



Thunder Elite Fastpitch, Inc.

P.O. Box 636
Vienna, OH 44473
(330) 550 - 1779

Thunderstruck PONY National Qualifier Tournament

This tournament will be limited to 18 total teams. Additional teams will be placed on a standby list in case another team drops out. **This tournament is a PONY Softball National Qualifier.**

- WHERE:** Liberty Township Park
1315 Churchill - Hubbard Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44505
- WHEN:** June 6 - 8, 2008
- AGE GROUPS:** (January 1, 2008 will determine a player's age.)
14 and under
16 and under
18 and under
- FORMAT:** This tournament will consist of a 4 game minimum made up of 3 pool games used in seeding into single elimination play.
- COST:** Entry fee for this tournament is \$350.00
- CONTACT:** Ed Hamil, Tournament Director
Rob Durig, Asst. Director (330) 550 - 1779
Email: tourneys@thunderelitefastpitch.com
- ROSTER:** No teams will be permitted to participate in the tournament without an official PONY roster. PONY requires that your roster be entered online at www.pony.org. A Draft roster is not permitted. **Please have your roster printed out before arriving.**
- CHECK IN:** All teams must check in at the registration table at least one hour prior to their first game. Proof of insurance, team rosters and copies of player birth certificates will be verified at this time.
- START TIME:** Games will not start earlier than 5:00pm on Friday, and 8:00am on Saturday and Sunday.
- ADMISSION:** Players and coaches are exempt from purchasing a spectator pass. Each team will be limited to 3 coach exemptions for admission purposes. This tournament is a fund-raiser for Thunder Elite Fastpitch to subsidize the cost of our players to participate. Please ask your parents to cooperate.

- OFFICIAL RULES:** Tournament play will be governed by the PONY Softball 2008 Rules.
- SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT:** All teams participating must be PONY sanctioned. PONY requires that all teams register and enter their roster through their website. Teams will not be permitted to be sanctioned at the tournament site.
PONY National Berths will be awarded to the two top finishing teams of each age group. Should your team earn a berth, the information will be submitted to PONY by Thunder Elite Fastpitch, and you will be emailed your documentation.
- GAME LENGTH:** All games will be seven innings or 80 minutes, whichever comes first, unless a team is ahead by 10 runs at the end of five innings. No new inning will start after 80 minutes. The international tie breaker will be used if needed.
EXCEPTION: The time limit will not apply in any semi-final or final game. These games will be played the entire seven innings, unless the run rule is applied.
- UMPIRES:** Two PONY sanctioned umpires will be provided for each game.
- GROUND RULES:** Ground rules will be explained to managers before each game. Home team will be decided by a coin toss. The home team will provide the official scorekeeper and scorebook for the game. The home team is responsible for reporting the final score to the tournament officials.
- PROTESTS:** Protests will be considered, but must be entered immediately. Play will be halted and the protest considered by the Decisions Committee. No protest will be considered after the game has concluded. There is a \$100 protest fee that will be refunded upon a successful protest.
- EQUIPMENT:** Game balls will be furnished by the tournament officials. All other playing equipment must be furnished by each team. All helmets and facemask shall have the NOCSAE Standard stamp. **NO METAL CLEATS PERMITTED.**
- PRACTICE:** No infield warmup or practice is permitted on the infield. Ground balls may be taken along sidelines provided they do not interfere with the Grounds Crew.
- LINEUPS:** Managers must present a starting lineup to the official scorekeeper ten minutes before game time.
- RAIN DELAYS:** In the event of rain, the game will resume at the point of delay, at a time designated by tournament officials. Members of the participating teams must not leave the area until the umpires have officially called the game.
- RAIN-OUT POLICY:** The tournament will follow the PONY rain-out policy and guidelines.
- TROPHIES:** Team trophies and individual medallions will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each age group.
- LODGING:** There are several hotels nearby for those requiring overnight stays. A list of recommended hotels and restaurants are available on our website.

FACILITY: Liberty Township Park has three softball fields with plenty of shaded areas, a concession stand serving reasonably priced food and beverages. There are three pavilions with picnic tables to enjoy an afternoon lunch in the park. Charcoal, gas, propane or electric grills are not permitted on the premises or in the parking lot. Several restaurants are available in the immediate area.

LOCATON: Liberty Township Park is located approximately 2 miles northeast of Interstate 80 exit #229. (Ohio State Route 193)
A map and hotel list are available on our website. www.thunderelitefastpitch.com

RESTRICTIONS: Players must remain in the bench area while participating in the game. Only coaches and players are permitted on or around the benches except in the event of an injury. No profanity, harrasment of the umpires or opposing players, fighting or unfair tactics will be tolerated. Players are not permitted to throw equipment or display any unsportsmanlike conduct. Violators will be warned, and if not stopped, will be ejected from the game. The umpire crews will be enforcing these rules. PONY does not permit artificial noise makers, under no circumstances will air horns be permitted.

WITHDRAWAL: Teams withdrawing from the tournament more than 30 days prior to the tournament will receive a full refund. Refunds for any other reason are at the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee.

REGISTRATION: Go to the PONY website and register your team. Print out a roster from PONY. Have copies of birth certificates from all your players and proof of insurance before coming to tournament.
Fill out the registration form below and mail with a check made out to Thunder Elite Fastpitch, Inc. to the address provided on form. You will receive a conformation letter by email. Teams will not be entered into the tournament until the entry fee has been received.

THUNDER ELITE
14U, 16U & 18U THUNDERSTRUCK
PONY NATIONAL QUALIFIER

Tournament Registration Form

Date: June 6 - 8, 2008
Place: Liberty Township Park
Cost: \$350.00

Please send registration form and check or money order to:

Thunderstruck PONY Qualifier
c/o Thunder Elite Fastpitch, Inc.
P.O. Box 636
Vienna, OH 44473

Registration and check must be received by May 20, 2008

Make check payable to: Thunder Elite Fastpitch, Inc.

Team Name: _____

Age Group: (circle one) 14U 16U 18U

Manager's Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: (____) ____ - _____ Cell #: (____) ____ - _____

Email Address: _____

PONY Sanction #: _____

I (circle one) **can** **cannot** **prefer not to** play a Friday night game.

