

ALL ONTARIO ABORIGINAL FASTBALL TOURNAMENT

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

(REVISED DRAFT JUNE 2004)



(as HOST Community with REVISIONS JUNE 2010)

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GOVERNING RULES and REGULATIONS

1. The All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament, formally the All Ontario Indian Men's and Women's Fastball Tournament, shall be governed by the playing rules of the Canadian Amateur Softball Association (CASA) and under the authority of the Ontario Aboriginal Sport Circle (OASC).
2. The OASC reserves the right to amend these regulations from time to time. However, the OASC shall not amend or alter such regulations for a period of sixty (60) days prior to the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

PARTICIPATION

Zone Participation:

3. The All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament shall consist of sixteen (16) teams in the Men's division. The Women's division will consist of 12 teams and may go up to 16 teams if teams are available. The host community will make every effort to have a minimum of two (2) teams from each zone. The host community will be allowed to enter two teams.
4. If the tournament is not filled by the PERFORMANCE BOND deadline then teams will be accepted on a first come first serve basis, which includes 2 or more teams from the same community.

Team Participation:

5. The OASC recognizes only First Nation Aboriginal community teams or affiliated Aboriginal Organization teams as outlined in Rule #3. Affiliated Aboriginal Organization is defined as a Friendship Centre, Metis Local, or Native Women's Chapter.
6. In the case where a community has more than one potential team, an internal play down must occur to determine the representative team from that community.
7. Each team participating in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament shall not exceed the player limit of twenty (20) players per team; and must have a minimum of eleven (11) players who are residents from the respective aboriginal community the team represents.

8. Each team may have a maximum of six (6) pick-up players from within their respective zone on their team roster and must be prepared to eliminate six (6) from their regular team.
9. Two (2) Aboriginal communities with less than 500 residents and who are unable to provide eleven (11) players on one team may join together as one team to participate in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

Player Participation:

10. In order to qualify for participation in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament, a player must be an Aboriginal resident of Ontario and must be 15 years of age or older, as of the start of the tournament.
11. All players shall play for their respective Aboriginal Community (outlined in rule #4), unless released. If a player's community does not have a team, a release is not required. Where a release is required, it must be in the form of a signed written release from the coach or manager of the player's respective Aboriginal community team (not from the Chief). Should a player be unable to obtain a release, that player will have the option of appealing to the OASC for resolution.
12. The term "RESIDENT" shall be defined as a player who has resided on an Aboriginal community a minimum of six (6) months prior to the tournament. Aboriginal community band members living away from their community shall be considered as residents and may return to play on their respective Aboriginal community team.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

13. The Executive Committee shall act as the official interpreter of the rules and regulations and shall render all final decisions on scheduling, protest and disputes. These decisions shall be based on the majority rule of those members in attendance.
14. The Executive Committee shall consist of three (3) members, made up as follows: Tournament Convener; One member from the Host Organizing Committee; and one member from the OASC. For interpretation purposes regarding the CASA rules, the designated umpire/chief for the tournament shall be consulted.
15. The Executive Committee member from the OASC shall be reimbursed for travel expenses from the host society.
16. Any Executive Committee member who is connected with a team, as a player, coach, manager, or trainer, or Band Member of that team, shall rule themselves out from the Committee in the event his/her community team is involved in a protest and/or dispute.

PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

17. A participating team may submit a written protest to the Tournament Convener and such protest shall be accompanied by a protest bond of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) in cash. Written protest and bond must be submitted no later than a ½ hour after completion of the game in protest. Prior to the game ending, the umpire must be notified that the game is being played under protest.
18. The Executive Committee shall meet and render its decision as promptly as possible.
19. Should the executive Committee rule in favour of the protesting team; the protest bond shall be returned to the protesting team. Should the Executive Committee rule against the protesting team, the protest bond shall be forfeited to the host.

PLAYER ROSTERS

20. Player rosters must be completed in the following manner and submitted to the Host community two (2) weeks prior to the All Ontario Fastball Tournament:
 - On a type written sheet, identifying: player names, Aboriginal ancestry, **residence** and an area for players' signatures (**see attached Registration Form**).
 - Parental consent letters are a requirement for players who are 17 years of age and under.
 - Players **MUST** be able to provide proof of Aboriginal ancestry (Acceptable proof is recognized as: Indian Status Card; official B.C.R./Motion from respective First Nation or Aboriginal Community.)
21. All players' rosters shall have a maximum of twenty (20) players who shall be eligible to participate in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

ENTRY FEE

22. An entry fee of **FIVE Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)** and player rosters (see rule #18) shall be sent to the Host community no later than two (2) weeks prior to the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament. Final roster to be submitted prior to first game.
23. All entry fees shall be in the form of a **CERTIFIED CHEQUE** or **MONEY ORDER** only. Any team failing to satisfy this requirement shall be deemed ineligible to participate in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

PERFORMANCE BOND

24. A performance bond of **TWO Hundred Dollars (\$200.00)** in the form of a CERTIFIED CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER shall be sent to the Host community no later than two weeks (was one month) prior to the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament. The performance bond is to ensure that all participating teams remain to either the completion of the tournament or to elimination and to ensure proper conduct on and off the field. The performance bond shall be reimbursed upon successful compliance of this rule.

OFFICIALS

25. Only CASA recognized umpires shall officiate games at the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament and shall be paid accordingly.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

26. The All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament shall guarantee two games for each team. Top 4 teams from previous year will be seed in separate brackets, 1st & 4th in top half, 2nd & 3rd in bottom half, remaining teams will be drawn.

PRIZE STRUCTURE

27. The prize structure for the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament shall remain as follows unless revised by the OASC **and or HOST COMMUNITY:**

16 teams	Each Division	1st	\$2,000.00 (was 1500.00)
		2nd	\$1,000.00 (was 500.00)
		3rd	\$ 500.00 (was 300.00)
12 teams	Each Division	1st	\$1,500.00 (was 1200.00)
		2nd	\$ 750.00 (was 500.00)
		3rd	\$ 400.00 (was 300.00)

Only a 12 or 16 team schedule will be permitted.

*****BASED ON TEAM REGISTRATION*****

LENGTH of GAME

28. All games in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament shall be seven (7) innings in duration or one (1) hours and thirty (30) minutes, whichever occurs first. A new inning will not commence after one (1) hour and thirty (30) (was fifteen (15) minutes from the start of the game. The Seven-Run-Rule shall be utilized after five (5) complete innings. The exception to this rule is in the semi-final and Championship Games. Tie games shall be played with the international rules in the preliminary rounds. All games will start immediately following the last game and therefore may start earlier than the posted time. No warm-ups on the playing field. All participants are expected to arrive early and warm up and get dressed prior to the game. The “Grace Period” for lateness to a game will be 15 minutes. After that point the game will be awarded to the team present. In the event of an injury on the field, the umpire may add on additional time to the game for the time lost.

PENALTIES

29. Any player, coach, manager, or trainer who is ejected from a game for physically or verbally assaulting an umpire, or any officer before, during, or after a game, shall be suspended for the remainder of the Tournament, and shall be reported to the Executive Committee, through the Tournament Convener, for further disciplinary action if deemed appropriate (see Rule #24).

UNIFORMS and EQUIPMENT

30. All players on a team shall be dressed in the same trim and style. Any part of the undershirt exposed to view shall be of uniform solid for all players of a team and if worn by more than one (1) player, they shall be identical in colour. No player shall wear ragged, frayed or slit sleeves or exposed undershirts. Failure to do so may result in performance bond being withheld.
31. Full earflap helmets are MANDATORY for batters and must be worn all the way around the bases. Helmets are mandatory for catchers when catching.
32. For safety and injury prevention, exposed jewelry such as: wristwatches, bracelets, rings, and neck chains shall NOT be worn in the tournament. Medical bracelets are the exception to the rule.
33. Metal spikes shall be permitted to be worn in the Tournament for the Male Divisions only.
34. Rules #27 to #30 inclusive shall apply only to the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

AWARDS

35. Trophies and Awards available shall be listed by the Host community of the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament. Championship trophies may be taken home by the winning teams, however, the recipients are responsible for any damages, engraving and delivery of said trophies to the Host community, the following year.

INJURIES

36. The All Ontario Fastball Tournament and the OASC shall not be responsible for any injuries that may occur to participants or spectators at the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

If a runner is attempting to bowl the catcher over for the purposes of dislodging the ball or injuring the catcher, the runner is out and shall be ejected from the game.

DAMAGES

37. Each team participating in the Tournament shall be responsible for the conduct of their players and for any and all damages that may occur during the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament as a result of actions of their team members.

ALCOHOL/DRUGS

38. Any player, coach, manager, or trainer who is found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall not be allowed to participate in the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament (see Rule #24)..

CONDUCT

39. In order to promote and provide positive leadership and role models, abusive language, gesture and conduct will not be tolerated. Intolerant behaviour shall be reported to the Executive Committee, through the Tournament Convener, and may result in expulsion from the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament.

TOURNAMENT REPORT

40. A written Tournament report shall be submitted to the OASC within one (1) month of the completion of the All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament: which will include results, number of games, number of balls used, team contact info, game sheets, players roster, trophy award winners (individual and team) protest reports, and financial statements.

TOURNAMENT DETAILS

41. OFFICIAL FASTPITCH PITCHING DISTANCE

MENS DIVISON = 46 FEET
WOMENS DIVISION = 43 FEET

OFFICIAL BASE LINES DISTANCE

MENS DIVISION = 60 FEET
WOMENS DIVISION = 60 FEET

OFFICIAL BALLS

MENS + WOMENS DIVISION = K MASTER 120

ASA Approved Bats



The All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Committee is enforcing rule 3- 1a of the Softball Canada rulebook.

SOFTBALL CANADA RULE BOOK

Rule 3-1 THE OFFICIAL BAT

- a. Bats must comply with the current A.S.A. (Amateur Softball Association) bat standards.

All Ontario Aboriginal Fastball Tournament 40+ Division Rules & Regulations

1. Must be at least 40 years of age at the time of the tournament.
2. No releases necessary from other communities
3. Players can play in men's division as well but if you pitch in men's you can't pitch in 40+ division
4. All other rules pertain to the main rules of the tournament.