

# DANE FIREMEN'S SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

June 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2010

There are rule changes this year so be sure to read thru all the rules.

1. Entry fee is \$150.00 per team. Money is due before the start of your first game.
2. Game time is scheduled time. No grace period will be allowed. We are playing during the parade on Sunday; parking is even more difficult to find at that time and many streets are closed. If you play on Sunday please arrive early.
3. Teams must field at least 9 players to start and continue the game. If a team starts with 9 players they can add a 10<sup>th</sup> player at the bottom of the batting order at any time without having to take an automatic out in the 10<sup>th</sup> spot. Teams may drop to 9 players due to injury or ejection without taking an automatic out. If at any time of the game a team cannot field a minimum of 9 players the game will be forfeited.
4. All protests must be acted on before the next pitch.
5. All games will be 7 innings with the exception that no new inning will start after 55 minutes of play unless the game is tied. There will be a 15 run rule after the 5<sup>th</sup> inning or 12 runs after the 6th. Pitchers are allowed 5 warm-ups before the 1<sup>st</sup> inning and 2 warm-ups per inning for the remainder of the game. No infield or outfield ball allowed after the 1<sup>st</sup> inning.
6. No titanium bats or bats listed as being above the 1.20 BPF will be allowed. No bats that are on the ASA banned bats list as of June 24<sup>th</sup> 2010 will be allowed. The use of an illegal bat must be appealed by the defensive team prior to the next pitch; if the batter is found to have used an illegal bat they will be called out and all runners must return to the base they were on at the time the illegal bat was used. If a team is found to be using an illegal bat that has been altered to appear to be a legal bat they will be penalized as stated above and they will not be invited back the following year.
7. Players may not wear metal spikes.
8. Unlimited arch; 6 foot minimum. The plate and mat will count as strikes. 3 balls and 2 called strikes **OR** 1 swinging strike. The pitcher must be in contact with the pitching rubber when the pitch is released.
9. There is a courtesy step so runners may leave the base once the ball crosses the plate, is batted or touches the ground. No stealing will be allowed.
10. Teams may bat 10 players or teams may bat more than 10 players with free substitution on defense. Regardless of the number of players batting, any players not in the original lineup may be substituted in and the starting player may re-enter. If a player is injured during the game the last player to be put out may be used as a courtesy runner. Courtesy runner may only be used 1 time per team per game and only for an injury.
11. In the event of special weather circumstances (**EXAMPLES: WIND, STORMS, ETC.**) the tournament officials reserve the right to implement any rule changes necessary in order to complete as much of the tournament as possible. This includes, but is not limited to, such changes as shortening the time limit, run rule or number of innings played. Games suspended by weather will not be re-started; they will be resumed at the earliest opportunity.
12. Winning teams are required to provide two umpires for the next game.

Prize money:     1<sup>st</sup> Place \$1,000  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$500  
                      3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$200  
                      4<sup>th</sup> Place \$150  
                      5<sup>th</sup> Place \$75

We also ask that each team sells \$50 in raffle tickets. I have included the raffle tickets and we are selling them for \$5 a piece. The entry fee does not cover all the cost to put on the tournament. The Fire Department would greatly appreciate this contribution and it also gives you an opportunity to win some prizes.

Please remind all ball players that there is no carry-ins or pets allowed in the park during this weekend.

Note that we will be adding a larger mat this year and a line across the back of the mat that the batter must stay in front of while batting. The batter must start in front of this line and if the batter comes in contact with or steps behind the line, while at bat, will result in a dead ball and the batter being called out. All runners will then have to go back to the base they started from. As all of you know the last couple of years we have been having a lot of homeruns and after cutting down to a .44 core 375 SB 12 last year that didn't seem to help (partly because of the wind blowing out, the short fence, and the technology of the bats) so there will be a larger mat and a back line added this year.

Also please don't ask, all homeruns will be run out and if we feel it needs to be changed we will change it but until we make that decision, all homeruns will be run out.