

Grafton Invitational 12B Softball Tournament
June 20 – 22, 2014
Nelson Park, Grafton MA

We hope to have another outstanding tournament again this year. Last year's event featured a full field of 14 teams from all over Massachusetts and beyond. Each team will have a chance to play three different teams on Friday and Saturday. The standings after the three games will determine the seeding for a single elimination playoff on Sunday. This will give each team a minimum of four games over the weekend (weather permitting).

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 12B event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA and only ASA-registered class B and C teams are eligible to participate. (*Out-of-state teams may be eligible to enter the tournament. Please contact us to discuss your situation.*) Teams must complete ASA rosters and have them available to the tournament director at all times.

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
Cell – (617) 365-0720
Tournaments@GraftonGirlsSoftball.com



**GRAFTON GIRLS
SOFTBALL, INC.**

**PO Box 80
Grafton, MA 01519**

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GraftonGirlsSoftball.com

**Register online at
www.asanewengland.com**

GRAFTON INVITATIONAL 12B SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Hosted by: GRAFTON GIRLS SOFTBALL, INC.

Grafton



Softball

DATE: JUNE 20 - 22, 2014

LOCATION: Nelson Park - North Grafton, MA

FORMAT: 12U (Age 12 or younger as of 1/1/14)
4 game guarantee (weather permitting)
Round robin - Friday and Saturday
Championship round - Sunday

ENTRY FEE: \$475.00

DEADLINE: MAY 25, 2014

Teams will be registered on a first come basis. *(Teams are deemed registered when we receive the entry form & check)*
12 team maximum

CONTACT: PETER CARDOZA (617) 365-0720
Tournaments@GraftonGirlsSoftball.com

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Enclose this form with a check payable to "GRAFTON GIRLS SOFTBALL, INC."

TEAM NAME _____

12U HEAD COACH _____

CONTACT (if different) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CELL PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

MAIL TO: **GRAFTON GIRLS SOFTBALL, INC.**
PO BOX 80
GRAFTON, MA 01519



The DoubleTree Hotel

5400 Computer Drive, Westboro, MA 01581

www.bostonwestborough.doubletree.com

Welcomes the Grafton Softball Tournament Teams

12U Tournament - June 20-22

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

**To reserve a room online at this rate, use Special Rate Code – GRF
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 and at the North Street Elementary School located at 60 North Street in Grafton. Directions to the fields are attached to this packet.

Nelson 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.

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.

Field House:

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

North Street Elementary School Field:

The School has 1 softball field and a porta-potty. The field is located down the hill behind the gym on the right side of the building. There is ample parking in the lot in front of the gym.

T-Shirts:

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

Format & Awards:

Each team will play a total of 3 pool games on Friday and Saturday. Results of pool games determine seeding for single elimination championship round on Sunday. Weather permitting, every team will play a minimum of 4 games. Team and individual trophies will be presented to the two finalists. Every player will receive a participation pin at the conclusion of their final game.

Roster:

This 12B event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA and only ASA-registered class B and C 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. Both teams must provide game results to the tournament director immediately following the game.

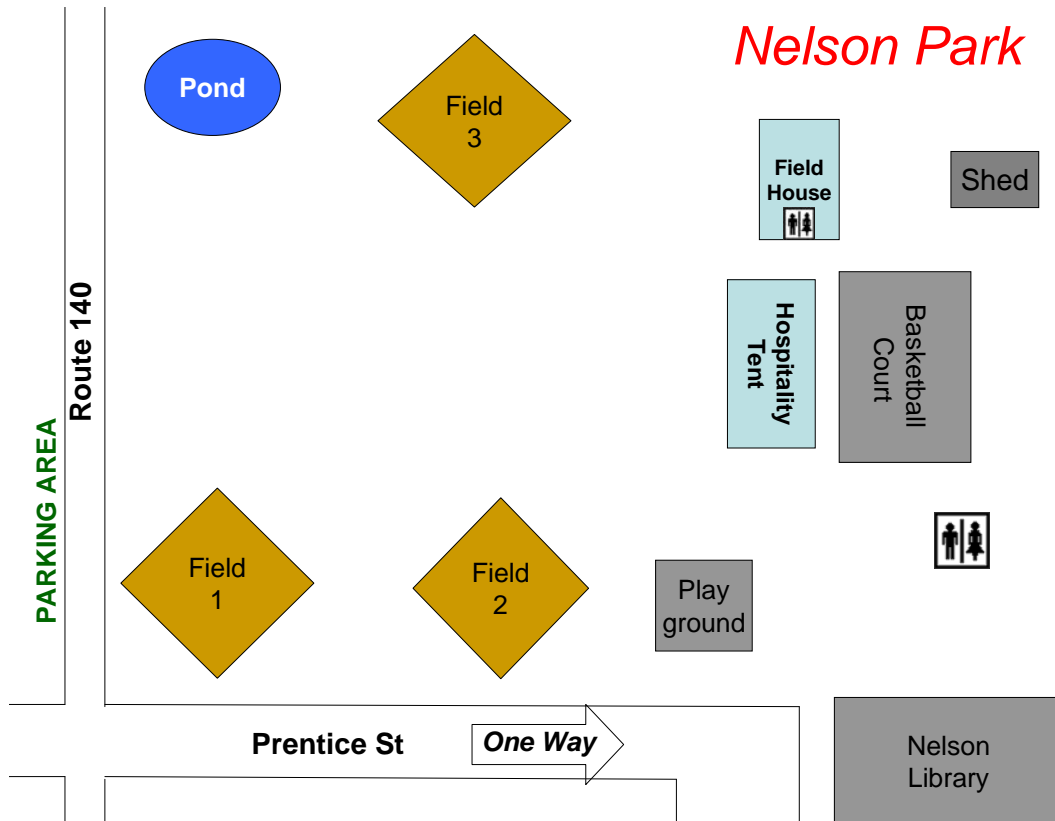
Rules:

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 has permanent rest rooms and concessions. (There are also portable rest rooms on site)

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 Route 290 and follow above

From Route 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 12U

This tournament will abide by all rules and regulations as stated under ASA FAST PITCH SOFTBALL 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 official ASA 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.

Home team is determined by coin flip for pool games; higher seed is home team on Sunday.

Games are seven innings or time limit. No new innings will start after 1 hour 40 minutes. Umpires will declare last inning. Semi-Final and Championship games are 7 innings and have no time limit.

For each game, teams will have the option of using a 9-player or 10-player line-up. For a 9 player line-up, full ASA rules apply (including use of Flex/DP player). A 10-player lineup will use an "extra hitter" in the batting order and 9 fielders. The extra hitter may be used in any spot in the batting order. Teams using a 10-player lineup may not use a Flex/DP player. All other ASA rules apply including those covering courtesy runners, substitutions and playing shorthanded.

We will be using one umpire for pool games, two umpires for playoff games.

Pool games can end in a tie. For elimination 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.

PLAYOFF RULES

Seeding will be based on win/loss record from Friday and Saturday games. 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. Coin flip. (or “names drawn from a hat” if more than 2 teams are tied.)

Higher seed will be home team.

Games will be 7 innings. During the first round and quarter-finals, no new inning may start after 1 hour 40 minutes. There is no time limit for the semi-final and championship games.

In the event of a tie, we will use the international tie breaker (see ASA rulebook).