

Char-Meck Girls Softball Challenge Program

1. Challenge Tournament Hosting Benefits
 - a. Convenient location for hosting association families
 - b. Credit of \$300 applied to Challenge invoice
 - c. Concession stand sales
 - d. Field and sponsorship exposure
2. Challenge Tournament Costs
 - a. Minors – check website
 - b. Majors, MS & HS – check website
3. Challenge Tournament Location Guidelines:
 - a. Field specific rules posted
 - b. Adequate parking and restroom facilities
 - c. Field lights (Fall season)
4. Challenge Rosters
 - a. Each association must submit a finalized team roster to tournament director one week prior to tournament date
 - i. If multiple teams within one association, players can only be rostered on one team
 - b. Clarification on rosters communicated
 - i. 13-person roster for Minors and Majors
 - ii. 12-person roster for MS and HS
 - c. Players must participate in pool game to be eligible in bracket play
 - d. Not all rostered players must appear on the lineup card each game; however, if a player is NOT listed they may NOT enter that game.
5. Standard Pool Play schedule to be used across divisions
 - a. All games begin with 60-minute timer, **DROP DEAD** Rule Applies – all games begin 15 minutes after
6. Pool play selections to be done by the tournament director one week prior to tournament date
 - a. Pool play schedule to be filled in as matchups are drawn until each team has two pool play games (No repeat matchups)
 - b. Home team is determined prior to the game with a coin flip overseen by the active umpire
 - c. Pool Play seeding tie breakers are (1) Head-to-head; (2) Runs Allowed; (3) Runs Scored
7. A common bracket will be used across divisions
 - a. Set of brackets to be ratified – 5 team brackets, 6 team bracket, 7 team bracket, etc.
 - b. Brackets to be created using appropriate “bracket theory”
 - c. Time Limit ALL age divisions: 1 Hour 15 Minutes, a new inning begins as soon as the 3rd out is registered.

8. Bracket Game Innings/Run Rules:

Minors/Majors

Play 6 innings/75 minutes, **finish the batter**

4 runs per inning through 4, starting 5th inning unlimited runs

Championship game is 6 innings/75 minutes, **finish the inning**

MS/HS

Play 7 innings/75 minutes, **finish the batter**

5 runs per inning through 4, starting 5th inning unlimited runs

Championship game is 7 innings/75 minutes, **finish the inning**

9. Slaughter Rules:

Minors/Majors

15 runs any time after 4 innings and 10 runs after 5 innings

MS/HS

15 runs any time after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings

10. Tie Breaker:

- a. Char-Meck will use the International Tie Breaker rule for the tournament bracket games. If two teams arrive at the end of regulation play (due to either number of innings or time limit) and the score is tied, the following will occur until the tie is broken: The visiting team will *put their **last batter** from the previous inning* on second base as a base runner to start the "extra" inning. All other rules apply so that each team receives three outs per extra inning. The visiting team will bat and play the remainder of the inning as they would any other inning. The home team will do the same when they come to bat. This will continue until one team is ahead after the home team bats, and such team will be the winner.

11. Division Specific Rules adjusted from seasonal playing rules:

Minors

1. Pitching Inning restrictions increase to 5 innings over 2 games
2. *Rule 14* does NOT apply - NO overthrow rule; advance at own risk

Majors

1. Pitching Innings restrictions increase to 7 innings over 2 games
2. *Rule 6* does NOT apply - NO limit on stolen bases; advance at own risk

*****ALL age divisions: Pitchers Innings reset to ZERO after pool play games only*****

*****ALL game balls should be left on the field of play**

*****Sportsmanship is required for ALL participants.**

Hosting site will provide a tournament director to handle any issues, coordinate with umpires and update game results/brackets. Coordinate opening and closing/awards ceremonies. Brackets should be posted/displayed and updated at concession stand for clear communication for teams, parents and umpires.

Char-Meck Girls Softball Executive Board

Rev. 2 Updated 01/31/2026