

A.S.A.
Northwest Region #15
Procedural Code
Revised 2/15/11

The Northwest A.S.A. Region #15 shall follow the A.S.A. Code for the operation of the region with the following exceptions and changes.

Article 1 General

1. Regional Meeting

A) All meetings are to be rotated on a schedule. The host association shall be responsible for meeting arrangements and providing a secretary. The host commissioner shall mail the minutes within 20 days following the annual meeting to the Regional Director for approval. The Regional Director shall then mail a copy to the voting members of the NW Regional Council.

1) Rotation Schedule

<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>
2011	Washington	2015	Idaho
2012	Spokane	2016	Portland
2013	Oregon	2017	Alaska
2014	Montana	2018	Seattle

2) Regional meetings held in conjunction with the National Council Meeting will be for the purpose of awarding championship tournaments and/or to caucus members for information relative to National Council

B) The annual meeting is to begin on Saturday, one week prior to Super Bowl, and may continue on Sunday if necessary.

C) Regional agenda items and code changes for the annual meeting must be submitted no later than December 16th to the Regional Director.

2. Regional Fund

A) Each local association shall be assessed \$50 annually to defray the expenses of the Regional Director, Regional Jr. Olympic Commissioner and the Regional Player Representative.

1) From each \$50 assessment, the Regional Director shall receive \$25, the Regional JO \$12.50 and the Regional Player Rep \$12.50.

2) All monies from the Regional Fund shall be dispensed by the Regional Director upon proper submittal of expense receipts.

3. Northwest Voting Council

- A) The Northwest voting council shall be made up of the local association Commissioners, Player Representatives, At-Large Player Representatives, Junior Olympic Commissioners, Umpire-In-Chiefs, Regional UIC for Region #15 and Commissioner(s) Emeritus.
- B) The Regional Director shall be elected every odd year at the annual meeting in accordance with ASA Code 301E and shall take office following the annual National meeting.
- C) Commissioner Committee
 - 1) The Commissioner Committee shall consist of the eight (8) local association Commissioners and “Commissioner(s)” Emeritus. This committee shall make recommendations to the ASA Northwest Council and must be approved by the Council before becoming official.
 - a) The Regional Director “shall chair the meetings.”
- D) Jr. Olympic Committee
 - 1) Local Association Junior Olympic Commissioners shall make recommendations to the ASA Northwest Council and must be approved by the Council before becoming official.
 - a) The Regional JO shall chair their meetings.
 - 2) The Regional Jr. Olympic Commissioner shall be elected by the NW Council members at the annual meeting for a term of two years and is eligible for re-election in accordance with the ASA Code 308B.
 - a) A newly elected Regional JO Commissioner shall take office following the Annual National Meeting.
- E) Player Representative Committee
 - 1) Local Association Player Representatives shall make recommendations to the ASA NW Council and must be approved by the Council before becoming official. The Regional Player Representative shall chair their meetings.
 - 2) The Regional Player Representative shall be elected by the NW Council members at the annual meeting for a term of two years and is eligible for re-election in accordance with ASA Code 309B
 - a) A newly elected Regional Player Representative shall take office following the Annual National Meeting.
- F) Umpire-In-Chief Committee
 - 1) Local Association Umpires in Chief shall make up the committee. This committee shall make recommendations to the NW Council and must be approved by the Council before becoming official. The Regional UIC will chair their meetings.
 - 2) The Regional Umpire-In-Chief shall be elected by the NW Council members at the annual meeting for a term of one year in accordance with the ASA Code 310B.
 - a) A newly appointed Regional UIC shall take office following the confirmation of appointment.

4. Player, Team & Umpire Information

A) Team Registrations

- 1) Team registration shall be figured by division (i.e. men, women, coed, youth and by fast pitch, modified pitch and slow pitch).

B) Team Classification

- 1) All Local Associations must do a final classification of their adult teams by July 15, in accordance with the classification guidelines as approved by the NW Council. (Refer to the NW Region #15 Classification Rules and Guidelines for detailed information)
- 2) All Local Associations must do a final classification of their Junior Olympic teams by July 1 and/or prior to Championship Play, and in accordance with the classification guidelines as approved by the NW Council. (Refer to the NW Region #15 Classification Rules and Guidelines for detailed information)

Article 2 - Invitational Tournaments

1. Misc. Information

- A) Entry Fee shall be set by the host association.
- B) The number of umpires to be specified in pre-tournament information.
- C) Pick-up players, if allowed, to be specified in pre-tournament information.
 - 1) Adults are limited to their own classification or lower, and must be from their own Local Association.
 - 2) JO pick-up players are limited to their own age and skill classification or lower and must be from their own Local Association.
- D) Any men's and women's class 'A' slow pitch teams may participate in 'B' invitational tournaments not considered championship play.
- E) Dual class invitational tournaments shall use the home run rule of the lowest class.
- F) Teams failing to provide a roster signed by the local ASA commissioner or appointed designee to the tournament director prior to participating shall be required to pay a \$25 ASA affiliation fee before being allowed to take the field.
 - 1) Failure to do so shall result in that team not being allowed to participate in that tournament.
 - 2) Within 5 days of the conclusion of the tournament, the tournament director or Local Association commissioner must verify the ASA eligibility of said team(s) with the appropriate Local Association Commissioner. Affiliation fees collected shall be sent to the appropriate Local Association commissioner or returned to the team once their status has been determined.

Article 3 Championship Play Junior Olympic

ASA and NW Regional Codes shall govern all qualifying tournaments with the following additions:

1. Tournament Rotation System

- A) A Championship Tournament rotation schedule for Junior Olympic shall be set up and projected for a cycle of eight (8) years in each activity with each Local Association in the region. Exception: Local Associations shall not be included in activities in which they do not register teams.
- B) A Local Association passing its turn to hold a scheduled tournament shall lose its turn in the rotation system for that cycle. A Local Association passing its turn must notify the NW Council at the National meeting.
 - 1) Local Associations may still bid for a passed tournament without penalty.
- C) Any changes in the NW Region Tournament rotation system must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the NW Council Members present. A copy of the rotation system shall be a part of this procedural code.
- D) Region 15 Class "A" Fast Pitch Tournaments have been awarded 3 berths to the USA/ASA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS
 - 1) The Class A fast pitch tournaments have been awarded three berths (3) berths to the USA/ASA National Championship Finals. (1 national qualifier berth and 2 regional berths) The national qualifier berth shall be awarded to the top finishing team in the tournament. The two regional/national qualifier berths shall be awarded to the highest finishing Region 15 teams in the tournament (If a region 15 team wins the tournament, all 3 berths go to region 15 teams)
- E) REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS qualify "A" teams for USA/ASA National Championship Finals and "B" teams for Western National Championship Finals.
- F) Region 15 shall have one or more berths to the HALL OF FAME Tournament in Oklahoma City for each age group based on the number of teams registered.
 - 1) Berths shall be awarded to the highest finishing Region 15 teams based on their performance in Championship play from the previous year in all age groups. Teams must participate in the same age group and qualify as a returning team to accept the berth.
 - 2) Berths shall be awarded to the highest finishing teams in Region 15 Regional Championships.
 - 3) The Regional JO commissioner, along with the Local Association Commissioner, shall contact qualifying teams within 30 days of the completion of Regional play to notify teams of their award of the berths for the next year's HOF Tournament.
 - 4) Berths must be accepted in writing within 15 days or the berths will be offered to the next highest finishing team.

- G) 18 Gold Territory Tournaments shall be on a rotation basis and run in accordance with Article 515 & Article 206 of the ASA Code. Rotation will be set up between those associations that have registered Gold teams. New Associations that register Gold teams will be placed at the end of the current rotation.
- H) A tournament rotation schedule for the Junior Olympic Class A and Class B ASA Western National Championship Finals has been established for the Western Territory (Region 13, 14 and 15) for a period of three (3) years. Local Region 15 Associations interested in hosting a Class A or Class B Western National Championship finals, as outlined in the rotation schedule, must submit a bid by July 1st of each year per Article 602 F of the ASA Code.
 - 1) Awarding of the tournaments will be decided by the Region at that year's National Council Meeting.
- I) ASA Western National Championship Finals sites and dates must be finalized at the National Council Meeting two years in advance.

2. Tournament Dates

- A) Junior Olympic NQ, RNQ
 - 1) Junior Olympic shall have one (1) girl's fast pitch Class A National Qualifier in each age classification. Tournaments shall be held on the weekend containing the 4th Saturday in June except associations with extenuating circumstances may have the option of the weekend before or the weekend after.
 - a) Any change of these dates must be brought back to the Board a year in advance for approval.
- B) JO Regional tournaments shall be held on the weekend containing the 3rd Saturday in July.
 - 1) When the month has five weekends, a berth will be added to the Regional tournament for the USA/ASA Nationals.
 - 2) When the month has only four weekends, all regional berths will be placed in the RQ/NQ tournaments for the USA/ASA Nationals
- C) JO ASA/USA *Fastpitch* Class A National Championship Finals shall be held the weekend that contains the first Saturday in August per ASA Code Article 509 C – 04 c
- D) JO ASA Class A&B *Fastpitch* National Championship Finals shall be held between the third Saturday in July and the weekend containing the second Saturday in August. (per ASA Code Article 509 C – 04 d.)
- E) Junior Olympic 18 Gold Territory Qualifiers
 - 2) Shall be held in accordance with ASA Code Article 515 and Article 203.

3. Rotation

A) Regional and National Qualifier (A&B)

YEAR	18A	18B	16A	16B	14A	14B	12A-B	10A-B	NQ 18U A	NQ 16U A	NQ 14U A	NQ12- 10 A
2010	ID	WA	SPK	MT	PDX	SEA	OR	AK	SPK	WA	MT	SEA
2011	AK	ID	WA	SPK	MT	PDX	SEA	OR	PDX	OR	WA	ID
2012	OR	AK	ID	WA	SPK	MT	PDX	SEA	ID	SPK	SEA	MT
2013	SEA	OR	AK	ID	WA	SPK	MT	PDX	SEA	ID	SPK	OR
2014	PDX	SEA	OR	AK	ID	WA	SPK	MT	MT	PDX	OR	WA
2015	MT	PDX	SEA	OR	AK	ID	WA	SPK	SEA	ID	PDX	SPO
2016	<i>SPK</i>	<i>MT</i>	<i>PDX</i>	<i>SEA</i>	<i>OR</i>	<i>AK</i>	<i>ID</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>MT</i>	<i>SPK</i>	<i>OR</i>
2017	WA	SPK	MT	PDX	SEA	OR	AK	ID	OR	SEA	ID	PDX

1) Region 15 Junior Olympic 18 Gold Regional Rotation shall be:

2010	Spokane	2014	Spokane
2011	Sea-Tac	2015	Sea-Tac
2012	Oregon	2016	Oregon
2013	Washington	2017	Washington

B) Girls Class A ASA Fast Pitch Western National Championship Finals

<u>Year</u>	<u>18U</u>	<u>16U</u>	<u>14U</u>	<u>12U</u>	<u>10U</u>
2010	R-14	R-14	R-13	R-15	R-15
2011	R-15	R-15	R-14	R-13	R-13
2012	R-13	R-13	R-15 OR	R-14	R-14
2013	R-14	R-14	R-13	R-15	R-15
2014	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-14</i>
2015	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-15</i>
2016	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-13</i>
2017	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-14</i>

C) Girls Class B ASA Fast Pitch Western National Championship Finals

<u>Year</u>	<u>18U</u>	<u>16U</u>	<u>14U</u>	<u>12U</u>	<u>10U</u>
2010	R-15	R-15	R-14	R-13	R-13
2011	R-13	R-13	R-15	R-14	R-14
2012	R-14	R-14	R-13	R-15 OR	R-15 SPK
2013	R-15	R-15	R-14	R-13	R-13
2014	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-13</i>
2015	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-14</i>
2016	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-15</i>

D) Junior Olympic 18 Gold Territory Tournaments

- 1) Gold Territory Tournaments shall be on a bid basis based on those associations that registered gold teams in the previous year and continue to have a gold team for the host year. Associations must host the tournament according to Article 513 and Article 203 of the ASA Code.
- 2) The site of the tournament must be at a local association that has a gold registered team.
- 3) All bids must be presented at the NW Regional meeting held at the National Council Mtg.
- 4) An Association may not be awarded the Gold Territory in two consecutive years unless no other bids are submitted.

E) Region 15 ASA Gold Territory Rotation

2010	Washington	2013	Phoenix
2011	Oregon	2014	Spokane
2012	Seattle		

4. Tournament Data

A) Pre-Tournament Information

- 1) NQ, RNQ, information shall be sent to all local Association Commissioners no later than January 1st.
- 2) Regional Tournament information shall be sent to all local Association Commissioners and all local Association JO Commissioners no later than the January Regional meeting..

Tournament information should include the following:

- tournament host
- tournament draw info
- site of managers meeting
- awards
- hotel/motel info
- gate admission fees
- tournament director/staff
- entry deadline
- tournament dates and start time
- time limit/tie breaker (if used)
- type of ball to be used
- misc. information

B) Post-Tournament Information

- 1) Results of NQ, RNQ, Regional tournaments shall be sent within one week of the tournament to the Regional JO Commissioner, local association commissioners and the appropriate national tournament directors for all advancing teams.
- 2) Regional and National Tournament reports must be distributed to each Local Association Commissioner and Junior Olympic Commissioners (as appropriate) within 30 days of the tournament. Reports shall include all game scores, completed bracket, order of finish and team home area.

- 3) ASA "A" and "B" Western National Championship Finals reports shall be sent to all Local Association Commissioners and Regional Junior Olympic commissioners in the Western Territory (Regions 13, 14 and 15) within 30 days of the tournament. Reports shall include all game scores, completed bracket, order of finish and team home area.
 - a) Failure to file a report may result in forfeiture of the following year's rotation.
 - 4) The Regional Jr. Olympic Commissioner shall be responsible for the tabulation of all youth regional/national tournament results, champions, runner-ups, association and tournament sites and shall include all NSF check handling fees accumulated.
- C) Local Associations shall be responsible for all entry fees including no-shows, provided that tournament spot cannot be filled by a late entry.
- D) Local Associations shall be responsible for uncollectible checks paid by their teams. Payment is due within 60 days of the tournament, and shall include the Bank NSF check handling fee. Failure to comply shall result in teams from that Local Association not being allowed to participate in any Championship Play until full payment has been made.
- E) For Regionals, the Local Association Commissioner of each NW Association shall notify the tournament director who will be the respective representatives to the Regional Tournament. This shall be done by phone, mail, e-mail or fax, no later than 5PM (host association time) the Monday preceding the Tournament.
- 1) Failure to notify shall eliminate the Local Association team from Regional competition
- F) Entry Fees
- 1) National Qualifiers, Territory Qualifiers Regional National Qualifiers, and Regionals shall *include the national assessment fee.*
 - 2) Gold Territory Qualifiers shall establish an entry fee in conjunction with other Gold Territory Qualifiers within the defined Territory.
 - 3) Junior Olympic ASA National Championship Finals entry fee *shall* include the National Assessment fee established by the BOD of the ASA.
- G) Breakdown of Championship Tournament Entries
- 1) "A" Regional Championship Tournaments shall be open to all registered ASA "A" teams within the region providing they participated in their respective Local Association Tournament (if held).
 - 2) "B" Regional Championship Tournaments shall be open to all registered ASA "B" teams within the region providing they participated in their respective Local Association Tournament (if held).
 - 3) Any "A" team is qualified for the ASA Girls' "A" Western National Championship Finals provided they participated in their respective Local Association Tournament (if held)
 - a) Refer to ASA National Code Article *516G*
 - 4) Any "B" team is qualified for the ASA Girls' "B" Western National Championship Finals provided they participated in the respective Local Association Tournament if held)
 - a) Refer to ASA National Code Article *516H*

H) Awarding of Berths

- 1) Teams advancing from the "A" NQ or RNQ must inform the Qualifying Tournament Director within 24 hours of their intent to go
 - a) GFP-A After the USA/ASA "A" National Championship berths are determined, teams qualifying thru their local association tournaments may enter the ASA "A" Western National Championship Finals.
- 2) Tournament directors shall contact teams in their order of finish for obtaining unfilled berths to that National Championship final. Those teams shall have twenty four (24) hours to decide if they are going to accept the berth to attend the National Championship Finals.
- 3) Junior Olympic teams previously qualified for USA/ASA Girls' Fast Pitch National Championship play are eligible to participate in Regional and National Qualifier play per ASA code.
- 4) Teams qualifying for Regional/National Championship Tournaments shall not be excluded from Local Association Championships.

I) Awards

- 1) 6 teams and under shall receive: 1 team award; 1st place individual trophies; Appropriate memorabilia to 2nd place.
- 2) 7-16 teams shall receive: 3 team awards; individual awards for 1st place team; Regional championship patches for 1st place team.
- 3) 17-24 teams shall receive: 4 team awards; individual awards for 1st place team; Regional Championship patches for 1st place team.
- 4) 25 or more teams shall receive: 6 team awards; individual awards for 1st and 2nd place teams; Regional championship patches for 1st place teams.

5. Tournament Format

A) National Qualifiers (NQ), Regional National Qualifiers (RNQ)

- 1) Minimum number of teams required for qualifying tournaments to award berths is six (6).
- 2) Bracketing shall be determined by a draw according to the ASA Code.
- 3) All tournaments must utilize an approved ASA format.
 - a) *Beginning 2009, DE format or 4GG pool play format*

B) Regional Tournaments

- 1) The tournament format shall be a 3 game guarantee.
- 2) Associations hosting JO Regional Tournaments must be able to accommodate up to a minimum of 32 teams. The host association may increase the size of the Regional Tournament over the established entries to whatever they can accommodate with the tournament format.
- 3) All Regional Tournaments shall be a minimum of two days, and if the host so schedules, the tournament could start on Friday as early as 8 am.

C) Junior Olympic ASA National Championship Finals

- 1) Refer to page 20 for complete guidelines

6. Tournament Draw Refer to ASA Code

7. Tournament Logistics

A) Tournament Staff

- 1) Tournament Directors cannot be an active participant as a player, coach or umpire in that Regional Tournament.
- 2) Official scorekeepers must be provided for every game.

B) Team Rosters Refer to ASA Code

C) Player Identification Refer to ASA Code

D) Playing Fields Refer to ASA Code

E) Player Admission Refer to ASA Code

F) Run Ahead Rule Refer to ASA Code.

G) Time Limits

- 1) A time limit shall be implemented as follows: Exception: Games involving berths to National Championship Finals.

a) JO Fast Pitch 10U: 1 hour 40 minutes.

b) JO Fast Pitch 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U 1 hr 40 minute time limit

H) Tie Breaker Refer to ASA Code

I) Tournament Rules Refer to ASA Code

8. Umpires

- A) All Tournaments require a minimum of two umpires per game until the qualifying games, then three umpires shall be assigned.

- B) Game fees shall be *paid the same as a national tournament per ASA Code effective 2012*, and are to be paid immediately after completion of their final assignment.

- C) Housing, refer to Article 6, Section 4, C, 2.

Article 4 Championship Play - Adults

1. Tournament Rotation System

- A) A Regional and/or National Tournament rotation schedule for adults shall be set up and projected for a cycle of eight (8) years in each activity with each Local Association in the region. Exceptions: Local Associations shall not be included in activities in which they do not register teams.

- B) A Local Association passing its turn to hold a scheduled tournament shall lose its turn in the rotation system for that cycle. A Local Association passing its turn must notify the NW Council at the National meeting.
- C) Local Associations may still bid for a passed tournament without penalty.
- D) Any changes in the NW Regional Tournament rotation system must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the NW Council Members present. A copy of the rotation system shall be a part of this procedural code.
- E) Regional, ASA National Championship Finals sites and dates for the following season must be finalized at the National Council Meeting.

2. Tournament Dates

- A) Slow-pitch Regional Tournaments for Women's C/D and Men's C/D shall be held the Friday, Saturday and Sunday prior to Labor Day weekend.

3. Tournament Rotation Schedule

- A) Slow Pitch Regional Tournaments

<u>Year</u>	<u>MSP-C/D</u>	<u>MSP-E</u>	<u>WSP - C/D</u>	<u>CO-ED C/D</u>
2010	Montana		Seattle	Washington
2011	Portland	<i>Oregon</i>	Spokane	Oregon
2012	Seattle	<i>Idaho</i>	Washington	Idaho
2013	<i>Portland</i>	<i>Montana</i>	<i>Spokane</i>	<i>Portland</i>
2014	<i>Seattle</i>	<i>Portland</i>	<i>Oregon</i>	<i>Montana</i>
2015	<i>Spokane</i>	<i>Seattle</i>	<i>Idaho</i>	<i>Seattle</i>
2016	<i>Washington</i>	<i>Spokane</i>	<i>Montana</i>	<i>Spokane</i>
2017	<i>Oregon</i>	<i>Washington</i>	<i>Portland</i>	<i>Washington</i>

- B) Western National Tournaments

<u>Year</u>	<u>Men's C</u>	<u>Men's D</u>	<u>Men's E</u>
2010	R-13	R-14	R-15
2011	R-14	R-15	R-13
2012	R-15 Spokane	R-13	R-14
2013	R-13	R-14	R-15
2014	<i>R-14</i>	<i>R-15</i>	R-13
2015	<i>R-15</i>	<i>R-13</i>	<i>R-14</i>

- C) Fast Pitch Regional Tournaments

<u>Year</u>	<u>MFP - A/B/C</u>
2010	Washington
2011	Seattle
2012	Spokane
2013	<i>Portland</i>
2014	<i>Idaho</i>

2015 *Oregon*
2016 *Montana*
2017 *Washington*
2018 *Seattle*

- D) If the region feels it is beneficial to hold Regional/National Qualifiers to award Regional Berths leading to Nationals they may do so. These Qualifiers would be held by the Association scheduled to host the MSP, WSP, COED or MFP Regional Tournament.

4. Tournament Data

A) Pre-Tournament Information

- 1) Regional/National Tournament information shall be sent to all Local Association Commissioners no later than July 1.

a) Tournament information should include the following:

- tournament host
- tournament draw info
- site of managers meeting
- awards
- hotel/motel info
- gate admission fees
- tournament director/staff
- entry deadline
- tournament dates and start time
- time limit/tie breaker (if used)
- type of ball to be used
- misc. information

B) Post Tournament Information

- 1) Results of the qualifying tournament(s) shall be mailed within one week of the tournament to the Regional Director, Local Association Commissioners and the appropriate tournament director.
- 2) Rosters of the qualifying team(s) shall be mailed to the Regional Tournament Director.
- 3) Regional and National Tournament reports must be distributed to each Local Association Commissioner, Player Representatives and Junior Olympic Commissioners (as appropriate) within 30 days of the tournament. Reports shall include all game scores, completed bracket, order of finish and team home area.
- 4) The Classification Chairman shall be responsible for the tabulation of all adult regional/national tournament results, champions, runners-up association and tournament sites.
- C) The Local Association Commissioner of each NW Association shall notify, by telephone, no later than 5PM (host association time) the Monday preceding the Regional Tournament, the tournament director as to who will be the respective representatives to the tournament.
- 1) Failure to notify shall eliminate the Local Association team from Regional competition
- D) Local Associations shall be responsible for all entry fees including no-shows, provided that tournament spot cannot be filled by a late entry.

E) Local Associations shall be responsible for uncollectible checks paid by their teams. Payment is due within 60 days of the tournament, and shall include *an NSF* check handling fee. Failure to comply shall result in teams from that Local Association not being allowed to participate in any Championship Play until full payment has been made.

F) Entry Fees

- 1) Regional Tournament entry fee shall include *the National* assessment fee.
- 2) Regional Tournament Directors shall forward to the National Tournament, the entry fee for the highest finishing team advancing to the National Tournament.

G) Breakdown of Championship Tournament Entries

1) Slow pitch Regionals shall be based on a format according to the following:

a)	‘A’	• All registered ASA teams are eligible	
b)	‘B’	• All registered ASA teams are eligible	
c)	‘C’, ‘D’, ‘E’	• Each association (6)	<u>48</u>
		• Hosts	<u>2</u>
		• Any teams reclassified in previous year.	<u>0</u>
		Total Minimum =	<u>50</u>

2) Adult Fastpitch Regionals shall be based on a format according to the following:

a)	Major,	• All registered ASA teams are eligible	
b)	‘A’	• All registered ASA teams are eligible	
c)	‘B’, ‘C’	• All registered teams are eligible	

H) Awarding of Berths

- 1) Teams advancing to National Championships must inform the National Tournament Director within seven (7) days of award of their intent to go to the National Championship Tournament.
- 2) Tournament directors shall contact teams in their order of finish for obtaining unfilled berths to that National Championship final. Those teams shall have twenty four (24) hours to decide if they are going to accept the berth to attend the National Championship Finals.
- 3) *Currently the NW has 52 berths in MSP & WSP divisions that are eligible to advance to the Western Nationals.*
If a team participates in at least one (1) Invitational tournament and the State tournament, that team would be eligible to advance to the Western National Tournament as long as the region does not exceed their 52 berths.
The region reserves the right to offer berths to teams interested in advancing to the Western Nationals. This would allow Region 15 to send the maximum number of teams to championship play.

I) Awards

- 1) 6 teams and under shall receive: 1 team award; 1st place individual trophies; Appropriate memorabilia to 2nd place.
- 2) 7-16 teams shall receive: 3 team awards; individual awards for 1st place team; Regional championship patches for 1st place team.
 - a) All-star awards (minimum of 12) and an MVP award (Minimum of one) are required to be given.
- 3) 17-24 teams shall receive: 4 team awards; individual awards for 1st place team; Regional Championship patches for 1st place team.
 - a) All-star awards (minimum of 12) and an MVP award (Minimum of one) are required to be given.
- 4) 25 or more teams shall receive: 6 team awards; individual awards for 1st and 2nd place Teams; Regional championship patches for 1st place teams.
 - a) All-star awards (minimum of 12) and an MVP award (Minimum of one) are required to be given.

5. Tournament Format

A) Regional Tournaments

- 1) The tournament format shall be a 3 game guarantee.
- 2) All Regional Tournaments shall be a minimum of two days, and if the host so schedules, the tournament could start on Friday as early as 8am.

6. Tournament Draw

- A) All draws shall be public with all team managers or representatives given the opportunity to be present.
- B) The draw for all Regional tournaments cannot be held earlier than 1 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the opening day of the tournament.
- C) The draw shall be conducted using the format outlined in the National Code.

- 1) The Local Association with the most teams shall draw first, then the Local Association with the second most teams will draw second, etc.
- 2) In case of ties between Local Associations, the lowest Local Association number will draw first.

a) Association numbers are:

Alaska	15110	Idaho	15120	Montana	15130
Oregon	15140	Wash	15150	Portland	15210
Seattle	15220	Spokane	15230		

- 3) When more than one team within a Local Association must draw, position to draw shall be based on alphabetical order according to the team name listed on the roster.

Exceptions:

- a) Tournament hosts and defending champion may be seeded into the bracket, but must play in the first round or sub-round.

- b) Two teams from the same association shall not play each other in their first game if possible.

7. Tournament Logistics

A) Tournament Staff

- 1) Tournament Directors cannot be an active participant as a player, coach or umpire in that Regional Tournament.
- 2) Official scorekeepers must be provided for every game.

B) Adult Regional entry fee will include the *per team national assessment fee effective 2012*

- 1) Regional Tournament directors will forward to the National Tournament Director the entry fee for the highest finishing team advancing to the National Tournament.

C) Team Rosters

- 1) Under no circumstances should a team be eliminated from a Regional Tournament until all possible channels to establish eligibility have been exhausted. The Local Association Commissioner shall call the Local Association Commissioner involved and upon his/her approval sign for the Local Association Commissioner who did not sign as he/she should have.

2)

D) Player Identification Refer to ASACode

E) Playing Fields Refer to ASACode

F) Player Admission Refer to ASACode

G) Run Ahead Refer to ASAI Code

H) Time Limits

- 1) A time limit shall be implemented as follows: Exception: Games involving berths to National Championship Finals.

- a) Slow Pitch: 1 hour 30 minutes
- b) Modified Pitch: 2 hours
- c) Adult Fast Pitch: 2 hours

I) Tie Breaker Refer to ASACode

J) Regional Rules

- 1) Profanity/Unsportsmanlike Conduct (refer to Article 5)
- 2) Uniform and Headwear (refer to Article 5)

8. Umpires

- A) All Regional Tournaments require a minimum of two umpires per game until the qualifying games, then three umpires shall be assigned.
- B) All Regional Qualifying Tournaments require a minimum of one umpire per game until the qualifying games, then two umpires shall be assigned.

- C) Game fees shall be *the same as a national tournament per ASA Code*, and are to be paid immediately after completion of their final assignment..
- D) Housing, Refer to Article 7, Section 4, C, 2.

Article 5 - Regional Playing Rules

1. Casual Profanity/Unsportsmanlike Conduct Rule

- A) Any team member in a game using casual profanity or unsportsmanlike language (expletives not directed at an umpire(s) or opposing player(s) and loud enough to be heard by spectator(s) will result in an out being called against the offending team.
 - 1) If a team is at bat and unsportsmanlike words are used, the next batter will be declared out.
 - 2) If the act is committed by a player remaining at bat, that player will be called out.
 - 3) If the act is committed by the defensive team, the first batter in the next inning will be declared out.
 - 4) The outs will be treated as a delayed dead ball situation.
 - 5) If the violation occurs in the bottom of the last inning, where the fielding team may not bat again, the ejection rule will apply. If a team has an eligible substitute, the game can continue.
 - 6) A game may be ended by a casual profanity/unsportsmanlike language out.
 - 7) Any player declared out by the rule because of a team member's action will not be charged with an at-bat for record keeping purposes.

2. Uniforms

- A) Headwear (ball caps, visors, headbands) are optional for all players. If worn, they must be the same color and worn properly. Handkerchiefs do not qualify as headbands and cannot be worn around the head or neck. Plastic visors are not allowed as headwear.
- B) Pants can be either long or short in style as long as they match in color. Sweatpants may be worn over pants or shorts. If more than one person wears them, they must match in color. During inclement weather the team jersey with number will be the outer-most garment worn.

3. Home Run Rule Refer to ASACode

Article 6 - Umpires

1. Regional Umpire-in-Chief

- A) Duties
 - 1) Organize and conduct meetings with Local Association UIC's in Region 15
 - 2) Conduct Local Association clinics upon request of these organizations.
 - 3) Conduct regional clinics in cooperation with the Regional Director and with his/her approval

- 4) Answer requests for rule interpretations under guidelines of the National Rules Interpreter.
- 5) Serve as Regional Tournament UIC when requested.
- 6) Observe and evaluate umpires in the region upon request.
- 7) Assist umpire associations in the region upon request.
- 8) Complete projects as assigned by the Regional Director.
- 9) Attend Regional Council meetings and provide an annual report and budget proposal.
- 10) Coordinate assignment of umpires for rotation to Regional Tournaments.
- 11) Recommend umpires to the National Supervisor of Umpires for National Major Tournaments, Olympic Sports Festival, International competition, National Modified Fastpitch Tournaments and Inter-Service Championships.

2. Budget

- A) The UIC budget shall be approved by the NW Council at the annual meeting.
 - 1) Annual budget will include a breakdown of travel expenses, printing and postage, NW Regional umpire awards, etc.
- B) The Local Association shall be responsible for the expenses of the National Deputy UIC to travel within the region, provided reimbursement is not made by the National Office.
 - 1) Each Local Association shall be assessed \$150.00 per year plus .50 cents per registered umpire.
 - a) The individual umpire assessment shall be based on the number of umpires registered for each Local Association during the previous year. The assessment is due and payable to the Regional Director by April 1 of each year.
- C) All money from the UIC fund shall be dispersed by the Regional Director upon proper application from the UIC.
 - 1) Expense vouchers with receipts must be submitted no more than 30 days after date of occurrence. Reimbursement to be made by the Regional Director within 15 days after receipt of a proper request.

3. ASA Umpire School and Clinics

- A) *The regional umpire meeting shall alternate between a National School (Odd Years) and a Regional Clinic (Even Years) The rotation shall be as follows:*

2011	Idaho School
2012	Seattle Clinic
2013	Portland School
2014	Spokane Clinic
2015	Oregon School
2016	Washington Clinic

B) *Clinic shall be held no later than the first weekend in March.*

4. Regional Tournament

A) Regional Tournament UIC

- 1) Will be the Local Association UIC from the Local Association hosting the tournament(s) or the designee of the Local Association Commissioner.
- 2) Cannot be an active participant as a player or coach in that Regional Tournament.
- 3) Shall not officiate games in that tournament except in case of an emergency.
- 4) Umpire evaluations must be filed with the National Deputy UIC by September 15. Failure to file a report will result in forfeiture of umpire rotation for the following year.
- 5) Shall receive a minimum of \$50 per day and lodging if needed by the Regional Tournament.

B) Selection of Assigned Umpires

- 1) Due to the fluctuating number of teams in individual tournaments it is not possible to pre-determine which tournament each Local Association will have. The Regional UIC is to insure that Local Associations rotate as much as possible to different tournaments.
- 2) Umpires selected for Regional Tournaments must be approved by the umpire's Local Association Commissioner and Local Association UIC.

C) Payment of Fees

- 1) *Game fees shall be the same as a national tournament per ASA Code. Effective 2012* All game fees are to be paid immediately after completion of his/her final assignment.
- 2) The host association is responsible for providing the following to assigned umpires.
 - a) Transportation to and from the playing fields upon request to the local Commissioner or UIC prior to the tournament.
 - b) Housing with two umpires per room, if one way travel is more than 30 miles. Umpires with guest will be responsible for ½ room rate.
 - c) Umpires shall inform the local Regional Tournament UIC of his/her room requirements no later than Sunday preceding the tournament
 - d) When umpire clinics are held on the day prior to the tournament, then an additional room night shall be furnished. If the clinic is held before noon and an umpire has to drive over 75 miles to the meeting a nights lodging shall be furnished.
 - e) If an umpire is assigned to a game that begins after 4pm, he/she shall receive an additional room night.

D) Umpire Awards

- 1) A NW Region award shall be given to each umpire working in a NW Region Championship Tournament. The Regional UIC shall obtain and distribute these awards.

5. Umpire Rotation

A) Regional Tournaments

- 1) The Regional UIC will determine which tournaments each Local Association will be assigned. Additional rotation assignments may be made as needed by the Regional UIC working in conjunction with Local Association and host tournament.
- 2) Regional Tournament assignments shall use the following format.

<u>Association</u>	<u>Rotations</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Rotations</u>
Washington	7	Seattle	5
Oregon	7	Spokane	5
Idaho	7	Portland	5
Montana	7		
Alaska	7		

B) Area Tournaments

- 1) Four (4) umpires will be assigned on rotation to each area tournament held in the region. The Regional UIC will determine which Local Associations are to receive assignments.

Article 7 - Awards

NW Hall of Fame

A) Committee Members

- 1) The NW Hall of Fame Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of five (5) individuals appointed by the NW Regional Director. The Regional Director will appoint the chairman, two (2) members to a three (3) year term and (2) members to a five (5) year term

B) Purpose of Committee

- 1) Receive nominations to the Hall of Fame and recommend to the Council, people who have been nominated and who meet the approved criteria for selection to the NW Regional Hall of Fame.
- 2) Shall meet at the annual meeting of the NW Council.
- 3) Shall be limited to a maximum of the 4 best candidates submitted each year.

C) Funding of Awards

- 1) Each Local Association shall be assessed \$50 annually or as needed to defray the expenses of the committee. This levy must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the NW Council.

D) Submission of Nominees

- 1) December 1st of each year shall be the deadline for submitting nominations.
- 2) Nominations must be submitted electronically on the NW Hall of Fame application and accompanied by two letters of recommendation.
- 3) All nominations must be accompanied by detailed information and documentation submitted electronically
- 4) Any Region 15 member on the ASA Council may nominate individuals for the NW Region Hall of Fame.

E) Review of Candidates: The committee will receive for review all candidates and information in December. The committee will meet at the annual NW Region meeting to finalize selection for the following year.

F) Presentation of Awards

- 1) Presentation of Hall of Fame awards shall be made at the annual Northwest Regional meeting banquet. The Local Association commissioner whose candidate is being inducted is responsible for notification of induction and all information relating to the awards presentation.

G) Categories and Criteria

- 1) Player (three points needed for selection)
 - a) All Star Team
 - b) MVP Award
 - c) Recognition Award
 - d) Home run, batting or defense award
 - e) Regional participant (5 years equals one point)
 - f) National Championship participant (2 years equal one point)
- 2) Umpire (thirty points needed for selection)
 - (a) 10 years local association membership (2 points)
 - (b) Each Regional Tournament worked (2 points)
 - (c) Each Regional Tournament worked as UIC (3 points)
 - (d) Each National Championship Tournament worked (3 points)
 - (e) Each National Championship Tournament worked as UIC (5 points)
 - (f) Assistant UIC at Regional or National Tournament (4 points)

Note: Requirements: Must have umpired 15 years, and inactive 2 years from National Championship tournaments.

- 3) Manager or Sponsor (five points needed for selection)
 - a) 20 or more local seasons (5 points)
 - b) 2-5 Regional Tournaments (2 points)
 - c) 1-2 National Championship Tournaments (2 points)
- 4) Commissioner

- a) 10 years of service
 - b) Nominee shall have served in some of the following areas:
 - Regional Director
 - Chairman or Vice-Chairman of a National Committee
 - Host of a National or Regional Tournament classified 'Major' or 'A'
 - Special Recognition
- 5) Meritorious Service
- a) This category includes Individuals or organizations which offer any combination of the above categories. Candidates can be an organizer, bidder, years of service, financial contributor etc. Non player candidates may still be an active participant.
- 6) ASA Hall of Fame members will automatically be inducted into the NW Region Hall of Fame effective Dec 1 2010

Article 8 - NW Regional Code

1. Amendments to the Code

- A) All code changes must be submitted to the Regional Director, in writing, and must be received no later than December 16th.
- B) Amendments may be made at any meeting and requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the NW Council members present.
- C) An amendment approved by the NW Council shall be effective on March 1 following the annual meeting unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

2. Reprinting of the Code

- A) Updating and reprinting of this code shall be done at the conclusion of each annual meeting of the NW Council.

3. Dates of Revisions

2/5/87	8/8/88	3/15/89	11/1/89
6/18/90	3/1/91	10/1/91	2/1/92
2/6/93	2/9/94	12/3/94	1995
1/13/96	1/11/97	1/17/98	2/5/99
2/9/00	1/26/01	1/21/02	1/18/03
5/14/04	2/15/05	2/15/06	2/19/07
2/21/08	5/2/09	6/27/10	6/15/11

A.S.A.
Northwest Region #15
Classification Rules & Guidelines

Article 1-General

1. Purpose

- A) To establish rules and guidelines for the classification of teams and players for tournament and championship competition

2. Objectives

- A) To attain, in an equitable manner, classification of teams at their respective level of athletic proficiency for the various levels of tournaments and championship play conducted by Local Associations.

3. Administration

- A) A NW Regional Committee shall consist of each Local Association's player representative with a Local Association Commissioner as chair of the committee.
- B) Each Local Association shall properly administer the resulting procedural code. Additional procedures and /or rules may be established by the Local Association, but in keeping with the above purposes and objectives as long as they are not inconsistent or in variance with the guidelines.

Article 2- Classification Boards

1. Formation of Boards

- A) Each Local Associations shall designate a Classification Board to evaluate, classify and review team competitive levels according to the classification guidelines.
 - 1) The Board shall consist of 3 or more members, one of which should be the Local Association Player Representative.
 - 2) The method of selection to the Classification Board shall be determined by the Local Association subject to approval by the Local Association Commissioner.
- B) Regional Classification Boards, one for adult and one for Junior Olympics shall be appointed by the Regional Director.

2. Authority of Boards

- A) Classify players and teams prior to the beginning of regular season play based on past performance and current season roster.
- B) Review players and teams during season play for reclassification prior to the appropriate ASA deadline.
- C) Hear properly filed appeals from players and teams on their classification status by the appropriate ASA deadline.
- D) Develop additional guidelines and regulations as the need arise.
- E) Promote teams to level of play where the team is reasonably competitive.

Article 3- Team Roster

1. Submission of Team Roster

- A) The team roster shall be submitted prior to participating in leagues or tournament play.
 - 1) There shall be no transfers or additions of players to team roster after a date that has been established by the National ASA or Local Associations.
 - 2) Teams must retain at least four (4) players from their qualifying tournament roster to be eligible for their Regional or Western National Berth.

Article 4- Classification of Teams

1. General Information

- A) Team classifications are described to differentiate between levels of competition.
- B) Basic classification definitions shall be used by Classification Boards as guidelines when evaluating teams.
 - 1) In determining proper athletic proficiency for teams, shall be limited to an overall comparison of all teams within the Regional area.
 - a) **EXCEPTION:** Teams that regularly compete in championship tournaments. Championship tournaments are those leading to District, Local Associations championship, Regional or National tournaments. This includes qualifying tournaments)
 - 2) Teams that regularly compete in championship tournaments shall be evaluated on an overall comparison of all teams within the Regional area with reasonable consideration of teams on a National level.
- C) Home Run Hitter (Men's and Coed Classification)
 - 1) A Player who, while playing on a standard field, has the potential, under normal game and weather conditions, of hitting a home run in any game.
- D) Field Dimensions (Men's and Coed Classification)
 - 1) The ASA Official Guide requires that a slowpitch game be played on a fenced field which has fences established at a minimum distance of 275 feet (300 feet preferred) using an ASA approved restricted flight ball.
 - a) Deficit field dimensions are not to be construed as to preventing ASA slowpitch from being played, however special ground rules might be required.
 - 2) Field dimensions and softball types are established so that the definition of a home run hitter can be established.
 - a) A batter who averages one or more homeruns in every three (3) games.

Article 5- Adult Classifications

1. Adult Slowpitch

- A) A team that has 4 or more players on their roster from teams that finished in the top 30% of the Regional Tournament or Qualifying Tournaments held the year before shall qualify as a returning team.

2. Adult Fastpitch

- A) Each Local Association Commissioner shall classify teams at the time of registration for the current year.
- B) Any four returning players from a team constitutes a returning team for the purpose of classification.
 - 1) The intent of the procedure is to keep teams from disbanding to re-form under another sponsor name with the key players from the previous year's team.

Article 6- Reclassification of Adult Teams

1. General Information

- A) Roster changes may be cause for reclassification
 - 1) If a team loses up to 70% of their team, they must be considered for reclassification.
 - 2) If a team has 4 or more players that have played on a reclassified team, that team will be reviewed for reclassification.
 - 3) If a team ends up with 4 or more returning players by way of the pick-up rule prior to any level of championship play, that team will automatically be reclassified and must play at the next highest level available to them.
REASON: teams may try to get around the returning players rule and then have the potential of having 7 players that played with them the year before by using the pick-up rule that is available to them.

2. Adult Slowpitch

- A) Teams being reviewed and possibly reclassified up one classification will be awarded a berth in the following years Regional Tournament.
 - 1) MSP B and WSP Open- teams must finish either 1st or 2nd two years in a row before they are reviewed for reclassification.
 - 2) MSP C and WSP C- The top 30% of finishers in Regional play will be reviewed for reclassification the following year. *This includes State Tournaments, National Qualifiers and Regional Tournaments if held*
 - 3) MSP D and WSP D- The top 30% of finishers in Regional play will be reviewed for reclassification the following year. *This includes State tournaments, National Qualifiers and Regional Tournaments if held.*
 - 4) MSP E- *The top 35% of finishers in the NW Regional Championship play will be reviewed for re-classification the following year. This includes State Tournaments, National Qualifiers and Regional Tournaments if held.*
 - 5) Teams that win qualifiers and advance to a Western National Tournament and did not play in the NW Regional Tournament may automatically be reclassified the following year if they have 4 or more returning players. Reasons why they did not play in Regionals may be

submitted by their State/metro Commissioner or by the manager. The decision of reclassification by the regional committee would be final.

- 6) If a team has four (4) or more players on teams that finished in the top 30%, they would be reviewed for reclassification as well.

3. Adult Fastpitch

- A) Teams shall be reclassified to the next highest classification based on the following criteria.
 - 1) Teams that win a B or C National Qualifier
 - 2) If a Regional Tournament is played, the top 20% of the finishers will be reviewed for reclassification the following year.
- B) Reclassified teams shall receive a Regional berth in their respective reclassification. *If a Regional Tournament is held, all teams may participate in their respective tournament.*

Article 7- Classification Appeals Process for Adult Teams

1. General Information

- A) Local Association Commissioners in each area shall hear the appeal regarding reclassification and make recommendations to the classification committee by the last Wednesday in June.

2. Adult Fastpitch/Adult Slowpitch

- A) Teams may appeal their classification to the NW Classification Committee. Teams are expected to play in at least two tournaments or one round of traveling league play before making an appeal.
- B) The appropriate two page form must be completed in full and postmarked no later than *August 1st* in order to be considered. The appeal request must be accompanied by the team's original Championship Play Roster of the previous year and the current year.
- C) Teams must allow up to fourteen (14) days for an appeal to be processed. The roster shall be marked with the applicable classification as determined by the classification committee and forwarded to the appropriate Championship Tournament Director. Copies shall be kept on file and made available if a team wishes to enter a qualifying tournament.
- D) If an appeal is granted and the team is allowed to play at the same level as in the previous year, the team's roster will be frozen.
 - 1) Any player addition will automatically move the team back to the higher classification.
 - a) The intent of this procedure is to inhibit teams from losing two events with an intentionally weaker team, be classified down and then add players who become even more competitive.

Article 8- Types of Adult Team Classifications

1. Men's Slow Pitch

A.) Class 'A'

- 1) Teams are skilled offensively and defensively with payers that have good skills, athletic abilities and experience.
- 2) Defensively, they are capable of taking games away from their opponents with strong, clean fielding.
- 3) Teams will generally finish in the upper half of tournaments they enter.
- 4) Teams may not compete in 'B' or lower tournaments unless approved by the Tournament Director and their State or Metro Commissioner
- 5) Teams may follow the 'A' homerun rule (8) unless they are playing down in which case they may follow the 'B' homerun rule (4)
 - a) Teams that have 3 or more run hitters will generally be classified 'A'
- 6) Teams may not have more than five (5) players from the restricted player list on their roster

B.) Class 'B'

- 1) Teams may be registered as a Tournament team only, or they will play in their locals association top level of league play
- 2) Teams may have highly skilled players, but not all defensive positions will be filled by highly skilled or experienced players. Team speed is above average.
- 3) Teams may win one or two games in championship tournaments, but are competitive with teams in this classification.
- 4) Teams may compete in 'B' or higher level tournaments.
- 5) Teams may not compete in 'C' or lower classifications unless approved by the Tournament Director and their State or Metro Commissioner.
- 6) Any team which establishes itself as a strong 'B' team, or which has improved through addition of higher caliber players will be considered for reclassification
- 7) This classification will follow the 'B' homerun rule.

C) Class 'C'

- 1) Team play a competitive schedule. They generally play at least six (6) tournaments.
- 2) Teams may have skilled players, but not all defensive positions will be filled by skilled players.
- 3) Team speed is average.
- 4) Teams may be moved to 'B' with the addition of higher caliber skilled players.
- 5) This classification will follow the 'C' homerun rule.

D) Class 'D'

- 1) Teams play a less competitive schedule than 'C' teams, and participate in less than six (6) tournaments.
- 2) Teams may have a few skilled players but are usually lacking in making the defensive plays on a consistent basis. Teams speed is average.
- 3) Teams will be asked to play in a 'C' tournament if they finish in the top three (3) positions of three (3) 'D' tournaments.

- 4) Teams will follow the 'D' home run rule.
- E) Class 'E/Rec'
- 1) Teams play less competitive schedule than D teams.
 - 2) Teams may have a few skilled players but are usually lacking in making the defensive plays on a consistent basis.
 - 3) E/Rec teams generally are ASA League teams that play in few tournaments.
 - 4) Teams will be asked to play in a D tournament if they finished 1st in any tournaments.
 - 5) Teams will follow the E/Rec home run rule.

2. Women's Slow Pitch

- A) Class 'Open'
- 1) Teams are skilled offensively and defensively with players that have good skills, athletic ability and experience.
 - 2) Defensively, they are capable of taking games away from their opponent with strong, clean fielding. They turn the double play easily.
 - 3) Offensively, teams have better than average power and better than average team speed.
 - 4) Teams may win one or two games, in championship play and are competitive with other teams in this classification.
 - 5) Teams may not compete in 'C' or lower classification tournaments unless approved by the local Tournament Director or their Association Commissioner.
- B) Class 'C'
- 1) Teams play a competitive schedule. They generally play in 4 to 6 tournaments.
 - 2) Teams may have skilled players but not all defensive positions will be filled by skilled players.
 - 3) Teams may be moved to open with the addition of higher caliber skilled players.
 - 4) Teams may not compete in 'D' classification tournaments unless approved by the local tournament director and their State or Metro Commissioner.
- C) Class 'D'
- 1) Teams play less competitive schedule than 'C' teams, and participate in less than 4 to 6 tournaments.
 - 2) Teams may have a few skilled players but are usually lacking in making the defensive plays on a consistent basis.
 - 3) Teams will be asked to play in 'C' tournaments if they finish in the top three (3) positions of (3) 'D' tournaments.

3. Coed Slow Pitch

- A) Class 'Open' Refer to ASA Code
- B) Class 'C' Refer to ASA Code
- C) Class 'D' Refer to ASA Code

4. Mandatory Player Classification

Starting January 1st each year, an appeal process will start wherein a player can submit an appeal to have their player rating dropped. This process ends August 1, and at that time no appeals will be accepted until the following January. Our team procedures are now based on the ASA Code in which a team could have 3 mandatory players from the next higher division on their roster. We consider our list equal to mandatory classified players. With the player classification system we have in place, it helps create a fair and level playing field for all teams not only at a local but also at a national level.

Players on the ASA Restricted list can only participate in the Men's A or Coed *Open* Programs. *Players with a + designation may play in their class or higher.*

- A) Men's Slow Pitch
 - Men's A *Refer to ASA Code*
 - Men's B *Refer to ASA Code*
 - Men's C = 3 B rated players and no player from the Restricted Player List
 - Men's D = 3 C Rated Players and no players from the Restricted Player list
 - Men's E = 3 D Rated and no players from the Restricted Player list, no A Rated Players

- B) Women's Slow Pitch
 - Women's Open = Any Female Player
 - Women's C - 3 Open Rated Players
 - Women's D = 3 C Rated Players

- C) Any player selected as an All Tournament player in any National Tournament will be classified to the next highest level for the next 2 seasons

5. Men's and Women's Fast Pitch

- A) Class 'Major'
 - 1) Budgeted. Traveling, highly competitive teams, which generally have been established for several years.
 - 2) Teams have skilled defense and a proficient offense and are composed of strong, athletic, skilled players.
 - 3) Teams usually place within the top quarter in competitive tournaments.
 - 4) Major teams compete in Open or Major tournaments and may be invited to participate in 'A' tournaments.
 - 5) Teams may not compete in 'B' or lower classification.
 - 6) A team will generally have two (2) or more major class pitchers.

- B) Class 'A'
 - 1) Teams are skilled offensively and defensively with players that have good skills, athletic abilities and experience.
 - 2) Teams will generally finish in the upper half of tournaments they enter.

- 3) Teams may occasionally win tournaments in which a few Major teams may compete.
- 4) Teams may not compete in 'B' or lower classification tournaments.
- 5) A team generally has 2 or more class 'A' pitchers.

C) Class 'B'

- 1) Teams will range from better teams from the recreational level leagues, to the less successful teams from the 'A' leagues.
- 2) Teams may have highly skilled players, but not all defensive positions will be filled by highly skilled or experienced players.
- 3) Teams may win one or two games, at best, in championship tournaments.
- 4) Teams may compete in 'B'- or higher level tournaments.
- 5) Teams may not compete in 'C' or lower classification tournaments.
- 6) Any team which establishes itself as a strong 'B' team, or which has improved through the addition of higher caliber players, will be considered for reclassification.
- 7) A team will generally not have any pitchers that can dominate the game.

D) Class 'C'

- 1) Teams play in recreational level leagues and do not regularly participate in tournaments.
- 2) A team's offense and defense is inconsistent and often limited.
- 3) The 'C' teams will generally have younger and inexperienced players, but they have the older experienced pitcher who cannot compete in the 'B' class.

Article 9 - Junior Olympic Classification

1. 18U Gold Fastpitch

- A) Open to all players within the region, and in accordance with the Regional and National ASA Codes.
- B) Teams shall register with the Association where the majority of players reside or attend school.
- C) Player Declaration Form
 - 1) Players must sign a "Player Declaration Form" and file their team roster where they intend to play.
 - 2) June 1st or one day prior to participation in championship play is the deadline date to file the "Player Declaration Form" and team roster with the local and regional officials.

2. Class 'A'

- A) Teams are competitive and travel.
- B) Teams are select, hand picked or self declared.

C) Teams may participate in Class Gold and 'A' invitational tournaments.

3. Class 'B'

A) Involves some travel.

B) Teams may participate in Class 'A' and 'B' invitational tournaments.

4. Reclassification

A) Teams may be reclassified by their local association based on tournament performance.