Sophia Priebe Memorial Tournament

Tournament Welcome Packet
2026

Thank you for participating in the Winter 2026 West Valley Sophia Priebe Tournament. We are very happy that you have chosen to enter your team(s) in our tournament and are excited to host you at our facilities. Many of you have traveled a great distance to be here, so if there is anything we can do to make your time here more enjoyable, please let us know.

This welcome packet contains everything you will need for your time here; please read through everything carefully before coming out to our fields.

Our tournament schedule is posted under the “Schedule” tab on our league site: www.wvgs.org. Each team will have two “pool play” games on Saturday, which will be used to determine our single-elimination tournament on Sunday. Please check the schedules regularly for any last-minute updates.

One important thing to note is that we are not permitted to be on our facility grounds before 6:30am. For the teams who will be playing in the 8:00am time slot, please make sure you adhere to this rule by not arriving until 6:30am.

Thank you for entering our tournament and have a great time!

Jason Chlowitz
President West Valley Girls Softball

Facility Rules - IMPORTANT

Please remind all families of these rules.

1. No Alcohol or Tobacco products are allowed at our facility. Should these be found, your team will forfeit all games and be asked to leave the facility.
2. **No dogs or pets allowed on LAUSD property. Failure to remove will result in game forfeiture.**
3. Portable grills or any other cooking devices are prohibited.
4. Noisemakers, whistles, boomboxes, etc. are not allowed here. Our fields are in the middle of a quiet neighborhood and we respect our neighbors.
5. No entry allowed to our facility prior to 6:30am. No music allowed until 8am game times.

Check-in Procedure

YOUR TEAM MUST CHECK IN AT LEAST ONE HOUR PRIOR TO YOUR FIRST GAME TIME (or, immediately upon arrival at 6:30am if your team is playing in the first time slot)

Please TURN IN the following at check-in:

1. Invitational Tournament Roster from USA softball (included at the end of this packet)
   Must include player birthday & jersey number
   Must include coaches name and USA ID number from new registration system
2. Roster should be signed by a league board member

Please SHOW the following at check in:

1. Each coach needs to show a copy of the USA Softball ID card with their photo ID (if their picture is not on their card) in order to receive a coaching bracelet. All coaches must check in.

Spirit Awards

You will be given two “Spirit Awards.” Please award them to a deserving player on the opposing team after your two pool play games.

Our Facilities

Our facilities are located at 5607 Capistrano Ave in Woodland Hills, near the major cross-streets of Shoup Ave. and Burbank Blvd.

The only entrance to our facility is a single-lane gate off Capistrano Ave, so please beware of vehicles that are entering and exiting, as only one vehicle may pass through the gate at a time. Due to the limited space at our gate and in our parking lot, RVs are not permitted on the grounds, and must park on one of the streets surrounding the facility.

Here is a map of our facilities with key field numbers and other locations identified:



Warm-Up Areas

First game of the day can warm up in the outfield. We do have limited spaces for the following games warm-up, so please refer to the game schedule to determine your warm-up area before your game.

Warm-up areas will be limited to the two fields NOT being used for games (Fields 2, and 8) as well as the open area beyond the outfield fences of Fields 3, 4, 5, and 6 and the batting cages. Be prepared to SHARE fields 2 and 8 with other teams. **PLEASE BRING A BOWNET FOR WARM UPS AS SPACE IS LIMITED.**

If your team is playing in the first game of the day, you may warm up in the outfield grass of your field on the side of your dugout, but never on the infield dirt.

Please be very careful when warming up your teams, as there is a considerable amount of fan traffic throughout our grounds.

Our parking lot will be busy, so please exercise caution and strongly consider accompanying your youngest fans to the restrooms and cages.

WEST VALLEY GIRLS SOFTBALL
(**Final Rules**)
Sophia Priebe 2026

SECTION I: GENERAL GUIDELINES

This section lists administrative guidelines that West Valley Girls Softball (WVGS) has adopted for the 2026 Sophia Priebe Memorial Tournament.

TEAMS:

1. Teams will consist of a maximum of fifteen (15) players. All players must be on the official team roster submitted at the time of check-in. Any player participating in a game that is not registered and/or not on the official team roster will cause immediate disqualification of the entire team for the remainder of the tournament. Age determined as of September 1, 2026.
2. In order to be eligible to play, all teams must check-in at least one hour before their first game. All teams must present the following documentation at check-in:
    a. Completed USA Softball Invitational Roster (attached at end of packet) – up to a maximum of fifteen (15) players.
    b. USA Softball coaches cards

GAMES:
The following guidelines apply to ALL divisions unless noted.
Game Times:

1. ***Pool Play*** - For all divisions, one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes **NO NEW INNING OR (1) hour and thirty (30) drop dead.** The game will stop immediately at the drop dead time; the current at-bat will not be completed.
    a. If the visiting team is up to bat at the time game is called, the score shall revert back to the last completed inning.
    b. If the home team is up to bat at the time game is called and they are losing the game, the score shall revert to the last completed inning.

c. If the home team is up to bat and is leading, the score shall stand and will not revert back.
d. If the home team is up to bat at the time game is called and has tied the game in that half inning, and they had been losing after the last completed inning, the score shall stand and will not revert back.
    i. Pool Play will be scored as follows:
        1. One (1) point is given for each win.
        2. One-Half (.5) point is given to each team for a tied game.
        3. If there is a tie in points, the following tie-breaker will be used.
        4. Head-to-head.
        5. Lowest number of runs scored against you – runs allowed.
        6. Highest number of runs scored by team – runs scored
        7. Flip of a coin.

2. ***Elimination Games*** – For all divisions, (7) innings or one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes no new inning. Modified International tie-breaker if needed.**
    a. **Modified International Tie-breaker - Shall be in effect as follows:
        i. 1st Extra Inning: International Tie-breaker – runner on second base with zero outs.
        ii. 2nd Extra Inning: Modified International Tie-Breaker – runner on second base with one (1) out.
        iii. 3rd Extra Inning and after: Modified International Tie-Breaker – runners on second and third bases with one (1) out.
3. ***Championship Games*** - For all divisions, the Championship Game shall be seven (7) innings or one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes no new inning. For all Championship Games, the International Tie-breaker rule shall be in effect if needed.
4. Time limit between innings is (1) one minute. The umpires have been told to strictly adhere to this rule.
5. During pool play games, the team listed as “Home” will occupy the third base dugout unless either team played the previous game on the same field. They shall then occupy the same dugout as the previous game. During bracket play, the higher seeded team will occupy the third base

dugout unless either team has played the previous game on the same field. They shall then occupy the same dugout as mentioned above. Home team for all Pool Play games will be determined by a coin toss at the plate; the higher seeded team for Elimination and Championship Games will be the home team, unless the teams are seeded equally, in which case home team will be decided by a coin toss at the plate.

6. For All POOL PLAY GAMES all teams MUST bat Round Robin. During Elimination games and the Championship game in 10U/12U, all teams will be required to declare at the beginning of the game their intention to either: (a) bat 9 (with or without DP/Flex/EP) or (b) bat round robin. This applies for all divisions except 8U.
7. All teams are responsible for checking posted game times.
8. Game time is forfeit time. Fields may not be used for infield practice before games. **Hitting balls into the perimeter fences is not allowed – please use the soft-toss hitting nets provided**.
9. The Home Team will provide the official scorekeeper for the game.
10. Scorekeeper will make no comments, remain neutral, and must sit behind the backstop or as close to the umpire as possible. If the Home Team cannot provide a scorekeeper, then the opposing team may provide one and has the option of being Home Team. Both managers must sign the scorecard at the conclusion of the game.
11. All team personnel (Managers, Coaches, Players) must remain in the dugout during the game, with a maximum of four (4) team staff per dugout.
12. Rings will be awarded to the 1st and 2nd place teams in the Brackets.
13. No eating, drinking, gum chewing, etc., will be allowed on the fields during the game.
14. Umpires and/or tournament officials will have the responsibility of ejecting coaches, players or spectators for abusive language or other acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of USA SOFTBALL. A warning for the first offense MAY be issued at the discretion of the umpires/officials. The second offense by coaches or players will result in ejection of the responsible individual(s) from the game. Any ejected individual (Manager, Coach, Player, Parent, etc.) is suspended from the current game and is suspended from the team's next game; an ejection occurring after the last out has been recorded in a game will result in suspension for the next two (2) games. If a second ejection occurs, the individual will be suspended for

the remainder of the tournament. Ejected individuals must leave the playing fields and remain “out of sight and out of sound” at least 200 ft. from the playing field where their “TEAM” is playing, for the duration of the suspension. All Ejections need to be documented and turned into the Tournament Official for enforcement purposes.

15. **DISCLAIMER**: The Tournament Director will resolve any situation not covered by these rules or in the USA Softball Rule Book. All decisions will be final.

PROTESTS:
All decisions are final. There will be no provisions for protests.

SECTION 2: PLAYING RULES

The Rules are WVGS Tournament additions and adaptations to the 2024 USA SOFTBALL Rulebook. In conjunction with the USA SOFTBALL Rulebook, these Rules constitute the Official Rules and regulations for the 2025 Sophia Priebe Memorial Tournament. USA SOFTBALL Rules apply to ALL Divisions unless noted below.

1. Pitching distances are as follows
   6 years & Under - 30 ft
   8 years & Under - 30 ft
   10 years & Under - 35 ft
   12 years & Under - 40 ft

2. Base Paths are 60 ft for all age groups
3. ROUND ROBIN FORMAT: For teams electing to bat Round-Robin, if a player arrives late, she will be placed at the bottom of the line-up, and if she cannot come up to bat when it is her turn for any reason, she is considered OUT for the first occurrence only. DP/Flex/EP lineups are permitted during Elimination Rounds and Championship play except for 6U/8U.
4. For teams batting round robin, there is open substitution for defensive players, and courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher and catcher. The courtesy runner shall be the last recorded out. For teams batting nine (with or without a DP/Flex/EP), USA SOFTBALL substitution rules apply.

5. USA Softball reentry rules apply with one exception. If an injury occurs and no one is left to reenter, a player may reenter to replace the injured player for defense only. Her turn at bat will be skipped without penalty.
6. Mercy Rule: when a team is ahead by Fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings, or ten (10) runs after Four (4) innings or eight (8) runs after five (5) innings in any game, the umpire shall declare the game complete.

SPECIFIC AGE DIVISION RULES:

8 & Under Division:

1. All games will be played with a 10-inch Sof-Dot (Yellow) USA Softball approved softball provided by WVGS.
2. Home plate is closed/cold.
3. The runner cannot leave the base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. On overthrows by the catcher to the pitcher, runners may advance one (1) base, except from third base to home.
4. **Stealing**: Maximum of one (1) base stolen per pitch; runners may not advance on an overthrow, even if the ball goes out of play.
5. Dropped third strike rule does not apply.
6. Infield fly rule does not apply.
7. Ten (10) players will be allowed on defense. No more than six (6) players, including the pitcher and catcher, may play in the infield. Outfielders and the tenth (10) player must remain on the grass until the ball is hit or a play is made on a runner.
8. Round robin will be used for the 8-U during elimination and championship games.
9. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **4-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 4 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 4 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.

10 & Under Division:

1. All games will be played with a 11-inch Dream Seam (Yellow) USA Softball approved softball provided by WVGS.
2. Home Plate is “hot.”
3. Dropped Third Strike (DTS) will apply.
4. Infield fly rule will apply.
5. No per pitch stolen base maximum.
6. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **5-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 5 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 5 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.
7. Nine (9) players will be allowed on defense, 3 of which must play in the outfield. Outfielders must remain on the grass until the ball is hit or a play is made on a runner.

12 & Under

1. All games will be played with a 12-inch Dream Seam (Yellow) USA Softball approved softball provided by WVGS.
2. Home Plate is “hot.”
3. Dropped Third Strike (DTS) will apply.
4. Infield fly rule will apply.
5. No per pitch stolen base maximum.
6. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **5-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 5 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 5 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.
7. Nine (9) players will be allowed on defense, 3 of which must play in the outfield. Outfielders must remain on the grass until the ball is hit or a play is made on a runner.

SECTION III: MISCELLANEOUS

1. No alcohol or tobacco products will be allowed at any of the facilities. Noisemakers, bullhorns, radios or music devices will not be allowed at the playing field. No barbecues or other cooking devices are allowed in the field

or parking lot areas. THERE IS NO RV PARKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

2. **No dogs allowed on LAUSD property. Failure to remove the dog from LAUSD property will result in game forfeiture(s).**
3. No negative cheering and/or taunting of opposing players, coaches or managers will be tolerated.
4. Only the Manager/Coach who participated in the pre-game meeting with the umpire may approach or speak with the umpire to discuss a disputed call.
5. At the umpire's discretion, if it is deemed that a manager, coach or player is acting in a fashion so as to prolong or stall the progress of the game, the Umpire may eject the offending team's manager from the game and/or may declare a forfeit of the game by the offending team.