

SOUTH REGION BY-LAWS

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SOUTH REGION 4

BY-LAWS

Revised 11-15-18 (OK. City)

ARTICLE 1: REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

- 1.1 The Regional Vice-President of the South Region will be elected for a term of two years by secret ballot and may be re-elected. The newly elected Director will take office following the National Council Meeting. The Regional Vice-President will represent the South Region on the National Board of Directors and shall chair their Regional meetings. The Vice-President will be the interpreter of the South Region By-Laws. The Vice-President shall put out a periodic information letter to all voting members of the South Region.**
- 1.2 The Regional Vice-President will verify that all National Championships and National Qualifiers in their Region are listed on TournamentUSA.com.**
- 1.3 The Regional Vice-President will file a quarterly report form with the President that addresses any production, ethics, and/or compliance issues, or any other issues of the associations in their Region.**
- 1.4 The Regional Vice-President will communicate with the Commissioners in their Region on a regular basis.**
- 1.5 The Regional Vice-President may share the duties of the Regional Director.**

ARTICLE 2: REGIONAL DIRECTOR

- 2.1 The Regional Director of the South Region will be elected for a term of two years by secret ballot and may be re-elected. The newly elected Director will take office following the National Council Meeting.**
- 2.2 The Regional Director will appoint a nominating committee prior to the National Council Regional meeting in odd numbered years. The committee will accept nominations until noon of the day of the South Regional meeting held during the National Council meeting. Voting procedures will be by secret ballot. Voting members will be per Article 11.**

2.3 The Regional Director will also serve as the Secretary for the region and will email or mail out to all voting South Regional delegates the minutes of the annual meeting within 60 days after said meeting.

2.4 The Regional Director will collect all regional tournament information from each member association and maintain a yearly team champion record for each division and classification for both Adult and J.O. divisions of play.

2.5 The Regional Director will serve as the Region By-Law Custodian. The function of the By-Law Custodian will be to present all proposed By-Law changes submitted before the deadline and to revise and distribute them as per Art. 10.

ARTICLE 3: REGIONAL QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS

3.1 A. South Regional qualifiers will be awarded on a rotation basis. These tournaments will be played on dates at the discretion of the host commissioner. All tournaments will be awarded at or prior to the National Council Regional meeting.

B. The Regional Director will furnish the awarded tournament association information to all Region 4 voting delegates at the annual Regional meeting. Commissioners will submit, fax, email or mail awarded tournament information (date, location, tournament entry fee, tournament directors, phone numbers and emails) to the Regional Director before Dec. 1st.

C. Complete tournament fact sheets will be mailed to all Region 4 voting delegates after Dec. 1st.

D. The Qualifier events will be protected to the best of the ability of each association and will be worked out through communication of each association's commissioner to ensure maximum participation.

3.2 Adult Slow Pitch NIT- Any State/Metro may request to host any adult slow pitch NIT. Tournaments will be awarded at the National Council Regional meeting by a majority vote of the regional voting members present at the meeting.

3.3 Men's Class A,B,C,D,E and Women's Slow Pitch teams will advance directly From State or Metro to the USA National Championships.

3.4 Adult Fast Pitch Rotation- All Adult Fast Pitch rotations will be determined by a draw each year of the eligible associations. The last two years host sites would be ineligible as well as any association not sending a team the year before. (If only two associations sent teams and they both hosted the tournament the last two years, only the last host would be ineligible).

3.5 Junior Olympic Girls Slow Pitch- Any State/Metro may request to host any girls slow pitch regional tournament. Tournaments will be awarded at the National Council Regional meeting by a majority vote of the regional voting members present at the meeting.

3.6

| Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch Qualifier Rotation <i>(Each tournament will award one (1) berth to the ASA/USA National Championships).</i> <i>Tournaments will be Double Elimination Formats.</i> | | | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| YEAR | | 18U-Gold National Qualifiers | 18U-Gold National Qualifiers | 16U-Gold National Qualifiers | 16U-Gold National Qualifiers | |
| 2019 | | LA | MS | AL | AR | |
| 2020 | | AL | AR | LA | MS | |
| 2021 | | LA | MS | AL | AR | |
| 2022 | | AL | AR | LA | MS | |

ARTICLE 4: NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

4.1 Host association for National Tournaments to be held in the South Region will be decided at the National Council South Regional Meeting.

ARTICLE 5: JUNIOR OLYMPIC GOLD

- 5.1**
 - A.** Each year the Region will hold 2 Gold GFP 16U National Qualifiers and 2 Gold 18U GFP National Qualifiers. These tournaments are awarded on a Rotation basis.
 - B.** Any At-Large J.O. Gold berths will be assigned by the Regional Director.
 - C.** J.O. Gold National Qualifiers within the Region (same age division) cannot be held on the same date.

ARTICLE 6: REGIONAL UMPIRES

- 6.1 National Umpire Schools shall be held within the South Region on a rotation basis. If a local association does not wish to host the National Umpire School the local commissioner will contact the Regional Umpire-in-Chief by June 1. The hosting local association commissioner will submit the National Umpire School Agreement form along with the contact information for the schools coordinator and site where the school will be held. This will be submitted by July 1.**

| Year | Hosting Association |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 2017 | Arkansas |
| 2018 | Alabama |
| 2019 | Mississippi |
| 2020 | Louisiana |
| 2021 | Arkansas |
| 2022 | Alabama |

- 6.2 Tournament Assignment/Game Fees**
Rates for Regional Umpires:
- A. Number of umpires used in games shall be 2 or more with 3 in loser bracket finals and all games following.**
 - B. Assignment of games will be at the discretion of the tournament Umpire in Chief.**
 - C. State Umpire In Chief should be present at Regional Tournaments in their area.**
 - D. Standardized game fees for Regional Tournaments:**
 - 1. Minimum of \$30 per game for fast pitch**
 - 2. Minimum of \$20 per game for slow pitch**
- 6.3 Procedures for Umpires Who Cannot Attend National Tournaments Each State or Metro Association will send one (1) umpire to represent their association to a National Tournament held in the South Region to which we are allowed to send umpires. If an umpire cannot attend after he/she has accepted, he/she must notify the Regional Umpire In Chief and the local umpire coordinator 30 days prior to the national tournament date. If an association fails to turn in an umpires name or an umpire fails to turn in his/her contract by the assigned date, the Regional Umpire In Chief will contact the umpire's commissioner for a**

replacement. If none is available, then he will select the replacement from another association in our region.

ARTICLE 7: PLAYER REP., J.O. COMMISSIONER & UIC ELECTION

7.1 The South Region Player Representative and the Junior Olympic Commissioner will be elected for a one (1) year term, on a rotation basis, provided he/she attends two (2) out of three (3) National Council meetings immediately prior to the National Council meeting for which he/she is eligible to attend as Regional Player Rep. or J.O. Commissioner. If the Player Representative or J.O. Commissioner is not eligible to assume the Regional position, that person will be placed last in the rotation and all others will be moved up.

7.2 The South Region Player Rep. and J.O. Commissioner will take office at the end of the National Council meeting and represent the South Region at the next National Council meeting as a voting delegate. Furthermore, at the next Regional meeting, the newly elected Regional Player Rep. and J.O. Commissioner will be the Chairman of the respective Player Rep/J.O breakout meeting.

7.3 Player Representative Rotation:

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 2019 | Mississippi | Roger Short |
| 2020 | Arkansas | Hollie Clark |
| 2021 | Alabama | Robbie Carter |
| 2022 | Louisiana | Jesse Barksdale |
| 2023 | Mississippi | Roger Short |
| 2024 | Arkansas | Hollie Clark |

7.4 Junior Olympic Commissioner Rotation

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2019 | Arkansas | Doris Adams |
| 2020 | Mississippi | Chris Chance |
| 2021 | Alabama | Tracy Morgan |
| 2022 | Louisiana | Dakota Hill |
| 2021 | Arkansas | Doris Adams |
| 2022 | Mississippi | Chris Chance |

7.5 The South Region UIC will be elected. He/she must attend two (2) Regional meetings and one (1) National Council meeting prior to being elected. The Regional UIC will take office at the end of the National Council meeting and represent the South Region at the next National Council meeting as a

voting delegate. The Regional UIC will be the Chairman of the UIC breakout meeting.

ARTICLE 8: REGIONAL AND NIT TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

8.1 Awards

All Regional and NIT Tournaments having over twenty(20) teams will award team trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place and individual trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Tournaments with fourteen (14) to Twenty (20) teams will award team trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and individual trophies for 1st and 2nd.

Tournaments with eight (8) to thirteen (13) teams will award team trophies for 1st and 2nd place and individual trophies for 1st and 2nd.

Tournaments with less than eight (8) teams will award team trophies for 1st and 2nd place and individual trophies for 1st place.

Fifteen (15) individual awards should be awarded to each place.

Team Trophy Specifications may be any of the following:

1st - 4th Place team plaque- 8”x 10” minimum

1st Place team- 46” tall

2nd Place team- 44” tall

3rd Place team- 42” tall

4th Place team- 40” tall

Individual Trophy Specifications may be any of the following:

1st Place team plaque- 7”x 9” minimum

2nd Place team plaque- 6”x 8” minimum

3rd Place team plaque- 5”x 7” minimum

1st Place individual- 14” tall

2nd Place individual- 13” tall

3rd Place individual- 12” tall

T-shirts may be used in lieu of trophies. However, t-shirts must be of heavy weight with silk screen or transfers.

Trophies may be larger, but not smaller.

8.2 The following Regional tournaments will be held at least two (2) weekends and not more than (3) weekends before the National Championship of the same division and classification:

Men's Slow Pitch – B, C, D and E

Women's Slow Pitch - C and D

All Junior Olympic Tournaments (Exception: J.O. Fast Pitch will be played three (3) weeks prior to start of National Tournament.)

All other Regional Tournaments must be held on or before Labor Day weekend. All State/Metro Tournaments must be held at least (2) weekends prior to the Regional Tournament of the same division and classification.

8.3 A. A team must play in a State/Metro Tournament or qualify in a Regional Qualifier to be eligible for a Regional or Regional NIT tournament.

B. Any team previously qualified for a National Tournament may not participate in the Regional Tournament of the same division, unless they give up their National berth.

8.4 Regional and Regional NIT Team Entry Fees Are As Follows:

All Junior Olympic Fast Pitch, all Junior Olympic Slow Pitch and all Adult Slow Pitch Regional team entry fees will be a maximum of \$325.00 with \$15.00 of this fee going to the National Office.

Adult Fast Pitch fee is \$225.00 with \$15.00 of this fee going to the National Office. All adult NIT entry fees will be \$200.00 with \$25.00 of this fee going to the National office. None of this fee will be retained by the home commissioner.

Team entry fees are to be paid by cashier's check, money order or State/Metro Association check or Online Payment Method direct to Tournament Site.

8.5 Teams must provide a signed National Championship Roster and Official Tournament Entry form to the tournament host prior to the start of the tournament.

8.6 Junior Olympic Fast Pitch host associations shall utilize the www.tournamentusa.com website to list, accept registrations and payments and bracket teams for regional tournaments. The current cost per team is \$10/team which will be paid by the host association.

8.7 Home Run Rule will be as per USA/SB rule book except as follows:

Men's Church and Industrial will be allowed three (3) homeruns over the fence; Coed will be allowed one (1) homerun over the fence. Men's E no (0) homeruns allowed. Penalty for homerun violations will be an out.

8.8 Softballs

- A. The host association is to furnish all game balls. At least one (1) new ball must be provided each game.**
- B. All softballs used in any regional tournament must be approved by USA/SB. (See USA/SB Official Playing Rules, Rule 3 Section 2).**
- C. Any local association that fails to use the proper softball in any regional tournament game will replay that game or games when protested.**

8.9 All Regional Tournaments shall employ run rules and time limits, which will be in effect for all games, to include the finals, as follows:

A. Slow Pitch - Run Rule - Ten (10) after five innings or Fifteen (15) after three innings. Slow Pitch - Time Limit - One hour and fifteen minutes. The game will start with the first official pitch of the game. The starting time for each regional game will be recorded in the official scorebook and monitored by the home plate umpire. No inning shall be allowed to begin after one hour and fifteen minutes from the start of any regional game unless the score is tied.

B. Fast Pitch - Run Rule – Fifteen (15) after three innings; twelve (12) after four innings; eight (8) after five innings. Fast Pitch - Time Limit - One hour and 40 minutes. The game will start with the first official pitch of the game. The starting time for each regional game will be recorded in the official scorebook and monitored by the home plate umpire. No inning shall be allowed to begin after one hour and twenty minutes from the start of any regional game unless the score is tied. If the score is tied at the end of the time limit or the end of seven innings, the tie breaker will be in effect. EXCEPTION: Major FP

NOTE: Due to inclement weather, these times and run rules may be adjusted by the Tournament Director to facilitate completing the tournament.

NOTE: No fee will be charged for a team to file a protest.

8.10 A. Commissioners will use a wavy line to indicate the last player on the National Championship Roster. Teams will not be allowed to hand carry roster or entry fees to Regional Tournaments.

B. Class "B" Girls Fast Pitch Regional - Teams may pick up only 3 players; they must come from their own State or Metro Class "B" ASA teams.

8.11 Host Commissioner or Tournament Director must mail a National Entry Form to the National Tournament Director upon completion of the Regional Tournament.

8.12 A team winning a Regional Championship two (2) consecutive years (regardless of team name or coach) in Men's or Women's Open, B, C or D Divisions, must move up to the next division if five (5) players from the previous roster return on the same team. The Regional Tournament will be played one team short the next year due to the forced advancement of the Regional Champion to a higher division as an at-large team.

8.13 Uniforms

A. The following divisions must dress as per the ASA Rule Book:

- 1. Adults - Major, A, B and C**
- 2. Junior Olympic - All Class A teams both SP and FP**

B. The following divisions must dress with tops alike with number, hats are not required, but if worn must be alike:

- 1. Adults - Class D, E and below and Coed**
- 2. Junior Olympic - All Class B and C teams both SP and FP. If a conflict exist about uniforms, the tournament director will make the final decision about a player's eligibility.**

8.14 Admission

The following are maximum admission fees for Regional Tournaments

- 1. Session (minimum 3 games) \$5.00**
- 2. Daily (24 hour period) \$7.00**
- 3. Weekend (all sessions) \$18.00**

8.15 All Regional Tournament results must be mailed on the approved South Region Form to the Regional UIC and all Commissioners by September 15. The Regional Director will collate the results and present copies to all voting delegates at the Regional Meeting.

NOTE: South Region Form includes order of finish showing association represented and a completed bracket.

8.16 All Junior Olympic Regional and Qualifying Tournaments will be played with regulation outfield fences.

8.17 State/Metro Association that host a regional tournament and does not play that tournament on regulation fields as per ASA Rule 2

Sec. I, will not be allowed to host any regional tournaments in that division (either adult or J.O.) the following year.

ARTICLE 9: MEETING

9.1 The annual South Regional meeting will be held at the National Convention. Those invited to the meeting will be all officers of any South Region Association and any other person interested in the promotion of ASA softball in the region.

NOTE: All Commissioners are urged to bring all their association's officers to the National Council meeting.

9.2 Expenses

A. The four (4) Associations of the region will share equally in the expenses of the Regional meeting, including the expenses of the Regional Umpire In Chief, which shall not exceed \$300.00. In order to expedite this payment of expenses, each Commissioner will add \$150.00 to the Region account at the annual meeting. The Regional Director will handle the account and make a financial report at each officially called meeting. The Regional Umpire In Chief will submit to the Regional Director an itemized statement of his expenses for the Regional meeting.

B. Any assessments required by the National Office for the Regional J.O. Commissioner or Player Representative to attend the National Meeting will be paid by the association who is being represented that assessment year.

C. Any assessment required by the National Office for the Regional U.I.C will be paid by the Region or from the Region U.I.C. account.

D. A financial report on the Region U.I.C. account must be submitted to the Regional Director at each annual Regional meeting.

9.3 The South Region will hold a Regional Meeting during the National Council meeting. This meeting is open to all members of the Region. Persons required to attend this meeting are the Region's Vice-President, Director, U.I.C., J.O. Commissioner, Player Rep. and the region's State/Metro Commissioners.

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS

10.1 The By-Laws may be amended by a motion, second and majority vote of the voting delegates within the region. All proposed amendments must be submitted on an official by-law change form.

10.2 Thirty (30) days notice must be given to the by-law custodian before the annual Regional Meeting on an amendment to the by-laws. The By-Laws Custodian must send copies of all proposed changes to all South Region voting delegates at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled meeting.

NOTE: This may be changed by a 3/4 majority of voting delegates present only.

10.3 These by-laws may be amended only at a posted meeting of the Regional voting delegates at the annual meeting, with the exception to Articles 8.4 and 9.2. These articles will be changed and voted upon by the four South Regional Commissioners only.

10.4 The South Regional Director shall revise the by-laws, as amended, and shall reproduce the same and distribute one copy of the revised by-laws to each voting member of the South Region within 30 days after the National Council Regional meeting.

10.5 All by-laws and amendments shall be under the authority of Robert's Rules of Order subject to special rules, which will be adopted by the Region.

ARTICLE 11: VOTING

11.1 (a) Each Council Member shall have one (1) vote.

(b) Each non-council State/Metro Player Rep. shall have one (1) vote.

(c) Each State/Metro Umpire In Chief shall have one (1) vote.

(d) Each Commissioner Emeritus shall have one (1) vote.

ARTICLE 12: PROXIES

12.1 Proxies must be submitted to the Regional Director by the meeting date of the current year. All Proxies must have attended a Regional or National Meeting in the last two (2) years. Proxies will be approved at the Regional Meeting by the South Regional State or Metro Commissioners. Exception: Commissioner Emeritus vote cannot request a proxy.

12.2 A proxy to the National Council meeting for the South Regional Player Rep. or J.O. Commissioner will be selected from the respective rotation list by the Association's Commissioner whose representative could not attend.