

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA USSSA 2011 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Teams which verbally commit to entering a tournament have entered a contract to participate, once the operator draws the bracket. If a team drops after the bracket has been drawn that team is responsible for paying the entire entry fee.

- *All 2011 rosters must be typed and emailed to jmckinley@lanset.com or lisa_5000@yahoo.com. Teams will not receive points or berths until their roster is in the ISTS System. If your roster is submitted at the tournament, a \$25 fee may be charged.*
- All teams playing USSSA tournaments must participate in three (3) USSSA tournaments to be eligible to attend State or World tournaments. Teams which break up during the season and then re-formed, must keep nine (9) players to have previous tournaments played count towards this requirement. Teams may also qualify through league play.
- Tournament operators may institute time limits, run rules, or run differentials appropriate to local field conditions and restrictions. Directors may also utilize special ground rules, equipment, or variable ball COR modifications to comply with facility distance restrictions. Team representatives should consult with event director for specific information.
- Any player who participates with a second team after being frozen to a qualifying team (and not being officially released), said player, manager and coach (of second team), may be subject to suspension and any tournaments won or berths secured will be forfeited.
- ***If a team wins a World berth, they must physically participate in the State Tournament and National Tournament to keep the respective berth.***
- All Special Program teams wishing to travel to World competitions must participate in their State championship events. Absolutely no exceptions will be made.
- A team qualifies by winning a tournament - the team roster is frozen. If a team qualifies in a tournament, but does not win the tournament (except World, and double-berth tournaments where more than one berth is being awarded) the team may reject the berth. However, the roster is frozen.
- When a team qualifies for a State or World tournament, the team manager may release and add up to four (4) players from their team's qualified frozen roster. **One of the four adds must be made prior to July 1.** Additional releases or adds must be made prior to August 20, 2011. A team manager does not receive extra adds when players are released. Prior to participating, all roster additions must be approved by the Northern California USSSA State Director. Teams advancing to World events are allowed, by constitution, one (1) player addition 72 hours prior to the event, provided the team is still entitled to an addition. Teams exercising this option must receive permission of the addition from the Northern California USSSA State Director.
- Players added to a frozen roster must come from a league or tournament team registered USSSA in 2011. Players added must also come from teams classified at the same level or lower.

2011 RULES AND REGULATIONS

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- A player may not be laundered from classification to classification. Players/teams which violate the above are subject to forfeiture of berths and suspensions. All adds shall be submitted in writing or via email to the Northern California USSSA State Director at jmckinley@lanset.com. Failure may affect a team's/individual's ability to participate. Team classifications will be closely scrutinized by the Northern California USSSA Classification Committee, based on players added. Teams reclassified shall carry berths previously attained, to the new classification.
- Call the Northern California USSSA State Office for confirmation of qualification. If a team is not aware of a qualification, it is still subject to the appropriate rules. This applies to picking up players for playing in a subsequent tournament without following official roster addition procedures.
- Any new player that participates on a team after earning a berth is automatically frozen to that team's roster and becomes one of the official four (4) add-ons. Also, a player may be suspended if that player plays for another team, even if the player is unaware of qualifying.
- If a team qualifies outside of Northern California, it is still subject to Northern California USSSA rules and must contact the Northern California USSSA State Office immediately.
- **Returned Check Charges For All Northern California USSSA:** USSSA tournaments and designated leagues will be \$50. Failure to provide this penalty payment will result in forfeiture of team berths and suspension until full payment has been made.
- **Rain and One Day Event Policy:** If an entire tournament is cancelled due to rain or unplayable field conditions, the team is under no obligation to play a future weekend. However, if a tournament begins, and weather interrupts play, the director has the option to reschedule the unplayed games later in the weekend or at a later date, cancel the remainder of the games and refund a pro-rated refund to the remaining teams. One day tournaments may be scheduled on either weekend day or if started on Saturday, may be completed on Sunday due to delays, field conditions, or any emergency. Teams acknowledge that entering an event is a commitment for the entire weekend.
- **Profanity Rule:** Any vulgarity that an umpire or director finds inappropriate shall warrant a one (1) time team warning. After the warning, any audible profanity shall be subject to immediate ejection. Any post ejection demonstrations of profanity or other unsportsmanlike conduct may result in a game forfeiture or individual suspension from the Northern California USSSA State Director. Based on the severity of the outburst, a formal warning may be waived.

2011 RULES AND REGULATIONS

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- **Men's D:** All teams in the Men's D program directors may allow home runs in specific. No home runs will be allowed in NIT's.
- **Men's E Home Run Rule:** In the men's class E program, any batter who hits an untouched fair fly ball over a 300 foot fence, in fair territory, will be declared out. In the Men's E World tournament the USSSA National home run rule will be imposed.
- **Open Division:** In an effort to address several concerns regarding our upper division program, a Northern California USSSA Open division has been formed. This division shall include all A, B, C, and D men's teams and this division will solve several problems which currently exist.

Super Division Rules:

- All A, B and C teams must play in Open Division tournaments
- Entry fee is \$300
- Teams are guaranteed three (3) games
- Flip Flop Rule: In effect after four (4) innings with visitors ahead by 10 runs
- Home Run Rule: Split the difference: example B (4) vs C (2) = 3/game
- Run Spot: The following run spot rule will be used: A vs B - 2 runs; A vs C - 5 runs; A vs D - 8 runs; B vs C - 4 runs; B vs D - 6 runs; and C vs D - 4 runs
- Time Limit: 70 minutes
- Run Rule: 12 after five (5) innings
- *Additional World Berths: The B, C and D teams accumulating the highest number of points in Open division play will be awarded a World berth.*

□ Women's Program Only:

Run Differential:

	B+	B	C+	C	D+	D
B+	0	-	-	-	-	-
B	2	0	-	-	-	-
C+	4	2	0	-	-	-
C	6	4	2	0	-	-
D+	7	5	4	2	0	-
D	8	6	6	4	2	0

Championship Berths: Designated berths will be honored for the highest finishing team in each classification.

Berth Tie Breaker: Should teams tie for a berth based on their final bracket location, berths will be awarded based on:

- Best win/loss record/percentage
- Head to head game results (if applicable)
- Team eliminated by farthest advancing team