

12th ANNUAL OHIO STINGRAYS COLLEGE SHOWCASE

*Proceeds Benefiting the Stefanie Spielman Fund at OSU's Comprehensive Cancer Center
James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute*

DATE

Friday July 6th through Sunday July 8th, 2012

MISSION STATEMENT

The competitive purpose of this tournament is to provide a quality playing venue with like teams so that the softball athlete can state her case for why she should be playing at the next level.

LOCATIONS

18U & 16U age group games @ **Fred Beekman Park** (8 lighted playing fields)
2200 Carmack Road
The Ohio State University Campus
Columbus, OH 43210-1003

14U age group games @ **Pickerington Central Softball Complex** (4 playing fields)
300 Opportunity Way
Pickerington, OH 43147-1296

12U age group games @ **Pickerington North Softball Complex** (4 playing fields)
7800 Refugee Road
Pickerington, OH 43147-7987

10U age group games @ **Coffey Road Park** (4 lighted playing fields)
2027 Coffey Road
The Ohio State University Campus
Columbus, OH 43210-1043

TEAMS

18U = 32 teams @ 43 foot pitching distance – 18U starts play @ 2:00 pm Friday
16U = 32 teams @ 43 foot pitching distance – 16U starts play @ 8:00 am Friday
14U = 24 teams @ 40 foot pitching distance (unless ASA mandates 43 feet) – 14U starts play @ 8:00 am Friday
12U = 24 teams @ 40 foot pitching distance – 12U starts play @ 8:00 am Friday
10U = 16 teams @ 35 foot pitching distance – 10U starts play @ 9:30 am Friday

AGE GROUP PLAY-UPS

Play-ups are not permitted in any age group. Age eligible is defined as the age group a team will play its state tournament or national event in.

FORMAT

The tournament will be a (5) game minimum. There will be (4) pool games with teams seeded 1 through X into a single elimination bracket. See attached Tournament Rules at the end of this application for the seeding procedure. All games are a 1 hour & 15 minute time limit except for championship games which are a full (7) innings. **Schedule requests and changes will not be able to be accommodated.**

MASTER FIELD SCHEDULE

A tentative Master Field Schedule is included with this application. Weather permitting, all age group championship games are scheduled to start @ 2:00 pm on Sunday at all playing locations.

TOURNAMENT SANCTION & UMPIRES

This tournament is a pure showcase sanctioned and officiated by ASA. Since this tournament is not part of ASA championship path play, coaches do not need to present proof of ACE certification. All games will have (2) umpires except for the championship games which will have (3) umpires.

ENTRY FEE

18U & 16U teams = **\$600** entry fee

14U & 12U teams = **\$575** entry fee

10U teams = **\$550** entry fee

The entry fee must be a **personal check or money order** made out to “Ohio Stingrays. All teams will be notified via e-mail that their entry form and check has been received. Entries will not be considered without payment enclosed. **NO REFUNDS will be made after your team has been accepted into the tournament.**

CHECKS

No checks will be cashed until a team has been notified of being accepted in the tournament and responds by e-mail that it will accept the invitation and any requirements attached to it. All communication regarding the tournament will occur via e-mail.

Checks of teams that we are not able to provide a playing slot for will be torn in two separate halves and photo copied for our records – the torn check halves will be shredded. We will not be able to return un-cashed checks and entry forms. Thank you for understanding.

DUE DATE

All entries must be postmarked by **Saturday December 3rd, 2011**. *The selection process will not begin before this date. Selection will not be done on a first come, first served basis.*

SELECTION

Selection will be determined by committee only. Many criteria will be used to determine the final tournament field. Every year it is a painstaking process that we approach with a great deal of effort. Among the factors to be considered will be strength/results of your actual 2011 playing schedule, strength of your proposed 2012 playing schedule, completeness/honesty of paperwork, and for 16U & 18U teams, a listing of the colleges and universities following your team.

Due to the number of applicants, we will not be able to provide teams with individual explanations of why they were not accepted into the tournament field. Thank you for understanding.

PLAYING STATUS NOTIFICATION

All teams will be notified of their playing status via e-mail by **Monday December 12th, 2011 – 8:00 am** at the latest.

CHECK-IN

All teams must present proof of insurance and ASA sanctioning at check-in.

ROSTERS

This tournament is an open roster event within age group guidelines and the use of college players as outlined below. Coaches will not be asked for rosters at check-in.

AWARDS

1st PLACE – team award plus individual player awards

2nd PLACE – team award plus individual player awards

ALL TEAMS – notice by a college coach

COLLEGE PLAYERS

ASA eligible softball athletes having completed one year of playing or having red-shirted in college (**D1, D2, D3, NAIA**) are **NOT ELIGIBLE** to compete in the tournament.

ASA eligible softball athletes having completed one year of playing at the **NJCAA** level **ARE ELIGIBLE** to compete in the tournament.

GATE FEE

There is no gate fee at any playing site. Coolers can be brought into any playing site.

PARKING

Parking at Ohio State is free with restrictions. For Fred Beekman Park, you must use Carmack lots 1,2,3,4 &5 which are located at the south end of Carmack Road as it turns east to Kenny Road. Parking at any metered location, such as the Speech & Hearing lot on Arthur E. Adams Drive just south of Fred Beekman Park and the Rightmire Loop just south of the sand volleyball courts on the lower quad of playing fields, is not free.

For Coffey Road Park, you must use the Sisson lot which is south of the playing fields. Parking along Coffey Road is not free since it is for OSU staff personnel.

Parking at the Pickerington Central and North Softball Complexes is free.

TEAM & SPECTATOR CONDUCT

This tournament is a Junior Olympic event and as such, excessive behavior and the use of profanity by any adult or player will lead to ejection from the playing site and could lead to denial of entry for their team the following year.

ALCOHOL

The use of alcohol by any tournament attendee is strictly prohibited at The Ohio State University and at the Pickerington Central and North Softball Complexes. **Any person caught with or using alcohol will be ejected from the playing site and their team will not be invited back the following year.**

SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited at The Ohio State University and the Pickerington Central and North Softball Complexes.

CONCESSIONS

Concessions will be available at all playing sites. The concessions at Ohio State will be managed and run by the Ohio Stingrays – concessions at the Pickerington Central Softball Complex will be managed and run by the Pickerington Central Athletic Booster Club – concessions at the Pickerington North Softball Complex are yet to be determined. There may be differences in menu items and pricing.

PETS

Pets are allowed at Fred Beekman Park and Coffey Road Park. Pets must be leashed and their owners must be prepared for clean-up if necessary. Pets are not allowed inside the Pickerington Central and North Softball Complexes.

RESTROOMS

Indoor restrooms are provided at the upper playing quad and at the lower playing quad adjacent to the sand volleyball courts at Fred Beekman Park.

Portable sanitation is provided at Coffey Road Park.

Indoor restrooms are provided at the Pickerington Central Softball Complex.

Portable sanitation is provided at the Pickerington North Softball Complex.

HOME RUN FENCES

The Fred Beekman Park and Coffey Road Park playing sites do not have home run fences. Ohio State has an underground watering system which precludes the use of fencing systems that puncture the ground. Free standing fencing systems such as the SportsPanel system are cost prohibitive for the Ohio Stingrays to rent at this time. While this may not be ideal to some, everyone simply has to sit back and enjoy the shots that are hit and the attempts to run them down by the athletes.

The Pickerington Central and North Softball Complexes have permanent home run fences.

FIELD PREPARATION

The Ohio Stingrays will supply dedicated labor at all playing sites to hand rake and re-line (batter's box, pitcher's circle, foul lines) all fields before every game. All playing fields will be dragged with mechanization at the end of the playing day in preparation for the following day.

WEATHER

The Tournament Committee can and will control as many aspects as possible to insure that your team has the best playing experience possible, but weather is not one of them. In the event of inclement weather, the Ohio Stingrays Tournament Committee, The Ohio State University, the Pickerington Central and North Softball Complex staffs, will do their very best to get all games in. But you are applying to the tournament realizing that the Ohio Stingrays Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter this event in any manner fit to accomplish the mission of showcasing the softball athletes with the maximum number of games possible under the circumstances. Coaches will receive a rain line phone number at check-in.

Umpires will make the decision on when to come off the fields in the event of rain. Lightning will be automatic cause for suspending play for (30) minutes. Ohio State, Pickerington Central, and Pickerington North will control the decision on when labor can be used on the fields to get them back in playing shape. The Ohio Stingrays Tournament Committee will control the decision on any adjustments to the playing schedule. The following will be available in the event of inclement weather:

Field Dry – purchased by the Ohio Stingrays and stored at the playing sites

Mechanized Drag – (1) per (4) fields in play to help with wet field preparation

Labor – Stingray parents as needed in addition to the field maintenance staff - Ohio State will supply extra labor for the "heavy lifting" such as running the drags.

WEATHER REFUNDS

If the tournament is rained out in its entirety, refunds will be based on:

(Entry Fees minus Non-Recoverable Costs minus Games Played) divided by (Paid Entries)

Every inclement weather situation is impossible to predict and create a refund policy for. The Ohio Stingrays Tournament Committee will make every attempt to be fair to teams that are not able to complete their 5-game minimum, but will not be able to define refund formulas for these situations beforehand. Please allow (2) to (4) weeks for an inclement weather refund.

2012 Ohio Stingrays College Showcase Entry Form

TEAM NAME: _____

WEB SITE: _____

2012 AGE ELIGIBLE STATUS OF TEAM: 10U _____ 12U _____ 14U _____ 16U _____ 18U _____

HEAD COACH NAME: _____

HEAD COACH PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

HEAD COACH PHONE NUMBER: HOME (_____) _____ -- _____

CELL (_____) _____ -- _____

HEAD COACH E-MAIL: _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT NAME: _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: HOME (_____) _____ -- _____

CELL (_____) _____ -- _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT E-MAIL: _____

