

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
2024 State Softball Tournament
Aberdeen, South Dakota
Class A and Class B - Players Complex
Class AA - Koehler Field (NSU Campus)

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS:

Jo Auch, Assistant Executive Director
Dawn Seiler, Athletic Director

HOST VENUE:

Player's Complex
NSU- Koehler's Softball Field

STATE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

1. Practice Sessions

A practice session for your team has been scheduled at each venue Wednesday, May 29. The practice times are listed below. Each team has the field for 55 minutes.

9:00 – 10:00 – Closest School	1:00 - 2:00 – Next Closest
10:00 - 11:00 – Next Closest	2:00 - 3:00 – Next Closest
11:00 - 12:00 – Next Closest	3:00 - 4:00 – Next Closest
12:00 – 1:00 – Next Closest	4:00 - 5:00 – Longest Distance

Note: Please check the SDHSAA website following the SoDak 16 for practice schedule (www.sdhsaa.com)

TEAMS MAY TRADE PRACTICE TIMES WITH TEAM. THIS IS TO BE WORKED OUT WITH THE SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN THE SWITCH. NOTIFICATION CAN THEN BE MADE TO DAWN SEILER, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ABERDEEN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL at 605-216-1319.

2. Coaches Meeting

There will be a coaches meeting for all coaches on **Wednesday, May 29, at the Aberdeen Community Theater (417 S Main St.) in downtown Aberdeen beginning at 6:00 p.m.** The purpose of this meeting is to provide you with your team packets that will have information pertaining to the state tournament and instructions along with your team passes.

3. Equipment

Each team will need to bring all necessary equipment for practice and game purposes. The only things supplied by host site will be the game balls, softball diamonds and field necessities.

4. Bus Parking and Team Entrance

Players Complex (Class A and Class B): Entrance for teams, umpire, and media will all use east gate entrance into the softball complex. Busses will park in the east parking lot. Players must have your player pass to enter during the tournament.

NSU (Class AA): Entrance for teams/coaches and media will be the west gate entrance. Busses will drop players off and park along the football stadium complex.

5. Team Lodging

Team lodging has been arranged for participating teams at several hotels in Aberdeen.

Class B - Seeds 1-8 will be staying at the Ramkota Hotel.

Class A - Seeds 1-2 will stay at the Ramkota; Seeds 3-8 will stay at the Hampton Inn.

Class AA – Seeds 1-4 will be at the Fairfield and Seeds 5-8 at the Super 8 (2405 6th Ave.)

All addresses are listed on the website under lodging information, here is the link:

<https://www.sdhsaa.com/Athletics/SB-TeamLodgingInformation.pdf>

Each participating team has 9 rooms reserved for its needs for Wednesday through Friday night. If you would like to stay Saturday, it is your responsibility to book the room for the additional night. It is also your responsibility to contact the hotel and make payment arrangements for your rooms, as well as cancel any rooms that you do not need.

6. TOURNAMENT WARM-UP PRIOR TO EACH GAME

Players Complex - Class A will have two designated game fields (C-D) and Class B will have two designated game fields (A-B). Each class will alternate fields within the class as to which diamond will be used so field prep will be completed and games will start on time. Game warmup will take place on the field in which you will be playing. No infield will be allowed other than grounders along your dugout side.

NSU – Class AA – no infield will be allowed other than grounders along your dugout side prior to the contest.

No warmup hitting drills into the fences will be allowed.

7. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

A regulation contest of 7 innings will be played for all contests unless the run rule after 3 innings (15-run rule) or 5 innings (10-run rule) is applicable. If game is suspended before seven innings, the game will be continued at the point of suspension when conditions permit. Games may be shortened due to inclement weather. That decision will rest with the Tournament Directors.

Class AA athletes should bring cleats/shoes suitable for the “skin”/dirt fields in case of weather issues.

Class A and B should bring cleats/shoes suitable for turf fields in case of weather issues. (no metal cleats will be allowed on turf fields).

8. OFFICIAL SQUAD

- Your roster is the **on-line form** on the SDHSAA website.
- A team's state roster is the same as the SoDak 16 roster.
- The roster may include as many names on it as a school wishes, but a school may only dress 16 for a contest.

Only 16 players can suit up in a school issued uniform for any one game during the tournament. These 16 players can change each game if necessary. Only rostered participant should be in the dugout.

9. Program and Media Guide Information

All **PROGRAM** information is due Wednesday, May 22. The program printers will need a labeled team picture, and a coach picture for the program.

All **Media/Stats Guide** info is due on May 22. This is your regular season stats. Please note where each of the above needs to be sent on the website.

Here is the link to access the information and where it needs to be sent:

<https://www.sdhsaa.com/sb-program-media-guide/>

Any qualifying school which fails to comply will be assessed a \$50.00 fine.

10. Substitutions/Scratch List

A school may include as many players on the Team Roster as he/she wishes, however, only sixteen players may suit up for a given game. Each player's name must appear on a Master Eligibility List filed with the SDHSAA office.

The State Tournament Director must be notified of the substitution. It is not necessary for a coach to verify each day the 16 players who will be playing in the game, unless it is necessary to draw upon a player whose name was not on the original list.

11. Passes/Tickets for the Competing Schools

For each school qualifying for the tournament, complimentary tickets will be provided as follows:

- **Players/Student Managers:** 20 passes will be issued for players, student managers, statisticians, etc. (given at tournament in team packet)
- **Coaches:** 6 adult passes will be issued to be used for coaches and adult personnel assisting in dugout duties -includes trainer (given at tournament in team packet)
- **Bus Driver:** One bus driver pass (labeled and given at tournament in team packet)
- **School:** Eight (8) season complimentary tickets to each school. (these were given to you following your SoDak 16 contest)

12. Tickets for Qualifying Schools

Tickets will be sold in Aberdeen at each of the complexes. Tickets may also be purchased online. There will be no advanced sale to the qualifying school. Upon the purchase of the event, each person will receive a wristband, which will allow fans admittance to either field for that day of the tournament, depending on the type of ticket purchased.

<u>Ticket Prices for Tournament</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Adult</u>
Single Day Pass	\$10.00	\$15.00
All Tournament Pass (all three days)	\$30.00	\$45.00

All tickets are general admission. Feel free to bring lawn chairs for viewing. Proper student identification must be shown to purchase student tickets. Tickets are for High School, Jr. High and elementary students only.

13. NO Coolers will be allowed at either facility.

Water coolers will be provided on each bench for the teams.

14. SDHSAA Tournament Headquarters

The State Association Headquarters during the tournament will be at Players Complex.

15. Tournament Umpires

The SDHSAA has obtained 4 umpires for each class (12 total) and all decisions of the umpires shall be final.

Class AA	Class A	Class B
Brett Distel, Box Elder	Nathan Beeler, Alcester	Ace Boschee, Aberdeen
Al Hansen, Sioux Falls	Neil Brunner, Sioux Falls	David Eich, Sioux Falls
Rick Kline, Yankton	Kevin Warne, Sioux Falls	Brian Holter, Tea
Dawn Schumack, Sioux Falls	Travis Young, Watertown	Ronald Smidt, Wentworth

16. Tournament Pairing/Schedule/Starting Times

The pairings are as follows:

Thursday, May 30	10:00 a.m.	Seed 1 vs Seed 8
Thursday, May 30	12:30 p.m.	Seed 4 vs Seed 5
Thursday, May 30	3:00 p.m.	Seed 2 vs Seed 7
Thursday, May 30	5:30 p.m.	Seed 3 vs Seed 6

There will be no infield warmup prior to each game. All warmups will take place at the alternate field at Players Complex or on the Football Field at NSU prior to the start of your contest. **Games will move ahead of schedule where possible, but will not start any earlier than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start times. Games will also move ahead of schedule should weather become an issue.** Consolation round contests may be shortened due to inclement weather.

High Seed will be the home team and have the 3rd baseline dugout.

Gates are open at 9 am each day.

17. Video Taping Policy

The following is taken from the SDHSAA videotaping policy as printed in the General section of the Handbook. For the complete policy, refer to the Handbook.

Video Taping Policy - At State Events

- A. Provided that videotaping is not intended for broadcast, participating schools may videotape the game or event that involves their team or athletes.
- B. Upon advising the SDHSAA and the team(s) and/or individuals involved in a specific state event, schools may videotape other teams and/or individuals for scouting purposes at said state event.
- C. Parents or guardians may videotape the game or event that involves their own son or daughter.

18. Presentation of Awards

All awards will be presented at the conclusion of each game on Saturday. Teams will line up on their respective sideline and be presented medals and plaque/trophy immediately following each game. Details will be provided to each team during the coaches meeting.

The SDHSAA will award four team trophies and four plaques.

- Trophies will go to the following:
 - championship team
 - runner-up team
 - third place team
 - consolation championship team
- The other four teams will receive plaques to show participation in the tournament.
- Twenty individual medals will be given to each team.

The maximum number of student names to be read at the State Softball Awards ceremony is at the discretion of the participating schools.

Award Protocol. All fans will be expected to remain off the playing field. Failure to remain off the playing field will result in the offending team not being recognized by the public address announcer. Medals and trophy will be awarded to school personnel following the awards ceremony. **Fans can gather outside of the fenced areas after the contest for further team pictures.**

The South Dakota Coaches Association will present to 12 individuals from each class an All-Tournament Plaque. These athletes will be determined by a pool of coaches to determine who makes the All-Tournament team.

19. State Tournament Regulations for Fans

Sportsmanship/Conduct - Administrators responsibility. No signs, banners or mechanical noisemakers allowed, no jumping on bleachers, other rules & regulations. **Review regulations published in the general section of handbook** for both adult fans and student body.

20. Tournament Expenses

Each team entered in the State Tournament shall pay all its own expenses.

21. High School Student and Adult Press Pass Request

To request a High School Press Pass or Adult Press Pass, log into your school dashboard, click on the SD Icon on the left side bar, and on the forms page, under Journalism click on the link that says Student Press and Adult Press Pass Request. **These are due no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Monday Prior to the state event.** Students' names must be listed on the school's journalism roster on the SDHSAA website. If school journalism roster has not been submitted on the SDHSAA website, press passes will NOT be issued to that school.

Media Entrance will be located in the at the South Entrance Ticket/Media Gate at Players Complex and NSU media entrance will be at the main gate on the west side.

22. Gate Openings: Ticket Sales and Pass Gate

Thursday, May 30 9:00 a.m.

Friday, May 31 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 1 9:00 a.m.

Tickets sold will good for attendance at either of the complexes in which State Softball is being played.