



USA Elite Training, LLC

www.usaeliteshowcases.com

Welcome to the 15th Annual Northern Exposure Showcase Tournament 16U, 18U, and 18U Gold

USA Elite Training, LLC is dedicated to providing an opportunity for prospective college-bound student athletes to be evaluated by college coaches. USA Elite Training has been hosting showcase tournaments and events in CT for the past 23 years.

DATES: Friday, July 17, 2026 through Sunday July 19, 2026

Games will begin on Friday, July 17th at 8am and continue until the afternoon of Sunday, July 19th. Teams must be prepared to play at any of these times. Teams must be on the field and *ready to play at least 15 minutes prior to game time.*

LOCATIONS:

Thorpe Softball Complex - 402 Thorpe Ave, Meriden CT 06450

Panthorn Park - 500 Burritt Street, Plantsville CT 06479

Platt High School- 220 Coe Ave. Merident, CT 06451

Westside Field - 4 South St. Wallingford , CT 06492

Pragemann Park - 31 Oak St, Wallingford, CT 06492

Lincoln Middle School, 164 Centennial Ave Meriden, CT 06451

Tournament Director: Jen Hapanowicz, (203)314-7802, jen@usaelitetraining.com

Asst. Tournament Director: Kim Gwydir, (786) 251-9598

Asst. Tournament Director: Syd Matzko (860) 309-9577

Recruiting Events and Locations **(Please share with your players)**

- Individual Player Recruiting Camp
 - **THURSDAY JULY 16, 2026 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM**
 - Thorpe Complex, Meriden, CT

- Next Level Clinic
 - **Thursday, JULY 16, 2026, 4:00 PM -8:00 PM**
 - Thorpe Complex, Meriden, CT

- All Star Games
 - **FRIDAY JULY 17, 2026 at 7:30 PM**
 - PRAGEMANN PARK, WALLINGFORD, CT

2026 Northern Exposure Showcase Tournament

Welcome!

Thank you for joining us at the **15th Annual Northern Exposure Showcase July 17-19, 2026 located in Meriden, Wallingford, and Plantsville CT**. Enclosed is a list of tournament rules, rainout policy and directions to the fields. The team schedule and team list can be found on www.usaeliteshowcases.com.

USA Elite Showcase's objectives are to provide an opportunity for prospective college-bound student athletes to be evaluated by college coaches. This includes educating student-athletes and their families on the college recruiting process and NCAA recruiting regulations.

Check-In Reminders:

- 1) You must check in at the registration table on Friday at the field your game is at, at least 1 hour before your first scheduled game. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- 2) Please be prepared with your team insurance certificate, USA Softball Registration (see memo in packet) and contact sheet (attached). You may email a copy of both your insurance certificate and contact sheet prior to the start of the tournament to jen@usaelitetraining.com.
- 3) **The winning team will report the scores for each game by texting 203-439-6655. The team will put each teams code, team name, and score. These scores will be updated electronically using Tourney Machine app. Go to the usaeliteshowcases.com web site under schedule tab and download the app. Please read the direction carefully.**
- 4) For inclement weather, please refer to the tournament rule 11.

Code of Conduct:

Coaches are responsible for their entire team including players, coaches, managers and fans by complying with the following:

- Respect the decisions of the umpires, do not argue calls
- Respect the dignity of the game with a courteous attitude
- Be in control of the players on their teams throughout the tournament. Ejections of players, coaches, managers and spectators by any umpire or the Tournament Director are for the entire tournament.

Your full cooperation is very much appreciated. The entire USA Elite Training staff thanks you for participating in the 14th Annual Northern Exposure Showcase. Enjoy the games!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hapanowicz,
USA Elite Training, LLC

Showcase Format:

Round Robin Exhibition Games. Each team will have 6 Showcase games. **1 hour and 25 minutes drop dead.**

- Pitching Mounds will be at 43'
- 2 umpires per game. Pay at the plate: \$80 (per game)
- Game balls are provided
- Mercy Rules: 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, 8 runs after 5 innings

TOURNAMENT RULES 2026:

1. **USA Softball Rules** will be followed with some showcase exceptions which are:
a) Free substitutions b) Unlimited batters

2. Round Robin Exhibition Games. Each team will have 6 Showcase games. **1 hour and 25 minutes drop dead.**

3. **Team Check-In:** All teams must check in at least 1 hour prior to their first game at the check-in table on Friday/ Saturday at the field where your games are to be played at and be **ready to play 15 minutes prior to each game**. If possible, games will be started early to keep schedule on time. If not already provided, then at check-in, all teams must submit a copy of their team insurance, complete USA Softball registration (see attached memo) and provide a working cell number that they can be reached at during the tournament. At this time coaches will receive their team packet, which will include player wristbands, scorecards, local vendor info and other important information.

4. **Wristbands:** Coaches will receive 1 wristband per player in their coach packets to be used throughout the entire tournament. The wristbands will indicate the players graduation year to college coaches. Graduation year will be taken directly off of the rosters that are entered by the coaches online, so please be sure that your players graduation years are entered correctly.

Wristband Color Codes

Black = Signed Player

Pink = Transfer or Unsigned 2026

Green= Senior / Grad Year 2027

Blue =Junior / Grad Year 2028

Orange = Sophomore / Grad Year 2029

Purple = Freshman, 8th, 7th / Grad Year
2030-2032

5. **College Coach Areas:** There are areas designated for *College Coaches Only* at each field as well as a College Coach Hospitality Tent. Please be sure your players, coaches, and fans do not enter any areas that are designated as College Coaches Area Only.

6. **Forfeits** are to be avoided at all costs. If you are having an issue, you must contact one of the tournament directors or check with the tournament table at the Complex. If necessary, you may borrow a player from another team in order to allow the game to be played. The college coaches have come to see teams play. If your team does forfeit a game, your team will not be allowed into another USA Elite Showcase event. It is each team's responsibility to ensure enough players so that the games will be played. USA Elite Training is not responsible for finding replacement players.

7. USA Elite Showcase is not responsible for providing supplies for individual teams during the tournament. All teams must bring their own water/Gatorade/ice/first aid supplies. There will be a concession stand at each field location.

8. **DUGOUTS:** Teams are responsible to clean out dugouts after each game. There will be trash bins at each field. It is important to respect the fields and the property of the Towns that allow us to use their fields.

9. There is absolutely **NO HITTING ANY TYPE OF BALLS** (including light flights or wiffle balls) into the fences at any of the showcase complexes. Please use pop-up hitting nets for hitting off batting tees.

10. College Coaches will be invited by USA Elite Showcases. We cannot guarantee the attendance of any coaches. We will list all coaches that RSVP as they are received on our website. **To ensure that more college coaches attend, we recommend that players also contact the college(s) that they are interested in to let them know that they will be at this showcase event.** College coaches have more incentive to attend a showcase event if they know that there are players who are interested in their program.

11. The tournament director will make every effort to bring the tournament to a successful completion, but reserves the right to cancel, reschedule, or change the time limits of games to accomplish this goal.

Refund Policy:

Teams that cancel after being accepted in the tournament will not receive any refund. Also, there will be no refund of entry fees due to uncontrollable circumstances or not complying with tournament rules. Because of the unrecoverable expenses of a summer showcase, if the showcase gets completely rained out, \$250 shall be refunded. If any part of the game is played, there will be NO refund. In the event of rain, the tournament director reserves the right to reschedule the games in any fashion, including shortening of games and or elimination games.

MEMORANDUM

To: Travel Team Coaches – July 2026 Northern Exposure
From: Showcase Jennifer Hapanowicz, USA Elite Training LLC
Date: June 1, 2026
Subject: Must be completed for July Tournament

As of 2017, USA Elite Showcase events are being required by the towns to meet specific Insurance requirements for use of their fields. As a result, the tournament is now a USA Softball (formerly ASA) sanctioned Showcase event which requires all participating teams to be registered with USA Softball. Being a showcase event, teams that are not already currently registered with USA Softball will have to pay a \$45 sanctioning fee per team. Given the fact that this is a showcase event, teams will **not** have to complete a USA Softball roster form only pay the \$45 fee to USA Softball.

IF your team is **already USA Softball registered** in your current state, then you are all set and your team does not need to pay the sanctioning fee again. If this is the case, please email us back to confirm that your team is already registered and who your USA Softball commissioner is.

IF your team is NOT USA Softball registered in your state then please do the following:

- Visit our website (www.usaeliteshowcases.com) and download the USA Softball Membership form.
- Complete the form and bring it to the field at your check in location at before the first game of the tournament.

Thank you,

Jen Hapanowicz

2026 JULY NORTHERN EXPOSURE TOURNAMENT FIELDS

Directions to Panthorn Park

For those who use a GPS insert:

500 Burritt Street Plantsville, Connecticut 06479

Directions to Thorpe Ave Softball Complex

For those with GPS insert:

402 Thorpe Ave. Meriden, CT 06450

Directions to Pragemann Park

For those with GPS insert:

31 Oak St. Wallingford, CT 06492

Directions to Lincoln Middle School

For those with GPS insert:

164 Centennial Ave Meriden, CT 06451

Directions to Westside Field

For those with GPS insert:

4 South St. Wallingford , CT 06492

Directions to Platt High School

For those with GPS insert:

220 Coe Ave. Merident, CT 06451

