

Membership Terms Agreement (Section 5 of the USA Softball Bylaws)**5.1. Categories of Membership.**

The individual, team and organization membership categories shall be as set forth in this Section 5.1. As set forth below, membership shall be placed with either USAS or an applicable Local Association.

- A. Individual Membership Categories
 - 01. Athlete members.
 - 02. Elite Athlete members.
 - 03. Coach members
 - 04. Scorekeeper members.
 - 05. Umpire members.
 - 06. Commissioner members.
 - 07. Commissioner Emeritus members.
 - 08. Junior Olympic (JO) Commissioner members
 - 09. National Council members.
 - 10. Council Emeritus members.
 - 11. Life members.
 - 12. Supporter Members.
- B. Team Membership
- C. Organizational Membership Categories
 - 01. Local Association members
 - 02. Affiliated members.
 - 03. Allied Organization members.
 - a. Regional or Nationally Based Softball Organizations.
 - b. Nationally Based Softball Promotional Organizations
 - c. Other Organizations.

Section 5.2. Application Process.

The following application process shall be utilized for individuals, teams and organizations applying for membership:

- A. Individual members.
 - 01. An individual applying for Athlete, Commissioner, JO Commissioner, Coach, Scorekeeper and Umpire membership shall apply and place his/her membership with their applicable Local Association. However, USAS at its discretion may consider any membership application made to any local organization and shall have complete and final authority to reject such individual for membership. Such matters shall be handled in the first instance by the USAS Membership Committee, with a recommendation to the USAS Board, which shall decide whether any such membership is rejected. National Council membership need not be applied for as it is determined by virtue of election or selection within another membership category, provided however, that the USAS Board, at its directive, shall have the right to reject any such person for membership as a National Council member.
 - 02. An individual applying for Elite Athlete, Supporter and Life membership shall apply and place his/her membership with USAS. All such membership applications shall be referred to and considered by the USAS Membership Committee, which shall accept or reject such application. However, the USAS Board, at its directive, may review an application for membership and accept or reject such individual for membership.
- B. Team members. A team applying for membership shall apply and place its membership with their applicable Local Association. However, if a local association does not offer a softball program, and the team is associated with an Allied Association, then the team may apply directly with USAS. All such membership applications shall be referred to and considered by the USAS

Membership Committee, which shall accept or reject such application. However, the USAS Board, at its directive, may review an application for membership and accept or reject such team for membership.

- C. Organizational members. An organization applying for Affiliated or Allied membership shall apply and place its membership with USAS. All such membership applications shall be referred to and considered by the USAS Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall make a recommendation to accept or reject the application to the National Council. The National Council shall then vote on whether or not it supports the application. The National Council's vote of 60% approval shall then be considered by the USAS Board, which shall have final authority to accept or reject the organization for membership. Affiliated and Allied Members may vote with either the Local Association, Region, Territory, and Section in which they live or with the Local Association, Region, Territory, and Section in which the organization's National Office is located. An organization applying for Local Association membership shall be referred to, considered, and decided by the USAS Board.

Section 5.3. Voting Members.

National Council members (as defined in Section 9) have voting privileges at the annual National Council meetings.

Athletes, who meet the requirements as set forth in the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act and USOPC Bylaws, shall elect athlete directors to the USAS Board. See Section 7.

Also, as provided in the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act and USOPC Bylaws, an organization (or organizations) that conduct a national program (or programs) or regular national amateur competition (or competitions) in the sport of softball on a level of proficiency appropriate for selection of athletes to represent the United States in international athletic competition, referred to in these Bylaws as Affiliated organizations, are entitled to elect a representative director to the USAS Board. See Section 7.

Except as set forth above, no other members have voting privileges by virtue of their membership in USAS.

Section 5.4. Membership Requirements and Dues.

Membership in USAS or one of the applicable Local Associations is a privilege and creates with its certain obligations and duties.

It shall be the responsibility of each member of USAS or one of its applicable Local Associations to strive to fulfill the goals of USAS and to promote the sport of softball. At a minimum, each such member shall:

- A. follow the rules and regulations of USAS;
- B. support USAS's programs that promote the sport of softball and that educate athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers and the public about the game;
- C. if an individual, act with the utmost civility and sportsmanlike conduct, and if a team or organization promote wholesome, safe competition;
- D. if an organization provide programs that encompass fairness to the participants and promote fair play and sportsmanship and if an individual or team support and abide by such programs;
- E. if an individual, take seriously the member's responsibility as a role model and if an organization or team encourage competitiveness in a positive manner; and,
- F. fulfill any other obligation or requirement the Board considers appropriate and necessary for the furtherance and well-being of the sport of softball, the reputation of USAS and the protection and safety of athletes and other members.

The Board may establish such membership requirements and fees as the Board shall deem necessary or appropriate, provided however, that membership fees for Athlete Members, Scorekeeper Members, Umpire Members, and Team Members shall not take effect until they are ratified by a majority vote of the Commissioners. Further, the Board may establish such rules and procedures for when membership fees are due and payable, the manner and method of payment of fees, the collection of delinquent fees and the proration or refund of fees, as the Board shall deem necessary or appropriate.

No privilege of membership shall be available until all membership requirements are satisfied and all fees are paid in full.

Section 5.5. Duty of Members to Comply with SafeSport and Anti-Doping Requirements.

- A. SafeSport. As a condition of membership in USAS and/or one of its applicable Local Associations and a condition for participation in any competition or event sanctioned by USAS or its member organizations, each such member and each athlete, coach, trainer, agent, athlete support personnel, medical or para-medical personnel, team staff, official and other person who participates in USAS or USAS events (whether or not an USAS member), agrees to comply with and be bound by the SafeSport rules, policies and procedures of the U.S. Center for SafeSport (“USCSS”) and to submit, without reservation or condition, to the jurisdiction of the USCSS for the resolution of any alleged violations of those rules, policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time. To the extent any USAS rule is inconsistent with the rules of the USCSS, such rule is hereby superseded.
- B. Anti-Doping. As a condition of Athlete membership and/or Elite Athlete membership in USAS and/or and as a condition for participation in any competition or event sanctioned by USAS, each such member and each such athlete who participates in USAS’ events agrees to comply with and be bound by the Anti-Doping Rules and U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing (USADA Protocol) of the International Sports Federation for softball, currently the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC). It is the duty of each individual Athlete and/or Elite Athlete member of USAS to comply with all anti-doping rules of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the International Sports Federation for softball, currently the WBSC, the USOPC including the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policy, and of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), including the USADA Protocol and all other policies and rules adopted by WADA, the WBSC, the USOPC and USADA. As a condition of Athlete membership and/or Elite Athlete membership in USAS and/or and as a condition for participation in any competition or event sanctioned by USAS, each such member agrees to submit to drug testing by the WBSC and/or USADA or their designees at any time and understand that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules make them subject to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. By way of example, all Athlete members who are credentialed for the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, and Youth Olympic Games are required to undergo anti-doping education in the months prior to the event, in accordance with the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policy. By way of further example, all Athlete members appointed to a U.S. National team may also be subject to additional testing throughout the Games by the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee (IOC/ IPC) or the Games Organizing Committee. These examples are non-exhaustive. If it is determined that a member may have committed a doping violation, the member agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of the WBSC and/or USA Softball, if applicable or referred by USADA.
- C. Organizational Members. As a condition of Organizational Membership, each Organization Member agrees to comply with and self-regulate adherence to the following: Anti-Doping regulations as may be applicable to such Organizational Member; Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies as adopted by the USAS Board and/or as may be applicable to such Organizational Member; the standards, policies and procedures of the U.S. Center for SafeSport (the “USCSS”) that may be applicable to such Organizational Member; and if a member

organization conducts an event sanctioned by USAS, such organization agrees to comply with and be bound by the standards, policies and procedures of the USCSS and to submit, without reservation or condition, to the jurisdiction of the USCSS for the resolution of any alleged violations of those rules, policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time.

Section 5.6. Termination of Membership.

Subject to the requirements of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, the membership of any member may be terminated at any time by the USAS Board or, as applicable, by the Local Association. A member shall have the right to fair notice and a hearing prior to termination. USAS and/or any applicable Local Association may retain jurisdiction over any member who has a pending financial obligation or pending grievance, regardless of the status of membership.

Section 5.7. Transfer of Membership/Ownership Rights.

Members may not transfer their membership in USAS, or any applicable Local Association Members, shall have no ownership rights or beneficial interests of any kind in the property of USAS.

Section 5.8. Publication of Organizational Members.

USAS shall publish on its website a list of its Organizational members, including the class of membership for each Organizational member.

By checking the box that you agree to the USA Softball Governing Documents, you understand and agree that membership may be terminated at any time, but not without a fair hearing. Additionally, you understand and agree that the WBSC Anti-Doping Rules and U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing (USADA Protocol) and all other policies and rules adopted by the WBSC, USADA, and the USOPC apply to you and that it is your responsibility to comply with those rules. You agree to submit to drug testing at any time and understand that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules would make me subject to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. If it is determined that you may have committed a doping violation, you agree to submit to the results management authority and processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of the WBSC and/or the national federation, if applicable or referred by USADA.