

## 2025 USA Softball Procedural Code Changes w/ Comments as of November 22, 2024

*NOTE: All changes below are EFFECTIVE January 1, 2025 unless otherwise noted.*

### ARTICLE NUMBER

### CHANGE

Article 309 C 04

#### Junior Olympic National Championship Finals

**c. Girls USA Softball Class A and B Fast Pitch East/West National Championships (all ages).** These National Championship Finals must be scheduled for any weekend of June or no later than the first weekend of August. Opening ceremonies may be held on that Monday. These championships are scheduled for a maximum of six (6) days.

**Comments:** Allows flexibility to conduct National Championships on different weekends.

Article 314 E

#### National Championship Finals

E. Women's Class C Slow Pitch, Women's Class D Slow Pitch, Women's Class E/Rec Slow Pitch will conduct a national championship within each territory at the same date and site as the Men's D National Slow Pitch option. Co-ed open, Class C, Co-ed Class D and Co-ed Class E/Rec will conduct a national championship option within each territory at the same date and site as the Men's E National Slow Pitch option. These tournaments will be considered as one collective package when it comes to bid fees. There will be a single bid fee for the host site for each respective package.

**Comments:** Creates more competitive opportunities for Coed and Women's teams & helps host sites make these events more fiscally sound.

Article 314 F

#### National Championship Finals

**(New) F. USA Softball National Championship Finals.** USA Softball will conduct a National Championship Tournament in the following division and classifications: Girls 10-Under, 12-Under, 14-Under, 16-Under, & 18-Under Class A. Each Local Association will have one (1) berth. Local Association- 62. Any unused berth would first go to the Local Association's region and then to the Girls' Fastpitch National Championship Panel for distribution.

**Comments:** This creates a true National Championship for Girls' Fastpitch.

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#### Article 502 K

#### Panels and Forums

(New) K. Girls' Fastpitch National Championship Panel: The panel shall consist of two (2) members from each USA Softball territory and one at-large council member. Its duties shall include but not limited to the following:

01. Shall accept girls' fastpitch national championship bids, review bids, and place national championship tournament locations.
02. Shall accept applications from teams for unused berths to national championships that were turned back to the panel.

**Comments:** This puts the decision of where to place girls' national championships in the hands of the people that understand the expectations of the teams in this division.

#### Article 502

#### Panels and Forums

Appointments including the designation of Chairs and CoChairs to all panels and forums shall be made annually by the President. Any panel or forum which receives donations or hosts fundraising events must produce balance sheets for the proceeds: which will be reviewed by the Board of Directors. These monies must be received by a 501 organization.

Working committees shall meet in person at the USAS Annual Meeting. Committees are strongly encouraged to hold additional meetings throughout the year as needed to conduct USAS business efficiently and thoroughly. The frequency and mode of these meetings will be determined by the committee chairpersons, USAS staff, and the USAS President.

**Comments:** Issues arise during the year that need to be addressed immediately. Also, the committees should discuss writing proposals to the Procedural Code.

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#### Article 502

Change heading from “Panels and Forums” to “**Working Committees**” for the entire article (502). Replace all references from “Panels and Forums” to “**Committee**.”

**Comments:** The change to Panels and Forums has been confusing. It was done with the expectation that Panel and Forums were exempt from USOPC requirements. The last USOPC audit made it clear that is not the case, so it makes sense to rename to committees.

#### Article 603 A

An assessment fee of **\$50.00 (\$25.00 for Slow Pitch and Adult Fast Pitch)** per team shall be paid to USA Softball.

**Comments:** Host sites are struggling with whether to get involved with USA Softball events, in part, because of these assessment fees. With the costs of awards, housing, staffing, etc. host sites are questioning the amount of these assessment fees.

#### Article 606 B 01

### **DELETE**

**Comments:** The process to order and ship the jackets is cumbersome and takes up a lot of staff time. The price per jacket has skyrocketed to more than \$50 each. To supply these jackets, the cost per team is \$800-\$1000. Since players receive medals and All-American Awards; and teams receive team trophies, the cost now outweighs the benefit to continue to supply these jackets.