**EXHIBITION GAME/CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET PLAY**:

* Teams will be asked to warm up in the designated areas marked and noted at each location/field.
* Teams listed first OR on the top of the bracket will occupy the 3rd base dugout. Teams listed second or on the bottom of the bracket will occupy the first base dugout. In the event of a back to back game – the new team will simply take the open dugout.
* Bracket Time Limits
	+ 14U/16U/18U - 90 minutes or 7 innings, 10U/12U – 80 minutes or 7 innings. The Elite bracket championship final game will be 7 innings no time limit – run rule’s will still be enforced.
* All teams must be available to play prior to the first scheduled game of the event.
* **EXHIBITION GAMES** – Will be finish the batter and can end in a tie. Players can be free flowed both defensively and offensively BUT you will turn in a line up card.
* **BRACKET PLAY**: Teams may use their choice of line-up HOWEVER you have no courtesy runner unless you have an available sub. **WE DO NOT HAVE FREE SUBSTITUTIONS IN BRACKET PLAY.**
* Teams WILL turn in a line-up card.
* All acceptable line-ups can be found in the official CSE, Inc. tournament play rules.
* All games will follow the NCAA playing rules with modifications explained at the CSE coaches meeting.
* Please check our 2022 Approved Bat List. This follows the current NCAA/USA Approved list. **THIS MEANS NO YELLOW PAINT EASTON GHOST BATS THAT DO NOT CARRY A USA STAMP.**
* All teams will provide their own .47 core .375 compression softball. The core and compression must be stamped and visible on the ball. Game officials will have the final say deeming the ball suitable for play.
* Any forfeited game will be scored as a 7-0 loss and the team is subject to expulsion from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament director.
* ALL GAMES WILL UTILIZE A COIN FLIP TO DETERMINE HOME/VISITORS-INCLUDING EXHIBITION GAMES. The only exception to this will be the championship game in the Elite Division in which the undefeated team will be home.
* Home teams will be responsible for the official scorekeeping of the game and the Visitor will be responsible for the scoreboard, if applicable, with adult (18+) only on the scoreboards.
* Bracket games **MAY NOT** end in a tie; the game **MUST** have a winner.
	+ Bracket play will be 7 innings or time limit; whichever comes first, finish the game. The tiebreaker will go into effect, if applicable, the first full inning after time has expired.
* The tiebreaker will be played as follows: the last completed at bat from the previous completed inning will be placed on first base. The two names above the last completed at bat sequentially listed in the batting order will return to second and third base respectively to load the bases and the tiebreaker will begin with 1 out.

**TOURNAMENT GROUND RULES**:

* Run rules are as follows for ALL age groups (Except 8U):
	+ 12 after 3
	+ 10 after 4
	+ 8 after 5
* We will have 1 minute between each half inning controlled by an on-field timer. **This is strictly adhered to by use of an on-field timer.** At the end of the 1-minute period the team not ready to begin will have balls or strikes called against them one every minute thereafter until competition begins.
* When there is 5 minutes or less left in regulation play, any “time out” called will also stop the game clock.
* All teams are required to be at their respective fields ready to play 20 minutes **PRIOR** to their scheduled game time. (Whether the field is on time or not) Both head coaches will meet their umpire crews or the tournament director for the upcoming game in front of home plate outside the field of play to complete the pre-game process at this 20 minute mark as well. This will allow to manage game times a bit better with the ultimate goal of running on time. Everyone can appreciate in an event the more organized, the smoother the tournament runs.
* **NOTE:** If you are in the midst of a back-to-back game – please be prepared to send someone to perform the pre-game flip for the next game as we will continue on with the pre-games without exception. Since the pre-games will be completed **BEFORE** the end of the previous game, we ask teams when entering the field for your game, please refrain from additional team warm-up drills other than allowed by officials - be prepared to begin competition immediately. We will start games early if we are able to do so. Always remember – Game time is forfeit time.

PROTESTS

* Protest Fee’s – If a team wishes to protest PLAYER ELIGIBILITY there will be a $150.00 fee. If the team who puts up the protest wins – your money will be refunded. Note – judgment calls **CANNOT BE PROTESTED**.
* In the event of inclement weather or other tournament interruption, we will make every attempt to notify you via our website e-mail and text system. We will also post any updates on the homepage of our website.

**ENFORCEMENT OF GOOD CONDUCT AND GAME ETIQUETTE:**

Parties in attendance will be expected to act in a manner that is respectful, courteous to all. Remedies for unsportsmanlike conduct by any person could but is not limited to the following:

* Ejection of a parent, coach and possibly their respective players when **PARENTS** demonstrate bad behavior (meaning parents could cause coaches and players to be ejected)
* Game forfeiture of that particular game if the coach cannot help the parent(s) to demonstrate good behavior.
* Removing coaches or parents for the entire event for confrontation in game or post-game.

**PRE-GAME WARM UP WITH AND WITHOUT TEMPORARY FENCING: UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

* Please warm up **INSIDE** the game field on the other side of the temporary fencing of the field you are set to play on. If temporary fencing is being utilized at a facility, the next teams scheduled may warm-up behind left and right field temporary fencing, however; teams **MAY NOT** warm-up in center field. It is the warm-up team’s responsibility to ensure that all practice balls stay outside of the playing field. Each team will receive one warning and will be required to stop warm-ups immediately upon the second violation.
	+ If you are on a field with no temporary fencing then utilize the **MARKED** warm-up areas. Pitchers warming up during the game are inside the fence preferably in that same area behind the temporary fence and inside the chain link back fence. Catchers **MUST** have a helmet on when catching a pitcher.

**WEATHER RELATED STOPPAGES OF PLAY**:

* The tournament will make all decisions on play stoppage. CSE, Inc. will monitor all weather situations and make the best decisions for our players, fans and coaches with regards to stoppage and resuming of games.
	+ The weather statements will be available at as well as on the homepage of our bracket scheduler [www.quickscores.com/cse](http://www.quickscores.com/cse). Please look to here for any weather updates, stoppages and how to resume play at a facility. Please realize with multiple facilities operating this may take some time to adjust and make changes. Check with the local CSE site official(s) for updates.

**STAFFING AREAS**:

* Each facility will have a different location for the staff / umpires. CSE, Inc. asks the following protocol be observed:
	+ If a team needs to discuss an umpire issue, a uniformed CSE, Inc. staff member will be at all sites to help you with your concern. **IN NO CASE** will a team representative / parent be allowed in the umpire area/staff room to directly discuss this issue without going through the proper channels.

**LINE-UP CARDS**:

You must provide your own line up cards. These cards contain four carbonless copies, which should be issued to the following at game time:

* + Umpire
	+ Opposing Team
	+ Team should retain the hard copy

  **SECTION 4 – GAME STOPPAGE WEATHER CANCELLATION**

**d) If a team is ahead by twelve or more runs after three innings, ten runs after four innings, eight or more runs after five innings.**

**e) Tournament games using time limits must complete a minimum of 50% of the scheduled time to constitute an official completed game.**

1. **For cancelled games that meet the 50% criteria, the last completed inning will be used to determine winners & tie breakers. Half innings will not be used, even if the home team is ahead, so as to allow fairness in the tiebreaker process...i.e. runs allowed/scored.**

**RELIEF PITCHER WARM-UPS**

* When warming up a pitcher during the game, she must warm-up inside the playing field, throwing towards the outfield fence with a protector (may be a coach) with glove facing the batter, unless the facility has a specified area for relief pitcher warm ups. Again - catcher’s **MUST** wear a helmet while catching a pitcher.

**FACILITY RULES**

* Please be aware that utilizing multiple facilities, the rules may vary with regards to their policies.
* PLEASE MAKE YOUR FAMILIES AWARE OF THE LOCAL COVID-19 FACILITY POLICIES PRIOR TO ATTENDING THE EVENT. THESE POLICIES CAN BE FOUND ON EACH CITY WEBSITE PERTINENT TO THE LOCATION OF THE FACILITY. CSE, INC. IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF THIS INFORMATION OR TO THE AGE OF THE INFORMATION. YOU AND YOUR TEAM MUST TAKE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR KNOWLEDGE ADHERANCE TO THESE POLICIES.
* Please be mindful of the changes in policy as you attend different facilities and be willing to follow their rules in place.
* Have a responsible team member locate the policy for injured players to obtain a bag of ice, in case of on emergency. Please do not wait until an injury occurs to realize you do not know where to go for help. Most facilities have a location with their concession stand. Please check.

**PHOTOGRAPHER**:

* There could be a professional action photographer present at games at all facilities. **NO** parents or fans will be allowed to gain access to the fields for pictures during play.

**TOURNAMENT STAFF BY LOCATION – BOTH WILL BE ON-SITE**

ROGER SMITH – 254-718-4816 – GEORGE PARK – RICHMOND TEXAS

KENNEDY COWART – 832-428-6639 – THE DIAMONDS AT DAILY PARK HUB#1

LINDON BAPTISTE – 254-630-3012 – THE DIAMONDS AT DAILY PARK HUB#2