

USA SOFTBALL™

2020 USA Softball Code Changes with Comments as of December 11, 2019

NOTE: All changes below are EFFECTIVE January 1, 2020 unless otherwise noted.

<u>Article Number</u>	<u>Change</u>														
<u>Article 301 D 06 d</u>	<p>d. Men's Masters 40-over Fast Pitch. Teams may have up to three players who are three years below the minimum age requirement.</p> <p>Comments: Adds language that allows Men's Masters 40-over to have up to three players who are three years below the minimum age requirement on the roster</p>														
<u>Article 301 D 06 e</u>	<p>e. Men's Masters 50-over Fast Pitch. Teams may have up to three players who are three years below the minimum age requirement. These players are ineligible to pitch.</p> <p>Comments: Adds language that allows Men's Masters 50-over to have up to three players who are three years below the minimum age requirement on the roster</p>														
<u>Article 301 D 06 f</u>	<p>f. Men's Masters 60-over Fast Pitch. Teams may have up to three players who are three years below the minimum age requirement. These players are ineligible to pitch.</p> <p>Comments: Adds language that allows Men's Masters 60-over to have up to three players who are three years below the minimum age requirement on the roster</p>														
<u>Article 306 A</u>	<p>DIVISIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY DEFINED</p> <p>A. USA Softball recognizes the following divisions and classifications of championship play. Each local association shall establish a classification code to determine team and/or player classification for championship play in the following divisions:</p> <p>1-26. As is</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>27. Women's Seniors 50-Over Slow Pitch</td><td>Major, AAA</td></tr><tr><td>28. Women's Seniors 55-Over Slow Pitch</td><td>Major, AAA</td></tr><tr><td>29. Women's Seniors 60-Over Slow Pitch</td><td>Major, AAA</td></tr><tr><td>30. Women's Seniors 65-Over Slow Pitch</td><td>Major, AAA</td></tr><tr><td>31. Women's Seniors 70-Over Slow Pitch</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>32. Women's Seniors 75-Over Slow Pitch</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>33-36 Renumber as needed</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Comments: Adds women's senior Slow Pitch divisions</p>	27. Women's Seniors 50-Over Slow Pitch	Major, AAA	28. Women's Seniors 55-Over Slow Pitch	Major, AAA	29. Women's Seniors 60-Over Slow Pitch	Major, AAA	30. Women's Seniors 65-Over Slow Pitch	Major, AAA	31. Women's Seniors 70-Over Slow Pitch		32. Women's Seniors 75-Over Slow Pitch		33-36 Renumber as needed	
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<u>Article 301 D 06 f</u>	<p>04. Men's Slow Pitch</p> <p>Super AA A B C D E / Rec</p> <p>Comments: Changes the current Men's Slow Pitch Class A to AA and adds a new Class "A" program</p>														
<u>Article 307 H 01 a</u>	<p>a. Men's Class A</p> <p>Two (2) players from the USA Softball Restricted Player's List</p> <p>Comments: Changes the number of Men's Class A allowed players from the Restricted Player's List from 5 to 2.</p>														
<u>Article 308 A</u>	<p>A. Local Association Championships. Local Association championship play at the state or metro championship must follow the USA Softball Code.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: All adult slow pitch and Men's Fast Pitch.</p>														

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Comments: Allows Fast Pitch players to play in more than one association state tournament.

Article 310 L 03

03. **Fighting.** ~~During regional, territorial, national tournament or National Championship-Final play~~ Any time that a player, coach or manager strikes another player, coach, manager **or umpire**, said player, coach or manager is to be ejected from the game and **not be allowed in the dugout for the remainder of the game and/or tournament at the discretion of the Tournament Director.**

Comments: Adds umpires as protected individuals and requires anyone at fault to vacate the dugout entirely for remainder of game or tournament, at the discretion of the TD.

Article 311 B 01

01. **Pool Play Bracket.**

- a. **Four Team Pools.** In pools of four (4) teams, each team shall play each other team in the pool once and all games will count towards seeding.
- b. ~~Pool Play Procedures.~~ In pools of four (4) teams, each team shall draw to determine which other team they play in the first game. The winners of each of the first games in a pool shall play each other with the winner being declared the Number 1 seed in the pool and the loser being declared the Number 2 seed. The losers of each of the first games in a pool shall play each other with the winner being declared the Number 3 seed in the pool and the loser being declared the Number 4 seed.
- a. **Three Team Pools.** In pools of three (3) teams, each team shall play each other team in the pool once and their 3rd game will be scheduled with a cross-pool team. Cross-pool games will not count toward seeding. Cross-team games should be scheduled with another three (3) team pool, if possible.

Comments: Adjusts wording for four team pools and clarifies three team pools. With three pool play games, pools of three will play one cross pool that does not count toward seeding.

Article 311 B 01 c

- c. **Seeding from Pool Play.** Teams shall be seeded into the double elimination bracket by:
01. Win-Loss Record
 02. If a tie exists, tied teams shall be ranked according to the fewest runs allowed per game played
 03. If a tie still exists, tied teams shall be ranked according to the most runs scored per game played
 04. If a tie still exists, there shall be a coin toss

Comments: Clarifies how teams are seeded after pool play