

2018 Lincoln Sox NIT & All-State Showcase Event



May 4-6, 2018

Ages 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U – OPEN Divisions
4-Game Guarantee w/Pool Protection
Fields drug & chalked before every game

Team Trophies for 1st and 2nd Place
Individual Awards for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place
150 points, qualifier for World Series events

L I N C O L N S O X

Wood Bat
T O U R N A M E N T

Wood Bat tournament for 12U & 14U
Quality Wood Bats Provided at No Charge

2018 Lincoln Sox NIT Tournament

Entry Form

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

**Entry Fee prior to 2/1/18: \$500 for 8U & 10U
 \$600 for 12U & 14U (Wood Bat)**

**Entry Fee on or after 2/1/18: \$550 for 8U & 10U
 \$650 for 12U & 14U (Wood Bat)**

- **Entry via USSSA.com only.**
- **Gate Fees Included in Entry Fee.**
- **Entry Deadline is April 1, 2018.**
- **Late entries will be considered at an additional \$50 if space is available.**
- **Entries are accepted based on the date the entry fee is received.**
- **Any schedule requests should be e-mailed the tourney director below at time of entry. We will attempt to honor these requests, but they are not guaranteed.**
- **Teams requesting no Friday game should assume they will play three games on Saturday.**
- **Team must be USSSA Registered.**
- **Player roster must be on USSSA to enter on-line or to place team in the tournament.**

For more information contact the Tournament Director:

**Brian Vanis
402-202-5190**

lincolnsox@gmail.com

LINCOLN SOX TOURNAMENT RULES 2018

Please locate the Site Supervisor for your age prior to your first game to collect your tournament packet. All teams must be registered with USSSA and their roster MUST be entered on USSSA in order to be entered into the tournament. Teams must have copies of birth certificates on hand at the tournament in case of protest. Tournament T-shirts will be distributed at the tournament.

GAME LOCATIONS: TBD (Optimist, Fleming, Mahoney, Lewis, Holmes or other Lincoln area fields)

RULES: USSSA Baseball Rules will apply unless modified here forth. **2018 USSSA Bat Rules will be enforced.**

1. **Tournament Format:** Each team will be placed in a group for pool play. Teams will be seeded for bracket play based on their pool play record and scores using USSSA tie-breaker rules. In pool play, home team will be decided by a coin toss. In bracket play, higher seed has the choice of home or visitor. Dugouts are not assigned based on seed or home team.
2. **Pool Play, Bracket and Results:** Game results will be posted locally at the playing sites immediately following collection of the pitching cards. Game results, pool play standings, and bracket seeding will be updated as soon as possible on the USSSA tournament landing page, but timeframe is not guaranteed.
3. **Wood Bat Rules:** Ages 11-14 only will be playing with wood bats. Bats will be provided for teams to use during the tournament, and must be left in the dugout after the game. Bats will be checked prior to tournament games. **Bats must be a single piece of wood. No composite wood or bamboo bats will be allowed.**
4. **Length of Games:** All 8U-12U games will be 6 innings, and no new inning shall start after 1 hour 45 minutes. All 13U-14U games will be 7 innings, and no new inning shall start after 2 hours. Game times may be shortened due to weather. There is no time limit on 1st place championship games for any age.
5. **Forfeit:** Game time is **FORFEIT** time. Score for a forfeited game will be 7-0, according to USSSA rules.
6. **Mercy Rule:** 6 inning games (8U-12U): 15 runs after 3 innings, and 8 runs after 4 innings.
7 inning games (13U & 14U): 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, and 8 runs after 5 innings.
7. **Courtesy Runner, Extra Hitter, & Batting Lineup:** All 2018 USSSA rules will apply and must be indicated with original line-up card.
8. **Reentry:** 2018 USSSA rules apply.
9. **Tie-Breaker Rules:** If a game is tied after regulation innings have been completed or the time limit has expired, teams will put the last scheduled hitter in the previous inning on second, the second to last scheduled hitter in the previous inning on third base, and the extra inning(s) will start with one out. The tie-breaker rule shall commence before the regulation innings are completed if time has expired. For pool play, only one tie breaker inning will be played, and only if time allows. If still tied after that inning, the game ends and each team will receive ½ a win and equal runs allowed. In bracket play, the tie-breaker format continues until a winner is declared. The Championship game will be played without this tie breaker rule, time permitting.
10. **Bracket Seeding:** The following rules will be used to declare division winners and seed for bracket play. When three or more teams are tied, only fewest runs allowed and highest run differential shall be used to determine who shall advance.
 1. Win/Loss record
 2. Head to Head (skip if more than 2 teams)
 3. Fewest runs allowed
 4. Highest run differential (±8 maximum per game)
 5. Coin toss

11. **4-Game Guarantee:** All teams will be scheduled to play 4 games with one exception: a bye in the first round of bracket play will be considered a game played. Any team that doesn't get to play a 4th game will be offered a \$50 credit toward tournament entry the following year. Consolation games may be eliminated if necessary to complete bracket play.
12. **Pool Protection:** When seeding for bracket play, two seeds may be swapped if a re-match from pool play can be avoided. Seeds may also be swapped to avoid two teams playing each other from the same organization. Only lower half seeds will be swapped, e.g. seeds 9 & 10, or 15 & 16. Upper half seeds will never be swapped. No team will be moved more than one place in the bracket seeding, but if in doing so, it would require one of the teams to play an additional game (lose a bye) or creates another pool play re-match, pool protection will not be implemented.
13. **Pitching and Field Dimensions:** Distance & Innings. (Please check the Pitching Rules Section below)

Division	Pitching Distance	Base Paths
U8	40 ft	60 ft
U9/U10	46 ft	65 ft
U11/U12	50 ft	70 ft
U13	54 ft	80 ft
U14	60.5 ft	90 ft

Pitching Chart: Refer to USSSA rule book, chapter 8 for pitching rules.

Column A: The max number of innings a player can legally pitch in 1 day and still pitch the next day.

Column B: The max number of innings a player can legally pitch in 1 day.

Column C: The max number of innings a player can legally pitch in 3 consecutive days

Division	A	B	C
8U – 12U	3	6	8
13U – 14U	3	7	8

For all cumulative totals in this rule, one out equals one-third of an inning, two outs equal two-thirds of an inning, and three outs equal a full inning.

Each team must keep record of their pitchers during each game. Pitching record sheets will be provided by the site supervisor. The Site Supervisor or Tournament Director will have extra pitching record sheets if needed. You are required to have a representative of your team and the opposing team sign the pitching record sheet to confirm innings thrown per pitcher and final game score. Please write the pitcher's name and inning legibly. **Pitching cards will be available for public viewing at the facility, and will be tracked online using the National USSSA tourney website.**

The game will **NOT** be official until both teams sign and return their pitching sheet to the site supervisor.

If you have any questions or need further explanation, please contact the Site Supervisor for your age or the Tournament Director.

14. **Umpires:** 1 or 2 umpires will be provided as required by Nebraska USSSA.

15. **Protests:** Protests will be allowed for rules interpretation only, and must be requested prior to the last out of the game. Only managers may protest and must remit \$100 cash with protest. **Judgment calls by umpires will be final and cannot be protested.** If the rules protest is upheld, the \$100 shall be refunded. If the protest is denied, the deposit shall be forfeited. All protests must be initiated through the home plate umpire before being brought to the Tournament Director.
16. **Non-Roster Players:** **NO** non-USSSA rostered player will be allowed in the game. Any game where a non-USSSA rostered player participates will be forfeited by the offending team upon confirmation. Official score for seeding and placement purposes shall be 7-0.
17. **Conduct:** The Tournament Director has the discretion to remove any coach, player or fan from the tournament due to misconduct. Umpires may eject a player, coach or fan from a game and/or the complex. An ejected coach must leave the dugout immediately, and must serve a 1-game suspension for the following game. Coaches serving a suspension cannot be in the dugout. An ejected player may sit in the dugout, but cannot participate in any pre-game or in-game warm-ups or activities. If an ejected coach or player continues to distract or interrupt game play, or the ejected coach is identified by the umpire to be coaching from outside the dugout, they will be asked to leave the complex. Failure to comply with the Umpire or Tournament Director's direction may result in suspension from the remainder of the tournament. Continued failure to comply with the Umpire or Tournament Director's direction may result in ejection of the team from the remainder of the tournament. If an ejected player cannot be replaced in the batting order with an eligible player on that team's roster, an out will be assessed for that spot in the batting order for each turn at the plate. If a team is batting their entire line-up, the ejected player may be replaced defensively, even though they cannot be replaced in the batting order.
18. **Shoes:** Metal spikes will be allowed in the 13 and 14 year old divisions **ONLY**. Metal spikes are prohibited in all other divisions.
19. **Infield warm up:** **NO** pre-game infield will be taken. Teams may take fly balls in the outfield and ground balls in foul territory in the front of the dugout.
20. **Weather:** In a 6 inning game, completion of inning 3 (or 2-1/2 innings if home team has the lead) makes the game official. In a 7 inning game, completion of inning 4 (or 3-1/2 if the home team has the lead) makes the game official. In the event of rain delays, consolation games may be eliminated in order to complete bracket play. The Tournament Director has the discretion to change any rule that will allow the tournament to be completed.
21. **Final Placement if Tournament is Shortened Due to Weather:** If the tournament cannot be completed due to weather or darkness, the following USSSA placement rules will be followed. Please note that results may not be as expected depending on when the tournament is declared to be over. These placement rules are applied equally to all of the teams that advanced to the last completed round. **If an entire round is not complete, none of the games in that round will be considered.**
 - a. Winning Percentage - Descending
 - b. Number Wins - Descending (Skip if all teams have not played an equal number of games)
 - c. Number Loses - Ascending (Skip if all teams have not played an equal number of games)
 - d. Tied Teams (vs. each other) Winning Pct - Descending (Not valid if all teams have not played each other)
 - e. Avg Points Allowed - Ascending
 - f. Avg Run Differential with a maximum of (8) - Descending
 - g. USSSA Ranking Points - Descending
 - h. Date Team Entered USSSA Database

22. **Final Placement if Tournament is Completed:** Games will be played to determine places 1 through 4. The following USSSA placement rules will be followed within each completed round of bracket play below 4th place, e.g. place 5-8, 9-16, etc. Please note that placement results may not be as expected if you simply look at the teams' records. For example, if the #1 seed loses to the #9 seed in their first game of a 9-team bracket, the #1 seed will place 5th, and the #9 seed cannot place lower than 4th.
- a. Winning Percentage - Descending
 - b. Number Wins - Descending (Skip if all teams have not played an equal number of games)
 - c. Number Loses - Ascending (Skip if all teams have not played an equal number of games)
 - d. Tied Teams (vs. each other) Winning Pct - Descending (Not valid if all teams have not played each other)
 - e. Avg Points Allowed - Ascending
 - f. Avg Run Differential with a maximum of (8) - Descending
 - g. USSSA Ranking Points - Descending
 - h. Date Team Entered USSSA Database

23. **Refund Policy:** In the event of inclement weather we will make every effort to make up games. Consolation games may be cancelled to allow the championship brackets to be played to finish the tournament. If, however, we are unable to make up games, the refund schedule is as follows:

0 games started- \$400 of entry fee
1 game started - \$200 of entry fee
2 games started - NO REFUND

An official game is a game played, even if it is shortened due to weather. Team cancellation prior to the entry deadline will be refunded all their entry fee minus \$100. Team cancellation after the entry deadline will result in no refund. Please send your request for a refund to lincolnsox@gmail.com