



2015 ASA Code Changes with Comments as of November 20, 2014

NOTE: All changes below are EFFECTIVE January 1, 2015 unless otherwise noted.

Article Number Article 103 A

Change

A. To promote amateur softball for all persons regardless of race, color, creed, religion, **age**, sex, sexual orientation, **disability**, **veteran status**, national origin or ancestry.

Comments: Updates the objectives non-discrimination statement for ASA/USA Softball.

Article 301 C 02 c 5

05. All men's fast pitch players and or teams may participate in all men's fast pitch national championships that they are eligible for and retain their eligibility for their original classification in championship play for the current year.

Comments: Eliminates restrictions for men's fast pitch players and teams to participate in National Championship play.

Article 303 A 04

04. Pick up players must be from the team's same or lower classification.

Exception: Players who are age eligible may be picked up by a lower age classification team.

CLARIFICATION: In Junior Olympic play there two types of classification, one type of classification is Gold, Class A and Class B; the other type of classification is age classification, 18-Under, 16-Under, 14-Under, 12-Under and 10-Under. Therefore as an example, a player who has competed on a Junior Olympic Girls' Fast Pitch 16-Under team is ~~not~~ an eligible pick-up player for any team below the 16-Under age classification **if she meets that age cut off**. Another example, once a player participates on a Class A team, they are not eligible to participate in Class B even if moving up in the age classification.

Comments: Updates the eligibility options of pick up players.

Article 303 A 09

~~09. Junior Olympic GOLD and Class A players who compete on adult teams as pick-up players are only eligible to be picked up for Major or Class A teams.~~

Comments: Removes restrictions on where a female fast pitch player can be a pick up player.

Article 305 E 6, 7, & 8

New

- 6. Bullying, hazing, harassment (including sexual harassment), emotional misconduct – two (2) year minimum**
- 7. Physical misconduct – five (5) year minimum**
- 8. Sexual misconduct (including child sexual abuse) – ten (10) year minimum**

Comments: Establishes additional minimum penalties under Acts of Suspension.

Article 306 A

New and Re-letter

Men's 21-Under Slow Pitch

Comments: Creates a Men's 21-under Slow Pitch division of play.



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Article Number Article 307 H 01

Change

NOTE: Players that have no ASA playing history should be handled in the following manner. If a track record of a player can be verified in another National Association that player can be classified at that level or **within a half of a playing classification. The higher classification level from any association will set the base standard for ranking, within a two (2) year time frame.**

Comments: Establishes how players are classified who do not have an ASA player rating.

Article 307 H 03 a

Teams. A team that wins two or more games in a double elimination bracket, or three or more games in a three game bracket, excluding forfeits, in a National Championship Final may not participate in a lower classification in the same division of championship play during their next ASA playing season unless they played in the highest classification. **Those players currently classified shall be moved to a (+) level. Those already classified one level higher would not be affected by this change.** A team that has four or more players on a roster, including pick-ups, from such a team shall be considered the same team.

Comments: Establishes how players are classified whose teams do well in championship play.

Article 308 A

Local Association Championships

Exception: All Adult Slow Pitch.

Comments: Establishes an exception for Local associations who run adult Local Association Championships.

Article 309 C 04 a

Boys Slow Pitch. These national championships finals shall be scheduled and approved by the Executive Director.

Comments: Establishes a process of scheduling the Boys Slow Pitch National Championship.

Article 309 C 04 f

Boys Fast Pitch. These National Championship finals shall be scheduled as per approval of the Boy's and Men's Fast Pitch Committee.

Comments: Establishes a process of scheduling the Boys Fast Pitch National Championship.

Article 310 C

Barrel Compression Testing Machine. An ASA approved barrel compression testing machine shall be used **at all ASA National Championship Finals.**

Exception: Men's 16 Inch **and Senior** Slow Pitch National Championship Finals.

Comments: Establishes where the barrel compression testing will take place.

Article 310 P

New

EXCEPTION: In the ASA /USA Girls' 10-Under Class A Fast Pitch National Championship Finals the Championship and "if" game will be a two (2) hour time limit.

Comments: Establishes a new time limit for the championship and "if" game for the ASA/USA Girls 10-Under Class A.



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Article Number

Change

Article 311 A 01 p-t

Pool Play Bracket. New and Re-letter

p. Junior Olympic Boys	10-Under Fast Pitch
q. Junior Olympic Boys	12-Under Fast Pitch
r. Junior Olympic Boys	14-Under Fast Pitch
s. Junior Olympic Boys	16-Under Fast Pitch
t. Junior Olympic Boys	18-Under Fast Pitch

Comments: Establishes that the Boys Fast Pitch will use pool play with a double elimination bracket.

Article 311 A 04 q, r

Three Game Guarantee Bracket. New q and r

q. Women's	Class C Slow Pitch
r. Women's	Class D Slow Pitch

Comments: Establishes the bracket to be used for Women's Class C and D Slow Pitch.

Article 313 O

O. Unused Berths. In the event that Regions are unable to fill National Qualifier berths, the berths will be redistributed within that territory.

Comments: Establishes a procedure of redistributing unused berths from national qualifiers.

Article 314 G

G. Unused Berths. In the event that Regions are unable to fill Regional Qualifier berths, the berths will be redistributed within that territory.

Comments: Establishes a procedure of redistributing unused berths from regional qualifiers.

Article 315 F 01

01. National Gold Qualifying Tournaments. Each territory shall host National Gold Qualifying Tournaments (NGQT's) with an allotment of berths based on previous year's participation in the Gold program. Berths within a territory will be equally distributed. Only Regions within a territory that have Gold teams will be allowed to host NGQT's. By mutual agreement, regions within a territory will set the dates for their NGQT's. If no agreement can be reached, the region with the most Gold participation will set their date first followed the region with the next highest participation. If a region declines to host an NGQT, the opportunity to host an NGQT will be passed on to the next qualifying region within the territory. This process will continue until dates for all NGQT's have been established.

Comments: Establishes a procedure for assigning National Gold Qualifying Tournaments within a territory.

Article 315 F 04

04. Tournament Entry Procedures. NGQT's may accept entries at any time after the event is listed on the ASA website.

Comments: Establishes a procedure for accepting registrations for National Gold Qualifying Tournaments.



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Article Number Article 315 09

Change

09. Awarding of Berths. Weather permitting, teams must participate in order to receive a berth. If a tournament has fewer entries than the number of berths, then the number of berths will be reduced for that tournament. The number of berths that can be awarded shall always be at least 1 less than the number of teams who have entered the NGQT. Berths shall be based on the number allowed by code for each territory and by the number of teams participating in the NGQT: 3 or less teams = 1 berth, 4-8 teams = 2 berths, 9-12 teams = 3 berths, more than 12 teams = 4 berths. Territories will retain the option to offer less berths at their NGQT's but cannot offer more berths than the code allows, Unused berths will revert back to the National Office for distribution based on Article 315 Letter F 07.

Comments: Establishes a procedure for awarding berths to the GOLD National Championship.

Article 316 G 01

Men's Class D Exception: Additional Territory National Championships may be held with approval of the council members of the affected territory.

Comments: Establishes a procedure for having an additional National Championship in Men's Class D.

Article 316 G 02

Men's Class E Exception: Additional Territory National Championships may be held with approval of the council members of the affected territory.

Comments: Establishes a procedure for having an additional National Championship in Men's Class E.

Article 317 I

USA Softball Men's National Championship Series

I. Fill-in Procedure. Any berths that a Territory National Championship cannot fill can be filled by going to the Championships with the largest number of teams entered.

Comments: Establishes a fill in procedure for the USA Softball Men's National Championship Series.