



2019 Cheshire Flames Invitational

Rules and General Information



(* Please adhere to Cheshire Town Regulations on No Smoking/Drinking at any Public Park *)

General Tournament Information

Dates: June 21st, 22nd and 23rd 2019

Age Groups: 10u, 12u & 14u

Game Locations:

10u - Cheshire Park - Highland Ave (Rte 10) - Between Creamery and Stony Hill Road

12u - Bartlem Park - 520 South Main St. (Rte 10) - directly across the street from the Cheshire High School

14u - Cheshire High School - 525 South Main St. (Rte 10)

Welcome to the 2019 Flames Invitational

Hello Managers and Coaches,

Welcome to the 2019 Cheshire Flames Invitational Softball Tournament! The Cheshire Flames organization is extremely happy to welcome all returning and new teams to our annual Invitational event. We strive to provide a positive, competitive, and fun event for all participants.

This packet contains the rules and general information about the Tournament. Sunday's matchups for elimination play will be posted to <http://www.asanewengland.com> website under the Flames Tournament posting sometime on Saturday evening (same site you received pool play schedule and directions). Tournament Champions and 2nd place finishers will be posted to the Cheshire Flames website (www.cheshireflames.org).

Participating Teams:

10u: Cheshire Flames, Brookfield Burn Blue (Brookfield), Enfield Extreme (Enfield), Mid-Hudson Rebels Red (Kingston, NY), Southington Thunder (Southington), Taunton Tornadoes Blue (Taunton, Mass), Taunton Tornadoes White (Taunton, Mass), Wolcott Eagles (Wolcott).

12u: Cheshire Flames Black, Cheshire Flames Red, Apponaug Pride (Warwick RI), Beacon Xtreme Blue (Beacon, NY), Beacon Xtreme Gold (Beacon, NY), Rawlings Wildcats 07 (Cheshire), Southington Thunder (Southington), Taunton Tornadoes (Taunton, Mass), Watertown Rapids (Watertown), Wolcott Eagles (Wolcott).

14u: Cheshire Flames Black, Cheshire Flames Red, CT Diamond Club Black (East Hartford), CT Eliminators (Cromwell), CT Gators (Orange), CT Mirage (Rocky Hill), Wolcott Eagles (Wolcott), Guilderland Rampage (Guilderland, NY), Mass Xtreme (Swansea, Mass), Taunton Tornadoes (Taunton, Mass).

Important Tournament Notes:

Special Addendum to the Rules: After discussion with the tournament Umpire in Charge (UIC) it has been pointed out that there have been rule issues regarding Easton's Ghost bat. As explained to the tournament director, there is a Ghost bat approved for ASA play and another that is approved for USSSA play. For the 2019 Cheshire Flames tournament, and this tournament only, both bats will be acceptable for play.

Parking at Bartlem Park: A Lacrosse tournament will be held the same weekend as our Softball Tournament. Please use designated parking for "Flames Tournament" at Bartlem Park. Additional Parking is available across the street at the High School. **Note:** there is additional parking on the right side of the High School as you enter the parking lot that isn't visible to view!

All teams must present their Rosters and Proof-of-Insurance at their designated field registration table one hour prior to their first game of the tournament, no exceptions. You must also have with you, at all times, Birth Certificates for all of your roster players which may be requested and must be immediately presented to the Tournament Director / Assistant Director.

Pool play games will be played on Friday evening and Saturday. Friday evening games will be scheduled for teams that are geographically close to Cheshire.

Seeding for Sunday's Elimination Games will be posted to <http://www.asanewengland.com> on Saturday night upon the conclusion of the Pool play games. Check under the Cheshire Flames Tournament page (same page directions and pool play schedule was posted).

When you first check-in for your initial Pool play game on Friday or Saturday, you will receive Individual MVP awards for your Pool play games (10u and 12u only). Your team is to select an **opposing** team member to receive an MVP award after each Pool game. Please note a player is to accept only one MVP award during Pool play. Please consult with your opponent's manager prior to award to ensure no one player receives multiple "MVP" awards during Pool play.

Game score cards will be provided to the umpires. At the conclusion of each game the team names and scores are to be recorded and the card signed by both managers and umpire. The umpire will submit the game score card to the registration tent.

Concessions:

10u (Cheshire Park): **The Buzzing Bistro** food truck will be providing burgers, hot dogs, loaded fries, chips, snacks, and drinks. The food truck will be there Saturday and Sunday.

12u (Bartlem Park): **Snowden's Barbecue** food truck will be at Cheshire High School directly across the street from Bartlem Park. They will be serving smoked ribs, pulled pork, chicken with cole slaw, mac and cheese, and BBQ baked beans on Saturday and Sunday.

<https://www.facebook.com/snowdensbarbecue/>

14u (High School): **Snowden's Barbecue** food truck will be serving smoked ribs, pulled pork, chicken with cole slaw, mac and cheese, and BBQ baked beans on Saturday and Sunday.

<https://www.facebook.com/snowdensbarbecue/>

Tournament T-Shirts will be available for sale at the registration tables.

2019 Cheshire Flames Invitational Tournament Rules:

The 2019 USA Rulebook will apply unless modified below:

- 1) Each team may bat more than nine players as long as the batting order remains the same
- 2) Free substitution rules. You can move any of your players into any defensive role at any time. Batting order must stay consistent and not change regardless of any defensive position moves.
- 3) Courtesy runners are allowed at all times for Pitchers and Catchers (last batted out). Other than Pitchers & Catchers, general Pinch Runner rules apply. Any injured players may have a Pinch Runner inserted at any time (last batted out).
- 4) Time Limit: For pool, elimination and semi-final games no new inning may start after 1 hour and 20 minutes and the inning being played will be finished. Championship games have no time limit and will be played for a full seven (12U & 14U) or six (10U) innings unless the "Run ahead Rule" comes into effect.
- 5) All 12U and 14U games are seven innings or until the "Run ahead Rule" or time limit rule takes effect. All 10U games are six innings or until the "Run ahead Rule" or time limit rule takes effect.
- 6) Pool play games that end in a tie when time expires will be recorded as a tie.
- 7) During elimination games the tie breaker rule will be used if:
 - a. A game is tied after seven (12U & 14U) or six (10U) completed innings
-OR-
 - b. The allotted game time limit has expired

(A base runner will start on second base with no outs. The runner will be the last batted out from the previous inning.)

- 8) A coin toss will determine Home team during Pool play. Failure to appear when umpires call for the coin toss will result in a 7-0 forfeit. Higher seeded teams will be home team during elimination play.
- 9) "Run ahead Rule" of 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 after 4 innings and 8 after 5 innings will be in effect for all games.
- 10) The Tournament Director or his designee will make every effort to bring the Tournament to a successful completion and reserves the right to change, shorten, modify or alter games and/or schedules in order to accomplish this goal.
- 11) Weather - If a sufficient number of pool games are not played due to rain, seeding for the elimination round will be drawn at random or determined per the Tournament Director's discretion. If the elimination round games are rained out the results from pool play will

determine the tournament winners.

- 12) Rain-Out Policy: If no games are started or completed, $\frac{2}{3}$'s of the entry fee will be refunded. If one game is completed, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the entry fee will be refunded. There will be no refunds after the start of a team's second game. All refunds will be mailed within 14 days of tournament's completion.
- 13) The criteria utilized to determine team seeding for Elimination Sunday are in order as

follows:

- a. Total points: 2 points given for each win and 1 point given for a tie during Pool play
 - b. Head-to-Head Record (this will apply only if two teams are tied)
 - c. Runs Allowed (after taking into account “Runs Allowed”, if the number of tied teams is reduced to two teams then revert back to step “b”)
 - d. Runs Scored (after taking into account “Runs Scored”, if the number of tied teams is reduced to two teams then revert back to step “b”)
 - e. If all else fails, seeding will be determined by random by the Tournament Director.
- 14) Umpire Judgment calls are final, no protests permitted. In an event that a coach or player is ejected from a game by an umpire, the ejection is for the rest of the Tournament and the ejected party must immediately leave the premises before the game continues.
- 15) Game Time is under the control of the umpires on the field.
- 16) If there is an unbalanced number of teams and a team is required to play an extra (4th) Pool play game, that team will designate one of their games with the Tournament Director as “not counting” in their overall Pool play standings. This information must be shared with the Tournament Director three days prior to the first game and is binding.

Cheshire Flames Invitational Contacts:

We have several Cheshire Flames’ staff members and volunteers present at all fields throughout the weekend and all staff members are available to assist. Please be aware that many of the contact points are also playing tournament games so if your call isn’t answered please try another contact on the list.

Tournament Director: Tony Cannatelli, (860) 302-0336 tcann70@aol.com

Craig Odermatt: 12u Cheshire Flames Manager, (203) 530-5738 (Bartlem Park)

John Gawlak: 14u Cheshire Flames Black Manager, (203) 530-8721 (Cheshire High School)

Jay Miramant: 10u Cheshire Flames Manager, (860) 306-0619 (Cheshire Park)