



# 2024 NC Senior Games State Finals Softball Tournament Details

October 11-14, 2024  
Thomas Brooks Park  
9008 Green Level Church Rd, Cary

Player Check-in: TBD

Congratulations on qualifying for the Senior Games State Finals Softball Tournament. The linked information details how the competition will be conducted, the procedures for check-in, etc. Please read this information closely and **bring it with you** to the tournament. **Please share this information with your team members who do not have internet access. We will send it to all players who have email.** The Format and Schedule will be posted on the NCSG website by September 6<sup>th</sup> at [SF Team Softball — North Carolina Senior Games \(ncseniorgames.org\)](https://www.ncseniorgames.org) .

## Important Information

**Proof of age requirements:** Each player is **required** to present a valid photo ID each day and proof of date of birth. **Please note: Date of birth will be verified and individuals with a date of birth that does not meet the age requirements of their team will be disqualified from participating in the tournament.** Individuals may present a valid or expired photo driver's license or special identification card issued by the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles or a photo driver's license or special identification card issued by other states. They may also present a valid military photo ID or an unexpired, stamped photo passport from any country.

### Team Rosters:

Team Rosters will be posted on the Team Sports page of the NCSG website: If your team needs another player, refer to the pickup list on the Team Sports page. **September 23 is the last day to add an eligible, registered player to your team.**

### Team Sports page of the website includes (or will include):

- Team Rosters
- Tournament Format and Schedule
- Thomas Brooks Softball Complex

### Optional Team Captains' Meeting:

Team captains may attend an optional Zoom Team Captains' Meeting (*TBA*). The Team Captains' meetings will include a review of rules, policies, final details and a time for questions.

### Parking and Admission:

**Both are free!** Parking is available on both sides of the complex.

### Check-In:

Check-in will be located near the concession area in the center of the complex each day. Make sure you bring your photo ID EACH DAY to check-in!

### National Qualifying:

2024 is a National Qualifying year for the 2025 National Senior Games in Des Moines, Iowa. Go to [www.nsga.com](http://www.nsga.com) for more details.

### Warm-up Time:

A brief warm-up time will be provided prior to each game at the conclusion of the previous game on the assigned field.

### Extra Items to Bring:

NCSG highly recommends that you bring plastic bags as ice bags for your players and a nice size box of assorted Band-Aids. Ice and water will be available in the dugouts, but cups disappear quickly. We suggest your players bring their own water bottles, coolers, and personal cups to use during the tournament.

### Inclement Weather:

The Softball Tournament Management Team has the right to suspend play for adverse weather, including excess heat and humidity. October 14th is scheduled as a rain date. If inclement weather delays game play, the tournament will be continued on this date. Night games will be avoided if possible but will be played if necessary.

### Spectators:

All spectators must stay outside the fenced field area. There is plenty of room for friends and family. Only players, coaches and scorekeepers will be allowed on the field. **Pets are not allowed anywhere in the complex.**

### Evaluations:

We welcome all feedback that can make our softball tournament better for the future. An evaluation card will be available at the registration area so that you and your players can share comments with us.

### Tournament Rules:

See page 3.

### Event & Parking Map:

See page 4.

### Seeding Information:

Teams are seeded based on 2023 State Finals Softball Tournament Results. The #1 seed is placed in Pool A, #2 seed in Pool B, #3 seed in Pool C, etc. If there are only two pools and 3 seeds, the #2 seed and #3 seed will be placed in Pool B. Seeded teams returning to an age group are seeded higher than seeded teams aging up into a new age group since they are the returning champions from that age group. Teams from the same Local Games are split into different pools where possible. The results from Pool Play could place teams from the same Local Games against each other in single elimination play. In these cases, pool play results are earned and thus take hierarchy over Local Games qualifying.

### Ties in Match Record for Pool Play:

1. In the case of a two-way tie, the winner of the game between the 2 teams takes the higher place.
2. In the event of a 3 or 4-way tie within a pool, ties will be broken by the sum of the margins of all games within the pool. If a tie remains, ties will be broken by the total runs accumulated in all games within the pool. Resolution of any remaining ties will be determined by the Tournament Officials.

**Exception:** If a team **forfeits** a game during pool play, that team will take the lowest place in a 3 or 4-way tie and all games played by that team will be eliminated from any 3 or 4-way tiebreaker.

## Tournament Format:

Pool placements will be included in the Softball Tournament Format and Schedule and will be published by September 6<sup>th</sup>.

### For age categories with 5 teams or less:

- Participants will play in one Pool with the results of the Pool Play determining seeding for the Single Elimination Tournament (generally the following day).
- Field assignments and game times will be published in the Softball Tournament Format and Schedule.
- Scores are reported to Event Staff and will be posted on-site soon after the completion of each set of scheduled games.
- Brackets may not be re-drawn even if there are no shows in pools to keep the tournament on schedule as posted.

### Sample Round Robin Bracket for 5 in an age group. (Results recorded left to right)

	A	B	C	D	E	Win	Loss	Run Differential
A. Jets (1st)		W	W	W	W	4	0	Not applicable
B. Hawks (3rd)	L		L	W	W	2	2	+4
C. Cubs (2nd)	L	W		L	W	2	2	+8
D. Astros (4th)	L	L	W		L	1	3	-6
E. Eagles	L	L	L	W		1	3	-8

- Jets earn the #1 seed because of best record.
- Cubs earn the #2 seed since tied for second and better run differential than the Hawks.
- Hawks earn the #3 seed since tied for second place but run differential is lower than the Cubs.
- Astros earn the #4 seed since tied for 4<sup>th</sup> and have a better run differential than the Eagles.
- Eagles are eliminated since tied for 4<sup>th</sup> and the Astros have a better run differential. Only the top 4 advance to single elimination when there are 5 total teams in an age group.

### For age categories with 6 teams or more:

- Teams will play in Pools with the results of the Pools determining seeding for the Single Elimination Tournament (generally the following day).
- Field assignments and game time will be published in the Softball Tournament Format and Schedule.
- Scores are reported to Event Staff and will be posted on-site soon after the completion of each set of scheduled games.
- Brackets may not be re-drawn even if there are no shows in pools to keep the tournament on schedule as posted.
- Generally, the top 2 teams from each pool advance to a single elimination tournament the following day. This is subject to change depending on the number of teams, field availability, inclement weather, etc.

### Sample pool play and single elimination for 7 in an age group. (Results recorded left to right)

*In most cases the first and second place from each pool advance regardless of pool size.*

Pool A	A	B	C	Win	Loss
A. Orioles (A#1)		W	W	2	0
B. Mets	L		L	0	2
C. Rays (A#2)	L	W		1	1

Pool B	A	B	C	D	Win	Loss
A. Rockies (B#1)		W	W	W	3	0
B. Cardinals (B#2)	L		W	W	2	1
C. Diamondbacks	L	L		W	1	2
D. Phillies	L	L	L		0	3

Orioles and Rays advance from Pool A, The Mets do not.

Rockies and Cardinals advance from Pool B, Diamondbacks and Phillies do not advance. Single elimination bracket. (The winners of the first-round games will play for Gold and Silver and the losers of the first-round games will play for Bronze.) *Note: There may be larger single elimination brackets that will eliminate individuals/teams after one game in larger divisions.*

**We look forward to seeing you in Cary at the  
State Finals Softball Tournament!**

**Safe travels!!**

## Tournament Rules:

### Official NCSG Softball Tournament Rules:

The rules from the [2024 edition of the North Carolina Senior Games Rules Book](#) will be used for play. In the event the *NCSG Rules Book* does not cover a particular rule, ASA rules will apply. Official NCSG Softball Tournament Rules are on the Team Sports page of the website.

**General Rules and Regulations** (from page 6 of *NCSG Official Rules Book*):

*Team Sports:*

**Team Player Pickup** – All additions must be made in writing and meet the published deadline stated in the Entry Packet. Player may be added to team rosters following qualification if they meet one of the following two requirements:

**Requirement #1:** A player may have participated in that event on a team at a Local Game in North Carolina in the same qualifying year. A player may change teams if the team captains of both teams (the qualifying team and the adding team) approve.

**Requirement #2.** Participants that are practicing and playing regularly with a team after Local Qualifying games are eligible to be added to Torch 1.0 as qualified team members and may register for State Finals until the August 1st deadline.

**Base Distances:** Base distance is 65 feet and the pitching distance is 50 feet. Pitchers can pitch from up to 6 feet from the back of the rubber.

**Pitch Count:** Batters will each start at bat with a 0-0 count. This rule may be adjusted if inclement weather requires a change in tournament format.

**Home Runs:** In the event a ball is hit out of the park or a four base award is granted, the batter and any runners on base will return to the dugout. No penalty if a player mistakenly runs the bases.

### Softball Tournament: Bats: Rule 20:

Bats:

All bats must have either a manufacturer installed non-slip grip surface, or a minimum of one wrap of tape. Altered bats may not be used.

In addition, bats must meet **one of the following two criteria**, not both, to be considered legal for play.

Criteria 1: Bats stamped with a BPF of 1.21 or less will be legal for play.

Criteria 2: Bats stamped with a 2000, 2004 or 2013 ASA Certification Mark and do **not** appear on the most recent ASA Banned Bat List will be legal for play.

Officials should check bats prior to each game. If a team suspects a batter is using an illegal or altered bat during a game, the captain should protest while the batter is at the plate. If the Protest Committee determines the bat to be illegal or altered, an out is recorded and that player is ejected from the game. The illegal or altered bat will then be kept in the possession of tournament officials for the remainder of the offending team's participation in the tournament.

**All bat decisions for 2024 are final. NCSG will review this policy along with other NCSG Softball Rules for 2024 after State Finals.**

### Softballs:

**Women** will use 11" Trump Rock .44 COR, 375 Compression, optic yellow balls.

**Men 80+** will use 12" Worth .52 COR, 300 Compression, optic yellow balls.

**Men 65+, 70+ and 75+** will use 12" Trump Rock .44 COR, 375 Compression, optic yellow balls.

## Softball Tournament Event & Parking Map

