

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

MISSION

1. To promote softball within the Southern California boundaries for all persons regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin or ancestry.
2. To promote all phases of softball including men's, women's, coed and youth.
3. To establish standard rules and regulations that can be observed by all members.
4. To conduct well-organized championship tournaments.
5. To be represented by teams in local, region, and national tournaments.
6. To promote, organize and conduct clinics and seminars in the proper skills of softball play and rules of the game.
7. To assist International softball teams when requested.
8. To provide grants and assist in the growth of the sport.
9. To provide scholarships to enable more persons an opportunity for advanced education.

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Affiliating your team(s) with ASA makes you a vital part of the National Governing Body of Softball. Your team(s) will enjoy the following:

GOVERNING BODY: ASA is the governing body of softball in the U.S. as approved by the Congress of the United States and accepted as the National Governing Body (N.G.B.) by the U. S. Olympic Committee and the International Softball Federation. As the N.G.B., ASA represents the game of softball for the United States of America.

UNIFORM ELIGIBILITY AND PLAYING RULES: All ASA teams are governed by the same playing and eligibility rules, thus insuring your team fair competition in championship tournaments. Player eligibility is governed by ASA National Codes and further defined by Southern California Rules and Regulations.

CERTIFIED UMPIRES: ASA umpires must attend annual rules seminars and mechanic clinics, pass a written test and meet other requirements before they can be selected for a championship tournament.

CLASSIFICATION OF TEAMS: Southern California ASA has established a classification code to regulate teams and players with dominating ability from playing in a lower classification. Players and/or teams can request to be reclassified before they are eligible to compete in a lower classification.

CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION: A championship tournament may be held for the following divisions and classifications: 'A', 'B' and 'C' 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U, GOLD.

JR. OLYMPIC CLASSIFICATIONS: December 31st age cutoff.

'Gold' (18U): This classification will include the most advanced Junior Olympic girls fast pitch players and teams in the United States. Many of these players have the potential to become a member of the USA Olympic Softball Team. Qualifying teams at this level will advance to 'Gold' National championship.

'A' Travel: The level of this competition is highly competitive with most players having consistent ability and pitchers capable of controlling a game. Winners of this level of competition advance to 'A' Nationals.

'B' League All-Star: This level is for recreational leagues only. Either league teams or league All Star teams are acceptable. District Tournaments will be held with a set number of teams advancing to the Southern California ASA League All-Star Championship. The top finishers in the All-Star Championship will advance to the Western 'B' National Championships.

'C' League All-Star: This level is for recreational leagues only and is specifically for leagues that are not highly competitive. It is the intent of the 'C' program to establish meaningful competition for teams that are unable to compete in the 'B' program due to league size and/or skill level. Either league teams or league All-Star teams are acceptable.

PUBLICATIONS: Each manager will receive the Official Rules of Softball, Membership Card and appropriate newsletters.

INSURANCE: Southern California ASA, as a benefit of membership, provides Accident/Liability insurance to all individually registered players, teams, and/or leagues. Brochures may be obtained from SoCal ASA Staff Members.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: All players in Southern California ASA are INDIVIDUALLY registered.

TEAM STAFF MEMBERSHIP: All Team/League staff (managers/coaches/team parent) that will be on the field or in the dugout, must be individually registered and background checked through the Southern California ASA mandatory registration system.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership is open to any Manager, Coach, Player, Team or Umpire that pays the ASA annual dues and resides within the defined Southern California boundary and abides by the Official Rules and Regulations of National, and Southern California ASA.

PLAYERS ASSOCIATION: Membership is open to ASA team players that play on a team that is registered with Southern California ASA.

CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS: Any team that is an ASA member in good standing and meets the eligibility requirements for tournament play may enter if the team is registered with ASA in the Jr. Olympic Program by May 1st. **NOTE:** Junior Olympic tournaments may be capped based on field availability.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CODE OF CONDUCT

Standards of conduct are part of the ASA National Code and Southern California Rules and Regulations. Every ASA member shall respect these standards. A manager, coach, player, or other individual(s) affiliated with the team shall not violate any of the following:

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct or any derogatory action on or off the playing field.
2. Verbal or physical attack or threat upon an umpire or an ASA official.
3. Destruction of property, abusive behavior or violation of state or federal law.
4. Non-payment of team-incurred debts.
5. 'A' Travel Teams Only - Failure to provide an itemized and accurate pre-season team budget and provide an itemized financial statement of team expense to players/parent/guardians at the end of the ASA championship season. (not to exceed 60 days from the end of Championship Play)
6. All players MUST be Individually registered with ASA.
7. All managers/coaches/team parents that will be on the field or in the dugout must be individually registered and background checked through the Southern California ASA mandatory registration system, and the ID cards must be visible at all times.
8. Playing under an assumed name or falsifying an official ASA document.
9. Writing checks with non-sufficient funds or account closed checks to an ASA official, umpire, ASA team, individual or business.
10. Commission of fraud perpetrated against an ASA official, team or individual.
11. Commission of larceny perpetrated against an ASA official, team or individual.
12. Use of any ASA logos or trademarks without express permission.
13. Commission of any acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of ASA.
14. Forfeit a game in Championship Play.
15. Competing with or against individuals or teams who are suspended from ASA play.
16. Any other acts of suspension as listed in the ASA National Code.
17. Team Manager/Team Coach will not contact a National Championship Tournament Director regarding "Fill-In" berths at any time.
18. At no time shall any player, coach or manager be allowed to drink alcoholic beverages or smoke on the field, inside or outside of the dugout. The use, possession, or sale of alcohol is forbidden at all Jr. Olympic events

Non-Compliance Penalty: Violation of any of the above may result in suspension

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

It is not the purpose of Southern California ASA to police our teams, coaches and players. When ASA National or Southern California Rules and Regulations are not complied with and a written complaint is filed, an ASA official will investigate the problem.

The following complaint procedure shall be used in Southern California.

1. An Official Complaint Form must be filed.
The form is available on our website at www.socal-asa.com. You may also obtain this form by calling your District Commissioner, Age Group Commissioner, or the appropriate J.O. Commissioner (i.e. Recreation or Travel). The complaint must have the following:
 - a. Names and addresses of parties
 - b. The rule alleged to have been violated.
 - c. All supporting evidence and/or documentation forming the basis of the complaint.
2. A non-refundable money order or cashier's check in the amount of \$50.00 made out to So Cal ASA **MUST** be included with the Complaint Form. (*The \$50.00 fee may only be waived by the State Commissioner*)
3. Evidence substantiating the violation must accompany and be listed on the complaint form (witness statements, documentation, photos, etc). Witnesses to the violation must be named and their addresses and phone numbers listed in the complaint. Witnesses for or against the accused may testify at the hearing (limit four (4) each side). Written statements from witnesses unable to attend are acceptable.
4. A complaint will be acknowledged by e-mail or mail within two (2) weeks by an ASA staff member. If a Hearing is necessary, the Hearing will be scheduled within a reasonable time, not to exceed forty-five (45) days, provided all required information is in order.

SUSPENSION HEARINGS

A Hearing will be held if it is determined that reasonable cause exists to believe the complaint is valid. Violation of specific rules in the ASA Code requires a minimum suspension time period. Other violations leave the penalty to the discretion of the hearing board or the Commissioner. All testimony will be considered in determining guilt or innocence and an appropriate penalty shall be determined when necessary.

It is possible that testimony received at the hearing will indicate leniency due to mitigating circumstances and in other cases, testimony may be received that necessitates a harsher penalty. When conducting a hearing, the ASA hearing board will consider the past record of the accused, including previous official complaints, and testimony given by those in attendance.

1. If a hearing date is set all parties will be notified in writing.
2. Each party (complainant or accused) may request no more than one (1) postponement. A new hearing date will be scheduled and parties will be notified in writing, if a postponement is requested.

3. Four people for the accused and four for the accuser may give testimony.
4. If the accused fails to appear without notification and just cause, the hearing board shall proceed with the hearing and take proper action.
5. If the accuser fails to appear on the hearing date, the complaint may be dropped.
6. Southern California ASA is empowered to conduct necessary investigations into charges brought against an ASA team, coach, player, or umpire as a means of proving or disproving the charges before, during or after the hearing date.
7. An ASA Commissioner or ASA Staff member who witnesses or has irrefutable evidence of a violation of the code at a tournament may immediately remove a player, manager, coach or team from further competition in that tournament immediately. A suspension hearing may be held as soon as possible to determine if further action needs to be taken by Southern California ASA.
8. Any manager, coach or player suspended from Southern California ASA will forfeit all rights and privileges given a member under the National ASA Code, Pacific Coast Region and Southern California ASA Rules and Regulations. The forfeit of said rights and privileges shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Representing himself or herself as an eligible ASA manager, coach or player to anyone affiliated with ASA Softball.
 - b. Practicing, managing, coaching or participating at any time with anyone affiliated with ASA Softball.
 - c. Recruiting for an ASA team.
 - d. Competing with or against any ASA softball team.
 - e. Suspended individuals may not be on the field, score keep, be in or around the dugout, relay verbal advice or instruction or send signals to a team from any location.
9. If a complaint is upheld and results in suspension, the individual(s) has the right to appeal as outlined in the ASA National Code.

Non-Compliance Penalty: A minimum of an additional twelve (12) months added to original penalty.

RESPONSIBILITIES

(For Championship Play Eligibility)

A. District Commissioner Responsibility:

The local District Commissioner has the ultimate responsibility to verify the classification and eligibility of all teams from their District participating in Championship Tournaments.

B. League President Responsibility (or Chief Softball Administrator):

1. The president/chief administrator is responsible to verify the league's player/team eligibility to the best of his/her knowledge.
2. The president/chief administrator shall notify the local Jr. Olympic District Commissioner of any possible infractions.

C. Team Manager Responsibility:

1. The manager is responsible for verifying to the best of his/her ability his/her team and player eligibility.
2. The manager shall be prepared to provide proof of age and Picture Identification at every Championship Play tournament for each rostered player.
3. The manager of any team found to be in violation of ASA policies may be suspended from participation in ASA play for one full year.
4. Teams participating in Championship Tournaments shall abide by all rules and regulations of the ASA National Code pertaining to Championship Play.
5. The manager shall sign the "Official Championship Roster" confirming the eligibility of their players before entering any Championship Tournament.

‘B’ RECREATION LEAGUE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ELIGIBILITY RULES

I. PURPOSE: The purpose of the Junior Olympic ‘B’ program is to provide a recreational program and championship tournaments for recreational teams registered with ASA.

II. CATEGORIES OF ELIGIBILITY: All teams must meet one of the following two (2) criteria to be eligible to participate in the ‘B’ program:

A. **Recreation League Teams:** These 6U – 18U teams must represent a recreational league. A Recreational League is defined by the following criteria:

- ◆ A recreational league is an organized league associated with a recognized neighborhood or community
- ◆ Where participation is open to any interested youth
- ◆ Where tryouts or demonstration of skills is not required for participation
- ◆ Where some type of draft, draw or other acceptable method is utilized to ensure distribution of talent among the league teams
- ◆ **AND** the team(s) must be approved by the league's Board of Directors.

NOTE: Leagues who divide their age groups into split divisions based on skill level , must have no less than six (6) teams in the more advanced division. This rule applies regardless of the method under which the split division is created, including but not limited to, player evaluations, league assignment, or parent request. Split divisions must not be used in age groups below 10-Under. **All players in the split division leagues must be eligible for All-Stars.**

B. **‘B’ 16-Under & 18-Under Teams:** 16-U or 18-U teams formed in a Metropolitan area where recreational league is or is not offered in their respective age classifications must be comprised of players from not more than Five (5) high schools represented on any one team. **Note:** High school attendance area shall not be interpreted as high school district boundaries.

III. ELIGIBILITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

A. Recreation League All-Star Eligibility:

1. All 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U players participating within the league must be individually registered with ASA by **April 1st** of the current season.
2. All team staff (manager/coaches/team parent) will be individually registered with proof of background check through the Southern California ASA mandatory registration system.
3. All-Star Managers must show proof of attendance at a Southern California ASA Coaches Clinic

B. League Team Eligibility:

1. Team rosters may include up to 20 players.
2. Three (3) pick-up players from the team's league are allowed **AFTER** the District Tournament. Pick-up players must meet all player eligibility rules in (D. Pickup Player).

3. Teams may be a single league team or All-Star team as selected and certified by the league.
 - a. If the league selects an All-Star team, the All-Star team shall NOT nominate, select, try-out, select, practice and/or play together before May 1st of the current season.
 - b. If the league selects a single league team, or the majority of players from a single team, this team must meet the requirements in II.A. above.

Note: A pre-season or mid-season team, selected tournament team is not eligible.
4. Teams shall not have any players who have participated on a **travel type team** after **March 31st**.
5. Teams shall not have more than four (4) players who have participated with a **travel type team** at any time after **February 1st** of the current year.
6. Teams that participate in ASA 'A' or GOLD **qualifying** events, will not be eligible to participate in 'B' Championship Tournaments.

C. Player Eligibility:

1. Players must play a minimum of 50% of the current seasons' league games.
Exception: High School participants that are age eligible to return to the 14U age division may return to the league that they participated in during the previous calendar year. The 14U All-Star team may have no more than 4 players who participated in High School. All players returning to the 14U division must be registered within the league by April 1st of the current season.
2. Players who have played in a higher league age classification during the current season are eligible to play in their correct age classification.
3. Players who have played on a school team or other recreational league team after March 31st of the current season are eligible to play if all other eligibility guidelines are followed. Players that participate in two ASA recreational leagues must declare by April 15th which league they wish to be eligible for All-Star selection
4. Players who have participated on a team other than their own recreation league teams after March 31st of the current season are **not** eligible; (i.e. a player **shall not** participate with any other All-Star or travel type team, including ASA and non-ASA after March 31st) except as provided in paragraph 4 above.
Exception: For leagues that have more than one post-season team within an age group. Within the same league, a number one All-Star team may pull from the number two team with the approval of the appropriate District Commissioner. Once the player is moved, she is locked to that team, until the team has completed Championship play.

NOTE: "Participate" in the above shall be defined as --A PLAYER TAKING PART IN A TRY-OUT, PRACTICE, PRACTICE GAME, SCHEDULED GAME OR TOURNAMENT.

5. Players **SHALL NOT** play on more than one team in ASA Championship competition during the same season except as a pick-up player.
6. All players participating in Championship Play must have Southern California ASA authorized photo ID cards.

D. League "Pick-up" Players: (See also ASA National Code):

1. 'B' All-Star pick-up players shall meet all player eligibility rules in this section.

2. A player can only be a pick-up player once per season.
3. 'B' All-Star players whose teams are no longer eligible for Championship competition are eligible as pick-up players as set forth in the ASA National Code.
4. Pick-up players must have played on a So Cal ASA registered team during the current season.
5. Pick-up players, after District and prior to All-Star Championships, must come from within their own league. Beyond All-Star Championships, pick-up players may come from within the Southern California Association within the same or lower age classification.

E. 'B' 16-Under / 18-Under Teams: The purpose of the Southern California 16-U/18-U classification is to provide competition and championship tournaments for players who are not Junior Olympic 'A' caliber at this time. It provides a summer program that addresses the needs of players who are of high school age and wish to increase their skills to benefit their league, their high school team, and themselves.

1. 'B' 16-Under / 18-Under Team Eligibility
 - a. Team must be registered by June 1st, with a minimum of five (5) players being individually registered. A minimum of nine (9) players must be individually registered by June 30th. All rostered players must be individually registered prior to the start of Championship Play.
 - b. Team rosters may include 20 players including pick-ups.
 - c. Teams shall be composed of players meeting all 16U/18U eligibility requirements.
 - d. Teams may be a single team or All-Star team as selected and certified by the league.
 1. The team shall not be selected, practice or play together before May 1st of the current season.
 2. If only one regular season team is in the league then that team shall be the All-Star Team and must meet the requirements in II.A. above.

Note: A pre-season or mid-season team, selected tournament team is not eligible.

- e. Teams shall not have any players who have participated on a **travel type team** after **March 31st**.
- f. Teams shall not have more than four (4) players who have participated with a **travel type team** at any time after **February 1st** of the current year.
- g. No more than five (5) high schools shall be represented on any one team.
- h. Teams may participate in 'A' or 'B' level INVITATIONAL tournaments after May 1st, but run the risk of being reclassified. (Reclassification may be appealed to the Jr. Olympic Commissioner)
- i. Teams that participate in ASA 'A' or GOLD **qualifying** events, or non-ASA **qualifying** events, will not be eligible to participate in 'B' 16U/18U Championship Tournaments.
- j. Teams competing in ASA Championship Play shall abide by the ASA Codes pertaining to Championship Play and all policies outlined on the back of Official 'B' Championship Roster.
- k. Players who pitched at the varsity level may pitch in this division unless the District Commissioner reclassifies her as above 'B' level of play. **NOTE:** The decision of the District Commissioner may be appealed to the Jr. Olympic Commissioner for Recreation.

2. 'B' 16-Under / 18-Under Player Eligibility
 - a. Players shall be age eligible pursuant to ASA National Code.
 - b. Players who participate on an intercollegiate softball team at a two or four year college or university are NOT eligible to participate in the Junior Olympic 'B' tournaments.
 - c. Players shall not be on two regular season rosters, i.e.: she cannot be rostered on a 'B' 16-Under / 18-Under (High School) Division team and an 'A' travel team during the same season.
 - d. Players are eligible to be picked-up by an ASA 'A' travel team only after their team is no longer eligible for Championship Play.
3. 'B' 16-Under / 18-Under "Pick-up" Players (see also ASA National Code)
 - a. 'B' (All-Star) "pick-up" players shall meet all player eligibility rules in this section.
 - b. A player may only be a "pick-up" player once per season.
 - c. 'B' (All-Star) players whose teams are no longer eligible for Championship competition are eligible to play with an 'A' or a 'B' team as a pick-up player in the same or higher age classification.
 - d. All "pick-up" player rules shall apply as outlined in ASA National Code.
4. Rural (or remote location) Team Eligibility: Contact 'B' 16U/18U Commissioner for team eligibility policies.

IV. CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES:

A. League All-Star Procedure:

1. The Southern California ASA shall be divided into seven (7) districts for purposes of qualifying teams to the Southern California 'B' All-Star Championship Tournaments:

Central District	Northern District
Eastern District	South San Diego District
LA/South Bay District	Western District
North San Diego District	
2. Each District Commissioner will conduct a District Championship Tournament. Each ASA league may enter a minimum of one (1) team in each age group. The District Commissioner has the authority to allow additional entries based on registrations.
3. Each District Tournament may be hosted by a league from that district and shall be sanctioned by the ASA. ASA staff shall conduct all ASA District Tournaments.
4. Each District Tournament will be conducted on the date published.
5. Proof of Age and Picture Identification will be required.
6. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place finishing teams in age classification 10U – 14U from each District Tournament will advance to the Southern California 'B' All-Star Championship.
7. The 1st and 2nd place finishing teams in the 8U classification from each District Tournament will participate in the "Celebration of Champions".

8. The top finishers in 10-U, 12-U, 14-U, 16-U and 18-Under age classification in the Southern California All-Star Championship Tournament will advance to the Western 'B' National Championships.

NOTE: Teams that have qualified, but fail to advance, are subject to suspension the following year. "Qualified" shall be interpreted as a team who has earned a berth to the next level of Championship Play.

9. All 'B' 16-U and 18-U teams are eligible for the Southern California 'B' All-Star Championship.

'C' RECREATION LEAGUE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ELIGIBILITY RULES

I. PURPOSE: The purpose of the Jr. Olympic 'C' program is to provide a recreational program and championship tournaments for recreational teams registered with ASA.

II. CATEGORIES OF ELIGIBILITY: All teams must meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate in the 'C' Program:

- A. Recreation League Teams: These 6U – 18U teams must represent a recreational league. A Recreational League is defined by the following criteria:
- ◆ A recreational league is an organized league associated with a recognized neighborhood or community
 - ◆ Where participation is open to any interested youth
 - ◆ Where tryouts or demonstration of skills is not required for participation
 - ◆ Where some type of draft, draw or other acceptable method is utilized to ensure distribution of talent among the league teams
 - ◆ **AND** the team(s) must be approved by the league's Board of Directors.
- B. 'C' League Designation: The league must submit a 'C' Eligibility Request Form by April 1st of the current season in order to be designated as a 'C' league. This form will be on file with the Junior Olympic Commissioner. The District Commissioner will notify the league President with his/her decision. The District Commissioner will consider, among other things, the following criteria; League size, evaluation of play on the field, history of tournament play, UIC evaluation. The District Commissioner may reclassify 'C' leagues at any time based upon their performance. Reclassification may be appealed in writing, within 10 days of notification, to the Junior Olympic Commissioner.
- C. Leagues who divide their age groups into split divisions based on skill or player "impact" are NOT eligible for 'C' classification
- D. 16-Under & 18-Under Teams:
SEE "B" 16-Under/18-Under Teams.
- E. Leagues that qualify 3 or more teams to the State tournament or "Celebration of Champions" in any 2 year period (excluding the 14U division), will no longer be eligible for 'C' classification in the following season

III. ELIGIBILITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

- A. Recreational League All-Star Eligibility:
1. All 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U players participating within the league must be individually registered with ASA by **April 1st** of the current season.
 2. Team staff (managers/coaches/team parents) will be individually registered with proof of background check through the Southern California ASA mandatory registration system..
 3. All-Star Managers must show proof of attendance at a Southern California ASA Coaches Clinic

B. League Team Eligibility:

1. Team rosters may include up to 20 players.
2. Three (3) pick-up players from the team's league are allowed AFTER the District Tournament. Pick-up players must meet all player eligibility rules.
3. Teams may be single league teams or All-Star team as selected and certified by the league.
 - a. If the league selects an All-Star team, the All-Star team shall NOT nominate, select, try-out, select, practice and/or play together before May 1st of the current season.
 - b. If the league selects a single league team, or the majority of players from a single team, the team must meet the requirements in (II. A above).

Note: A pre-season or mid-season team, selected tournament team is not eligible.

4. Teams shall not have any players who have participated on a **travel type team** after **March 31st**.
5. Teams shall not have more than four (4) players who have participated with a **travel type team** at any time after **February 1st** of the current season.
6. Teams that participate in ASA 'A' or GOLD **qualifying** events, will not be eligible to participate in 'C' Championship Tournaments.

C. Player Eligibility:

1. Players must play a minimum of 50% of the current seasons' league games. Exception: High School participants that are age eligible to return to the 14U age division may return to the league that they participated in during the previous calendar year. The 14U All-Star team may have no more than 4 players who participated in High School. All players returning to the 14U division must be registered within the league by April 1st of the current season.
2. Players who have played in a higher league age classification during the current season are eligible to play in their correct age classification.
3. Players who have played on a school team or other recreational league team after March 31st of the current season are eligible to play if all other eligibility guidelines are followed. Players that participate in two ASA recreational leagues must declare by April 15th which league they wish to be eligible for All-Star selection
4. Players who have participated on a team other than their own recreation league teams after March 31st of the current season are **not** eligible; (i.e. a player **shall not** participate with any other All-Star or travel type team, including ASA and non-ASA after March 31st) except as provided in paragraph 4 above.

Exception: For leagues that have more than one post-season team within an age group. Within the same league, a number one All-Star team may pull from the number two team with the approval of the appropriate District Commissioner. Once the player is moved, she is locked to that team, until the team has completed Championship play.

NOTE: "Participate" in the above shall be defined as --A PLAYER TAKING PART IN A TRY-OUT, PRACTICE, PRACTICE GAME, SCHEDULED GAME OR TOURNAMENT.

5. Players **SHALL NOT** play on more than one team in ASA Championship competition during the same season except as a pick-up player.

- 6 All players participating in Championship Play must have Southern California ASA authorized photo ID cards.

D. League “Pick-up” Players: (See also ASA National Code)

1. ‘C’ All-Star pick-up players shall meet all player eligibility rules in this section.
2. A player can only be a pick-up player once per season.
3. ‘C’ All-Star players whose teams are no longer eligible for Championship competition are eligible as pick-up players as set forth in the ASA National Code.
4. Pick-up players must have played on a So Cal ASA registered team during the current season.
5. Pick-up players, after District and prior to All-Star Championships, must come from within their own league. Beyond the All-Star Championships, pick-up players may come from within the Southern California Association within the same or lower age classification.

IV. CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES:

A. League All-Star Procedure

1. The Southern California ASA shall be divided into seven (7) districts for purposes of qualifying teams to the Southern California League ‘B’ or ‘C’ All-Star Championship Tournament:

Central District	Northern District
Eastern District	South San Diego District
LA/South Bay District	Western District
North San Diego District	

2. Each District Commissioner may conduct a District Championship Tournament. Each ASA ‘C’ league may enter a minimum of one (1) team in each age group. The District Commissioner has the authority to allow additional entries based on registrations.
3. Each District Tournament may be hosted by a league from that district and shall be sanctioned by the ASA. ASA staff shall conduct all ASA District Tournaments.
4. Each ‘C’ District Tournament shall be conducted on the date published.
5. Proof of Age and Picture Identification will be required.
6. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishing teams in age classifications 10U-14U from each district tournament will advance to the Southern California ‘C’ All-Star Championship tournament. The 4th place finishing team will advance to the Regional tournament.
7. The 1st and 2nd place finishing teams in the 8U classification from each District Tournament will participate in the “Celebration of Champions”.

NOTE: Teams that have qualified, but fail to advance, are subject to suspension the following year. “Qualified” shall be interpreted as a team who has earned a berth to the next level of Championship Play.

2008 RECREATIONAL LEAGUE 'B' & 'C' CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RECREATION 'B' CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

- June 27-29 'B' District All-Star Championships (10U, 12U, 14U, 16U & 18U)
- July 11-13 'B' All-Star (State) Championship (10U, 12U, 14U, 16U & 18U)
 'B' Celebration of Champions (8U)
- July 30-Aug. 3 'B' Western Nationals (10U, 12U, 14U, 16U & 18U)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RECREATION 'C' CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

- July 4-6 'C' District All-Star Championships (10U, 12U, 14U)
- July 11-13 'C' All-Star (State) Championships (10U, 12U, 14U)
 'C' Celebration of Champions (8U)
- July 11-13 'C' Regional Championship (CALIFORNIA STATE GAMES)

These 'B' and 'C' Tournaments will be open to eligible teams from:

Central District
Eastern District
LA/South Bay District
North San Diego District
Northern District
South San Diego District
Western District

2008 'B' WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

10U	July 30 – August 3	Las Vegas, NV
12U	July 30 – August 3	Las Vegas, NV
14U	July 30 – August 3	Salem, OR
16U	July 30 – August 3	Cheyenne, WY
18U	July 30 – August 3	Aurora, CO

Tournaments will be open to eligible teams from:

Rocky Mountain Region 13

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. Arizona | 4. Utah |
| 2. Colorado | 5. Wyoming |
| 3. New Mexico | |

Pacific Coast Region 14

1. California
2. Nevada
3. Hawaii

Northwest Region 15

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. Alaska | 3. Oregon |
| 2. Montana | 4. Washington |
| 5. Idaho | |

CALENDAR FOR RECREATION LEAGUES ‘B’ AND ‘C’

April 1	Registration Deadline	All 10U, 12U and 14U players participating within the league must be individually registered with ASA by April 1st of the current season in order to be eligible to participate in Championship Play .
April 1	Players Declare Eligibility	Teams shall not have any players that have participated on a selected-type team as of this date. See section on League/Player eligibility for details.
April 1	‘C’ League Eligibility	‘C’ League Designation: The league must submit a <u>‘C’ Eligibility Request Form</u> by April 1 st of the current season to be designated as a ‘C’ league. This form can be found on the So Cal web site.
May 1	All Star Selection	All Star selections may begin as of May 1 st .
June 1	Tournament Entry Deadline	Must be <u>RECEIVED</u> by in order to be eligible for Southern California District Championship Tournament. Mail to your District Commissioner.
June 1	‘B’ 16U/18U Team Registration Deadline	Your team must be an ASA ‘B’ registered team in order to participate in Championship tournaments. The form is available on the So Cal web site.
June 27-29	‘B’ Rec. District Tournaments	Championship Roster is due prior to start of a team's first game of Championship Play. Turn roster in at the District Tournament Draw or at the tournament site. Proof of age for each player must accompany the roster. Picture identification will be required. The roster must be completed and have the signatures of the player, parent/guardian and team manager.
July 4-6	‘C’ Rec District Tournaments	Championship Roster is due prior to start of a team's first game of Championship Play. Turn roster in at the District Tournament Draw or at the tournament site. Proof of age for each player must accompany the roster. Picture Identification will be required. The roster must be completed and have the signature of the player, parent/guardian and team manager.

‘B’ RECREATION TEAMS WHO ADVANCE TO THE ‘B’ ALL-STAR CHAMPIONSHIP

June 27	Accept Berth to So Cal All-Star Championship	The team has won a berth and must notify the District Commissioner with their decision whether to advance or not, by the conclusion of the District Tournament. Payment for the All-Star Championship tournament must be given to the District Tournament Director at the conclusion of the District Tournament.
July 11-13	‘B’ All-Star Championship	Check in is one (1) hour before game time. Teams must turn in Pick-up Player Form (if applicable), Proof of Age and Picture Identification one hour prior to the start of its first game.

'C' RECREATION TEAMS WHO ADVANCE TO 'C' ALL-STAR CHAMPIONSHIP

July 6	Accept Berth to So Cal All-Star Championship	The team has won a berth and must notify the District Commissioner with their decision whether to advance or not, by the conclusion of the District Tournament. Payment for the All-Star Championship tournament must be given to the District Tournament Director at the conclusion of the District Tournament.
July 11-13	'C' Championship	Check in is one (1) hour before game time. Teams must turn in Pick-up Player Form (if applicable), Proof of Age and Picture Identification one hour prior to the start of its first game.
July 11-13	Regional Championship California State Games	4th ¹ and 5th place finishers (10U-14U) from each 'C' District tournament will qualify for the Regional Tournament/ California State Games to be held in San Diego, CA. You must declare your intent at the conclusion of the district tournament. Payment for the California State games must be given to the District Tournament Director at the conclusion of the District Tournament.

RECREATION 'B' ALL-STAR TEAMS WHO ADVANCE TO THE 'B' WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

July 13	Accept Berth to Nationals	The Team has won the berth and must notify their District Commissioner if they decide not to go.
July TBA	Tournament Entry Deadline	Entry fee due by this date. It can be given to Tournament Director after the All-Star Championship Final Game or mailed to the address listed on the entry form.
July 30– Aug. 3	'B' Western National Championship	Check-in is one (1) hour before game time. Team must turn in Pick-up Player Form (if applicable) and Picture Identification as required by National Tournament Director.

CHAMPIONSHIP ROSTERS

Championship Rosters will be mailed to teams when they enter the Southern California District Tournament.

PICK-UP PLAYERS

Maximum of three (3) players from your league may be added to the roster after the District Tournament. Pick-up Players must follow all eligibility requirements found in this Yellow Book.

The form will be in the packets of the teams who qualify for 'B' All-Star or 'B' Western National Championship Tournaments.

RECREATION LEAGUE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q: There are "Pacific Coast Region" eligibility rules, "Southern California" eligibility rules and the National Codes. Which one has priority?**
- A: Eligibility rules start with the ASA National Codes. These are listed in the Official ASA Rule Book. The National rules that govern Championship Tournaments are very broad in scope. Therefore the Pacific Coast Region clarifies these rules as they pertain to our region, which includes California, Nevada and Hawaii. Regional rules may not conflict with National Codes. Southern California, in turn clarifies Regional rules to better suit our situations. The Southern California rules may not conflict with Pacific Coast Regional Rules. It's very similar to our Federal, State, and Local system of government.
- Q: Can a player play on a "travel team" and then play on the All-Star team?**
- A: She can participate on both teams but must stop playing on the travel team prior to March 31st. At that time she must decide which one is most important to her and play either 'A' travel or 'B' or 'C' Rec All-Stars.
- Q: How will Southern California ASA define "participate"?**
- A: As a player taking part in a try-out, practice, practice game, scheduled game, tournament.
- Q: If she has signed with an ASA travel team, (player agreement form) does she need to get a release from her travel team manager?**
- A: No: It's her decision to make even if she has signed an agreement with the travel team (before March 31st).
- Q: What if she drops from her travel team prior to March 31st and then is not selected for the All-Star team?**
- A: She can re-join and/or re-sign with the travel team (per ASA travel team rules).
- Q: May a player participating on two teams in different recreational leagues be selected as an All-Star?**
- A: She may; however, she may only participate in one league as an All-Star player and must declare by April 15th in which league she would like to be eligible for All-Star selection .
- Q: Can an 11-year-old player who played with a 14 & under team during the league season be on the 12-Under All-Star Team?**
- A: Yes, as long as she has not entered any ASA Championship Tournaments and meets all other eligibility requirements.
- Q: Can an 11-year-old player who played on a 14-Under Travel Team be on the 12-Under All-Star Team?**
- A: Yes, as long as she has not participated on the Travel Team after the March 31st eligibility deadline date and has met all other eligibility requirements.
- Q: Can a league team enter the Championship Tournament without the approval of the league board?**
- A: No.

Q: Do these eligibility rules apply to any All-Star team or invitational tournaments?

A: No, these rules only apply to the All-Star team entering ASA Championship Tournaments, or tournaments sanctioned by ASA. Invitational tournaments may use So Cal ASA eligibility rules. Check with the Tournament Director.

Q: What is Championship Play?

A: Is a tournament or competition from which the winner or the winner and other selected teams may advance to higher levels of play in ASA tournaments. (See “Levels of Championship Play” in the ASA National Code).

Q: What are ‘A’, ‘B’ and ‘C’ teams?

A: ‘A’ is an independent **travel** team; ‘B’ and ‘C’ are **recreation** level league teams.

Q: Why can’t a player play in both ‘A’ and ‘B’/‘C’ Championships?

A: It is not allowed by the national ASA Codes. The ‘B’ and ‘C’ programs are based on the players who registered with your league for RECREATION. Her primary goal is to have fun. If her (or her parents) primary goal is to develop competitive softball skills (emphasis on competitive), she needs to be on a travel team. ASA offers both programs but the player must decide which path she wants to follow this summer.

Q: Please explain the ‘C’ automatic reclassification: “Leagues that qualify 3 or more teams to the State tournament or “Celebration of Champions” in any 2 year period (excluding the 14U division), will no longer be eligible for ‘C’ classification in the following season.”

A: Example 1: In 2006 a “C” league qualifies 1 team to the C State Tournament and/or the Celebration of Champions. In 2007 the same league qualifies two teams to the C State Tournament/Celebration of Champions. – In the two year period, that league sent three teams to the C State Tournament/Celebration of Champions, and is no longer eligible for C classification in 2008.

Example 2: In 2006 a C league qualifies 0 teams to the C State Tournament. In 2007 the same league qualifies three teams to the C State Tournament/Celebration of Champions. In a two year period, that league qualified three teams and is no longer eligible for C classification for 2008

Q: Can a league that has been reclassified as B reapply for C status?

A: In order for a B league to be eligible to reapply for C status, the league must have sent a minimum of two teams to the B District Tournament

Q: Can our Southern California eligibility rules be changed?

A: Yes, they can be changed year to year. Keeping in mind that our rules cannot conflict with either the National or Regional rules, we encourage you to submit proposed changes in writing to your respective District Commissioner. Changes will be announced at the League President's annual meeting in November.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASA
TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING POLICY

Purpose: The following policy has been developed and adopted by Southern California ASA to establish sanctioning procedures for softball tournaments. Sanctioning a tournament will protect our ASA Leagues and Teams under Southern California ASA Code and Regulations. All Recreational League Invitational Tournaments must be sanctioned by So Cal ASA.

BENEFITS: The following benefits are afforded to those who are granted a sanction of their event:

1. Access to the ASA insurance programs offered through Bollinger Insurance.
2. Access to ASA registered umpires.
3. Ability to use the ASA name in promoting the event.
4. Southern California ASA's assistance in enforcing standards of conduct by players and managers.
5. Southern California ASA's assistance in recovering bad debts of participating teams.

Objectives: Southern California ASA has established this sanctioning policy to fulfill the following objectives:

- To establish a method to process requests for those interested in hosting ASA sanctioned tournaments.
- To enhance Southern California ASA's recreational tournament program.
- To develop a method to monitor tournaments sanctioned by Southern California ASA.
- To insure that requirements for sanctioning are fulfilled by tournament hosts.
- To develop additional tournament opportunities for ASA registered teams.

AUTHORIZATION: The Commissioner for Southern California ASA, or his duly authorized representative, shall have the authority to issue sanctions for any adult, youth or coed tournament that is deemed to meet the objectives of the association. It shall be the Commissioner's responsibility, or his duly authorized representatives to insure that requirements for sanctioning a tournament are fulfilled by the event host, and that the event host has fulfilled all responsibilities associated with the event.

PROCESS: Any event host wishing to sanction their tournament with Southern California ASA must submit a Sanction Request Form to the Commissioner or his duly authorized representative along with any required fee. The appropriate association member shall then review the request and, if the event is deemed to meet the objectives of Southern California ASA, a sanction shall be awarded to the tournament.

REQUIREMENTS: Any individual hosting an ASA sanctioned tournament shall declare prior to, and fulfill thereafter the following responsibilities:

To obtain and/or maintain at least \$1,000,000 in General Liability Insurance for the event. Said policy or policies of insurance shall include Southern California ASA as additionally insured. That all paid umpires utilized for the event shall be currently registered and in good standing with ASA. That all teams participating in the event must be currently registered and in good standing with the ASA.

TOURNAMENT SANCTION REQUEST

DATE OF EVENT: _____ LOCATION: _____

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR/HOST: _____

ADDRESS: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: (_____) _____ BUSINESS PHONE: (_____) _____

DIVISION/SEX/CLASSIFICATION OF TEAMS (list all): _____

ANTICIPATED NO. OF TEAMS: _____ NUMBER OF FIELDS: _____

TOURNAMENT FORMAT (i.e. round-robin, double elimination): _____

FIELD OWNER: _____

SANCTION AGREEMENT

By signing below, I declare that I am an official of the above named tournament host, or that I am an individual tournament director, requesting a sanction for the tournament identified above. Further, I declare that I have read this agreement, and sanctioning requirements and agree to fulfill the requirements as stated herein. I (we) agree to the following conditions in return for Southern California ASA granting a sanction for this event:

1. To obtain and/or maintain at least \$1,000,000 in General Liability Insurance for the event. Said policy or policies shall include Southern California ASA as additionally insured. Such insurance is available through Bollinger Insurance Company and is made available to you as a part of this sanctioning agreement.
2. That all paid umpires utilized for this event be currently registered and in good standing with ASA.
3. To insure that all teams participating in this event are currently registered and in good standing with ASA.
4. To pay a \$10.00 sanctioning fee plus the cost of the So Cal Tournament Blue Book and Regional Tournament Guide with the submittal of this request. The fee is to be included with the cost of an ad in the Southern California ASA Tournament Blue Book and will include an ad in the Pacific Coast Region 14 Tournament Guide.
5. All Tournament flyers and distributed documents to teams entered must mention that this is an ASA Sanctioned Tournament.
6. Tournament Director shall notify participating teams if So Cal ASA Championship Yellow Book Eligibility Rules will NOT apply.

I have read and understand this Sanctioning Agreement.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

SUBMIT TO: Linda Henry, 424 Lakewood Ave. Ventura, CA 93004
Phone(805) 647-5551 FAX (805)647-5455

‘A’ TRAVEL SECTION

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY RULES

1. Every player must be individually registered.
2. Age qualifications – all requirements of the ASA National Code must be complied with.
3. A player may participate as a regular rostered player on only one team within a division in Championship Play during the season. **EXCEPTION:** Pick-up players. See ASA National Code.
4. Player Identification: Upon demand by a Southern California ASA staff member, or other tournament officials, a player must produce a proper identification, which shall include a current photograph, and signature or the player shall be ineligible and the team subject to suspension. See ASA National Code.
5. U.S. Players: A U.S. player that participates on a foreign softball team in a foreign country must return to the United States by May 1st of the current season to be eligible for ASA Championship Play. See ASA National Code.

MANAGER-COACH-PLAYER AGREEMENTS

In any sports organization, there must be rules and regulations to insure fair and equitable competition. The national ASA championship softball program provides regulations, known as Codes that will be respected and followed by all members. In addition to the National Codes, Southern California ASA may establish local rules and regulations. The local rules and regulations shall supplement the National Codes. These rules and regulations shall serve and protect member teams and players in situations that are unique to our area and further define the codes where necessary.

Southern California ASA has one of the best softball programs in the United States. This is due largely to the talent of our coaches, the desire and determination of our players and the guidelines set by Southern California ASA. As a member, your cooperation in keeping within these guidelines will continue our success. In an effort to maintain our standards, any infractions of the following agreements shall be reported to the Age Group Commissioner, Jr. Olympic Commissioner for Travel, or Southern California Commissioner.

MANAGER/COACHES AGREEMENT: Managers and coaches shall not violate the Southern California Rules and Regulations or the ASA National Code. They shall also abide by the following Southern California Guidelines and understand that as the manager or coach they are responsible for the actions and financial obligations of their team. They must agree to abide by the ASA Official Guide & Rule Book and the adopted Rules and Regulations of Southern California ASA including, but not limited to:

1. Team staff (All managers/coaches/team parents) that will be on the field or in the dugout must be individually registered and background checked through the Southern California ASA mandatory registration system, and the ID cards must be visible at all times.
2. Will not be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct or any acts contrary to the objectives and purposes of ASA.

3. Will not have a player sign a Player Agreement until they are individually registered. The signing of a Player Agreement alone DOES NOT lock a player to a team. The Age Group Commissioner will not accept any Player Agreements of unregistered players.
4. Understand that a player has seven (7) days from the date the Player Agreement Form is **received** by the Age Group Commissioner to withdraw from the team without a release from the manager.
5. Shall provide to all players and parents a pre-season team budget and an itemized, accurate end of season financial statement within 30 days after ASA Championship Play.
 - a. Southern California ASA will, with respect to any financial disputes between ASA registered players/parents and ASA registered teams, review the Pre-season Budget and the Post-Season Financial statement. So Cal ASA's action on any complaint filed will be to review these two documents and any other relevant documents, (which must be provided with the complaint and or response) to determine if either party has not complied with their responsibility with respect to the approved financial plan. Should either party be determined to be not compliant with the approved financial plan, parties may be subject to suspension until the situation is resolved.

ASA guidelines for team financial planning are:

1. Each team must have a proposed financial budget for the current season. It is recommended that each player/parent and the team manager sign the proposed budget and each keep a copy.
2. Should the team need to adjust its financial plan during the season the amended budget should be provided and signed by all parties. So Cal ASA recommends that any expense that will exceed the budgetary estimate by 10% or \$100.00, whichever is greater should result in an amended budget.
3. At the end of the season the team shall provide an end of season financial statement within 30 days, detailing the funds collected and how they were expended. The expense report should follow the pre-season budget format and report expenses against the planned budget.

All financial claims by any party must be addressed by the parties or taken to the appropriate legal process, i.e. small claims court or arbitration, or other dispute resolution.

6. Shall be responsible to make sure all players are individually registered. Registration includes accident/liability insurance coverage.
7. Team personnel shall not recruit or entice players and/or parents that have signed an ASA Player Agreement Form to change teams. This includes any player as of March 31st of the current season who is currently eligible to play on a team in Southern California ASA Jr. Olympic Recreation League Championship Play. This policy is in effect until July 1st or a team is no longer eligible for Championship Play, whichever occurs last.
8. Shall not compete with or against a suspended team, player, manager or coach after being notified of the suspension.
9. Shall not use any ASA logos or trademarks without express permission from a So Cal ASA staff member.

10. Each Manager/Coach acknowledges that ASA provides a coaches certification education program.
11. Will have control of all team personnel and fans while participating in ASA events.
12. Shall receive permission from another team's manager before asking a player to be a pick-up player on a team for an invitational tournament.
13. Shall notify a team manager whose team is no longer eligible for Championship Play before asking a player from that team to be a pick-up player pursuant to ASA National Code.
14. Understands that players are released if team is not entering ASA Championship Play. Championship Play takes priority over other tournaments or games.
15. Shall inform players that they are automatically released when:
 - a. Decision has been made not to enter Championship Play.
 - b. Decision has been made not to enter any remaining Championship Tournaments (Example: Regional, National Qualifier, Western Nationals, or USA-ASA National Championship Finals)).
 - c. Team has been eliminated from further Championship Play.
 - d. A player withdraws from a team within the seven (7) day agreement.

Team Manager shall notify their Age Group Commissioner or the Junior Olympic Commissioner for Travel if any of the above occurs.

16. Shall respect a team that is still competing in Championship Play by not attempting to entice a player as a pick-up player for Championship Play or for the fall or next season's team. This includes all levels of Championship Play including teams competing in ASA 'B' or 'C' League All-Star Championship Play.
17. Shall move to the next level in ASA Championship Play when the team has qualified. "Qualified" shall be interpreted as a team who has earned a berth to the next level of Championship Play and "accepting" that berth.
18. Shall not allow team personnel, team parents or fans to be abusive towards the team players, opposing teams, spectators, umpires or ASA representatives.
19. Managers who have players who are also on a team in an ASA Recreation League must inform the player and parent that if they participate with an 'A' Travel Team **after March 31st**, the player will not be eligible for selection to their League All-Star Championship Tournament team. **NOTE:** Participation after February 1 of the current year may jeopardize a 'B' Recreation player's eligibility based on Section III B. 5 "Teams shall have no more than four (4) players who have participated with a **travel type team** at any time after February 1st of the current year.
20. Shall not allow the team to compete in any tournament in which cash prizes are awarded.
21. Is required to turn into Southern California ASA, player agreement forms and championship roster by the scheduled deadline dates in order to be eligible for Championship Play.
22. Violation of any of the above may result in suspension or disqualification.

MANAGER AND COACH COMMITMENT TO THE PLAYERS

1. Shall put the welfare of their athletes above all else and will maintain a professional relationship with them.
2. Will encourage the players to exhibit sportsmanship at all times.
3. Will treat the players with dignity and respect at all times.
4. Understand that the manager and coaches are role models for their young player and should project a good example for them to follow.
5. Will be truthful about their playing situation with the team when recruiting a player.

MANAGER AND COACH COMMITMENT TO THE ORGANIZATION, UMPIRES AND OTHER COACHES

Shall always, by their actions on and off the field, be a credit to the team and ASA.

Will treat ASA officials, umpires and all coaches in a professional and respectful manner both on and off the field.

PLAYER AGREEMENT

Jr. Olympic Team Manager must mail the completed top white copy of the form to the team's Age Group **Commissioner** and the form must be **RECEIVED** before the team's first game or June 1st, whichever occurs first. (**Exception:** GOLD Player Agreements due June 15th)

If Player Agreements are not received by the deadline date, the team will not be eligible for Championship Play.

10 & 12-Under team deadline to turn in Player Agreements is May 15th of the current year. If Player Agreements are not turned in by May 15th, the team may not be eligible for Championship Play.

Players understand that they may play on only one ASA team during the current season. If player quits this team, they will be ineligible as a pick-up player and ineligible to compete on another ASA team, unless released by manager pursuant to Southern California ASA Code.

Players may appeal to the Southern California ASA Jr. Olympic Commissioner for Travel, if they leave a team for just cause without a release. Once a team has entered Championship Play, will not be considered per National Code

Players are automatically released from a team if the team is out of Championship Play after July 15th, changes age classification or the seven (7) day withdrawal rule is applied. Players agree to obey all ASA Codes and Rules (available from team manager or membership in ASA Players Association) including but not limited to the following:

1. Players shall not be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct or any other acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of ASA.
2. Players shall not recruit player(s) who are rostered on any other ASA team(s) to leave their team and play for any other ASA team.

3. Players shall accept the manager's decision and changes concerning their playing position and the amount of time they will play in any game or tournament.
4. Within fifteen (15) days of being released from a team, players shall return all team uniforms and team equipment to the manager in good condition except for normal wear. Failure to do so will render player ineligible in ASA until items are returned or manager is reimbursed.
5. Players understand they are given a seven (7) day period from the date the Player Agreement Form is received by the Age Group **Commissioner** to withdraw from that team without release from the manager.
6. Players understand that **July 1st** or the start of Championship Play, whichever occurs first, is the deadline to be released from a Travel Team to compete in Championship Play with another ASA team this season.
7. Players understand that unless otherwise agreed in writing, any time or money is given of their own free will and becomes the property of the team. The manager shall provide the player/parent/guardian a pre-season budget and a final itemized and accurate financial accounting at the end of ASA Championship Play.

TEAM MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

PLAYER ADD OR RELEASE

Players in the Jr. Olympic program can be added to or released from the roster until **July 1st** unless they have entered Championship Play.

Prior to entering Championship Play to add or release a player the team must:

To add a player, a Player Agreement Form must be sent to the Age Group Commissioner prior to the roster change deadline or entering Championship Play, whichever comes first.

To release a player, the manager must sign the release section of the Player Agreement Form and mail it to their Age Group Commissioner before the roster change deadline or entering Championship Play, whichever comes first.

After entering Championship Play to add or release a player the team must:

To add a player the Pick-up Players rules must be followed.

To release a player the team must complete the drop player form and submit it to the Age Group Commissioner for review and approval. The player may only be dropped from the Championship roster upon approval of the Age Group Commissioner. As any dropped player's eligibility to continue in Championship Play is very restricted, the drop form **MUST** be provided to the player and her parents and should be signed by the player and the player's parent.

TRAVEL PERMITS

Travel permits are no longer required by ASA.

CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT ROSTER

The roster must be mailed to the Age Group Commissioner. Before the Commissioner or his designated representative signs a Championship Roster, the Jr. Olympic teams' Player Agreement Forms must be on file with the Age Group Commissioner. **Rosters are frozen** once the team competes in Championship Play.

RETURNING TEAMS

To be an eligible returning team you must meet the returning team requirements as listed in the ASA National Code. Eligible teams must send the Official Tournament Entry Request Form and completed roster to your Age Group Commissioner for verification and Commissioner's signature prior to **July 1st**.

PICK-UP PLAYERS

A player is a pick-up player if she did not participate with that team during the season. Pick-up players may be selected from teams no longer eligible for Championship Play. **Note:** Pick-up players are not allowed in National Qualifiers. A maximum of three (3) players may be added as follows:

1. Pick-up players must sign an official Pick-up Player Form signed by the team manager and the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Junior Olympic Commissioner or Age Group Commissioner. If the player is under 18 years old their parent or legal guardian must also sign.
2. Pick-up players must have played on a Southern California ASA registered team during the current season. **Exception:** Jr. Olympic 'Gold' pick-up players may come from ASA registered teams within the region that are no longer eligible for Championship Play.
3. Pick-up players may be from the same or lower classification at any level of Championship Play, as long as the player's original team is no longer eligible or did not enter Championship tournaments.
4. Jr. Olympic players no longer eligible for Jr. Olympic Championship Play are eligible to be pick-up players for Adult Major or 'A' teams. Adult and Jr. Olympic players whose teams have qualified for a National Tournament are **NOT** eligible as pick-up players.
5. A pick-up player who participated in a tournament with a team that is no longer eligible cannot be a pick-up player for another team that is still eligible in the same tournament or any other Championship Play.
6. A pick-up player may not be substituted for after participation.
7. A player that **quits** a team still in Championship Play will not be an eligible pick-up player on any other ASA team during the current season.
8. Team personnel shall not recruit or entice players and/or parents that have signed an ASA Player Agreement Form to change teams. This includes any player currently playing on a team in ASA Jr. Olympic Recreation League Championship Play. This policy is in effect until **July 15th** or when a team is no longer eligible for Championship Play, whichever last occurs.

CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

ADMINISTRATION

The ASA Commissioner shall determine playing sites, dates, deadlines and entry fees. The Age Group Commissioner will conduct Jr. Olympic Championship Tournaments.

ENTRY FEES

Entry fees may be paid by check or money order and **must be received** by the deadline date. A \$25.00 fee will be charged for any check returned for non-sufficient funds or account closed. A money order, cashier's check, or cash for the amount of the check plus the \$25.00 must be paid before a team may re-enter Championship Play.

ENTRY FEE REFUND

The Team Manager **MUST** notify your Age Group Commissioner immediately upon qualifying for an ASA National Championship or if the team disbands. You **MUST** notify your Age Group Commissioner not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the bracket draw or the entry fee is forfeited. **NOTE:** A team that disbands is no longer eligible for Championship Play and all team players are released. The Tournament Refund Request Form must be sent to the address listed on the form by the designated deadline date before a refund can be made.

ADVANCING IN CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

Once a team has participated in their "A" State Tournament that team is committed to attend the Western National. If the Tournament Form and fee are not received by the Age Group Commissioner within 72 hours of the completion of the tournament, **ALL PLAYERS ARE RELEASED** from the team and are eligible as pick-up players. If the team has qualified for the Regional Tournament the fee must be paid at the State Tournament.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

ASA Tournament Directors and other ASA officials are responsible for the enforcement of all ASA and tournament rules and regulations. They are empowered to remove any manager, player, coach, team and/or spectator from the tournament for violations of the ASA Code or Southern California Rules and Regulations. All decisions regarding the removal of a manager, coach, player, spectator, or team from the entire tournament and possible suspension from Southern California ASA will be the responsibility of the ASA Tournament Officials.

TOURNAMENT UMPIRES

Each umpire selected for a Championship tournament has attended the ASA annual Rules Seminar and Mechanics Clinics and has passed a written rules test. The tournament Umpire-In-Chief is responsible for game assignments, protests involving playing rules and any other activities deemed necessary by the Tournament Director. Game umpires, the tournament Umpire-In-Chief and/or the Tournament Director have the authority to remove (out of sight and sound) any manager, coach, players or spectator for abusive language, physically charging, bumping, shoving, striking, or threatening to strike an umpire, player, manager or coach.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT RULES

ASA Codes and Playing Rules will apply as outlined in the current ASA Official Rules of Softball with the following exceptions and clarifications:

1. Championship Tournaments shall be double elimination. **Exception:** Restrictive double elimination where two (2) National berths are to be awarded.
2. Teams having a berth to Nationals may enter any tournament that qualifies the winner to National Championship **only** if they forfeit their existing berth to Nationals.
3. Player uniform requirements shall be enforced as listed in the ASA National Code.
4. Teams must check in with an ASA Tournament Director one (1) hour before their first scheduled game time.
5. It is the responsibility of the team manager to check with an ASA Official during a tournament to verify any possible changes in the scheduled time or field location.
6. Southern California ASA official line-up sheets must be used.
7. The home team shall be decided by a coin toss at the pre-game meeting with the umpires.
8. Game balls will be supplied by Southern California ASA and are the only balls allowed in the tournament. If violated, the pitcher and head coach will be removed from the game. If the violation occurs again, the team at fault will forfeit the game.
9. The team listed on the top of the bracket sheet shall occupy the 3rd base dugout. **Exception:** A team playing a back-to-back game on the same field shall stay in the same dugout.
10. If no official scorekeeper is available, the home team shall be the official scorer.
11. No batting or infield practice will be allowed on the game field, between the foul lines.
12. In case of a disputed play or decision, only the manager may consult the game umpires. Other players, coaches or sponsors are to be kept out of the discussion.
13. Team managers must have full control of their players and coaching staff both on and off the field. Team managers are responsible for the actions of team followers at the tournament.
14. No artificial noisemakers of any type will be allowed in Southern California ASA Championship Play.
15. Playing rule protests will be settled prior to the next pitch.
16. Fifteen (15) run ahead rule after three (3) innings, twelve (12) run ahead rule after four (4) innings, or eight (8) run ahead rule after five (5) innings shall be in effect.
17. A 1-hour and 30 minute time limit will be in effect. **Exception:** The 10U Division time limit shall be 1 hour 15 minutes PLUS one inning.
18. A tiebreaker rule will begin in the eighth (8th) inning or after the time limit has expired.
19. At no time shall any player, coach or manager be allowed to drink alcoholic beverages or smoke on the field, inside or outside of the dugout. The use, possession, or sale of alcohol is forbidden at all Jr. Olympic events.

TRAVEL TEAM DEADLINE DATES

10U AND 12U

May 15th	ASA Registration Deadline	All team members must be ASA registered to participate in Championship Play.
May 15th	(State) Championship Tournament Entry Deadline	Tournament Entry Form must be received on/ or before the deadline date to play in the Southern California Championship.
May 15th	Player Agreement Form Deadline	Player Agreement Forms must be received on or before the deadline date. Mail to your Age Group Commissioner.
June 1st or Prior to	Championship Roster	Prior to Championship Play the roster must be completed and signed by the Age Group Commissioner.

14U, 16U, 18U

June 1st	ASA Registration Deadline	All team members must be ASA registered to participate in Championship Play.
May 15th	(State) Championship Tournament Entry Deadline	Tournament Entry Forms must be received on or before the deadline date to play in the Southern California Championship Tournament.
June 1st	Player Agreements/Championship Roster Form Deadline	Player Agreement Forms and Roster must be received on or before the deadline date. Mail to your Age Group Commissioner.
July 1st	Roster Change Deadline 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18-Under	Teams that have not participated in Championship Play with the exception of teams not winning a National Qualifier may add or release players on or before the deadline date. The changes must be received by your Age Group Commissioner.

GOLD

June 1st	ASA Registration Deadline	All managers and coaches must be ASA registered to participate in Championship Play.
June 1st	Player Registration Deadline	All players must be ASA registered to participate in Championship Play.
June 1st	Player Agreements	Player Agreement Forms must be received on or before the deadline date. Mail to your Age Group Commissioner.
	Championship Tournament Entry Championship Roster Roster Change Deadline	Due as set forth in the Regional handbook. Due as set forth by ASA code. As set forth by ASA code.

2008 JR. OLYMPIC (STATE) CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

10U Championship	May 24-26	Hemet
12U Championship	May 24-26	Hemet
14U Championship	June 6-8	Menifee
16U Championship	June 20-22	TBA
18U Championship	June 27-29	TBA

PACIFIC COAST REGION TOURNAMENTS

Jr. Olympic teams must obtain National Tournament Entry Forms for the tournaments listed below. Send the National Tournament Entry Form to your Age Group Commissioner.

10U National Qualifier	July 4-6	TBA
12U National Qualifier	July 4-6	Stockton
14U National Qualifier	July 4-6	So Cal
16U National Qualifier	July 4-6	Roseville
18U National Qualifier	July 4-6	Hayward
18U Gold Territory	June 28-29	Stockton
18U Gold Regional	June 20-22	Lancaster
10U Regional	July 11-13	Nor Cal
12U Regional	July 11-13	Nor Cal
14U Regional	July 11-13	Clovis
16U Regional	July 11-13	Las Vegas, NV
18U Regional	July 11-13	Roseville

OKLAHOMA CITY HALL OF FAME QUALIFIER

One (1) team from each 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U will qualify from the Hall of Fame Qualifiers.

12U Hall of Fame Qualifier	May 17-18	Clovis
14U Hall of Fame Qualifier	May 24-25	Sacramento
16U Hall of Fame Qualifier	June 7-8	Stockton
18U Hall of Fame Qualifier	June 7-8	So Cal

Winner will advance to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Tournament in Oklahoma City.

The top 8 teams will qualify for Nationals

HALL OF FAME TOURNAMENT DATES

12U	June 6-8	Oklahoma City
14U	June 13-15	Oklahoma City
16U	June 20-22	Oklahoma City
18U	June 27-29	Oklahoma City

USA/ASA GIRLS CLASS 'A' FAST PITCH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Teams qualify for Nationals by winning a National Qualifier, Region, top eight (8) finishers from the Oklahoma City Hall of Fame, Southern California Championship 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. The 18U Gold teams qualify by placing in a Sector Qualifier or Regional. Teams not participating in Regional events are not eligible to be a fill-in team.

2008 USA/ASA GIRLS CLASS 'A' FAST PITCH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

10U	July 27- Aug 3	Bloomington, IN
12U	July 27- Aug 3	Montgomery, AL
14U	July 27- Aug 3	Midland, TX
16U	July 27- Aug 3	Owensboro, KY
18U	July 27- Aug 3	Moline, IL
GOLD	August 3-10	Oklahoma City, OK

2008 ASA GIRLS CLASS 'A' WESTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Teams qualify for the ASA Girls Class A Fast Pitch Western National Championship Tournaments through their participation in the Southern California Championship.

10U	July 30-Aug 3	Phoenix, AZ
12U	July 30-Aug 3	Phoenix, AZ
14U	July 30-Aug 3	Clovis, CA
16U	July 30-Aug 3	Portland, OR
18U	July 30-Aug 3	Seattle, WA

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What are National Qualifiers?

A: Each of the 15 Regions has one National Qualifier in each age group. Any team may enter and the winner goes to Nationals.

Q: How do I qualify for the ASA Western National Championship?

A: You must first participate in the So Cal Championship Tournament. If you do not qualify in a Regional Tournament or the USA/ASA Girls Class A Fast Pitch National Championship, you will then qualify for the ASA Girls Class A Fast Pitch Western National Championship.

Q: Will I need a Travel Permit to enter a National Qualifier in another state?

A: No, however, your team must have an Official Tournament Entry Form signed by the Age Group Commissioner, J.O. Commissioner or Commissioner. This form can be obtained from your Age Group Commissioner. You will still need a Travel Permit to participate in an Invitational Tournament outside of Southern California ASA.

Q: Can I talk with a player who is signed with another team?

A: If you know her personally, it is acceptable to discuss anything but playing on your softball team.

Q: Can I talk to this player about softball?

A: Not if it relates to her playing on your ASA team.

Q: What should I do when approached by a signed player, her parent or friend about leaving her team and joining another or mine ASA team?

A: Explain that she needs a signed release from her manager before she can talk to you or another ASA manager or coach.

Q: What if she (or they) tells me her manager will not release her?

A: Explain that there are two ways to be released: (1) by the team manager or; (2) by appealing to the ASA Review Board, if she has just cause. Tell her (them) to write a brief note to Lorrie Ivie, Director of the Players Association. Her address is listed in the staff section in this Yellow Book.

Q: What if she (or they) continues to talk to me about her dilemma?

A: Refer to the previous answer.

Q: Can I get a list of other ASA Travel Teams in my age group?

A: Yes, ASA team managers have a team list in their membership packet or contact Age Group Commissioner for most current list.

Q: Is a Manager and Coach one in the same in ASA?

A: No, the manager is responsible for the affairs of the team. This position has the final say in team decisions. Umpires will only address questions or problems from the manager.

Q: What is a Jr. Olympic 'B' or 'C' All-Star Tournament?

A: Jr. Olympic 'B'/'C' is the recreation league level, less competitive than 'A'. The 'B'/'C' leagues select All-Star Teams to compete in the 'B'/'C' Championship Tournaments. This program is 85% to 90% of Southern California's total Jr. Olympic registrations. It is the foundation of our program and the reason we have extra berths for Nationals.

Q: What is the Players Association all about?

A: It is Southern California ASA's avenue to inform players and parents and to get their feedback about improving the player's part in the ASA program. Southern California ASA Player's Association also provides scholarships to local players each year. Visit www.Socalasa-playersassoc.org