

PRESCOTT SENIOR WOMEN'S SUMMER SOFTBALL SMASH RULES

1. **CHECK-IN:** Managers will need to check in at least a half-hour prior to their first game to receive packet and team bag. Official rosters and waivers must be turned in prior to your second game. Players are allowed to double roster, but it will be limited to playing on two teams only (separate age divisions). Players must sign the roster for each team. **NO ID CHECKS unless a players age is questioned.**

2. **FORMAT:** This tournament will be a 5 game guarantee.

3. **FIELD LAYOUT AND EQUIPMENT:** All Division will use 11" softballs (.52 COR and a Max 300 compression rating) with 65' base distance (55+ and 60+) and 60' base distance for 65+ and over (Per 2024 USSSA Senior Rule 10.5.1)

Pitching plate (per SPA 2022 Rulebook, Rule 2.G.) will be 50' from home plate, extending back 10'. For 75+ Division, pitching plate will be at 47'.

A strike zone mat and a pitchers box will be used. A minimum height of 6' and a maximum height of 12' shall apply to all pitches. Pitchers may pitch from anywhere within the pitcher's box.

A "safety-base" will be used at 1st base. A scoring line will be used at home. A runner must have their foot across or on the scoring line and on the ground before the ball is in control of the defensive player who is in contact with home plate.

All bats marked "1.21 BPF" (Bat Performance Factor) or less, SSUSA approved bats, or bats having an ASA 2000 or 2004 stamp are approved for use to include the Miken Ultra II. The original Miken Ultra and the "Rip It" bats are banned. No additional bats have been banned.

4. **TIME LIMIT:** The length of the games for pool-play and bracket play will be seven (7) innings, except that after **Fifty-Five (55)** minutes has expired, and prior to the third out of the current inning the umpire will announce that the current inning will be completed and that the next inning will be the "OPEN" inning. **Championship and If games will be played to completion.** Time will begin when the umpire calls "play ball".

5. **RUNS PER INNING:** Maximum five (5) run rule is in effect except for the seventh inning, the "last" inning, and any extra innings.

6. **FLIP-FLOP RULE:** Flip-flop rule is in effect. If the home team is behind by 10 runs or more going into the last inning, then the home team will become the visitor in the last inning and any extra innings.

7. **RUN RULE:** A team ahead by **12** runs after 4 ½ or 5 innings will be declared the winner.

8. **DUGOUT OCCUPATION AND HOME TEAM:** For pool play, all teams listed first shall occupy the 1st base dugout, unless playing back-to-back and home team will be determined by coin flip.

BRACKET PLAY: for each teams initial bracket play game, the higher seed will occupy 3rd base dugout and be determined as “home team”. For each subsequent game, the highest seed (i.e. #1 seed is higher than #2 seed) , or team advancing from the winner’s bracket shall occupy the 3RD base dugout, unless playing back-to-back and shall be determined as “home team”. In the event of an “IF” game, the teams will swap home/visitor designation.

9. **DEFENSIVE PLAYERS:** All teams will play with eleven (11) defensive players.

NOTE: 74+ are allowed twelve (12) defensive players. No limit on the number of batters. However, the line-up may not be changed after the first pitch.

10. **COUNT:** Batters will start with a 1/1 count, one (1) foul ball to waste.

11. **PITCHING SCREEN FOR 70+ & 75+ (OPTIONAL):** Per USSSA rule 5.2.1. Pitching Screen (only when screen is used) - Any batted ball that hits the pitching screen will be treated as a foul ball. If a batter already has two strikes and hits a batted ball into the pitching screen, that ball becomes the “one (1) to waste foul ball”. The next ball must be fair. If batted ball hits screen again batter is out.

12. **SEEDING DETERMINATION:** Each team will play their determined amount of pool play games to determine their seeding for the playoff bracket.

- A. Win-loss record
- B. Head to Head (only if all teams have played each other)
- C. Total runs allowed (least amount allowed)
- D. Run differential
- E. Total runs scored(Most runs scored)
- F. Coin flip
- G.

13. **COURTESY RUNNERS:** Courtesy runners are unlimited except, no player may be a courtesy runner more than once per inning and a courtesy runner may not replace another courtesy runner except for an injury to the original courtesy runner. ****In the 74+ division only, any player can be a courtesy runner, and may do so more than once per inning.** Any player listed on the line-up card, including substitutes, may be used as a courtesy runner.

14. **INTERNATIONAL TIE BRAKER RULE:** The International Tie Breaker Rule will be used. The player that made the last out the inning before will stand on second base. A courtesy runner **MAY ONLY** be used for the runner once the original runner has advanced one (1) base. **Exception: if last out is injured and no longer in the game, an out will be recorded and the next previous batter shall take 2nd base.(SPA Rule 1, Section 55)**

15. **SLIDING:** Sliding is allowed. Players who over-run second and third base will be liable to being tagged out, EXCEPT in the 74+ division.

16. **COMMITMENT LINE:** A commitment line shall be marked perpendicular to the foul line between third base and home plate, 30 feet from home plate. Once a runner's foot touches the ground on or across the commitment line, the runner may not recross the line in the direction of third base. A violation will result in the runner being called out. The runner must continue toward the scoring line and any attempt to get said runner out must be made at home plate (see exception below).

17. **TAGGING A RUNNER:** A runner may be tagged out at any base except home. **On a force out at home, the catcher's foot must be on the white plate and not the black mat.**

18. **WARM-UP PITCHES:** Pitchers will receive a maximum of 4 warm-up pitches per half inning

19. **SCORE CARD:** All games will have a scorecard filled out by the umpire.

Tournament Director: Ryan Harlow (928)777-1121 x4503 (M-F 8am-4pm)