

**2020 STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT
PRE-GAME INFORMATION**

TIME SCHEDULE

A coach and/or player representative shall meet with IGHS AU field managers Mike Stanley, Craig Snider or Craig Ihnen (Veterans/Dodger fields) at the CONCESSION BUILDING BY PRACTICE DIAMOND #4 one hour before the scheduled game time. Teams playing on Dodger and Veterans diamonds will do the pre-game meeting at the IGHS AU pop up tent between those two fields. Specific times for the meetings are as follows:

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday Meetings

Game Time	Meeting Time
11:00	10:00
11:30	10:30
3:00	2:00
3:30	2:30
7:00	6:00
7:30	6:30

Mon.-Tues.-Wed. at the IGHS AU Tent

Game Time	Meeting Time
12:30	11:30
1:00	Noon
4:30	3:30
5:00	4:30

Thursday Meetings

Game Time	Meeting Time
3:30	3:00 5A Consolation
5:00	4:00 5A Championship
6:00	5:00 4A Consolation
7:30	6:30 4A Championship

Friday Meetings

Game Time	Meeting Time
1:00	12:30 3A Consolation
2:30	2:30 3A Championship
3:30	3:45 2A Consolation
5:00	4:45 2A Championship
6:00	6:00 1A Consolation
7:30	7:00 1A Championship

**One game ball will be provided to you at the pre-game meeting for your pitcher to warm up with. Please return this ball to the umpire at your home plate conference.

Farm Bureau autograph balls will be presented to you at your first meeting of the tournament.

LINE-UP CARDS

Two (2) line-up cards from each team **MUST** be turned in at the pre-game meeting. A copy of the original line-up card is acceptable. Please make sure that whoever represents your school has these cards. One card will be provided to the opposing team and one to the field managers.

REMINDER--Please present lineup cards with the first and last names of all players. Even though NFHS rules only require the first initial for each player, having complete names for the players on the lineup card is extremely helpful for our press box personnel, media and announcers so they have all the information ready for the start of each game.

NFHS Rules

All NFHS softball rules and Iowa Adaptations will be followed.

NFHS rule 3-6-15 covers the prohibition against arguing ball and strike calls or other umpire judgment calls. Umpires have been instructed to enforce this rule at the 2020 State Softball Tournament. The penalty is a warning if it is judged to be a minor offense or an ejection. It is not a requirement to have a

warning prior to an ejection.

The intent of this rule is to minimize the confrontation between coaches/players and umpires regarding pitch location but not to inhibit professional discussions. Consistent badgering from across the field or having your catcher request location of each pitch are very different from a sincere request for information made between the head coach and plate umpire.

ALL-TOURNAMENT BALLOT

Coaches will receive their all-tournament ballot at the first meeting of the tournament. Please fill in your selections and return that ballot to Jason Eslinger before leaving the tournament.

TIME SEQUENCE

10 Minutes before the first game of each session - Head Coaches meet with umpires at home plate to discuss ground rules. In all subsequent games of that session, this meeting will take place 10 minutes before the scheduled game time or as soon as the field is ready for play and the umpires are ready, if later than the scheduled time.

5 Minutes before the first game of each session - Introductions. For all subsequent games, introductions will take place immediately following the pre-game meeting at home plate. Teams shall be lined up along the first and third base line in foul territory. Please space out individuals (6 feet not necessary between each player). The non-starters will line up from first or third base toward home plate from low number to high number. Assistant coach(s) will be next. The starting line-up, as per the batting order, is next, followed by the head coach (nearest to home plate). Please be careful to not smear the foul lines during the introductions. Any other managers, statisticians, ball boy/girl, etc. shall remain in the dugout. Teams shall not exchange handshakes before or after the game, but may acknowledge the other team in an appropriate manner (tip of hat, wave, etc.)

2 Minutes before the first game of day - National Anthem. The National Anthem will be played for the Kruger Field/Iowa Central Field games as well as the Veterans/Dodger Field games.

Following National Anthem and/or introductions - First Pitch.

Immediately following your game, please remove your equipment from the dugout so the next teams may prepare for their game.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FIELD ENTRANCES

Please enter Kruger Field and Iowa Central Field from the outfield fence gate. Following your game, please exit the field at the gate by the dugouts. Please enter Veterans and Dodger through the dugouts.

WARM-UP

All warm-up (excluding pitching) must be inside the diamond fences or in the bullpen area. There shall be no throwing in the spectator area. ALL PITCHING WARM-UP OR OTHER WARM-UP DURING THE GAME SHALL BE DONE IN THE BULLPEN AREA. No pitching warm-up is allowed on the actual diamond.

Reminder - anyone (non-adult) warming up the pitcher must wear the appropriate catcher's mask, etc.

All batting practice will be on the practice diamond, or off site. No infield is allowed on the game diamond.

Warm-up on the game diamonds is allowed on the grass areas. Upon completion of the grounds crew work on the diamond, coaches may hit ground balls to infielders on the field in front of their own dug out in foul territory, but not inside the foul lines on the diamond. Please have players taking grounders line up at the edge of the grass with coaches as far from home plate as possible. Please provide a player to serve as a backup catcher near home plate to

avoid overthrows hitting ground crew members or officials. It is possible that timing constraints may prevent teams from taking ground balls.

No one will be allowed inside the baseball diamond by Kruger Field or Iowa Central Field for practice or warm up. No game will begin prior to the published starting time. If games fall behind schedule, the next game will begin in approximately 10 minutes following completion of the previous game.

PRACTICE FIELD PROTOCOL

See attached practice time schedule along with a map of the diamonds at Harlan Rogers.

Fields 4, 5, 6 and Yankee are available for teams to utilize for practice. Any team may practice on the four fields until the first practice time noted on the schedule. After that, game times determine which teams may utilize the practice fields.

Teams needing more practice time may use Wrigley and/or Fenway fields. Please note: those fields have grass infields and are baseball fields, but can be utilized for hitting.

HOME/VISTING TEAM

The highest (best) seed will be the home team. The home team will occupy the third base dugout. The visiting team will occupy the first base dugout. No coin flip will be held to determine visiting/home teams.

TEAM PARTY & PASS GATE

The team party (including players, managers, statisticians, trainers, coaches, etc.) of 28 maximum people will be admitted into the park. You may have as many players suited within the 28 as you desire, but no more than 28 can be admitted through the team entry gate. Please list only those who have a softball or team-related duty on the pass list. Spouses and children should not be listed.

Any time your team is entering the complex (whether playing or watching), you must enter through one of the two team entry gates. A coach must accompany the team when entering, and the entire team must enter together as a group. Remember that your team travel party is limited to 28 total people.