

MICHELE SMITH SHOWCASE RULES

- 1) FREE SUBSTITUTION – YOU MUST KEEP INTEGRITY OF LINE UP
- 2) 1:20 GAMES, FINISH THE BATTER
- 3) YOU MUST BE SANCTIONED, HAVE ROSTER ONLINE & SHOW PROOF OF INSURANCE.
- 4) NO LINE UPS NEEDED AT PLATE MEETING
- 5) HOME/AWAY COIN FLIP AT PLATE

IMPORTANT INFO – PLEASE READ!!!!!!

I wanted to send out a brief note to all of you regarding recruiting at this event as well as some items I would like you to keep in mind in case you or your parents/players have questions.

- 1) This is a busy time of year for college coaches especially with trying to get everything in order with the new school year. Some have recruiting camps, other commitments, games of their own scheduled, etc. this weekend but have committed to coming at least one of the two days if not both.
- 2) Please remember that other than a simple hello, they cannot talk to your players or parents while the tournament is in progress. Only you, the coach. Please respect this so they are not put in an uncomfortable situation.
- 3) Remember this is a showcase, not a tournament, **so times will be scattered all over with possible long breaks. This is how showcases run.** You will have to move fields and sometimes quickly but this way everyone gets a rotation of fields.
- 4) If we have any inclement weather the games will pick up where they are scheduled to be played so that the college coaches are not confused at who is going to play where and at what time. For example, if we are in a lightning delay for one game time slot, that game will not be made up and we will move on to the next round. If it rains for 3 hours then those 3 hours are gone and we move to the time slot that is slated to play.

5) MOST IMPORTANTLY – PLEASE READ ENTIRE MESSAGE!

- 6) I have been a travel coach for 18 years, a college coach for 13 years and have been to a great number of events and there are the same complaints every year no matter who is sponsoring the event.
- A) **“THE GOOD FIELDS”** – Although many parents/travel coaches like to believe there is such a thing, it is a myth especially at the complex you are playing in this weekend. All fields are separated within a walking distance. Please understand, if

the college coach wants to see your team, they will make the effort to get there. If they are not watching your team that is on you, not the tournament organizers. Tournament organizers have the responsibility to get them there, **YOU** have the responsibility to get them to watch your team specifically no matter which field you are on.

- B) **“THERE ARE NO COACHES”** – Please do not walk around with blinders on this weekend. The coaches will be present. Again, it is up to YOU and YOUR team to get them to watch you. Your kids should be sending personalized emails to every school, not blanket emails with the message “Dear Coach so-so, come see me play. YOU DO NOT NEED A LIST TO DO THIS! It should be sent to the schools that they are truly interested in and ones with a realistic expectation. 2% of travel ball players play D1 softball so my advice is to hit all other levels, especially with D1 being in a dead period! Designate a person to hand out team flyers to the coaches when you see them. Leave the dugout and say hello yourself. Build a relationship with them, it is just as important for the coach as the player.
- C) **Lastly** – Many of you know me and some do not, so I want to be clear. This message was not intended to be rude or disrespectful, just matter of fact. Michele Smith and I sincerely appreciate you taking the time to play in this showcase for such a great charity. This message was just meant to be straight forward because any showcase you attend in the nation has these two unrealistic concerns attached to them and I just wanted to get it out in the open prior to the showcase starting.