USA Softball
GOLD Nationals 18u

Pre-Tournament Packet

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

July 19 – July 25, 2020
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Players, Coaches, and Families,

Congratulations on earning a berth to the 2020 USA Softball GOLD Nationals 18u Division! Your team is recognized as one of the top fastpitch softball teams in the country and USA Softball believes you have earned that recognition. GOLD Nationals gives your athletes the opportunity to showcase their abilities in front of college coaches and even members of the National Teams Selection Committee. We are excited to host your team at the Softball Capital of the World® and being able to share our newly renovated complex!

The USA Softball GOLD Nationals 18u Division will be hosted July 19 – 25 in Oklahoma City, Okla. at the National Hall of Fame Complex. The tournament will be a five-game guarantee consisting of three pool play games and double-elimination bracket play. There will be a blind-draw for Pool Play & Bracket Play. To participate in this event, your team will need to register with your local association and make sure you have all documents in place which will be explained in this packet. Every adult that plans to be assisting the team in the dugout or on the field must complete a background check and SafeSport Training. In addition, at least one coach must have ACE Certification completed.

You will find important information in this packet including things to do in OKC, hotel accommodations, medical centers, team check-in, and more. We will be using a secondary complex, Wildhorse Park, located in Mustang, Okla. and will be working to make sure every team plays at the Hall of Fame Complex. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee every team will play on the Stadium Field.

We look forward to your participation in this prestigious softball event presented by USA Softball, the National Governing Body of Softball in the United States. Additional information can be found at www.teamusa.org or by contacting Julie Whiteaker at (405) 425-3446; jwhiteaker@usasoftball.com.

Respectfully,

Julie Whiteaker

Julie Whiteaker
USA Softball
Tournament Director
Tournament Information (A-Z)

Tournament Name: 2020 – 18u GOLD National Championship

Location: Hall of Fame Complex  Wild Horse Park
          2801 N.E 50th Street  1201 N. Mustang Road
          Oklahoma City, OK 73111  Mustang, OK 73064

Dates: July 19th – 25th, 2020 *26th used as rainout/makeup day*

Website: www.usasoftball.com

Entry Fee: $1800 per team – Checks payable to ‘USA Softball’
Mail entry fee to the Tournament Director (address below).
Or call (405) 425-3446

Entry Deadline: Wednesday, July 1st, 2020

Tournament Format: 5 game Guarantee – 3 pool play games with Double Elimination Bracket.
Pool Play placement will affect blind draw for Bracket Play.

Tournament Director: Julie Whiteaker
                      2801 N.E. 50TH Street
                      Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111
                      (405) 425-3446 (Office)
                      jwhiteaker@usasoftball.com

Housing Director: Nick Dorety
                  2801 N.E. 50TH Street
                  Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111
                  (405) 425-3422 (Office)
                  ndorety@usasoftball.com

Note: This is not a stay and play event!
**Dates / Deadlines**

**Wednesday, July 1st:** All required items are due by July 1st.

*Please send to Julie Whiteaker*

- Register USA Softball
- Insurance, Background Check (all adults), SafeSport Certification (all adults), ACE Training (1 Coach)
- Entry Fee $1800
- USA Softball Official Tournament Entry Form
  Signed by Commissioner (or designee).
- USA Softball Official Championship Roster
  Signed by Commissioner (or designee).

**Saturday, July 11-19th**

**Team/Player Check-In:** The manager of each team must check their team in by contacting the appropriate representative. You will schedule a time with your representative virtually.

- **Regions 1 & 2** – Rich Cress rcress@usasoftball.com; (405) 425-3422
- **Regions 3 & 4** – Megan Schallom mschallom@usasoftball.com; (405) 425-3476
- **Region 5 (Oklahoma/New Mexico)** – Chris Sebren csebren@usasoftball.com; (405) 425-3432
- **Region 5 (Texas)** – Andrea McKee amckee@usasoftball.com; (405) 425-3463
- **Regions 6 & 7** – Julie Whiteaker jwhiteaker@usasoftball.com; (405) 425-3446
- **Regions 8 & 9** – Codi Warren cwarren@usasoftball.com; (405) 425-3431
- **Region 10** – Destinee Martinez – dmartinez@usasoftball.com; (909) 702-0324

Due at the team check-in time:
- USA Softball Pick-Up/Release Player form (if any)
  Signed by Commissioner (or designee).

**Player Check-In:** Each teams’ players must check in before they participate in the tournament. Please have your team line in the exact order as they are listed on the championship roster. Pick-up players will be at the end of your line. Each player will present their photo ID and sign the official sign-in sheet virtually with the respective representative.

**Thursday, July 16th**

**Pool Play Blind Draw:** The blind draw will be done virtually at 4:00pm CT - [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81111367919](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81111367919)
Sunday, July 19th

Bat Testing: All bats must be tested and stickered prior to game use. Any player using a bat that has not been tested could be subject to ejection from the game or tournament. Umpires will also be checking to make sure bats meet regulations outlined in the USAS Official Rules of Softball Rule 3 Section 1.

Coaches / Managers Meeting: Meeting starts at 5:00 pm via ZOOM. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88251459901. One representative from each team must be present.

Player Party: CANCELED

Monday, July 20th

Pool Play: Each team will play three pool play games. Play will begin Monday morning at 8 am. You must participate in your pool games or you will be eliminated from bracket play. Pool games will NOT seed into bracket.

Tuesday, July 21st

Pool Play: Pool play continues at 8am.

Wednesday, July 22nd

Bracket Play: Bracket play starts at 8am.

Thursday, July 23rd

Bracket Play: Bracket play continues starting at 8am.

Friday, July 24th

Bracket Play: Bracket play continues starting at 8am.

Saturday, July 25th

Bracket Play: Championship Day, bracket play concludes.

Sunday, July 26th:

Reserved for weather delays. Travel day for the teams.
Tournament Information (A to Z)

Admission / Gate Passes: There will be NO gate fee. There will be precautionary bag checks. We are allowing one ice chest per team.

Badges: All coaches or team personnel must visually display their USA Softball badges with proof of background check and SafeSport per USA Softball Code. Badges must be worn.

Concessions: Concessions will be operating from the start of the tournament until the end of the last game. **No outside food or drinks will be allowed.** Water with cups will be available for players in each dugout. They will be changed after each game.

*Note that this destination can reach temperatures well over 90 degrees this time of year. Plan accordingly and stay hydrated!*

Conduct: Managers and coaches are asked to have complete control of their players on and off the field in accordance with Article 310N of the USA Softball Procedural Code.

Dugouts: First/Top team will be in the 3rd base dugout; Second/bottom team will be in the 1st base dugout, unless dugouts are already occupied from a previous game.

Equipment Confiscation: Any piece of equipment found during a game to be unsafe, or not meeting USA Softball standards, will be confiscated by the umpire to tournament officials and held safely until the team is eliminated from the tournament.

Format: 3 Pool games then double-elimination bracket per USA Softball Procedural Code. **Pool Play placement will affect blind draw for Bracket Play.**

Game Changer: We use Game Changer to keep scores of all games. Fans from home will be able to follow live play-by-play and real time stats online. **We are NOT using for official stats.** Please do not approach the scorekeepers to ask about specific plays.
## Tournament Information (A to Z)

**Game Schedule:** Pool play games will be posted online no later than Friday, July 17\(^{th}\) by 5pm CT. Teams are protected from playing someone from their own Association (where possible) per USA Softball Procedural Code.

**Game Times:** Please follow the times listed on the official tournament bracket. Game time is forfeit time. Teams should be ready to start a game immediately after the preceding game is completed. The Tournament Director reserves the right to reassign fields to keep the tournament on schedule.

**Housing:** If you have any questions please contact Nick Dorety ndorety@usasoftball.com or (405) 425-3422. *This is not a stay to play event.*

**Inclement Weather:** In the event of inclement weather, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was suspended. It is the manager’s responsibility to contact the Tournament Director for rainout information. In the case of an evacuation, everyone in the park should take their belongings and go to their cars.

*Please be sure to sign up to receive text messages from TournamentUSASoftball. This will be the first place that weather information will be sent from. Also follow @USASoftball on Twitter for live updates.*

**Line Drills:** Line drills cannot be on the infield until the Field Crew has completely exited the field.

**Warm-Up Areas:** Teams may use the space beyond the outfield temporary fence and hitting tunnels for warmups and long as they are not being used by the teams playing at that time. Pitchers are not allowed to warm up on the grass. The warning track and dirt areas are acceptable.

**Refund Policy:** Upon request for refund, you will be issued a 50% refund until June 20\(^{th}\). After this date, there will be no refunds unless we are able to fill your spot.
Tournament Information (A to Z)

Line-Up Forms/Coin Toss: Tournament officials will provide line-up forms for each game. The team packet, that you will receive at check-in, will have 5 line-up forms. Beginning with your 6th game, each team will pick-up their line-up form from the scorekeeper’s table. The line-up form should be returned to the scorekeeper no less than 30 minutes prior to the game time. The coin toss will be done at this time to determine Home/Visitor of their game.

Medical: We will have medical staff at the complex. Medical staff will be located on the 3rd base concourse down the left field line. Off-site Urgent Care facilities are located on a map in the back of the packet.

Parking: There will be no charge for parking.

Playing Rules: All playing rules and regulations will be in accordance with the USA Softball Official Rules of Softball, 2020.


Souvenirs: Souvenirs will be available at the museum/gift shop including tournament shirts.

Team Practices: Mustang Parks & Rec  Oklahoma City Parks & Rec
(405) 376-3411  (405) 297-2211

Time Limit: POOL GAMES: The time limit will be one hour and twenty minutes (1:20) and finish the inning. Then play one additional inning, or half Inning if the home team is ahead.

BRACKET GAMES: There is no time limit. 7 innings will be played.

Tobacco Products: Smoking and tobacco products are not allowed on USA Softball property. This includes E-cigarettes.

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Parks Rules and Regulations

The USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium - OGE Energy Field is widely regarded as the finest softball facility in the nation. With four fields and other world class amenities, the Stadium has played host to the best softball competition in the world, including USA teams that represent the nation in international competitions and it is the home of the NCAA Women’s College World Series.

USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium - OGE Energy Field Event Policies

All guests may be subject to search, at USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium - OGE Energy Field discretion, of their personal and/or possessions (including women's handbags of normal size that may be allowed entry after such a search). Patrons with prohibited articles will be turned away at the entrances and no storage or "check area" will be provided for such items. Enforcement will be without exceptions.

- No hitting or soft toss into fences.
- No person shall destroy, damage, or deface any complex property.
- All users are expected to leave the complex clean and orderly. Please help us by putting your trash in the receptacles.
- Animals are NOT allowed in the complex. We welcome service dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. The provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort or companionship is not the type of “work or tasks” considered in the ADA’s definition of a service animal. (28 C.F.R./35.104; 28 C.F.R./35.136)
HOTEL TOURNAMENT PARTNERS

The hotels on the Meetingmax housing website are all members of the USA Softball Hall of Fame Complex Hotel Partners program. All of those chosen are affordable hotels located near the USA Softball Hall of Fame Complex and the National Softball Hall of Fame, and are members of the Oklahoma City Convention & Visitors Bureau.

To see the upcoming events and the available hotels for each event please go to the following link:
www.hofcomplexhotels.com

If you have any questions regarding the reservations process or would like assistance with booking your rooms, please contact Nick Dorety at 405-425-3422 or email ndorety@usasoftball.com.

We hope you enjoy your stay in Oklahoma City!

A  Country Inn & Suites (Oklahoma City)
   14.3 miles, 15 minutes

B  Courtyard by Marriott (Airport)
   12.5 miles, 14 minutes

C  Courtyard by Marriott (Oklahoma City)
   6.7 miles, 10 minutes

D  DoubleTree by Hilton (Airport)
   13 miles, 17 minutes

E  Embassy Suites (Oklahoma City)
   12.9 miles, 16 minutes

F  Embassy Suites (Oklahoma City)
   5.3 miles, 9 minutes

G  Fairfield Inn & Suites (Oklahoma City)
   12.9 miles, 17 minutes

H  Hampton Inn (Oklahoma City)
   7.4 miles, 11 minutes

I  Hilton Garden Inn (Oklahoma City)
   6.6 miles, 10 minutes

J  Hilton Garden Inn (Oklahoma City)
   14 miles, 17 minutes

K  Residence Inn (Oklahoma City)
   6.4 miles, 12 minutes

L  TownePlace Suites (Airport)
   12.9 miles, 15 minutes

M  Wyndham Garden (Airport)
   13.1 miles, 16 minutes

Letters beside hotel information correspond to the locations on the map on the back of this page.
Medical Locations in OKC/Mustang

If you’re playing at the USA Softball Complex, we recommend…

SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital OKC
7.9 miles – Est. 12-minute drive
1000 N Lee Ave,
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
(405) 272-7000

OU Children’s Hospital
5 miles – Est. 11-minute drive
1200 Children’s Ave
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
(405) 271-2244

If you’re playing at the Wildhorse Complex, we recommend…

SSM Health St. Anthony Healthplex Mustang
2.3 miles – Est. 7-minute drive
201 S Sara Rd
Mustang, OK 73064
(405) 578-3200

Premier Plus Urgent Care Mustang
3.6 miles – Est. 7-minute drive
1616 S Mustang Rd
Yukon, Oklahoma 73099
(405) 256-0501
Things to do in Oklahoma City

Come to Remember at the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum

If you’ve never made it inside of the Oklahoma City National Memorial or it’s been years since your last visit, it’s worth a stop when you’re in town. The Memorial recently went through a $10 million renovation upgrading the museum with state-of-the-art technology, hands-on exhibits and new artifacts. Detailed information on the investigation—including Timothy McVeigh’s vehicle he was driving when he was pulled over and arrested—as well as the trail of evidence that was left behind, are all a part of the new enhancements. Also added to the museum is a 40-foot glass overlook creating a seamless connection between the museum and memorial outside, with stunning views of the ever-changing Oklahoma City skyline.

Experience OKC's Newest Urban Park

Scissortail Park is Oklahoma City's newest 40-acre outdoor recreation space just steps away from the core of downtown Oklahoma City. Stroll through the gardens and groves, relax on the lawn, catch a concert or live performance, play like a kid on the Children's Playground and get on the water with pedal boat, kayak and standup board rentals from the Boathouse.
Escape to a Tropical Oasis

The Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory at the Myriad Botanical Gardens in downtown OKC offers a unique design that has earned global attention and praise. It is 224 feet long, 70 feet in diameter and is covered by 3,028 translucent acrylic panels. Once inside, you’ll be welcomed by two distinct climates, some 750 varieties of plants and a cascading waterfall. It’s a beautiful oasis that is a must-see next time you’re in town.

About Exchange Boathouse

Providing access to the Western Basin of the Oklahoma River, the Exchange Boathouse is the launching point for a 4000m training course that is included in the river’s designation as a U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Site. The boathouse also houses the University of Oklahoma women’s rowing team.

Located in the Stockyards City District, 2.5 miles west of the Boathouse District, the Exchange Boathouse echoes elements of the Chesapeake Boathouse with its translucent polycarbonate walls and columns of light illuminating the night sky.
Central to the city, you’ll find Penn Square, one of the two large malls with everything the family will need. Dillard’s, Macy’s and JC Penney serve as the anchors, and inside you’ll find OKC’s only Apple and Microsoft stores, as well as Ann Taylor and Madewell.

Science Museum Oklahoma and Oklahoma City Zoo

Science Museum Oklahoma’s hands-on activities will teach kids about everything from space exploration to crime scene investigation. Next door in the Adventure District, the Oklahoma City Zoo has more than 2,000 animals and amazing exhibits. Both have regular events for various ages.

Frontier City and Hurricane Harbor Oklahoma City

Frontier City offers more than 50 rides and attractions, including four roller coasters, an outdoor water park and concerts all summer. At Hurricane Harbor Oklahoma City, more than 30 slides, pools and water fun will keep them cool in summer.