COVID-19 SPECIAL PARK RULES

1. Please respect the ZERO tolerance policy. To help us help you stay safe, please obey all commands from FPN park staff. Spectators who refuse to obey commands from staff will be ejected from the park. If they refuse ejection, the police will be called.

2. **Masks or cloth face coverings must be worn to enter the bathrooms and retail building.** Face shields are not sufficient.

3. **Masks or cloth face coverings must be worn in any place you cannot maintain a 6 ft. social distance.**

4. **You must maintain a 6 ft social distance at all times in all locations with people not in your household.**

5. **Beginning 6/26, uniformed players, 3 coaches and NOW 2 parent/guardian spectators per player will be permitted in the park. NO other spectators will be allowed including siblings (children), grandparents, friends, etc.**

6. Wash or sanitize your hands frequently. Hand sanitizing stations are outside the bathrooms on the wall.

7. If you are feeling sick, please do not enter and you must leave the facility immediately.

8. **NO canopies behind the backstops allowed. Canopies may be used to extend the dugout area and the areas beyond the dugouts. People must continue to maintain social distance while using canopies.**

9. Individual families may bring food or drink for themselves, but no tailgating, or team meals are permitted.

10. **NO seeds. NO gum. NO spitting.**

11. Once a team has completed play, they will need to leave the park immediately. There will be no lingering to watch or scout other teams.

12. Teams in the morning (first) and late afternoon (last) Time Blocks park in the lower parking lot. Teams in midday Time Block park in the upper parking lot.
PARK RULES see additional COVID-19 rules further below.

Directions:
The address is 1001 Day Hill Rd., Windsor, CT 06095

Special Arrival, Parking and Exiting:
- Teams in the morning (first) and late afternoon (last) Time Blocks park in the lower parking lot. Teams in midday Time Block park in the upper parking lot
  - First games are at 7:45am.
  - The next set of games begins at 12pm. Teams can enter the park at 11am but no earlier.
  - The next set of games begins at 4:15pm. Teams can enter the park at 3:15pm but no earlier.
- The lower parking lot can is adjacent to fields 1, 2, 3 and 4 for 350 cars.
- The auxiliary parking lot is above fields 4, 5 with 650 paved spaces at 1001 Day Hill by the retail plaza. PARK AT YOU OWN RISK. FPN is not responsible for loss or damage to your vehicles.

Other Park Rules:
- No Smoking or tobacco use allowed anywhere including the parking lot.
- No Alcohol or drugs use allowed anywhere including the parking lot. Violators will be ejected from the park for the remainder of the tournament. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO INSPECT CONTENTS OF ALL COOLERS, BAGS, etc.
- No vehicles are allowed anywhere other than the parking lot. You may not drive up to any field to unload equipment.
  - NO CANOPIES ALLOWED ANYWHERE BEHIND THE NET BACKSTOPS DUGOUT TO DUGOUT.
- Dogs are allowed but only leashed and you must use proper waste disposal bags to clean up after your dog.
- No grills or any cooking allowed anywhere in the park.
- No bicycles, scooters, roller skates, skateboards or hover boards.
- No public music players, boom boxes, wireless speakers or noise makers permitted anywhere including the stands, dugouts, fields and warmup areas. Respect we are in a shared space.
- No engaging with umpires during or after the game. There will be zero tolerance for abuse of the umpires. Abusive spectators may be ejected from the park and at our discretion from the entire tournament.

Live Streaming:
- Live game streaming will be available on all fields this weekend: https://fastpitchnation.net/live. Games are currently not recorded.

Weather and Rainout Line
All weather alerts, delays, etc are communicated via Rainout line. You can check the website, call the number or subscribe to text alerts. https://rainoutline.com/home/dnis/8602662323

Scoreboards
Volunteers will be needed to run the wireless controller at the scorer's table at each field. The teams can determine before hand a volunteer to run the scoreboard. It's very easy.

Fastpitch Nation's Main Building
- Restroom facilities for men and women are in the main building. Both have baby changing stations.
- We offer a full array of apparel that we customize on site with the tournament decal or more than 40 other decals.
- Many softball themed novelties and gifts are available.
- Limited sports equipment such as batting gloves, balls, bat wraps, scorebooks, and similar items are available.
- Ice is sold at the main building.
- A large phone and tablet charging station is located in the building.

Concessions
- Food vending will be open during all of the Fastpitch Nation events. The hours of operation are from 30 mins prior to the start of the first game through midway through the last game.

First Aid
Hartford Healthcare will be on site for every game of each event to provide athletic training and basic first aid services. They will be at the main building in either a tent or their trailer. Hartford Hospital is 15 minutes away in the event of serious injury. The Town of Windsor, CT's EMS can be reached via 911.

Foul Balls
All players, coaches, fans, and parents be aware of foul balls at all times. BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS. There will be more than one game going on at a time, which can cause foul balls from different fields. Please return all foul balls to the umpire or the tournament director.
COVID -19 GAME PLAY RULES MODIFICATIONS

Includes dugout and social distance management

1. The play adaptations are mainly in terms of social distance. We have tried to preserve the game as we know it as much as possible. These are the on-field protocols all will need to follow.

2. On the field and around the field, we will follow strict social distancing. Fastpitch softball is a non-contact sport and is ideally suited for such a thing since the players are so far apart for nearly the entire time.

3. Umpires, the UIC and the Director of Safety will manage both the game and the social distance and safety rules on the field. However, we need the coaches to be an equally important part of the safety team.

4. Umpires will warn coaches if a team is not abiding by the social distance restrictions. Teams will have a maximum of 2 warnings. If a third infraction of social distance rules occurs, the game will end and be recorded as a forfeit.

5. Teams will warmup in the outfield and edges of the infield only. Since at any time the teams in the park will be the ones playing no warmups are allowed in other areas.

6. At the conclusion of a team’s second game they are to immediately pack up their gear and exit the park. They are not permitted to linger in the park to scout other teams, shop or eat at the food trucks. It’s important the teams exit quickly so the next block of teams can enter the park.

7. Teams as required to completely clean out the dugouts and leave nothing behind that others must touch to clean or discard.

8. There will be no shaking of hands, high fives, fist bumps or even elbow bumps. At the game’s conclusion teams will just exit the field.

9. There will be no players at the homeplate meeting prior to the game and social distance will be maintained by the two managers and umpire.

10. All games will use free substitution and free courtesy runners for the catcher and pitcher.

11. Lineup cards will be optional and only exchanged between scorekeepers. If one team does not wish to exchange physical lineup cards that will be permitted. If you can exchange lineups via text that will be ideal. No physical lineup cards will be given to the umpire. We ask teams use the honor system and any lineup card disputes will need to be resolved between scorekeepers.

12. Mound visits will be limited to the pitcher, catcher and manager at a proper social distances.

13. No team huddles, pre or post game meetings will be permitted.

14. No seeds, gum or any food that encourages spitting will be permitted.

15. No sharing of equipment will be permitted.

16. No communal water coolers or team meals.

17. No huddles, or pre or post game team meetings.

18. An extended dugout area will be marked on the ground with Xs to denote player positions 6 feet apart and two players deep.

19. We will limit the number of players in the dugout at any one time. For players on defense usually the whole team is on the field with one or two players and the coaches on the bench. Coaches and umpires will keep watch to maintain strict social distancing. No more than 5 people maintaining 6’ social distances are allowed in the dugout at one time. For the team on offense the 4 players in the batting order due up that inning and 1 coach will be in the dugout. The other 2 coaches will be at the 1st and 3rd base coaching positions. The remaining players will be outside the dugout in a marked area from the end of the dugout down the baseline. Players will need to bring chairs if they want to have seating in this area and teams can place pop-up tents to cover the players seated in the uncovered dugout area. Teams may sue canopies over the extended dugout space.

20. Each team will be required to have one or two parents or a coach delegated to monitor the players outside the dugout for social distancing and to monitor and maintain the flow into and out of the dugout.

FASTPITCH NATION PARK 2020 GAME PLAY RULES

1. Current USSSA rules and regulations will apply to the tournament unless modified by this document.

2. Format: 2 games per day. No elimination round.

3. Time limit - All games will have a 1:15 drop dead time limit. When the clock strikes 1:15 the game is immediately over.

   The final score will be the score at the end of the last completed inning. If the home team is up to bat when time expires, any runs they have scored during that half inning will be counted. The home team can win with the runs they score in their half of the inning but cannot lose or tie in their half of the inning if the away team took the lead or tied in their last at-bat since the home team did not also get a full 3 outs in the same inning. In this case we revert back to the last completed inning. Games can end in a tie. The clock begins immediately after the pre-game conference ends. The clock NEVER stops for any reason. In this COVID affected format we must remain 100% on time for each group to come and leave the park on time.

4. We now use the Pay-at-the-Plate system for paying umpires.

   • Each team pays cash to the umpires at the pre-game meeting prior to the game starting. Umpire fees (other than championships games which FPN will pay) are no longer included in tournament registration fees.

   • For standard tournaments with 2 umpires per game each team pays the umpires $55 cash (no checks or CC) at the plate. If circumstances dictate only a sinle umpire is used then each team pays $40.
5. Standard USSSA mercy rules in effect for all games (12 after 3; 10 after 4; 8 after 5). Game time is under the control of the umpires on the field.
6. The winner of a coin toss prior to the start of a game will have choice of being home or visitors.
7. Coaches and rostered players are the only ones allowed to be in the dugout or bench area during the games.
8. There will be no protests allow during this COVID affected format.
9. All games will use free substitution and free courtesy runners for the catcher and pitcher
10. Roster batting may be used and must be declared prior to the start of the game. This means all players in the lineup will bat. The team must use roster batting for the full duration of the game.
11. All that do not complete the online check-in process prior to the tournament must report to the check-in person at least 1 hour before their first game. You will need the following: Proof of insurance and original signed USSSA roster. Note: All teams must have and be able to produce your official USSSA roster and birth certificates on demand.
12. If a coach, manager, or fan is ejected from a game they must leave the vicinity (out of sight and sound) of that playing field immediately and is prohibited from any further contact (direct or indirect) with the team during the remainder of that game. They are ejected for the game in progress and the next game. It is the tournament director’s discretion if further penalties such as ejection from the tournament are warranted.
13. If a player is ejected, they must sit out the remainder of that game and remain in the bench area under adult supervision. The out of sight and sound principle does not apply to an ejected player. If a player wants to leave and there is an adult to accompany her, the spirit of the rule is satisfied. An ejected player is eligible to play in the next game.
14. All bats must have the USSSA 1.20 Thumbprint. Violation occurs when player enters the batter’s box. Violation for using an ALTERED or NON-APPROVED bat: the batter is declared “out”; the bat is removed from the game; the player and head coach are immediately ejected from the game. Violation for using a DAMAGED bat: the batter is declared “out”; the bat is removed from the game; a team warning is issued for the first offense if discovery is made PRIOR TO hitting the ball. For a subsequent offense, the player is restricted to the bench and the head coach is ejected from the game.
15. Game time is forfeit time. Forfeits will be entered as no score (0-0).
16. All warmup occur within the confines of the field. No areas outside the fences are to be used for warm-up to maintain our social distance polices. During pre-game no infield will be taken on the field other than the edges of the infield by the outfield grass. Pitchers cannot use the game pitching circle to warm up.
17. Each field has an unprotected bullpen in foul territory along the first and third base foul lines. These are the only places where pitchers are permitted to warm up. The pitcher’s back is turned to the game. Bullpen catchers must wear masks while warming up a pitcher. A spotter is required. If the spotter is a player, a helmet must be worn.
18. In the event of rain, snow or acts of God, the tournament director reserves the right to reduce game times. Refunds will be given according to the following policy. If at least 2 games are started no refund is provided. If 1 game is started a 50% refund is given. If no games are started a 75% refund is given.
19. The head coach from each team must be present at the pre-game conference which will take place approximately five minutes prior to the start of each game. Due to COVID there will be no lineup cards exchanged with the umpire but the scorekeepers may exchange cards if they wish. The meeting will discuss ground rules and the head coach must verify that their players are “legally and properly equipped” (Rule 4-8-D-4).
20. The home team (official book) will report the scores to the homeplate umpire at the end of the game.
21. There is a scorer’s table at each field. The scorekeepers are encouraged to both use this area to confer with each other during the game.
22. One of the teams must provide a volunteer to operate the scoreboard system located at the scorer’s table. It's very easy and instructions are provided.
23. Boom boxes, radios, wireless speakers Alexas, etc. are not permitted to be used during the game or near the field area without the use of headphones, earbuds etc. Open music, if volume and content is appropriate, is only permitted in the warmup pavilion out past fields 9 and 11.
24. Jewelry that is non-hanging or non-dangling stud type ear or nose piercings only may be worn. Players in the game are prohibited from wearing jewelry such as rings, watches, hanging or dangling earrings, bars or other piercing type jewelry whether covered with tape or not, bracelets, necklaces (including cloth and string type), or other hard decorative items. Unadorned devices with no sharp edges or points, such as bobby pins, barrettes and hair clips, no longer than 2 inches, may be worn to control a player’s hair. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn they must be taped to the body, so as to remain visible. Coaches wristbands (play indicators) are legal but must be worn as designed. Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during the game.
25. Metal cleats are allowed for teams 13U and older.
26. For pitchers no tacky or sticky substances (such as Gorilla Gold towels or rock rosin) may be used as a substitute for a powdered drying agent such as regular rosin bags which are legal.
27. The director reserves the right to change, shorten, modify, or alter games and/or schedule in order to conclude the event successfully.

For 7 Inning Series tournaments each team pays the umpires $65 cash (no checks or CC) at the plate. If circumstances dictate only a singe umpire is used then each teams pays $50.

Cash payments MUST be in an envelope to avoid too much handling of the money.