

2019 Constitution & Bylaws



of San Antonio

Adult Slow Pitch League

USA SOFTBALL™ of San Antonio

The Mission of USA Softball of San Antonio is to provide a professionally organized and operated program for the citizens of San Antonio.

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**AMATEUR SOFTBALL PROGRAM
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

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League Registration

We are proud to introduce **online registration** for all of our softball leagues.

Fees: 2019 SPRING SUMMER & FALL SEASONS

League	Team Entry Fee	Register	Payment Due By
Adult Slow Pitch	\$590	Register online or in office	Team Fee due at time of registration. Fee can be split into 2 payments.
Girls Fast Pitch	\$375 + PAP		

******Team entry fee includes 12 players on your team roster.******

Team Rosters & Adding Players:

Team rosters are completed prior to the first game of each season. Each additional player on your roster is \$11 adult/ \$10 youth. The Team Captain is responsible for the team roster and communications in regards to the league. We recommend you complete your roster online.

Any team can add players throughout the season. Once you have submitted a team roster, you can add players at the gate by filling out an add on card at the front gate prior to your game time. Pay the player fee in **cash only**. The player is added to the roster and is eligible to play that night and any night after for that season.

Additional Details:

USA Softball of San Antonio provides awards, fields, umpires, scorekeepers and grounds keepers for all league play. Teams are responsible for any equipment necessary to play.

Softballs must be purchased from USA Softball of San Antonio. They are \$6.00 per ball and you can purchase from our office or at the gate of each complex during games.

Concession stand is open nightly for players and spectators. Concession sells hot food, candy, sodas, beer, water, ice and more!

Spectators are welcome! We are a kid friendly, family oriented organization. Spectators will be charged \$2.00 per night to enter the complex and children 10 years and under enter for free.



[2019 Adult Slow Pitch Rule Changes](#)

- A male/female may play on as many male/female/co-ed teams as desired, within the same classification; but they may only participate on one team per league. (Exception: Class D players may also play Class E, but a Class E team can have no more than 2 Class D players on their roster. Class E teams must designate who the D players are, on their roster).
 - Any Eligible Player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a Courtesy Runner. A Courtesy Runner may be used **2 times per inning by each team**. If Courtesy Runner is on Base and his/her position comes up to bat then the runner will be declared out and that person will take their turn at bat. In Co-Ed Courtesy Runners must be of same gender. In Co-Ed Courtesy Runners will be One Male and One Female per half inning.
 - **Men's and Women's Teams** will be allowed to start with either 8 or 9 players **or 12 Players (2 EP's)** however they will receive an out every time the absent player or players come up to bat.
 - Co-Ed Teams will be allowed to start with 8 Players (4 Males, 4 Females) however they will receive an out each time the absent players would have come up to bat. Co-Ed Teams will also be allowed to start with 9 Players (5 either gender/4), however they will receive an out each time the absent player would have come to bat. Co-Ed teams can also play more women than men but they must start and finish with at least 4 men.
 - **If using an EP (Extra Player) and not all 12 (Men & Women) or 12 (Co-Ed) are present at the start of the game, your team will receive an OUT each time the absent player or players would have come to bat. ONCE A GAME HAS STARTED, YOU CANNOT ADD OR REMOVE THE EP.**
 - **Players caught playing on a team without being on the teams roster will be declared an illegal player and will be ejected from the PARK for that evening and the team will receive a FORFEIT. The Manager of the team who allows an illegal player to play will be warned on the 1st offense. A 2nd offense will be cause for suspension for the remainder of the Season.**
 - USA Softball has a new **Liability insurance** program for Adult Teams. All Adult USA Softball of San Antonio Teams will now be insured as part of their League Registration, and they can name the Field Owners as additional insured at no extra cost.
- Important Note: Accident Insurance** (excess medical coverage for medical bills incurred by injured players) is **NOT** included in this registration. Only **Liability Insurance** is included with your USA Softball of San Antonio League Registration. To purchase Team Accident Insurance, you will need to obtain a login from your USA Softball Commissioner (Herman Garza – hgarzaasa@att.net). Once you have the login, go to RPSBollinger.com, click on “USA Softball” then Buy Insurance Online. Coverage will apply on an annual basis for your play in any Softball Team Practice, League Game or Tournament Game.
- On Questionable Game situations or calls, the Umpires will only talk to the Team Manager who conducts Himself/Herself in a PROFESSIONAL MANNER. Any Manager or Player that touches or bumps an umpire (Accident or Deliberate) or charges, verbally abuses or commits any other unsportsmanlike act toward an umpire or anyone participating in the game will be ejected without warning and subject to suspension.

- CITY ORDINANCE (CITY CODE SECTION 22-1) PROHIBITS THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN CITY PARKS, THEREFORE TAILGATE PARTIES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ANY USA SOFTBALL OF S.A. COMPLEX PARKING LOT.

- **Player Eligibility protest will be accepted anytime during the game.**

When a batter enters the batters box with or is discovered using an illegal bat, the batter is called out.

- When a batter enters the batter's box with or is discovered using an altered or non-approved bat, the batter shall be ejected from the game. Batter is out, all outs count and all runners return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
- Dugout Conduct:
 - a. Coaches, Players, substitutes, and other bench personnel shall not be outside the designated dugout area except when the rules allow or it is justified by the Umpire.
 - b. Participants may not smoke in the dugout or in the complex. Our Facilities are a Non Smoking Facilities.

The FIRST OFFENSE IS A TEAM WARNING. ANY REPEAT OFFENSE SHALL RESULT IN THE EJECTION OF THAT TEAM MEMBER.

DRINKING OF ALCOHOL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED BEFORE OR DURING THE GAME BY THOSE PARTICIPATING. IF YOU ARE OBSERVED CONSUMING ALCOHOL, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY. NO EXCEPTIONS

- Abusive Language (Profanity) by Ball Players and/or Coaches will not be tolerated and at the Umpire's Discretion will result in the Team receiving a **TEAM OUT** when it is the teams turn at bat or possible **EJECTION** depending on the severity of the offense.
- All Bats will be checked by the Umpires before the start of the game. Please put your Bats in the Containers located by the On Deck Circle. Once the Umpires have checked the Bats, Only those Bats will be allowed in the Game. Once the Bats have been checked, no other Bats will be allowed to be added to the container. If you take your Bat to the dugout, then that Bat will remain in the dugout for the rest of the Game.
- **Up the Middle Rule: Any Sharply Batted Ball that hits the Pitcher while the Pitcher is in a Defenseless Posture will be a Dead Ball, an Out and Ejection. A 2nd Offense by the same player during the season will result with the player being Suspended for 2 Games, a 3rd Offense will result with the player being Suspended for the remainder of the Season, if at the end of the Season then the player will be Suspended for the following Season.**

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

The Amateur Softball Program is organized and administered by USA Softball of San Antonio for leisure and recreation enjoyment for the citizens of San Antonio.

ARTICLE II

SUPERVISION AND ADMINISTRATION

1. Commissioner of the various leagues shall be the Manager of USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO & the USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO Commissioner and shall enforce this Constitution and By-Laws.
2. The By-Laws, as set forth in this Constitution, shall be strictly adhered to and supersede rules from all other sources in the specific areas with which they are concerned. All areas NOT specifically covered in these By-Laws and Constitution are subject to the official USA Softball Playing Rules.
3. Any matter not covered in this Constitution and By-Laws shall be left to the discretion of the USA Softball of San Antonio Manager or USA Softball of San Antonio Commissioner.
4. The USA Softball of San Antonio Commissioner shall approve all umpires, scorekeepers, etc.
5. You may reach the USA Softball of San Antonio staff by calling 210-590-0350 or by emailing them at Jennifer.kowal@outlook.com or hgarzaasa@att.net

ARTICLE III

FINANCIAL AND PRE-REGISTRATION

1. Each team must pay the fee set by USA Softball of San Antonio to meet the cost of league operating expenses, which must be turned in at a designated time. League Registration can be done online at www.usasoftballofsa.com and will include the fee for your first 12 players on your roster. Rosters will be submitted online for your first 12 players. **Please make note that the only time player additions and player releases can be exchanged is before league play begins.** Once league play has started new players may be added and pay the **\$11.00** Player Registration Fee, this can be done by filling out an Add on Card with the Gatekeeper at the Entrance to the Ball Park. **A receipt will be issued to you on the spot.**
NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE BALL PARK.
2. USA Softball of San Antonio shall have control over its gate receipts. All surplus money, after expenses have been deducted, shall remain in the Softball Operation Fund for the promotion of Softball.
3. Only players, one (1) coach, one (1) manager, and one (1) batboy who have signed contracts on record will be admitted to the ballpark free of charge. Children under ten (10) years are admitted free. At USA Softball of San Antonio facilities all spectators will be charged \$2.00 for admittance to league games.

ARTICLE IV

MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Softball Team Manager is the contact person between the team and USA Softball of SA Office. If a team is to compete successfully in team sports, a good manager is absolutely necessary. Matters concerning your team are communicated to the manager. He/she, in turn, is responsible for passing information on to the team members. Information sent out by the USA Softball of SA Office should be read with care and followed with appropriate action. Each manager should also see that the team members are given the opportunity to read and interpret all pertinent communications.

The Team Manager is responsible for:

1. Creating an ONLINE profile and registering the team each season.
2. Submitting the entries on time.
3. **Knowing the eligibility rules and abiding by them as per league Constitution and By-Laws.**
4. Knowing the rules in the USA Softball Guide and the USA Softball of SA Constitution and By-Laws and relating the same to your team.
5. Distributing of all schedules to all team members.
6. Checking with the USA Softball of SA Office for any league make-up games.
7. Never losing a game by forfeit.
8. Submitting typewritten protests to the USA Softball of SA Office, within 24 hours after the contest was played or scheduled to have been played.
9. **Informing the USA Softball of SA Office as to your new telephone number and address throughout the season. Also, any change in management should be immediately sent to the USA Softball of SA Office.**
10. **Managers or team representatives are responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches and spectators. Managers are responsible for their fans or followers and are expected to curtail any excessive or unwanted action between them and the game in progress.**
11. Managers or team representatives are responsible to appear at home plate prior to the starting time of their game to discuss ground rules with the umpires.
12. Team managers or representatives must present the scorekeeper and umpire with a clearly **printed** line-up of positions and first and last names. Teams are responsible for being in the proper dugouts for

each game. **On your schedule the team listed first is home team and will take the third base dugout, unless noted otherwise on your schedule.** (Alva Jo, Kennedy, & Koger Stokes **ONLY**).

13. "Pitch-In" in the effort to keep our parks and playing facilities clean.
14. **Teams are responsible for their own first aid supplies, no ice is provided for player injuries.**

ARTICLE V

LEAGUE PLAY

1. USA Softball of San Antonio offers leagues for Men & Women. The leagues are Men's Slow Pitch, Women's Slow Pitch & Co-Ed Slow Pitch.
2. **USA Softball of San Antonio reserves the right to designate the league in which teams will be placed and also designate playing sites and playing dates.** USA Softball of San Antonio shall use the Classification and Regulations Guidelines as adopted by USA Softball of SA/USA Softball of Texas .
3. The Operation Manager of USA Softball of SA shall have the power to schedule/reschedule any games necessary to complete the season to **INCLUDE SATURDAY'S AND SUNDAY'S**.
4. **For the 7:00 p.m. Game Only**, if a team does not have enough players to start, the game clock will start and after 5 minutes if the team still does not have enough players then the game will be declared a forfeit. All other games must start as scheduled. Line-ups are to be turned in to the scorekeeper ten (10) minutes prior to scheduled game time and to the umpire at game time. Teams must be ready to play at their scheduled time. Games may be started early whenever the occasion arises, but both managers must consent to same.
5. 5. All league games shall consist of seven (7) innings or fifty-five (55) minutes playing time, **All extra inning games, with time expired or after 7 completed innings, will be played with a one-pitch. (NO COURTESY)**. . The scorekeeper will be the official timer; **clocks will be started on the first pitch of the game**. A new inning starts with the final out of the previous inning. All games must be completed, if at all possible. The **twenty (20) run rule will be in effect after 3 innings, the fifteen (15) run rule will be in effect after 4 innings and the ten (10) run rule will be in effect after 5 innings in Slow Pitch**. All make-up games will be as outlined in the A.S.A. Guide. **All players must hustle on and off the field at all times.**
6. **In order to get seven (7) innings played within the time limit, three (3) warm-up pitches will be allowed only at the beginning of a Slow Pitch game and after a new pitcher enters the game, after the pitch or putout, the ball will be thrown directly back to the pitcher. Failure to follow this rule after due warning from the umpire, subjects the game to forfeiture.**
7. No Infield practice will be permitted before or between games.

8. Forfeit policy for teams and umpires:
- A) **A team will forfeit if they fail to appear on the field, or being on the field refusing to begin a game for which it is scheduled or assigned at the time scheduled.**
 - B) If after the game has begun, one side refuses to continue to play, unless the game has been suspended or terminated by the umpire.
 - C) If after the game has been suspended by the umpire and one side fails to resume playing within two (2) minutes after the umpire has called "play ball".
 - D) If an ineligible/illegal player is found to have participated.
 - E) If the order for the removal of a player is not obeyed **within one (1) minute.**
9. In case of a double forfeiture, the Operation Manager shall award a loss to both teams. Any team forfeiting three (3) league games (no shows or not enough players) shall be dropped from their respective league.
10. If any game of the evening is forfeited, umpires will be furnished by the league for a practice game until the next game is scheduled to begin. (**Except for last game forfeits**)
11. Softballs, bats, shoes and other equipment used in softball shall conform with the equipment rules as stipulated in the Official USA Rules (**exception: no metal cleats**). Failure on the part of the manager to conform to these rules may, at the discretion of the Commissioner, forfeit the game in which illegal equipment was used. Umpires will rule on illegal equipment, subject to approval of Operation Manager if protested. Protests must be in writing.
12. When turning the lineups in, use proper names as they are on the Roster. Both first and last names are required with positions and manager's signatures.

During a game, the manager or team representative of the team making a substitution shall immediately notify the plate umpire at the time a substitute enters.

13. In the event of inclement weather occurring prior to 4:00pm, we request the **managers only** call the USA Softball of SA Office Weather Information Line, **210-880-0840** or visit our **Website** www.usasoftballofsa.com for status of evening games. In the event the conditions are questionable, a final decision will be made at the game site after 6:00pm. In any event, it's the manager's responsibility to contact the USA Softball of S.A. Information Line or game site for status of the games. If games are rained out, the Operations Manager will reschedule these games at a time and place to be designated at a later date. **PLEASE NOTE THAT MAKE-UP'S MAY BE ON SATURDAY'S OR SUNDAY'S.** It will be the manager's responsibility to obtain times and place from the USA Softball of SA Office. NOTE: If it has been raining and you are not sure if your game has been cancelled, report to the ball field where you

are scheduled. If the first game has been rained out, all games for that night are cancelled. (See page 12 for complete list of Field phone numbers).

14. League competition shall be at least a double round robin series. The team with the highest win percentage shall be declared champion. Awards will be presented to the champion and runner-up teams in each league. **Tiebreaker-** In the event of a tie between teams for first and/ or second place at the end of regular league play, the tie will be broken based on head-to-head competition. In the event that teams are still tied, the team with the **Total** least runs scored against them will be the winner. If they are still tied, **Total** runs scored by the teams will be used.
15. The official Softball shall be those designated by the Commissioner from an approved list of softballs. The home plate umpire will control the home team's softballs and the base umpire the visiting team's softballs. Softballs will be sold at Alva Jo, Koger Stokes & Kennedy Softball Complexes. Cost of softballs will be **\$6.00. All balls MUST be purchased from USA Softball of San Antonio and MUST have the SAASA or USA Softball of San Antonio stamp on it along with the ASA or USA Stamp. Each team will present two playable game balls to the umpires when meeting with them at home plate to discuss the ground rules. The umpires will determine if the balls are legal and playable. Any new balls that come into the game will go directly to the appropriate umpire before they are put into play. Teams should have extra playable balls available in the event the others are fouled out of play (time lost will be your own).**

Approved Softball List for 2019

Men's Slow Pitch

Yellow Cover
Red Stitched
Core 52 with max
Compression .300
12"

Women's Slow Pitch

Yellow Cover
Red Stitched
Core 44 with max Compression 375
or Core 52 with max Compression 300
11"

16. No team shall change its name after the league schedules have been drawn up.
17. Full uniform (pants, numbered shirts, and caps) may be worn, but are not required unless advancing to T.A.A.F Invitational, USA Softball Regional and National Tournaments.
18. USA Softball has a new **Liability insurance** program for Adult Teams. All Adult USA Softball of San Antonio Teams will now be insured as part of their League Registration, and they can name the Field Owners as additional insured at no extra cost.

Important Note: Accident Insurance (excess medical coverage for medical bills incurred by injured players) is **NOT** included in this registration. Only **Liability Insurance** is included with your USA Softball of San Antonio League Registration. To purchase Team Accident Insurance, you will need to obtain a login from your USA Softball Commissioner (Herman Garza – hgarzaasa@att.net). Once you have the login, go to RPSBollinger.com, click on "USA Softball" then Buy Insurance Online. Coverage will apply on an annual basis for your play in any Softball Team Practice, League Game or Tournament Game. **USA**

Softball of San Antonio cannot be held responsible for injuries sustained by players or spectators.

19. Men's and Women's Slow Pitch teams will be allowed to start with eight (8) players or nine (9) players, however they will receive an out each time the absent player or players would have come to bat.
20. **Co-Ed Teams will be allowed to start with 8 Players (4 Males, 4 Females) or 9 Players (5 either gender/4), however they will receive an out each time the absent player or players would have come to bat. Co-Ed teams can also play more women than men but they must start and finish with at least 4 men.**
21. In Men's, Women and Co-Ed, if starting with less than 10 players and a substitute arrives he/she must be inserted into the Line-up immediately, if substitute refuses to enter the game then that player becomes ineligible for the remainder of the game and the team will receive an out in the batting order each time the substitute would have come to bat. **Once a team reaches ten (10) players and a player leaves the game for any reason and no substitute is available, the team will receive an out each time the missing player would have come to bat.** Do not list missing players name on starting Line-up, please list them as substitutes Players removed due to injuries will not be allowed to re-enter the game.

Ejections: The game will not be a forfeit if a player is ejected even if no legal substitute is available. A player may be ejected after the game is over and the penalty will be enforced at the player's next game. The game will be a forfeit if at any time you have less than eight (8) players.

2 EPS (EXTRA PLAYERS) are allowed in MEN, WOMEN & CO-ED, IF NOT ALL 12 ARE PRESENT AT THE START OF THE GAME, YOUR TEAM WILL RECEIVE AN OUT EACH TIME THE ABSENT PLAYER OR PLAYERS WOULD HAVE COME TO BAT. In Co-Ed EPS will be one Male & one Female.

ONCE A GAME HAS STARTED, YOU CANNOT ADD OR REMOVE THE EP.

22. Co-Ed & Men's home run limits: **(HOME RUNS WILL BE HIT AND SIT)**
 - a) Men's "Rec" & Co-ed "Rec" Leagues will have **1 Home Run**. If a home run is hit beyond the allowed amount, **it will be declared an end of the ½ inning out.**
 - b) Men's "E" & Co-ed "E" Leagues will have **2 Home Runs**. If a home run is hit beyond the allowed amount, **it will be declared an end of the ½ inning out.**
 - c) Men's "D" will have **3 Home Runs** and will incorporate the **1-up Rule** for Home Runs.

ONE UP RULE – The one up rule is in effect when: once both teams have reached their respective home run limits, either team may hit an additional home run; however, no team may ever go more than one home run up on the other team. Any additional home run above the one-up will be scored as an out.

EXAMPLE: Both class "D" teams have hit their respective (3) home runs by the bottom of the fourth inning. In the 5th inning, the visiting team is now allowed to hit another home run, and do so. In the bottom of the 5th the home team can now hit 2 home runs, which is allowed, because they are no more than one home run up on the other team. If one team does not hit their allotted home run limit, then the one-up home run

rule will not be used. The home team, in the bottom of the last inning, may hit one home run to pull even in the number of home runs as the opposing team, but may not hit a home run to go one up.

23. **All batters will begin their turn at bat with a 1-1 count and with a courtesy foul.**

ARTICLE VI

ROSTERS

- A male/female may play on as many male/female/co-ed teams as desired, **within the same classification**; but they may only participate on one team per league. (Exception: Class D players may also play Class E, but a Class E team can have no more than **2** Class D players on their roster. Class E teams must designate who the D players are, on their roster).
- 2. Any player participating on more than the above-described rosters will be subject to a suspension. All managers involved could also be subject to a suspension.
- 3. Teams should have no less than ten (10) players, with at least five (5) being female on a Co-ed team. **(Only 15 individual awards will be given to 1st & 2nd place teams).**
- 4. **MANDATORY ID CHECKS: All players and coaches MUST show their state issued or military ID at the front gate in order to enter the softball complex. NO ID, NO PLAY.**
- 5. All transfers and releases must be filed in writing and signed by the team's manager. Players transferring to another team within a league they have participated in may only transfer to a team with an equal or less win/loss record.
- 6. In the event a softball team disbands; players may sign up with any other team within their own classification or higher, in accordance with Article VI, Section 5.
- 7. **Rosters must be submitted online before you play your first game. Failure to submit a roster will result in team not being allowed to play.**

ARTICLE VII

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. A player must either reside in or be regularly employed in the State of Texas.

2. Co-ed players are restricted to participating in the same classification of play or higher as classified by their men's or women's team. Example: Class "E" male or female player must play class "E" or higher in Co-ed, you may not play Class "Rec". NOTE: If you do not compete on a men's or women's team, you may only participate in one level of Co-ed.
3. **Eligibility of players is the manager's responsibility. Any team found using ineligible players could result in the manager and the illegal player suspended for one (1) calendar year from the date of the offense. This action will be automatic. The Operations Manager shall use his/her discretion on all matters of player eligibility. Teams will forfeit all games in which the ineligible player participated.**
4. All players must be on an official league Roster. Players caught playing on a team without being on that team's roster will be declared illegal and will be EJECTED FROM THE PARK AND THE TEAM WILL RECEIVE A FORFEIT. Once the season gets underway, a new player Add On card must be submitted prior to player participating in a game. Add On cards may be submitted to the gatekeeper at the complex prior to your game.
5. Adult leagues are for participants sixteen (16) years of age and older. Anyone under eighteen (18) years of age must have a parental release card signed and turned in with the team roster and permission of the Operations Manager prior to participation.
6. Participants that are considered physically challenged, as determined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, must contact the USA Softball of S.A. Manager prior to participation in league play.
7. **If eligibility is questioned, the game clock will stop (not to exceed one (1) minute) and the player in question will be allowed to go to the dugout to produce a current, valid state issued or Military photo I.D. The player will not be allowed to leave the playing field. Failure to prove his/her identity shall be grounds for game forfeiture and further sanctions (See Article VII, Rule 3). Please carry I.D.'s with you at all times.**

ARTICLE VIII

CONDUCT OF PLAYERS

1. **Players who show evidence of intoxication will not be permitted on the playing field. No drinking of alcoholic beverages will be permitted before or during the game by those participating. If you are observed consuming alcohol, you will not be allowed to play. NO EXCEPTIONS. CITY ORDINANCE (CITY CODE SECTION 22-1) PROHIBITS THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN CITY PARKS, THEREFORE TAILGATE PARTIES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ANY USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO SOFTBALL COMPLEXES PARKING LOT.**

2. **Abusive Language (Profanity) by Ball Players and/or Coaches will not be tolerated and at the Umpire's Discretion, will result in the Team receiving a TEAM OUT when it is the teams turn at bat or possible EJECTION, depending on the severity of the offense.**
3. The Operation Manager will rule on protested games and suspension of players, coaches or managers for violation of rules, inciting fights, etc. All games are in the hands of the umpires and every player and team is required to respect their authority. Conduct such as profane language, indulgence in alcoholic beverages before or during the game, abusing the umpires, officials, or the opponents will not be tolerated and any player found guilty of such conduct will be subject to suspension depending on the severity of the offense. Any player, under a league contract, must not at any time abuse the umpires.
4. Any disciplinary action taken by the Operations Manager may be appealed to the Board of Directors by making this appeal in writing to the Commissioner. (See Article 9. Section 3.)
5. **Any manager or player removed or ejected from a game has one (1) minute to leave the complex (sitting or standing in the dugout, or sitting or standing in the bleachers or in the immediate area are not permitted). Any player ejected will be suspended through the team's next ball game and any other team that he/she participates on.**

MISCONDUCT POLICY

Unfortunately, in past seasons, a small number of softball participants have engaged in abusive and disruptive behavior. These types of activities diminish the experience and safety of the majority of our players. We have asked our Umpires and Field Managers to Strictly ENFORCE a “ZERO TOLERANCE” approach in an effort to keep a few from diminishing the experience of many.

Misconduct toward any employee either verbal or physical threats will result in an automatic suspension under the discretion of the Softball Operations Manager & Commissioner.

Fighting – Immediate Ejection from the complex and suspension.

Trash Talking to Opponents / Umpires: Ejection from game and suspension.

Heckling by Spectators: Ejection from complex for the night, the remainder of the

Season and/or entire year.

Please inform your players and fans of this new policy. We regret having to enforce such strict rules on our players/spectators, but USA Softball of San Antonio Complexes are Family oriented facilities and each of you deserves to play in a Safe and Comfortable Environment.

ARTICLE IX

PROTESTS

1. Protests must be made to the umpire and the scorekeeper at the time of appeal and prior to the next pitch (legal or illegal) and then filed with the Operation Manager, in writing, the next working day before 4:30 p.m. Opponent's team manager will be notified by the umpire at the time of appeal. Each protest shall be filed on the official form supplied by the USA Softball of SA Office and accompanied by the **\$40.00 Protest Fee**, which sum shall be returned to the protesting team if the protest is allowed. If the protest is disallowed, the deposit will be forfeited. This fee shall be turned in to the League Commissioner and deposited into the Softball Operations Account.
2. **Player eligibility protests will be accepted at anytime during the game.** Protests filed during the game shall be made only by the participants of the game being played. **(If there has been no official roster turned in by said team, the protest will be automatically assessed.)**
3. Persons involved in legal protests shall have, at their written request (only after the Operation Manager has ruled), a hearing before the Board of Directors. Requests must be received (in person or by registered mail) by the Operation Manager within ten (10) days after notification of suspension.
4. The Board of Directors, chaired by the Commissioner, shall be composed of five (5) to seven (7) members selected at random by the Commissioner. They have the power to determine all legal protests and appeals if the parties involved request it in writing to the Commissioner for a Hearing. No member of the Protest Board shall vote in any decision involving his respective league. In the event of a tie vote, the Commissioner shall cast the deciding vote. A quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board is required to make a decision.
5. **All decisions made by the Board of Directors shall be final and not subject to appeal or review**
6. **JUDGMENT CALLS – NO PROTEST ACCEPTED**

ARTICLE X

SUSPENSIONS

1. Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as abusive language either directly or indirectly toward officials in charge of game, throwing a bat in anger or disgust, intentional delay of game tactics, unnecessary rough tactics against an opposing player, intentional spiking or playing while intoxicated.
Any player or manager ejected from a ball game for unsportsmanlike conduct will automatically be suspended from all league play through that team’s next ball game and any other team you participate on. Another un-sportsman-like violation by the same individual or team is sufficient grounds to suspend player or team for a season.
2. Trash talking between ball players and/or spectators, or directed at umpires, will not be tolerated and will result in players or coaches being ejected, without warning, and suspended through the teams next game. **NO TOLERANCE RULE WILL BE IN EFFECT.**
3. Physical Violence – Any player who pushes or strikes a player, umpire or league official is automatically suspended indefinitely. Commissioner shall proceed with determining a suspension unless Assault and Battery charges are filed by the players, coaches, officials or league. If the player(s) is found guilty of the charges by the Court of Law, the player becomes suspended for a minimum of five (5) years.
4. Suspended players cannot participate in USA Softball of SA Sponsored League, Tournaments and in any sports program conducted by the USA Softball of San Antonio.
5. Game Interference and Harassment – Any player or players who attempt to intercede with orderly disposition of a dispute during the course of the game shall become deleted from the line-up. Managers shall instruct their players to remain in the dugout area during any dispute involving rule interpretation or unnecessary rough tactics between members of opposing teams. The League officials will eject offending players from the game and report those individuals to the USA Softball of SA Office for further action (See Unsportsmanlike Conduct). **Any player reported for harassing an umpire or league official shall be penalized by suspension, depending upon the severity of the encounter. Threats of bodily harm toward umpires or league officials shall be grounds for removal from the league and grounds for legal action.** Players and Managers should direct their criticism of game situations in writing to the League Commissioner.
6. On Questionable game situations or calls, the Umpire will only talk to the **Team Manager who conducts himself/herself in a professional manner.** Any manager or player that touches or bumps an Umpire (Accident or Deliberate) or charges, verbally abuses or commits any other unsportsmanlike act toward an umpire or anyone participating in the game will be ejected without warning and subject to suspension.

ARTICLE XI

USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO METRO TOURNAMENT

USA Softball of San Antonio Office offer teams in all divisions the opportunity to compete in the USA Softball of San Antonio Metro Tournament, which is open to any USA Softball of San Antonio team registered in Bexar County that pays the tournament entry fee, tournament will be held during the months of

July-August each year (date to be announced). The top 5 finishers in all divisions in the Metro Tournament are eligible to represent San Antonio in the USA Nationals. Teams must compete with the same roster in championship play as during the regular season's play, except that teams are allowed to pick up three (3) players when advancing in championship play. Pick-up players may move up in classification but not down. They cannot be drafted from a team still competing in championship play. Once a player has qualified for a National Tournament, they may not participate in any other Metro Tournament as long as the team they qualified with is still eligible for competition.

ARTICLE XII

FACILITIES

1. **There will be no smoking permitted in any or our Softball Complexes.**
2. USA Softball of San Antonio reserves the right to pre-empt any diamond at Koger Stokes, Alva Jo Fischer, or Kennedy Complex Fields regardless of issued permits. This will be used only when leagues or tournament games have had to be cancelled through conditions beyond our control. Arrangements for another diamond or a later make-up will be made at the time the permit bearing team is notified of the USA Softball of San Antonio usage.
3. Benches and bleachers are provided for everyone outside of the playing areas. No one is allowed inside the playing areas except the coach, batter, next batter and players on the field. The umpires are requested to delay the game, if necessary, until all people except those listed above are moved into the bleachers and the player's section.
4. In the event of inclement weather, the USA Softball of SA Information Line can be reached by calling **210-880-0840**. Information will be given concerning the evening's games. You may be instructed to call your respective diamond after 5:30pm.

Kennedy Complex	718-7300
Alva Jo Fischer	718-7100
Koger Stokes East & West	718-7200

5. **There shall be no transporting of food, beverages or ice chests on the premises at Koger Stokes, Alva Jo Fischer, and Kennedy Complex. Players, managers, coaches and spectators attempting to enter the premises with beer or wine will be refrained from entering. We reserve the right to refuse entry to any person/persons and suspend any team that violates this policy. This policy is necessary in order to comply with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Laws and protect the beer and wine permits that enable concessionaires to sell beer or wine at these ballparks.**

6. Trash pollution is very costly to you, the citizens and USA Softball of San Antonio. Each team member is responsible for insuring that the area the team utilizes to congregate is left clean and free of all foreign debris.

ARTICLE XIII

CLASSIFICATION CODES

1. Slow Pitch

Class D – These are teams that have progressed from the recreation level and have skilled players that generally play in tournaments. All players are from Metro San Antonio.

Class E – Recreational players that are interested in playing league play only, all players are from Metro San Antonio.

Recreation – These are teams that are just beginning, some team members have never played softball.

SOFTBALL DIAMOND RESERVATIONS TOURNAMENTS:

Reservations for Tournaments for Alva Jo, Kennedy or Koger Stokes can be made by calling the USA Softball of San Antonio Office at 210-590-0350 or by emailing hgarzaasa@att.net.

ADULT FIELD RENTAL POLICIES

- 1) Rental Fees: Please contact the USA Softball of San Antonio Office at 210-590-0350
- 2) Payment for Fields must be made no later than the Monday before the Tournament, **if payment is not made the Reservation will be canceled.** Permittee must notify the USA Softball of SA Office the start time and the schedule time of the championship game by no later than the Wednesday before the Tournament.
- 3) A minimum of 3 Fields (12 hours each) will be reserved for Tournaments at Kennedy & Alva Jo and 2 Fields at Koger Stokes.

- 4) No Games can go past 11:00 p.m.
- 5) Permittee must hire a USA Softball of SA Employee Gatekeeper for each day the fields are being used. Gatekeeper will remain on duty until the start of the last game for each day.
- 6) After 3 P.M. Permittee must hire Security (Park Police) until the end of the Tournament.

Permittee(s) shall and will fully indemnify and hold harmless USA Softball of San Antonio and its employees from and against all costs and expenses from any fines, claims, suits, losses, damages, or liability of any kind and nature, in connection with or resulting from any activity or operation by the permittee and/or his/her participants.

Permittee(s) agrees that his/her participants and any other individuals under his/her control shall abide by, conform to and comply with all the rules and regulations and that he or she will not do or permit anything to be done which is in violation thereof.

*Permission will not be given for sales of any food or drink item in USA Softball of SA Complexes. Upon approval by the USA Softball of SA Manager, permission can be given for the sale of non-food or drink items.

****Notice: NO glass containers, outside alcoholic beverages, outside food or drink, Firearms, pets/animals of any size except Service Animals are allowed in any USA Softball of San Antonio Association Softball Complex.***

USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO
SOFTBALL OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Jennifer Kowal

OFFICE STAFF

Bill Rodriguez

UMPIRE SCHEDULER

Marvin Cobb

USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO COMMISSIONER

Herman Garza

USA SOFTBALL OF SAN ANTONIO JO COMMISSIONER

Jennifer Kowal

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Trey Roberts

VICE PRESIDENT

Stan Richardson

SECRETARY/TREASURE

Robert Marin

Board Members

Ray Aguirre

Robert Arellano

Luciano Arredondo

Herman Garza

Fred Gonzales

Albert Molina

Jim Roberts

Bob Sarro

Walter Sparks

Pat Tovar

Lionel *Williams*

Wes Zotz

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Cruz G. Olivarri*

Kenneth Mills*

Armando Aguirre*

Tony Martinez*

Fernando Arellano

Chester Wilkerson*

Roy Zatarain *

Joe Villarreal Sr.*

Cecil Wright

A.S.A. COMMISSIONER EMERITUS

Ronnie Burkholder*

*Deceased

BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

Jack Orbin

SPORTSMANSHIP

IT'S A SPORT

IT'S A SPORT

Athletic competition, at the community level, can be a rewarding lifetime activity. USA Softball of San Antonio endeavors to provide a safe and enjoyable experience that is worthy of the time and money expended and an activity which can be enjoyed by an entire family. The end product, or the quality of the experience, will rest with the attitude each participant brings to the contest.

As a staff, we hope the individual competitors will rely on an old standard-----***Sportsmanship***. Compete hard and compete within the rules. What society might see at the college or professional level does not necessarily enhance the experience at the community level. When the moment of frustration rears its head----- experience the moment and move on with the contest. Remember, enjoy the recreation activity for just what it is-----***A GAME***.

Pursue victory with Honor.