

SOUTHWESTERN REGION BY-LAWS

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**SOUTHWESTERN REGION SIX
BY - LAWS**

Revised 11-6-11

ARTICLE I: REGIONAL DIRECTOR

- 1.01 The Regional Director of the Southwestern Region will be elected for a term of two years by secret ballot and may be re-elected. The newly elected Director will take office following the National Council Meeting.**
- 1.02 The Regional Director will appoint a nominating committee prior to the National Council Regional meeting in even numbered years. The committee will accept nominations until noon of the day of the Southwestern Regional meeting held during the National Council meeting. Voting procedures will be by secret ballot. Voting members will be per Article 11.**
- 1.03**
- A. The Regional Director shall put out a periodic information letter to all voting delegates.**
 - B. The Regional Director will be the interpreter of the Southwestern by-laws.**
 - C. The Regional Director will email or mail out to all voting Southwestern Regional delegates the minutes of the annual meeting within 60 days after said meeting.**
 - D. A SW Regional Secretary will be appointed for a one year term beginning in Spring of 1996.**
 - E. The Regional Director will collect all regional tournament information from each member association and maintain a yearly team champion record for each division and classification for both Adult and J.O. divisions of play.**

ARTICLE 2: THE BY-LAW CUSTODIAN SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF THE BY-LAWS

- 2.01 A. The by-law custodian will be elected to serve a term of three(3) years. Elections will be held at the annual meeting. The custodian elected may succeed him/herself. The region shall be in charge of the mailing cost not to exceed \$70.00.**
- B. The function of the Custodian will be to present all proposed by-law changes submitted before the deadline to the region and to revise and distribute the by-laws as per Art. 10.04.**

ARTICLE 3: REGIONAL QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS

- 3.01 A. Southwestern Regional qualifiers will be awarded on a rotation basis with an East Tournament (Arkansas, Memphis, Mississippi and Louisiana) and a West Tournament (Oklahoma). These tournaments will be played between May 1 and June 30 of each year. All tournaments will be awarded at or prior to the National Council Regional meeting.**
- B. The Regional Director will furnish the awarded tournament association information to all Region Six voting delegates at the annual Regional meeting. Commissioners will submit, fax, email or mail awarded tournament information (date, location, tournament entry fee, tournament directors and their phone numbers) to the Regional Director before Dec. 15th.**
- C. Complete tournament fact sheets will be mailed to all Region Six voting delegates after Dec. 15th.**
- 3.02 Adult Slow Pitch NIT- Any State/Metro may request to host any adult slow pitch NIT. Tournaments will be awarded at the National Council Regional meeting by a majority vote of the regional voting members present at the meeting.**
- 3.03 Men's and Women's Class B, C, and D Slow Pitch Regional Qualifiers will send two (2) teams to the National Championship. Class A Slow Pitch teams will advance directly from State or Metro.**

3.04 Adult Fast Pitch Rotation- All Adult Fast Pitch rotations will be determined by a draw each year of the eligible associations. The last two years host sites would be ineligible as well as any association not sending a team the year before. (If only two associations sent teams and they both hosted the tournament the last two years, only the last host would be ineligible).

3.05 Junior Olympic Girls Slow Pitch- Any State/Metro may request to host any girls slow pitch regional tournament. Tournaments will be awarded at the National Council Regional meeting by a majority vote of the regional voting members present at the meeting.

3.06 Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch “East” Regional Qualifier Rotation:

YEAR	18A	16A	14A	12A	10A	18B	16B	14B	12B	10B
2010	LA	AR	MS	MEM	LA	MEM	MS	LA	AR	MS
2011	AR	MS	MEM	LA	AR	MEM	LA	AR	MS	MEM
2012	MS	MEM	LA	AR	MS	LA	AR	MS	MEM	LA
2013	MEM	LA	AR	MS	MEM	AR	MS	MEM	LA	AR
2014	LA	AR	MS	MEM	LA	MS	MEM	LA	AR	MS
2015	AR	MS	MEM	LA	AR	MEM	LA	AR	MS	MEM

Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch National Qualifier Rotation:

YEAR	18UNQ	16UNQ	14UNQ	12UNQ	10UNQ
2010	MEM	MS	OK	AR	LA
2011	MS	OK	AR	LA	MEM
2012	OK	AR	LA	MEM	MS
2013	AR	LA	MEM	MS	OK
2014	LA	MEM	MS	OK	AR

Junior Olympic Hall of Fame Qualifier Rotation:

YEAR	12U	14U	16U	18U
2010	OK	AR	LA	MEM
2011	AR	LA	MEM	OK
2012	LA	MEM	OK	AR
2013	MEM	OK	AR	LA
2014	OK	AR	LA	MEM
2015	AR	LA	MEM	OK

ARTICLE 4: NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

4.01 Host association for National Tournaments to be held in the Southwestern Region will be decided at the National Council Southwestern Regional Meeting. Associations hosting the Regional Tournaments in one of these classifications will not receive first consideration to host one of these tournaments.

ARTICLE 5: JUNIOR OLYMPIC GOLD

- 5.01**
- A.** Each year the region will hold a Gold GFP 18-U Regional Qualifier that is awarded on a rotation basis. The awarded tournament association must have a J.O. Gold team registered to hold this tournament.
 - B.** Any At-Large J.O. Gold berths will be assigned by the Regional Director.
 - C.** The J.O. Gold cutoff date for declaring Region 6 girls to a team will be June 1 of the current year.
 - D.** The J.O. Gold Regional Qualifier can not be held on the same dates as a Gold Territory Qualifier in which our gold teams are eligible to participate.

18-Under Gold Regional Qualifier Rotation	
2010	Oklahoma
2011	Memphis
2012	Arkansas
2013	Louisiana
2014	Mississippi

ARTICLE 6: REGIONAL UMPIRES

6.01 National Umpire Schools shall be held within the Southwest Region on a rotation basis. If a local association does not wish to host the National Umpire School the local commissioner will contact the Regional Umpire-in-Chief by June 1. The hosting local association commissioner will submit the National Umpire School Agreement form along with the contact information for the schools coordinator and site where the school will be held. This will be submitted by July 1.

Year	Hosting Association
2012	Arkansas and Mississippi
2013	Oklahoma
2014	Memphis
2015	Louisiana
2016	Mississippi
2017	Arkansas

6.02 Tournament Assignment/Game Fees

Rates for Regional Umpires:

- A. Number of umpires used in games shall be 2 or more with 3 in loser bracket finals and all games following.**
- B. Assignment of games will be at the discretion of the tournament Umpire in Chief.**
- C. State and Metro Umpire In Chief should be present at Regional Tournaments in their area.**
- D. Standardized game fees for Regional Tournaments:**
 - 1. Minimum of \$20 per game for fast pitch**
 - 2. Minimum of \$18 per game for slow pitch**

6.03 Procedures for Umpires Who Cannot Attend National Tournaments

Each State or Metro Association will send one(1) umpire to represent their association to a National Tournament held in the Southwestern Region to which we are allowed to send umpires. If an umpire cannot attend after he/she has accepted, he/she must notify the Regional Umpire In Chief and the local umpire coordinator 30 days prior to the national tournament date. If an association fails to turn in an umpires name or an umpire fails to turn in his/her contract by the assigned date, the Regional Umpire In Chief will contact the umpire's commissioner for a replacement. If none is available, then he will select the replacement from another association in our region.

ARTICLE 7: PLAYER REP., J.O. COMMISSIONER & UIC ELECTION

7.01 The Southwestern Region Player Representative and the Junior Olympic Commissioner will be elected for a one (1) year term, on a rotation basis, provided he/she attends two (2) out of three (3) National Council meetings immediately prior to the National Council meeting for which he/she is eligible to attend as Regional Player Rep. or J.O. Commissioner. If the Player Representative or J.O. Commissioner is not eligible to assume the Regional position, that person will be placed last in the rotation and all others will be moved up.

7.02 The Southwestern Region Player Rep. and J.O. Commissioner will take office at the end of the National Council meeting and represent the Southwestern Region at the next National Council meeting as a voting delegate. Furthermore, at the next Regional meeting, the newly elected Regional Player Rep. and J.O. Commissioner will be the Chairman of the respective Player Rep/J.O breakout meeting.

7.03 **Player Representative Rotation:**

2011	Oklahoma	Bob Gill
2012	Memphis	Mike Dunavant
2013	Mississippi	TBD
2014	Arkansas	Shannon Lynn
2015	Louisiana	Jessie Barksdale
2016	Oklahoma	David Weeks

7.04 **Junior Olympic Commissioner Rotation**

2011	Arkansas	Jim Shuffield
2012	Mississippi	Chris Chance
2013	Louisiana	Rose Dedon
2014	Memphis	Rhen Burris
2015	Oklahoma	Carolyn Shafer
2016	Arkansas	Walker Clark

7.05 The Southwestern Region UIC will be elected for a one (1) year term. He/she must attend two (2) Regional meetings and one (1) National Council meeting prior to being elected. The Regional UIC will take office at the end of the National Council meeting and represent the Southwestern Region at the next National Council meeting as a voting delegate. The Regional UIC will be the Chairman of the UIC breakout meeting.

ARTICLE 8: REGIONAL AND NIT TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

8.01 Awards

All Regional and NIT Tournaments having over twenty(20) teams will award team trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place and individual trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Tournaments with fourteen (14) to Twenty (20) teams will award team trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and individual trophies for 1st and 2nd.

Tournaments with eight (8) to thirteen (13) teams will award team trophies for 1st and 2nd place and individual trophies for 1st and 2nd.

Tournaments with less than eight (8) teams will award team trophies for 1st and 2nd place and individual trophies for 1st place.

Fifteen (15) individual awards should be awarded to each place.

Trophy Specifications	Plaque Specifications	
1st place team	46" Tall	
2nd place team	44" Tall	
3rd place team	42" Tall	
4th place team	40" Tall	
1st place individual	14" Tall	7" x 9" Minimum
2nd place individual	13" Tall	6" x 8" Minimum
3rd place individual	12" Tall	5" x 7" Minimum

Other Specifications: Team Trophies

- A. 3 or 4 post 13/4" minimum except bats which may vary. Base must be 10" minimum. Cup and figure must be 8" minimum.
- B. T-Shirts must be heavy weight with silk screen or transfers. Trophies may be larger, but not smaller.

8.02 The following Regional tournaments will be held at least two (2) weekends and not more than (3) weekends before the National Championship of the same division and classification:

- Men's Slow Pitch – B, C, D and E
- Women's Slow Pitch - C and D

All Junior Olympic Tournaments (Exception: J.O. Fast Pitch will be played three (3) weeks prior to start of National Tournament.)

All other Regional Tournaments must be held on or before Labor Day weekend.

All State/Metro Tournaments must be held at least (2) weekends prior to the Regional Tournament of the same division and classification.

- 8.03 A. A team must play in a State/Metro Tournament or qualify in a Regional Qualifier to be eligible for a Regional or Regional NIT tournament.**
- B. Any team previously qualified for a National Tournament may not participate in the Regional Tournament of the same division, unless they give up their National berth.**

8.04 Regional and Regional NIT Team Entry Fees Are As Follows:

All Junior Olympic Fast Pitch, all Junior Olympic Slow Pitch and all Adult Slow Pitch Regional team entry fees will be \$225.00 with \$15.00 of this fee going to the National Office and \$25.00 of this fee being retained by the home commissioner.

Adult Fast Pitch fee is \$225.00 with \$15.00 of this fee going to the National Office. All adult NIT entry fees will be \$200.00 with \$25.00 of this fee going to the National office. None of this fee will be retained by the home commissioner.

Team entry fees are to be paid by cashiers check, money order or State/Metro Association check.

8.05 Home Run Rule will be as per ASA rule book except as follows:

Men's Church, Men's Industrial will be allowed three (3) homeruns over the fence; and Coed will be allowed one (1) homerun over the fence. Men's E no (0) homeruns allowed. Penalty for homeruns will be an inning ending out in Men's E only, all others it will be an out.

8.06 State or Metro Association Commissioners must verify which of their teams will attend Regional Tournaments by 5:00 p.m. Thursday (8) days prior to the start of the tournament. The Commissioner will forward entry fees and National Roster form prior to the tournament. The tournament host will notify each team by mail or phone as to the time of their first game on Monday prior to the start of the tournament.

8.07 Regional tournament brackets are to be drawn and seeded by the host commissioner or his designated tournament director. First place teams are to be spread evenly in the quarters of the bracket and no first place team shall play another first place team in the first round. Teams from the same association should not play each other in the first round unless it is important to do otherwise. Pairing Guidelines: 1st plays 6th, 2nd plays 5th, 3rd plays 4th. These guidelines should be used when possible.

No game may start before 8:00 p.m. Friday night of the tournament weekend, except all youth tournaments which may start at 7:00 p.m. Friday night of the Regional Tournament.

8.08 Softballs

- A. The host association is to furnish all game balls. At least one (1) new ball must be provided each game.
- B. All softballs used in any regional tournament must be approved by the ASA. (See ASA Official Playing Rules, Rule 3 Section 2).
- C. Any local association that fails to use the proper softball in any regional tournament game will replay that game or games when protested.

8.09 All Regional Tournaments shall employ run rules and time limits. which will be in effect for all games, to include the finals, as follows:

A. Slow Pitch - Run Rule - Ten (10) after five innings or Fifteen (15) after three innings. Slow Pitch - Time Limit - One hour and fifteen minutes. The game will start with the first official pitch of the game. The starting time for each regional game will be recorded in the official scorebook and monitored by the home plate umpire. No inning shall be allowed to begin after one hour and fifteen minutes from the start of any regional game unless the score is tied.

B. Fast Pitch - Run Rule - Eight (8) after five innings. Fast Pitch - Time Limit - One hour and 20 minutes. The game will start with the first official pitch of the game. The starting time for each regional game will be recorded in the official scorebook and monitored by the home plate umpire. No inning shall be allowed to begin after one hour and twenty minutes from the start of any regional game unless the score is tied. If the score is tied at the end of the time limit or the end of seven innings, the tie breaker will be in effect. EXCEPTION: Major FP

NOTE: Due to inclement weather, these times and run rules may be adjusted by the Tournament Director to facilitate completing the tournament.

C. No fee will be charged for a team to file a protest.

- 8.10 A. Commissioners will use a wavy line to indicate the last player on the National Roster. Teams will not be allowed to hand carry roster or entry fees to Regional Tournaments.**
B. Class "B" Girls Fast Pitch Regional - Teams may pick up only 3 players; they must come from their own State or Metro Class "B" ASA teams.
- 8.11 Host Commissioner or Tournament Director must mail a National Entry Form to the National Tournament Director upon completion of the Regional Tournament.**
- 8.12 A team winning a Regional Championship two (2) consecutive years (regardless of team name or coach) in Men's or Women's Open, B, C or D Divisions, must move up to the next division if five (5) players from the previous roster return on the same team. The Regional Tournament will be played one team short the next year due to the forced advancement of the Regional Champion to a higher division as an at-large team.**
- 8.13 Uniforms**
A. The following divisions must dress as per the ASA Rule Book:
1. Adults - Major, A, B and C
2. Junior Olympic - All Class A teams both SP and FP
B. The following divisions must dress with tops alike with number, hats are not required, but if worn must be alike:
1. Adults - Class D, E and below and Coed
2. Junior Olympic - All Class B and C teams both SP and FP. If a conflict exist about uniforms, the tournament director will make the final decision about a player's eligibility.
- 8.14 Admission**
The following are maximum admission fees for Regional Tournaments
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Session (minimum 3 games) | \$3.00 |
| 2. Daily (24 hour period) | \$6.00 |
| 3. Weekend (all sessions) | \$12.00 |
- 8.15 All Regional Tournament results must be mailed on the approved Southwestern Region Form to the Regional UIC and all Commissioners by September 15. The Regional Director will collate the results and present copies to all voting delegates at the Regional Meeting.**
NOTE: Southwestern Region Form includes order of finish showing association represented and a completed bracket.

8.16 All Junior Olympic Regional and Qualifying Tournaments will be played with regulation outfield fences.

8.17 State/Metro Association that host a regional tournament and does not play that tournament on regulation fields as per ASA Rule 2, Sec. 1, will not be allowed to host any regional tournaments in that division (either adult or J.O.) the following year.

ARTICLE 9: MEETING

9.01 The annual Southwestern Regional meeting will be held on the Sunday evening of the National Convention. Those invited to the meeting will be all officers of any Southwestern Region Association and any other person interested in the promotion of ASA softball in the region.

NOTE: All Commissioners are urged to bring all their association's officers to the National Council meeting.

9.02 Expenses

A. The five (5) Associations of the region will share equally in the expenses of the Regional meeting, including the expenses of the Regional Umpire In Chief, which shall not exceed \$300.00. In order to expedite this payment of expenses, each Commissioner will add \$100.00 to the Region account at the annual meeting. The Regional Director will handle the account and make a financial report at each officially called meeting. The Regional Umpire In Chief will submit to the Regional Director an itemized statement of his expenses for the Regional meeting.

B. Any assessments required by the National Office for the Regional J.O. Commissioner or Player Representative to attend the National Meeting will be paid by the association who is being represented that assessment year.

C. Any assessment required by the National Office for the Regional U.I.C will be paid by the Region or from the Region U.I.C. account.

D. A financial report on the Region U.I.C. account must be submitted to the Regional Director at each annual Regional meeting.

9.03 The Southwestern Region will hold a Regional Meeting during the National Council meeting. This meeting is open to all members of the Region. Persons required to attend this meeting are the Region's Director, U.I.C., J.O. Commissioner, Player Rep. and the region's State/Metro Commissioners.

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS

- 10.01** The By-Laws may be amended by a motion, second and majority vote of the voting delegates within the region. All proposed amendments must be submitted on an official by-law change form.
- 10.02** Thirty (30) days notice must be given to the by-law custodian before the annual Regional Meeting on an amendment to the by-laws. The By-Laws Custodian must send copies of all proposed changes to all Southwestern Region voting delegates at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled meeting. NOTE: This may be changed by a 3/4 majority of voting delegates present only.
- 10.03** These by-laws may be amended only at a posted meeting of the Regional voting delegates at the annual meeting, with the exception to Articles 8.04 and 9.02. These articles will be changed and voted upon by the five Southwestern Regional Commissioners only.
- 10.04** The Southwestern Regional By-Law Custodian shall revise the by-laws, as amended, and shall reproduce the same and distribute one copy of the revised by-laws to each voting member of the Southwestern Region within 30 days after the National Council Regional meeting.
- 10.05** All by-laws and amendments shall be under the authority of Robert's Rules of Order subject to special rules, which will be adopted by the Region.

ARTICLE 11: VOTING

- 11.01** (a) Each Council Member shall have one (1) vote.
- (b) Each non-council State/Metro Player Rep. shall have one (1) vote.
- (c) Each State/Metro Umpire In Chief shall have one (1) vote.
- (d) Each non-council State/Metro J .O. Commissioner shall have one (1) vote.
- (e) Each Commissioner Emeritus shall have one (1) vote (Don Snyder, C. Tillman Ryser and Virgil Ackerson).

ARTICLE 12: PROXIES

- 12.01 Proxies must be submitted to the Regional Director by the meeting date of the current year. All Proxies must have attended a Regional or National Meeting in the last two (2) years. Proxies will be approved at the Regional Meeting by the Southwestern Regional State or Metro Commissioners. Exception: Commissioner Emeritus vote cannot request a proxy.**
- 12.02 A proxy to the National Council meeting for the Southwestern Regional Player Rep. or J.O. Commissioner will be selected from the respective rotation list by the Association's Commissioner whose representative could not attend.**