

*Grafton Invitational 14U Softball Tournament
June 13 – 15, 2014
Nelson Park, Grafton MA*

Kick off the summer season with 6 games versus 6 different teams!

This tournament will be played under a Round Robin format which will give each team the opportunity to play 6 guaranteed games (two umpires every game) versus 6 different quality opponents.

This tournament has been extremely popular; each year this event sells out very quickly. We are limiting the field to just 12 teams. So, please register early to secure your spot. You may register online at www.asanewengland.com. Teams are not officially registered until we have received a check for the full tournament fee. *Please note that this event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA and only ASA-registered teams are eligible to participate.*

We believe that we offer one of the best tournament experiences in New England. All games will be at Nelson Park which has 3 well-groomed softball fields in one location. Our dedicated volunteers drag and reline the infields ***before every game!*** The Field House includes a concession stand and clean rest rooms. Plus, there is ample parking and plenty of space for teams to relax between games.

We hope that the tournament will be a positive and enjoyable experience for the players, coaches, and families of each of the teams entered.

For more information please contact me directly.

Regards,



Peter Cardoza
Tournament Director
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**GRAFTON GIRLS
SOFTBALL, INC.**

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The DoubleTree Hotel

5400 Computer Drive, Westboro, MA 01581

www.bostonwestborough.doubletree.com

Welcomes the Grafton Softball Tournament Teams

14U Tournament - June 13-15

Special Rate: \$99.00 (plus tax) per room

To reserve a room online at this rate, use Special Rate Code – GTS

Or call 800-222-8733 and ask for the Grafton Tournament Softball Rate!!

- No team minimums are required to get this special rate. Your whole team or any coach/family who doesn't want to commute may reserve a room under this rate.
- Convenient location/access at junction Rt 495 & Rt 9. Easy 10 minute drive to Nelson Park
- Enjoy the comfort of the Sweet Dreams® by Doubletree beds in well-appointed rooms including 32" flat screen TV with 26 channels
- On site Regatta Grill Restaurant & Regatta Lounge serving breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Indoor Heated Pool, Fitness Center with Precor® machines, Outdoor Basketball Court





Welcome Coach!

Frank Herzog Photography is happy to join you for the Grafton 2014 Softball Tournaments. We will be featuring our popular WideBody Groups™ and our CF Elite™ Designer Prints.

Our WideBody Groups™ are stunning graphics created by photographing each player individually, then adding graphics and text. The results are one of a kind, unique mementos of your team. And, we encourage your players to exhibit a little personality and attitude to make the photo session fun, and the WideBody Group™ special.

We will be onsite each Saturday. Photographing your team will only take 20 – 30 minutes. There is no obligation to have your team photographed. Parents that wish to purchase the group or individuals may do so.

See more information at
www.callfrankie.com/grafton2014



General Information

Directions:

The tournament games will be played at the Nelson Park located at 6 Prentice Street in North Grafton, Massachusetts. Directions to the fields are attached to this packet.

Parking:

There is ample parking in the large grassy area on Route 140 across the street from Nelson Park. A crosswalk connects the parking area and Nelson Park.

Please note that Nelson Park is located within a residential neighborhood. While there is limited on-street parking along Prentice Street and surrounding streets, we strongly encourage everyone to use the lot across the street. If you do park along Prentice or side streets, please be courteous to our neighbors and make sure you do not block driveways or park on someone's lawn.

Complex Info:

The Nelson Park complex has 3 softball fields, a Field House, basketball court and a playground. There are no outfield fences. Field 1 has bleachers but you might want to bring lawn chairs for more comfort. There is plenty of open space to picnic and relax between games. Please note that the Town of Grafton prohibits smoking at Nelson Park.

Field House:

Our Field House contains a concession stand and rest rooms. We offer hamburgers, hot dogs and ice cream treats in addition to drinks (water, soda & Gatorade) and snacks (assorted candy, chips, sunflower seed, etc).

T-Shirts:

Tournament t-shirts will be available for sale in the concession tent.

Format:

Round Robin. Weather permitting; every team will play 6 games. See Rules section for details.

Awards:

Team and individual trophies will be presented to the top three teams. Every player will receive a participation pin at the conclusion of their final game.

Roster:

This event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA and only ASA-registered class A and B teams are eligible to participate. Teams must complete ASA rosters and have them available to the tournament director at all times.

Scorebook:

The home team will keep the official scorebook if an official scorekeeper is not provided. Game results should be given to the tournament director immediately following the game.

Rules:

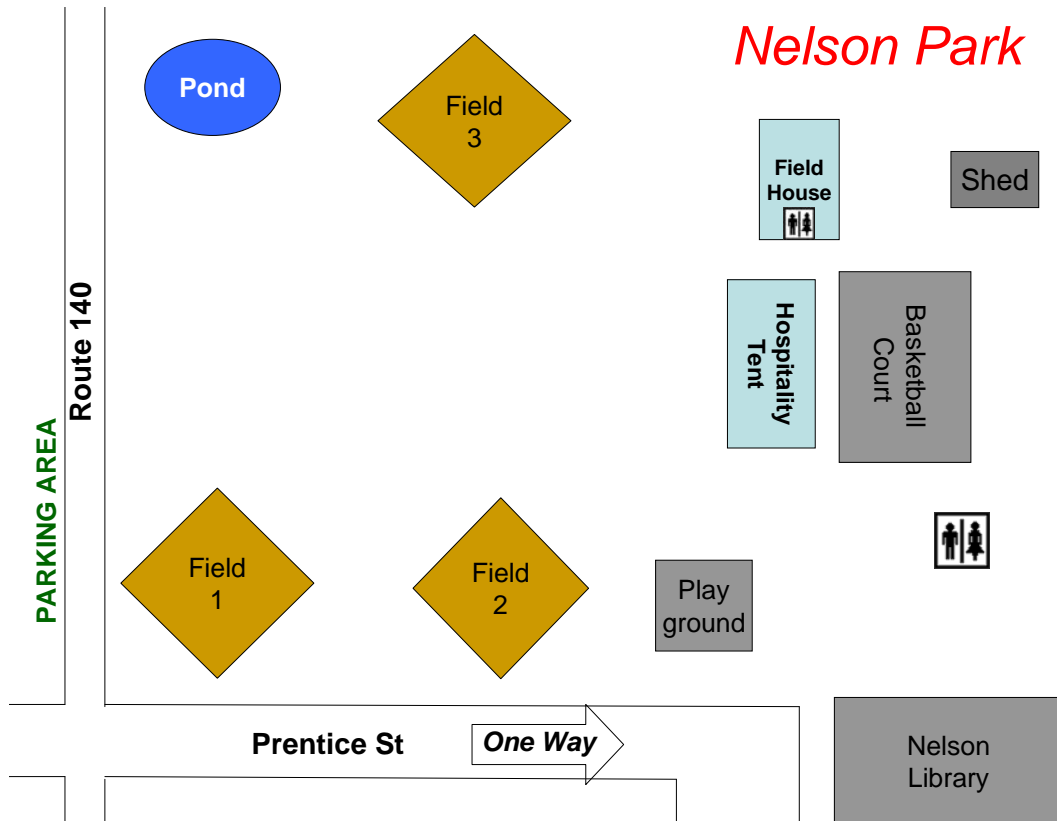
A complete set of rules is provided in this packet.

Weather:

Rain-outs and rain delays will be determined at the field by the tournament director based on current conditions. Game times and number of games played may be adjusted if weather requires.

DIRECTIONS TO NELSON PARK SOFTBALL FIELDS

HOME OF THE GRAFTON DIAMONDS



Grafton Girls Softball plays all games on the grounds of Nelson Park located at 6 Prentice Street in North Grafton, MA. There are 3 softball fields and plenty of open space. The Field House contains permanent restrooms and a concession stand.

DIRECTIONS TO THE NELSON PARK SOFTBALL FIELDS:

From Mass Pike:

- Take Route I-90 West / Mass Pike
- Take Route 122 – Exit 11 – toward Millbury / Worcester
- Follow sign for Route 122 South
- Turn left onto Bridge Street (Statewide Glass in front of you)
- At light, turn left onto North Main Street / MA-140.
- Continue to follow MA-140
- Nelson Park will be on your right just after Braddish Hot Dog Stand. Parking will be on your left.

From Route 290, Route 20 or Route 9:

- Take Route 140 South Exit
- Follow Route 140 into Grafton
- Nelson Park will be on your left shortly after you cross into Grafton. Parking will be on the right.

From Route 495 South:

- Take the Exit for Rout 290 and follow above

From Route 495 North:

- Take Rout 495 North
- Take Exit 21B – West Main St., Upton
- Continue on West Main St towards Upton for 4-5 miles
- At light, take right onto Route 140 North.
- Follow 140 North for 7-8 miles through Grafton
- Nelson Park will be on your right just after Braddish Hot Dog Stand. Parking will be on your left.

TOURNAMENT RULES FOR 14U

This tournament will abide by all rules and regulations as stated under GIRLS FAST PITCH SOFTBALL in the ASA rule book with the following exceptions.

Team coaches or representatives must report to the Tournament Director at least 20 minutes before first game. The tournament director will review the rosters and proof of insurance at that time.

All players must wear matching uniforms. Metal spikes are NOT allowed. In case of player injury, (i.e. bleeding) the player will have a reasonable amount of time for uniform repair (umpires discretion). At this point, unlike uniforms are permitted and proper care should be taken for disposal of the bloodied garment.

Each team will be allowed up to 5 minutes of infield practice prior to its FIRST GAME in the tournament. NO infield will be allowed in any other game during the tournament.

For all games, home team is determined by coin flip.

Games are seven innings or time limit. No new innings will start after 1 hour 30 minutes. Umpires will declare last inning.

We will be using two umpires for all games.

Games can end in a tie. For playoff games, we will use the international tie breaker in case of a tie (see ASA rulebook).

This is a zero tolerance tournament. If you are ejected from a game by the umpire, you are banned immediately from the premises for the duration of the tournament.

The home team will keep the official scorebook if an official scorekeeper is not provided.

Immediately after each game, both teams will submit the game result to the Tournament Director (or designated official). It is the responsibility of each team to go to the Hospitality Tent and submit the score. Teams have 30 minutes after the end of their game to dispute a score. After that time all scores are final.

Protests **MUST** be settled on the playing field before the game will be allowed to continue. **JUDGEMENT CALLS BY AN UMPIRE ARE NOT GROUNDS FOR PROTEST AND CANNOT BE QUESTIONED.** No protest will be allowed after the game is completed. Tournament Director and Umpire Staff will hear protests and make a decision.

Tournament directors will have last say on any rule interpretation that is debated or anything else not fully defined in this document.

Should any game be suspended due to weather or unusual circumstances, it will be resumed from the point of suspension. If we have inclement weather, the tournament director reserves the right to amend the schedule, including reducing the number of games played, if necessary. We appreciate everyone's flexibility and patience should New England weather become an issue.

STANDINGS & PLAYOFF RULES

The 12 teams will be divided into two 6 team divisions.

Each team will play the other teams in their division for a total of 5 games.

Teams will be awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.

Tie breakers will be used in the following order:

1. Head to head games (if more than two teams are tied, head to head applies if and only if the tied teams have all played each other),
2. Least amount of runs allowed,
3. Most runs scored,
4. Coin flip. (or “names drawn from a hat” if more than 2 teams are tied.)

After the 5th game, each team will play a one game “playoff” against their counterpart in the other division to determine the final standings. The #1 seed in the East division will play the #1 seed in the West division. The #2 team in East will play the #2 team in West and so forth. This will constitute the 6th game for every team.

The winner of the 1 vs. 1 playoff game will be declared the tournament champion. The winner of the 2 vs. 2 game will be the 3rd place finisher.

For each playoff game, there is no time limit.

In the event of a tie during a playoff game, we will use the ASA international tie breaker.

Please note: In the event that there are fewer than 12 teams in the tournament, it may be necessary to adjust the playoff system. It is possible we could go to a 2 game playoff or a straight points system with no playoff game. Whatever adjustments we make, the main objective is to offer the opportunity to play as many games as possible against as many different opponents as feasible.