



# 2005 SOFTBALL

## **SECTION III SOFTBALL COMMITTEE**

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### **SECTION III COMMITTEE**

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**Executive Director:** Richard Bader  
**Assoc. Exec. Director:** Paul Harrison  
**Secretary:** Dawn Field

PUBLICITY Syracuse Newspaper 800-765-4454  
 Utica Press 800-765-5359  
 Watertown Press 800-642-6222

**TOURNAMENT INFORMATION**

DATES States: June 4<sup>th</sup> at Gillette Softball Complex  
 Regionals: AA: May 31 Sec.2 at Sec. 3 at Gillette at 5 PM  
 A: May 30 Sec. 3 @ Sec. 10 at Potsdam St at 3 PM  
 June 1 Sec. 2-7 @ Sec. 3-10 winner (if 3 wins at Gillette @ 5 PM)  
 B May 30 Sec. 3 @ Sec. 10 @ Potsdam St @ 3 PM  
 June 1 Sec. 2-7 @ Sec. 3-10 winner (if 3 wins at Gillette @ 5 PM)  
 C: May 31 Sec.3 @ Sec4 at BAGSAI at 3 PM  
 D: June 1 Sec. 3 @ Sec. 4 at BAGSAI at 3 PM

SEEDING Section III seeding is Monday, May 16 at 9 AM. Cut off date is Saturday, May 14. Seeding meeting will be at Canastota High School. All teams should be prepared to play on May 17. Teams will be notified of seeding on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

- Tournament is OPEN. All teams may enter. Make sure your league rep has your completed entry form prior to the seeding meeting.
- Seeding will be done by league records.

SCHEDULE Section III will run finals at Hopkins Road Park in Liverpool

- Mon. May 16, 2005 Seeding
- Tues. May 17, 2005 Preliminary Split Class
- Thurs. May 19, 2005 Split Quarterfinals; 1<sup>st</sup> Round
- Sat. May 21, 2005 Split Semifinals; Quarterfinals
- Mon.....May 23, 2005 Rain date for Sat. games
- Wed.... May 25, 2005 Split Finals Semifinals (AA,A Hopkins Rd., C,D Gillette, B-Ilion)
- Sat May 28, 2005 Finals 12 AA; 2 D; 4 C; 6 B ; 8 A
- Sun May29, 2005 Rain date

## INFORMATION

Balls—Each team will supply two new balls, to be used by them on defense, at the start of all games. Additional balls will need to be supplied as needed. Balls will be supplied at the Finals.

Reports—Expense claim forms and financial reports should be sent to:

Dawn Field  
Section 3 Office  
7521 Morgan Road  
Liverpool, NY 13090

Submit reports as soon as possible after the game. Include a check made out to Section III for all receipts. All officials must fill out a claim form, which you will need to send in with your reports. All site personnel must sign the back of the site sheet.

**Do not pay out any cash.**

### **TO ALL CLASS CHAIRS AND TEAM COACHES:**

1. It is permissible for an athletic director to request that a game scheduled for one day be played on the following day. The game may be rescheduled if the other athletic director agrees to this request. However, if the rescheduled game is postponed for any reason, and this postponement results in the tournament structure being delayed, the team that requested the date change will forfeit that game.
2. Check on the leagues in your area to be certain that teams will be ready to play.
3. See that umpires for games are set. (Home team AD's responsibility)
4. Send your entry form to your league rep. by the seeding meeting.
5. Game results should be phoned to papers and the Section III chair. 699-7685.
6. Games postponed, should be rescheduled the next day.
7. All games will be seven innings, unless extra innings are needed to break ties. Four and ½ innings will be a regular game if the home team is leading. ANY GAME SUSPENDED WILL BE PLAYED FROM THAT POINT THE NEXT DAY.
8. The home team scorekeepers will be official.
9. The date for the finals is SET. Changes in time only, will be considered if there is a conflict with a prom. The committee must be notified at the seeding meeting of any potential for a conflict.

### CUT OFF DATES – GAMES PLAYED:

Cut off date is May 14, 2005. Every effort must be made to play as many games as possible before the Section III tournament starts.

### TICKET PRICES:

Section III Finals are \$3.00.  
Regionals are \$5.00.

### PUBLICITY:

Call the local papers. 800 numbers are on the first page.

### POSTPONEMENTS:

Games that are postponed because of weather problems must be rescheduled the following day. Section III tournament play must take precedent over league play.

## **SOFTBALL GUIDELINES FOR SECTION III TOURNAMENT PLAY**

### 1. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT GAMES

- A. Any proposals to change the Section III softball guidelines should be made at either the preseason or seeding meeting. Proposed changes will be voted on at the postseason meeting. Each league representative receives one vote for each school that he/she represents.
- B. If you have any questions, please contact:
  - i. Your league chairperson
  - ii. The Section III Chairperson or Assistant Chairpersons
  - iii. The Section III Office
- C. The dates for all tournament games are set at the Softball Committee postseason meeting. Section III tournament dates depend upon dates set by the state committee for the state tournament.
- D. The site and times for final games are set at the postseason meeting. The times for the different classes rotates each year. If split classes are necessary, i.e. C-1/C-2, the date for this type of final game will be set at the postseason meeting. The sites and times for those games will be set by the sectional chairperson and assistant chairpersons. Every attempt will be made to play these games at convenient site for both schools. This means that schools may receive a short notice (at least two days) as to the exact site and time of a final game.
- E. If a school wants to enter the Section III Tournament, please make sure that both the application form and the season record form are completed. You must notify your league chairperson of your season record as of the cutoff date established at the postseason meeting in November prior to the seeding meeting. The actual forms may be mailed to the sectional chairperson within one week of the seeding meeting.
- F. The standard playing rules as established by the New York State softball committee will be used for all tournament games.

### II. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

- A. This is an OPEN tournament. All teams may enter.
- B. If sixteen teams in any classification qualify for sectional play, that division will be split into two groups according to Section III policies.
- C. Seeding for each classification will be done based on a team's league won-loss percentage. (Note: Effective beginning with the 1998-1999 school year, 20% of each Section III schools' schedule in a sport must be played against schools in its own class or higher class or that school may not be seeded higher than 5th in any sectional tournament unless the specific sport committee strongly agrees that that team or teams deserve a higher seed based on objective criteria – Section III Handbook – Page CH-3)
- D. If two or more teams have an identical won-loss percentage, ties will be broken by the following steps:
  - a. Number of overall wins
  - b. Head to Head Competition (involving only two teams)
  - c. Coin toss (es)
- E. The higher seeded team will be the home team for batting purposed for all games except the finals.
- F. If a game is played at a neutral site (on agreement of the athletic directors involved and/or tournament director's decision), the home team for batting purposed will be the higher seeded team.

Please note: If a school's playing field does not meet the standards of the Section III Softball Committee for tournament play, that school will be notified at the start of the softball season (if possible) that they must find an acceptable site if they wish to host a tournament game. Examples of unsatisfactory sites could include: Little League or high school baseball pitching mounds in the field of play; backstops that vary greatly from rule book guidelines; unsafe conditions; etc.
- G. The suggested starting time for all games except finals is 5:00 on school days and 1:00 on weekends and holidays. The starting time of any game, except finals, may be changed on agreement of both athletic directors.
- H. The visiting team should be given fifteen minutes for infield-outfield practice at the game site.
- I. If a game is postponed or suspended due to rain, inclement weather, poor field conditions, or darkness, the next day is the rescheduled date for that game.
- J. If both athletic directors agree to play a tournament game prior to its scheduled date, the home athletic directory must notify the sectional chairperson as soon as possible.

- K. It is permissible for an athletic director to request that a game scheduled for one day be played on the following day. The game may be rescheduled if the other athletic director agrees to this request. However, if the rescheduled game is postponed for any reason, and this postponement results in the tournament structure being delayed, the team that requested the date change will forfeit that game.
- L. Each team should bring at least two new game balls to each tournament game. If the teams use different game balls, the pitchers will be allowed to use the brand of ball that they have used during the season. (Please help the umpires by having someone in charge of your game balls while the opposing team is using their brand of ball while on defense.)
- M. The official score book will be the responsibility of the home team.
- N. It is the responsibility of the home team to contact the assignor of the umpiring board that services their school to arrange to have umpires for that game.
- O. In case of a disputed play or decision, the team's head coach or team captain may consult with the game officials. All other players and coaches are to be kept out of the discussion.
- P. Protests will be handled immediately on site. Every coach should have a rule book and tournament guidelines with them.
- Q. If a spectator becomes abusive, the game should be stopped and the host administrator along with the head coaches should address the situation. If the situation does not improve, the game should be suspended until the offending spectator leaves the area.
- R. Individual schools may charge an admission fee to their sectional games.
- S. The winning coach is to contact the sectional chairperson and should contact their local media concerning the results of the game.

### III. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR TOURNAMENT FINAL GAMES

- A. A coin toss will determine the home team for batting purposes. The loser of the coin toss will have their choice of team bench.
- B. An attempt will be made to allow each team to have fifteen minutes for inieled-outfield practice at the game site. The actual time allowed will be up to the site chairperson, sectional chairperson, and assistant chairpersons. The time allowed for practice may be changed due to weather and/or field conditions. The home team will take their practice first.
- C. Game balls for sectional finals will be provided by the sectional committee. The ball used for the final games will be the same ball as used for state regional play.
- D. Batting practice will be allowed if space is available. Batting practice will be prohibited on the diamond area, and the hitting of softballs against fences will also be prohibited unless special permission is granted by the site chairperson.
- E. Bat and helmets will be checked prior to the game by the assigned umpires. Bats and helmets that are found to be illegal or altered will be removed from the bench area and remain with the site chairperson or his/her designee until the game is over. Teams are responsible for picking up their illegal equipment at the conclusion of the game.
- F. Teams are responsible to clean up their bench areas at the conclusion of the game.
- G. If no official scorekeeper is designated by the site or sectional chairperson, the home team will be responsible for providing the official scorekeeper.
- H. There will be three umpires for each final game. All umpiring assignments will be made with the approval of the sectional committee. Umpires not adhering to the state and sectional guidelines for umpires will not be allowed to umpire a final game
- I. In case of a disputed play or decision, the team's head coach or team captain may consult with the umpires. The other players and coaches are to be kept out of the discussion.
- J. Protests will be handled immediately on site. The protest committee will consist of the site chairperson, sectional chairperson, assistant sectional chairpersons, any designee of the sectional chairperson, and any officers of the athletic council in attendance.
- K. If a spectator becomes abusive, the game will be stopped and the site chairperson, sectional chairperson, assistant chairpersons, and head coaches will address the situation. If the situation does not improve, the game will be suspended until the offending spectator leaves the area.
- L. An admission fee set by the athletic council will be charged for all final games.