



USSSA FAST PITCH 2007 MACHINE PITCH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations on an outstanding season and we look forward to your team's participation in the 2007 USSSA Fast Pitch Machine Pitch National Tournament. Your USSSA Fast Pitch State Director will enter teams in the appropriate division of play. The USSSA World Series Tournament will be held in Mesquite, Texas. Games will be played at the [Mesquite Girls Fastpitch Fields @ 1717 McKenzie Dr.](#) on June 22nd – 24th, 2007.

The USSSA Fast Pitch program will use a 4-game guarantee format in its Machine Pitch Tournament. Teams will be seeded into pools based on current USSSA ranking points and play a round robin. All teams will be seeded into a double elimination championship bracket following pool play. Seeding will be based on pool finish. The exact format of the tournament, e.g., number of games, number of teams in each pool, etc., will be set by the Tournament Director following USSSA Fast Pitch guidelines as approved by the USSSA Fast Pitch National Committee.

YOUR STATE DIRECTOR MUST RECEIVE your team's World Series entry form and cashiers' check or money order for the entry fee **BY June 12th , 2007** to guarantee your spot in the tournament. Your entry fee, in the amount of \$400.00, should be made payable to: USSSA Fast Pitch. For a listing of state directors, their addresses, e-mail, and phone numbers please go to www.ussa.com and click on State Directors. **Teams must go through their state director and may not directly enter a National Tournament.** **YOUR STATE DIRECTOR MUST SIGN THE ROSTER WE RECEIVE. ALL TEAM ROSTERS MUST BE ENTERED ON THE USSSA WEB PAGE, THIS ROSTER MUST BE THE ONE THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO YOUR STATE AND/OR AREA DIRECTOR WHEN YOUR TEAM QUALIFIED FOR THIS TOURNAMENT. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN THE SUSPENSION OF YOUR TEAM FROM PARTICIPATION IN THIS TOURNAMENT! PLAYERS WILL BE INDIVIDUALLY CHECKED IN AT THE TOURNAMENT WITH PROPER BIRTH CERTIFICATES IN HAND.**

All players participating in USSSA Fast Pitch tournament play shall have photocopies of their original birth certificates in the possession of their team manager. Failure to have a copy of the birth certificate available upon demand will result in the offending team losing the game, being ejected from the tournament, being placed last in the standings and forfeiting all awards, sponsors travel money and tournament berths that would have been awarded at the tournament. All birth certificates must be turned in at registration or before.

NOTE:

- 1. Any player can play in a higher age classification but cannot play in a lower age group.**
- 2. Bases will be 60 feet and the pitching distance will be 34 feet.**
- 3. The 11-inch optic yellow ball will be used.**
- 4. All players must wear identical uniforms. This includes jerseys, long pants or shorts. Whether long pants or shorts are worn all team members must be uniformed alike. Caps are optional, however when worn, they must all be alike and worn with the bill forward. Non-duplicating numbers will be required and must be a minimum of three inches in size and clearly visible. Protests on uniforms will not be allowed. It shall be the World Series Tournament Director's responsibility regarding uniform legality. Violation of the uniform rules will result in the violator being allowed to conform or be removed from the game.**
- 5. Players in the game are prohibited from wearing jewelry. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn they must be taped to the body, so as to remain visible. If jewelry is not removed, that player will not be able to play until the jewelry is removed.**
- 6. NOCSAE approved batting helmets with extended earflaps which cover both ears, and temples and NOCSAE approved Face Guards, are mandatory for batters, on deck batters, base runners, non-adult bat and ball shaggers and offensive player in live territory, even if the ball is dead.**
- 7. Any non-adult warming up a pitcher within the confines of the playing field shall wear an approved protective mask with throat protector.**
- 8. HELMETS – When an umpire observes anyone required to wear a batting helmet deliberately removing the batting helmet while the ball is alive, and that person is in live ball territory, the umpire shall issue a warning to the coach of the involved persons team. All subsequent violations of the rule shall result in an out.**
- 9. The official USSSA Fast Pitch softball rulebook and national by-laws shall govern all playing rules or policies not specifically covered above.**

Tournament Headquarters: Mesquite Girls Fast Pitch Fields. Bracket schedules WILL NOT be mailed out in advance. You may call Mark Blackford @ 469-628-6477 with any questions.

There will be a managers reception and meeting at 5:00pm on Friday, June 22nd, TBA. Only two representatives from each team will be permitted to attend this event, no players please. All teams will be required to have a representative in attendance. The official playing schedule for all teams will be distributed at that time. Teams will also be allowed to purchase day and week passes at this time.

Opening ceremonies will begin at 8:00 AM June 23rd @ Mesquite Girls Fast Pitch complex. Gate fees are in place for Opening Ceremonies. All teams will participate and should be in full uniform. Tournament play will begin on June 23rd @ 10:00 am.

*****There will be a team gift exchange at the team social. It is recommended that you bring a minimum of 16 gifts per team.**

Awards to be presented:

- A. Team trophies to the top five teams[2 -5th place]**
- B. Individual awards to the top five teams[2-5th place]**
- C. Team Sportsmanship award**
- D. Outstanding Pitcher Award**
- E. Outstanding Offensive Player award**
- F. Outstanding Defensive Player award**
- G. MVP award**
- H. Manager of the Year award**
- I. All National Player awards (minimum 15)**

IMPORTANT:

**** Included in this packet is a list of area hotels. Each team is responsible for their own reservation.**

**** Admission will be \$7.00 per person per day or \$12.00 for a tournament pass. For children (6-12) the charge will be \$3.00 or \$5.00 for a tournament pass. This charge includes everyone except players and team coaches. A maximum of 3 COACH PASSES AND 20 PLAYER PASSES WILL BE ISSUED, player passes will only be issued to players on submitted roster.**

**** Tournament specific souvenirs will be sold at the park.**

******Tentative Itinerary: All times are subject to change, please verify itinerary when checking in. Once the tournament begins, managers must check Main bracket board for any CHANGES in game times, field assignments or other items related to tournament play or functions.**

USSSA FAST PITCH MACHINE PITCH NATIONAL ENTRY APPLICATION

Team Name: _____

Team Registration Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Manager: _____

Managers Mailing Address: _____

Managers Phone Number: Home _____; Cell _____

Managers E-Mail : _____

Team Sponsor: _____

Current Season Record: Won ___ Lost ___

Current Season Championships

NOTE: Please enclose Certified Funds in the amount of \$400.00 to cover team entry fee.

CODE OF UNDERSTANDING

1. This entry form must be submitted to your State Director. Teams will not be allowed to forward entry forms directly to Tournament Director. In the event State does not have a State Director, then this form must be submitted to the Assistant Executive Director or Vice President Fast Pitch.
2. The Tournament Director is under no obligation to accept any entry that arrives after entry deadline.
3. Any team that submits a bad check for payment of entry fee or motel bills will be subject to disbarment.
4. Ant team destroying property or involve in theft of motel property will be subject to disbarment.
5. My team WILL ready to play on opening day if so scheduled.

I agree with the above code of understanding. Signed _____

Team Manager

Gift Exchange

It is traditional but not mandatory that there is a player gift exchange at each teams first game.

If you wish to participate please bring something that is representative of your home area, the value is not important.

Please understand that even though your team brings gifts there is no guarantee that your first opponent will.

If you are placed in a pool with an odd number of teams and your first opponent has already played a game please contact the tournament staff for special instructions

USSSATM

United States
Specialty Sports Association

Excelling in Multi-Sports Programs

RULES OF CONDUCT

It is the purpose of the United States Specialty Sports Association to conduct the best possible Tournaments from all aspects. To achieve this objective the USSSA must have the cooperation of each player, manager, coach and sponsor.

We are guests in the city that the tournament is conducting and nothing should occur that would reflect adversely on your team, players, our host city, or the United States Specialty Sports Association. Therefore, it is required that all teams in the tournament comply with the following rules:



1. Team managers must have full control of their respective players at all times. This means "on" and "off" the field, course, or court.
2. In case of disputed play or decision, team managers or captains may consult with the game officials. The other players and coaches or sponsors are to be kept out of the discussion.



3. Managers, coaches and players are not to fraternize with spectators while participating in an event. At no time will any participants be allowed to smoke while participating in any USSSA event.
4. At no time will participants be allowed to drink or have in their possession any alcoholic beverage while participating in any USSSA event.
5. Managers are to report any unsportsmanlike or derogatory acts by players or spectators to the tournament director. The purpose here is to prevent any serious situation developing that would be harmful to the tournament.



6. Managers, coaches, players, sponsors and teams are liable for suspension by not adhering to the tournament rules in effect. This could mean suspension for a game, games, tournament or a longer duration depending on the act of violation.
7. A player, coach, manager or sponsor may be suspended for fighting, abusive tactics or unbecoming acts that are detrimental and not in the best interest of the United States Specialty Sports Association and tournament play.



8. Be careful of your conduct. Be sure that no action occurs that could reflect adversely on your sponsor, team or division. Remember that the wrong actions of even one player can reflect upon your entire team and the various sporting programs.



9. Any report by the hotel or motel management, where any team competing in USSSA championship play is staying, of destruction of property or abuse of hotel or motel property will be dealt with very sternly. Team managers and sponsors will not be warned other than through the notice. Failure to pay hotel or motel bills can result in team disbarment from future USSSA play.
10. Any team submitting bad checks to the USSSA will be subject to disbarment.