

Dear National Championship participants, umpires and fans,

The National Championship Season is here once again, and I want to take a moment to congratulate each and every one of you for your efforts in achieving a spot in a USA Softball National Championship Final. This is a huge accomplishment for you and all who are a part of your team. Since our founding in 1933, the best-of-the-best have been in the exact shoes you are in right now – and others will follow you in the future – which means YOU are now a part of history.

As the National Governing Body of Softball in the United States, USA Softball's reputation for providing the highest quality of softball in all aspects of the game continues as we add to the strong foundation we have created while moving into National Championship season.

One of the most important things we do at USA Softball is strive to protect our members both on and off the field. Our dedication to athlete safety is unmatched and our organization is committed to creating and maintaining a supportive and encouraging environment in which our participants may develop and grow; therefore, USA Softball will not tolerate ANY abuse whether it is physical, mental, emotional or sexual. That is why every National Championship Tournament Director, umpire and all non-player participants 18 years of age and older in Junior Olympic (JO) Championship Play are required to complete both a background check and U.S. Center for SafeSport training.

The crowning of National Champions is a unique tradition that USA Softball has taken great pride in for over 90 years. It is a true honor and one that all participants should be extremely proud of. As stated before, by participating in a National Championship Final, you are joining a legacy and writing your name in the history books – all while doing what you love in competing for a USA Softball National Championship.

The excitement will go one step further for some, as one team in each division and classification will earn the title of National Champion! These highly-anticipated results should be celebrated; however, it is important to recognize the hard work and dedication that each participating team has put into the competition. We are proud of all who take part in a USA Softball National Championship Final – and you should be too – as we wish you the best of luck and look forward to seeing you and your continued efforts back on this prestigious stage next season.

We would also like to thank the cities and the local organizing committees for their contributions in furthering the history and tradition of USA Softball National Championships. It is a team effort, and we appreciate all who are involved both on and off the field. To these organizers as well as all participants, umpire and fans – congratulations on all your success throughout the season thus far, and we wish you all the best as the competition continues!

Sincerely,



Craig A. Cress  
Chief Executive Officer  
USA Softball