit their passes for the duration of the tournament.**

## **TOBACCO**

Use of tobacco products is prohibited on all fields and in the dugouts during games. Snowden Grove Park is a Smoke Free facility. No smoking is allowed.

## **FOOD / BEVERAGES**

NO outside food or beverages are allowed to be brought into the ballpark. **ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED.** The City of Southaven provides Water Coolers with ice water in each dugout. Teams are also allowed to bring their own circular (5 or 10 gallon) Cooler with pre-mix sports drink. Individual bottled water or bottled sports drinks are NOT allowed. **NO CHEST COOLERS ALLOWED.**

*Coaches, Please help us to prevent an embarrassing situation at the gates by informing your team's parents of this policy.* We do allow small personal coolers for towels and "Florida" Water (Mixture of Ammonia Spirits, Ice and Water) to help keep the PLAYERS cool during their game that **MUST** be kept in the dugout. **HOWEVER**, our gate workers will ask to inspect the coolers for any outside food or drink. **NO CHEST COOLERS of any kind will be allowed into the park.**

## **FINAL NOTE**

The City of Southaven venues will be without question some of the finest, most well maintained youth sports facilities available. Teams are expected to pick up trash and debris in the dugout before departure from all games. Your assistance in keeping these facilities in pristine shape would be greatly appreciated. Please urge your coaches, players and fans to use all trash receptacles provided. We believe that the respect of a ballpark and ball fields is something that coaches, parents and fans can, by example, teach young players along with learning how to play the game we all love.

*A Letter From Our Umpire In Chief:*

**SPORTSMANSHIP**

Good Sportsmanship is a vital part of youth sports and is something that we should all be striving to teach our youth. For the most part, coaches and fans act appropriately at the City of Southaven venues. However, whenever there is pressure and the temperature rises, unfortunately tempers rise as well.

Coaches and Umpires alike *are expected* to keep their tempers in check and set the proper example for our young people at all times. Just as a good attitude makes an impression upon players and fans, so can a bad one. We are fortunate to have a very small percentage of ejections. Our goal is to eliminate all ejections. Our umpires are instructed not to talk to fans during or after the game. The umpires are in charge of the game until they reach their dressing room. Any inappropriate conduct immediately after the game can result in a game ejection for the coach in his next game. The umpire in chief will be available to talk to the **head coach only (no parents or assistant coaches)** about a rule interpretation before, during or immediately after any game.

All ejections for coaches will result in banishment from that game and may also result in the banishment of the following game. Remember – rule interpretations may be disputed – not judgment calls, especially balls and strikes. Coaches are also responsible for the actions of their fans. Inappropriate conduct by fans can result in a coach ejection.

This is youth baseball; bad sportsmanship will not be tolerated at our events. The game is not for the glorification of the umpires, tournament officials, coaches or parents. Simply stated, “It is for the kids”.

Let’s work together and do our very best to make this a reality.

Yours in baseball;  
City of Southaven Tournament Staff