

Grafton Invitational 10U Softball Tournament
June 27 – 29, 2014
Nelson Park, Grafton MA

We hope to have another outstanding tournament again this year. Last year's event featured 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 10U event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA. (*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 10U SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Hosted by: GRAFTON GIRLS SOFTBALL, INC.

Grafton



Softball

DATE: JUNE 27-29, 2014

LOCATION: Nelson Park - North Grafton, MA

FORMAT: 10U (Age 10 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: JUNE 1, 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

This 10U event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA and only ASA-registered teams are eligible to participate. (Out-of-state teams must have prior approval from MASS ASA before entering the tournament. Please contact us for more information.) Teams must complete ASA rosters and have them available to the tournament director at all times.

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

TEAM NAME _____

10U 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

10U Tournament - June 27-29

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

**To reserve a room online at this rate, use Special Rate Code – GFT
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/grafon2014



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 clean 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 stand.

Format:

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

Awards:

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 event is sanctioned by the MASS ASA. Teams must complete ASA rosters and have them available to the tournament director at all times.

Check-in:

Coaches must report to the check-in table (located near the concession stand) prior to the start of their team's first game. The coach must show the director the signed ASA roster and proof of insurance.

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.

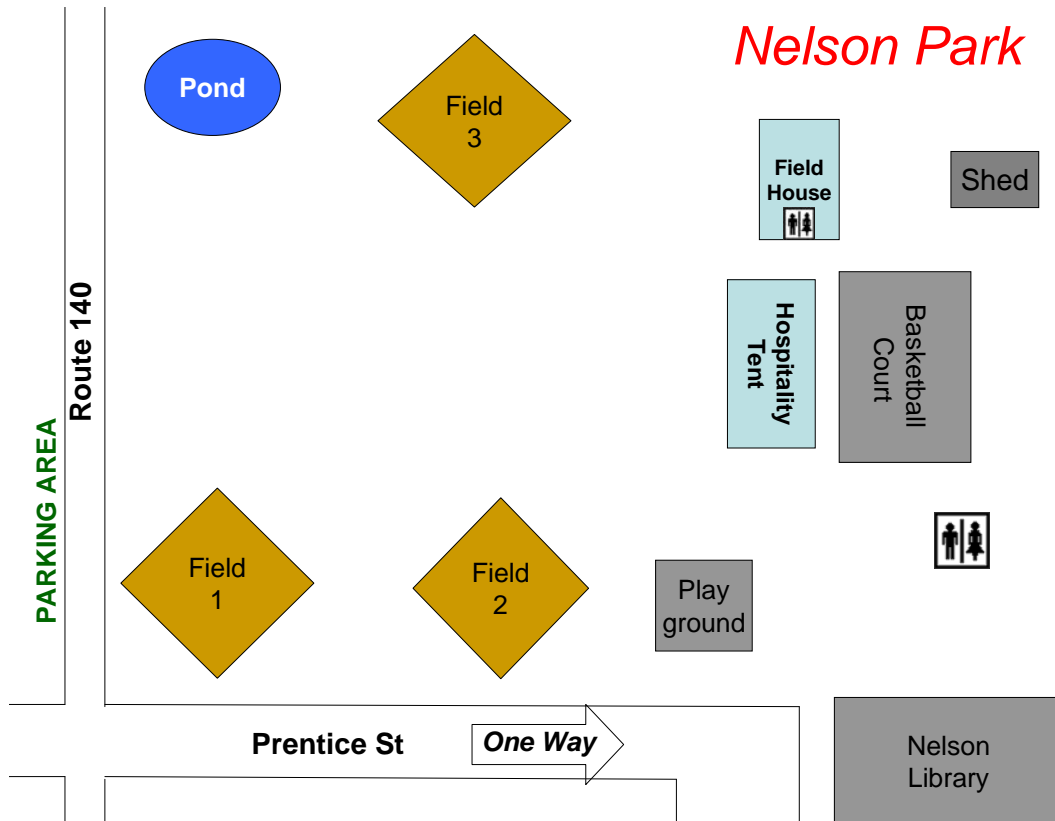
Rules:

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 10U

Please note that in order to accommodate town-based teams of varying abilities we have modified ASA Fastpitch Rules as noted below. It is not possible for us to have considered every possible scenario that can arise in a game. Therefore we hope that you view these rules in the spirit they are intended and not scour the rule book for loop holes that can be exploited.

1. Team coaches or representatives must report to the Tournament Director at least 20 minutes before first game. Teams must complete ASA rosters and have them available to the tournament director at all times.
2. All players must wear matching uniforms. Base coaches should be in team colors. Metal spikes are not allowed.
3. Protests must be settled on the playing field before the game will be allowed to continue. The Tournament Director's decision will be final. No protests will be allowed after the game is completed.
4. Teams will play with 9 fielders. Continuous batting order will be used. (So every player on the roster will bat.) Fielders may be substituted freely.
5. Any team not able to field eight (8) players will forfeit the game. If playing with 8, the batting order will list a 9th player. When it is time for the 9th player to bat, an automatic out will be recorded.
6. Games will be 6 innings. No inning can begin after 1 hour, 40 minutes. There will be no time limit for the semi-finals and finals on Sunday.
7. Pool games may end in a tie. If an elimination game is tied after six innings of play, the international tie-breaker will take effect at the top of the seventh inning.
8. Should any game be suspended due to weather or unusual circumstances, it will be resumed from the point of suspension.
9. Coin flip will determine home team for the pool games. Higher seed will determine home team for elimination games.
10. The home team will keep the official score.
11. 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.
12. The ASA mercy rule will be in effect: 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 after 4 innings or, 8 runs after 5innings.
13. 6 runs maximum per inning for the first 4 innings. No maximum for the 5th and 6th innings

14. Pitchers will pitch from 35 feet with an 11" ball. Only players will pitch; no coach pitch. Pitchers may give up an unlimited number of walks. Runners on 3rd may be walked in if the bases are loaded.
15. For the safety of the batters, the umpire will remove the pitcher from the pitching position in the event she hits three (3) batters in one inning or (4) four batters during the course of the game.
16. If removed from the game, the starting pitcher may return to the mound at any time. The new pitcher does not have to be on the field at the time she enters the game. (In other words, she may have been on the bench prior to entering the game. This also applies to a starter who was removed and returns to the mound.) A reliever may not return to the mound once she has been removed. This applies to the original starter who is removed a second time.
17. Players may lead on release by the pitcher. Stealing of 2nd and 3rd base is permitted; no stealing of home. Runner may only steal one base at a time (i.e. the runner cannot advance to 3rd on an overthrow to second base).
18. If the defense attempts to pick-off a runner, the ball will be considered in play and all runners, including a runner on third, may attempt to advance. (i.e. no free pick-off attempts).
19. After a pitch has been made, if the throw from the catcher to the pitcher is mishandled (pitcher does not have control), the ball will be considered live. Runners may attempt to advance. The attempt will be considered a steal and Rule 17 will apply.
20. No drop third strike. Players may not advance home on a passed ball.
21. No direct advance to 2nd base on a walk.
22. No infield fly rule.
23. Courtesy runner can be used for the pitcher and catcher. The courtesy runner must be the player who made the last out.
24. It is the responsibility of each team to attend to their first aid needs and supplies. Insurance is the responsibility of each team.
25. Each team is responsible for cleaning their bench after each game.
26. No smoking or alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the Nelson Park premises.

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.)