

Father's Day Classic - 2011 Rules and Park Guidelines

Hosted by the Ellisville Athletic Association (EAA) and Pond Athletic Association (PAA)

June 16 through June 19, 2011

Welcome to the 2011 Father's Day Classic hosted by the Ellisville Athletic Association (EAA) and the Pond Athletic Association (PAA). Our objective is to provide your team with a great baseball playing experience throughout the tournament. We look forward to all teams, coaches and parents exhibiting good sportsmanship as they compete in these games. We know that teams have numerous tournament opportunities throughout the year and we are glad you have decided to choose one of our events.

We will observe the following rules during the tournament and these rules are not to be altered within any age group by agreement of coaches at ground rules. Umpires have been instructed to follow the rules as published.

- 1) Updates and tournament information can be found at www.eaapark.org and www.pondathletic.com. Updates may also be communicated to you via e-mail, posted at the concessions stands at the ballpark or on the association rainout number. The park rainout numbers are 636-458-8123 (EAA) and 636-458-9627 (PAA).
- 2) County Athletic Association (CAA) rules (with modifications for tournaments) will be enforced during the tournament. You can access a copy of the CAA rules at www.stlcaa.teammania.net.
- 3) The 2011 Official Rules of Baseball will govern any rule not addressed by the CAA rule book or specifically addressed here.
- 4) Games will be 6 innings or 1 hour and 40 minutes, whichever comes first. If an inning commences prior to reaching the time limit that inning will be completed if necessary. A new inning automatically begins when the 3rd out is recorded in the bottom half of the previous inning.
- 5) All games will be considered complete after 3 innings, or if the home team is ahead after 2 ½ innings.
- 6) The Mercy Rules in effect are as follows:
 - a) 15 runs after 3 innings
 - b) 12 runs after 4 innings
 - c) 8 runs after 5 innings
- 7) A team must start a game with 8 players and can finish with any number of players. Any team that cannot field 8 players within 15 minutes of the scheduled game start time will forfeit the game. A forfeited game will be recorded as a 7-0 score. Teams forfeiting a game will not be allowed to advance to any Championship Rounds.
- 8) During pool play the Home team will be decided by a coin flip. During bracket play the higher seeded team will have their choice. Home team is the official scorebook. If the division plays in pools and the two teams reaching the championship game are equal seeds coming out of the pool, then the home team will be determined by coin flip.
- 9) During pool play the game may end in a tie.

- If the game ends in a tie, and time has expired, then one additional inning will be played in an attempt to break the tie. If the game is still tied after the one additional inning than it will be recorded as a tie.
 - If the extra inning has been played and the game is still tied, but the game has not reached the 1 hour and 40 minute time limit then the teams can continue to play innings up until the point time has expired (complete the inning), or the tie is broken. No additional innings are allowed after time has expired in this scenario as the teams have already played additional innings in an effort to break the tie.
 - During consolation games (3rd place, 5th place, etc.) if the game is tied no extra innings will be played.
- 10) Playoff rounds such as semi-finals and Championship rounds may not end in a tie and will be played to completion.
 - 11) Championship games will have no time limit, but Mercy Rules are still in effect. Championship games are the only games that will not recognize a time limit.
 - 12) The tournament will observe free substitution (except for pitching position) and teams must bat their entire roster.
 - 13) Bat restrictions are not in effect as it relates to weight drop. Bat restrictions can be found in the summary chart at the end of the document.
 - 14) Pitcher and Catcher courtesy runners are allowed for the Pitcher and Catcher of record. These runners may be used at any time during the inning. The player running will be the player who made the last out. If the last out was made by the Pitcher or Catcher of record, go back to the next player who made an out.
 - 15) The winning manager is responsible for reporting scores to their Age Group Tournament Director. The Director will advise the teams of how they want them reported (e-mail, phone call, posted at park, umpire scorecard, etc.). Any score not reported will be recorded as a loss for both teams. It is the responsibility of all teams to check score updates for accuracy.
 - 16) There are no pitching restrictions in effect other than the number of innings you can pitch per game as stated in the CAA rule book. We hope that all coaches will exhibit good judgment and remember we are dealing with young arms.
 - 17) We will schedule all teams for a minimum of 3 games but the entire schedule is subject to change in the event of rain. Refund policy is:
 - a) Zero games played – 100% refund
 - b) 1 game played – 50% refund
 - c) 2 games played – No refund
 - 18) Tie breaker rules in effect are as follows:
 - a) Record
 - b) Head to Head (only if two teams are tied)
 - c) Fewest runs allowed
 - d) Run differential (Max + or - 10 runs per game)
 - e) Coin Flip
 - 19) No game shall ever be extended for tie breaker purposes. The instant a winner is determined the game is over and the team will line up for handshakes. We have a full slate of games for the tournament and we want to stay on schedule as much as possible. For example, in age groups where we have a 5 run limit per inning, if after 4 innings a team is winning 11-0 the game is over and will be recorded as 11-0. Since the other team could only score a maximum of 10 runs there is no need to play the remaining innings.

- 20) Teams are not required to turn in a roster but coaches are encouraged to have a copy of their roster and copies of birth certificates with them during the event if challenged. Protest fee for a roster check is \$50.
- 21) All other protests during the course of play will be decided by the Umpire in Chief and Tournament Director if necessary. Rulings on these protests are final and can only be made in cases of rules interpretation and not judgment calls. Protests must be made immediately at the time of the disputed rule interpretation.
- 22) Games on fields 2 through 7 at EAA, and 2 through 4 at Pond will use portable pitching mounds for the tournament. Metal spikes are allowed at age groups 13U and up but pitchers are not allowed to pitch off the portable mounds while wearing metal spikes (if the mound is a dirt mound then metal spikes are acceptable). Pitchers at the 13U and 14U age groups should plan accordingly and wear rubber spikes or other athletic shoe while pitching off the portable mounds. The parks made a sizable investment in the portable mounds and we want to ensure that the mounds do not get tore up with metal spikes. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- 23) Individual and team trophies will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place.

EAA and Pond do not allow pets to be brought into the ballparks. We also do not allow outside food or beverage to be brought into the parks, with the exception of team water in a water jug/cooler only (no bottled water). EAA and Pond both have concession stands with a wide variety of food and beverage choices, and they are the major source of revenue for our associations. We are only asking that you observe this rule just as you would at your own park. Any coach, player, or fan caught bringing outside food or beverage into the park will be asked to take it back to their car or throw it away. If there is a second occurrence the team will forfeit all remaining games and receive no refunds. Managers are responsible for making sure their teams are aware of park rules and that they exhibit good sportsmanship during the event. Tournament directors and park staff will enforce these rules without exception.

The decisions of the Tournament Directors and Umpires are final. EAA and Pond reserve the right to change the format of the event if deemed necessary.

Again, we look forward to hosting your team in the Father's Day Classic. We are glad you have chosen our event and we hope that you have a great baseball experience, as we feel we have one of the finest facilities in the St. Louis area. We are looking forward to seeing you at the park and we wish all teams the best of luck.

