



Operational Code - Colorado ASA

Colorado ASA is a not-for-profit organization incorporated in the state of Colorado. The Commissioners, UIC and board members are unpaid volunteers. This Operational Code may be amended from time to time as necessary by the Board or by any officer given the authority by the board to do so.

The State Commissioner shall be appointed by the National office and shall be the principal liaison between Colorado ASA and the ASA National Office. At all times, the State Commissioner's retention, removal, or replacement shall be in accordance with the requirements and processes set forth in the ASA National Code. If the position should in any way become vacated by resignation, removal, or otherwise, a succeeding State Commissioner of Colorado ASA shall also be appointed in accordance with the ASA National Code.

The powers of the State Commissioner are as follows:
The State Commissioner shall be in complete control of all programs, tournaments, finances, and personnel (including officers)
The State Commissioner may annually appoint other Executive Board Members and Officers of Colorado ASA.

The State Commissioner shall annually appoint such other persons as may be required to facilitate the program. Examples of these appointments may include, but shall not be limited to: Junior Olympic (JO) Commissioner, Umpire-in-Chief, Assistant State Commissioner(s), Executive Board Members, JO Council Members, District Commissioners, Deputy District Commissioners, etc.

All such individuals shall be appointed to one year terms to run from January 1st through December 31st, and may be appointed for additional terms.
The State Commissioner may serve concurrently as President of the Executive *Board*.

Commissioners and other officers should be civic-minded persons of unquestionable integrity; individuals above reproach, with both knowledge and understanding of the ASA softball game. These persons should have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, *willing to volunteer countless* hours to promote and coordinate ASA softball leagues and ASA Championship play.

Officers shall not be eligible to serve if they are also in a leadership position with a competing softball association. The State Commissioner has the final decision regarding the definition of a competing softball association.

Officers may be removed at any time for just cause as follows: The Compliance and Ethics Committee shall review all written complaints against a Commissioner or other officer to determine if there is probable cause for removal. Should a majority of the Compliance and Ethics Committee find that probable cause for removal exists; they shall forward this information to the State Commissioner for immediate review and action. The State Commissioner may remove a person from any appointed position at any time.



Teams and Classification

Teams must register with the Local Association where the majority of their players reside. For example, if least 50% of players reside in Colorado, the team must register with Colorado ASA. Teams are allowed to self-classify at the start of the season, and may be reclassified based on their power rating. Teams may register and participate in more than one division of play, but is limited to only one classification within a division.

18U GOLD

Gold team players may come from anywhere in the US; however, pickup players for Nationals must be from within Colorado region.

College players MAY NOT participate at the 18U Gold level.

It is necessary that teams individually register as an 18U Class A team. Teams who are individually registered as an 18U Class A team may participate in 18U Gold Qualifiers. If they 'qualify' at the Gold level, they shall be reclassified as an 18U Gold team for the remainder of the season. At this point they are considered a qualified team if they do not qualify, or do not accept the berth they may return to the 18U Class A level.

16U GOLD

Gold team players may come from anywhere in US; however, pickup players for Nationals must be from within Colorado's region, Region 13.

It is necessary that teams individually register as a 16U Class A team. By doing so, they may compete at the 16U Class A level and in 16U Gold Qualifiers; however, once they qualify at the 16U Gold level, the team will be reclassified as a 16U Gold team for the remainder of the season.

Class A (all age divisions)

Players may be drawn from multiple counties or state associations.

18U A teams may have college players on the roster.

Pick up players for Nationals can only come from Colorado.

Class A teams may participate ONLY at the Class A level except as noted below:

Note: 18U & 16U Class A teams may compete in Gold National Qualifiers.

If the team qualifies for Gold Nationals, they must be reclassified as a Gold team for the remainder of the season. If the team does not qualify, they may return and compete as an Class A team for the remainder of the season.

18U & 16U Class A teams participating at the Gold level must still meet the Gold Classification Roster Guidelines as stated in Article 401 D 02 d (no college players).

Class B (all age divisions)

Class B teams may participate in Class A tournaments, but are then subject to being reclassified to Class A for the remainder of the season based on their ability to complete against Class A teams.

Class B teams may be subject to be reclassified to an A team if their level of competitiveness appears to exceed that of a typical Class B team. The online power ranking system will be used a guild to reclassification.



Rosters:

Rosters are required to play in all ASA tournaments, and will be frozen once a team qualifies and accepts a berth in championship play. When a team participates in an ASA sanctioned tournament the coach or manager must electronically or physically submit their current roster prior to the start of their first game. There are two types of rosters that are accepted stand alone and individual/ Championship. These may be modified using a pick up player form. Once a player participates in an intercollegiate softball program for a university, college or junior/community college she is ineligible to play in the junior Olympic gold program.

ASSISTANT STATE COMMISSIONERS AND OTHER OFFICERS

General Qualifications, Suspension and Removal

Junior Olympic (JO) Assistant State Commissioner

Per the ASA National Code, the State Commissioner shall appoint a JO Assistant State Commissioner for the Colorado ASA JO program. Shall annually attend and participate ASA National Convention, Regional workshop and Executive Board

Commissioners will distinguish themselves by years of service, loyalty, and devotion; and command the respect of their peers; and who demonstrate leadership and expertise in a special area.

These individuals shall be accountable to the State Commissioner.

The duties of the Junior Olympic (JO) State Commissioner

Shall be those duties assigned by the Executive Board and the State Commissioner.

Assistant State Commissioners shall support the commissioners, teams, managers, coaches, players, umpires, league officials, fans, tournament directors and reporters within their appointed area of responsibility. They shall pass along all pertinent information and communications, ensuring that all individuals have equal access to the programs and benefits of Colorado ASA.

JO Commissioners shall operate within established guidelines as published in the ASA National Code, Colorado ASA By-Laws, and Colorado ASA Code, realizing that established limitations are for the good of all.

Commissioners shall annually attend and participate in the Executive Board meeting which shall be held between the ASA National Convention and the end of the year.

Shall direct the Colorado ASA JO program and they will be in charge of all aspects of the program, and principal liaison between Colorado ASA members and the ASA state Office. This individual shall be responsible for and accountable to the State Commissioner and the Executive Board for all phases of the JO program.

The JO Commissioner may recommend appointment of JO District Commissioners and JO Umpires-in-Chief to the State Commissioner for appointment.

Management Team

The State Commissioner may appoint a Management Team to assist with the operation of the Colorado ASA. Members of the Management Team will include the State Commissioner, JO Commissioner, Umpire in Chief, President of Colorado ASA, an At-Large position appointed by the State Commissioner.



League Rules

Each local league registered with Colorado ASA retains the right to establish and maintain local league game and eligibility rules. Any deviation from ASA rules should be clearly spelled out in the local league rules prior to the season.

Sanctioned Tournaments

The association shall sanction invitational tournaments in which ASA registered teams are eligible to compete. Colorado ASA sanctions two types of tournaments Invitational and National qualifiers. These tournaments are open only to member teams, and are subject to the following:

1. All trophies, awards, medals, or other materials promised shall be delivered.
2. Only ASA registered umpires shall be used for all games.
3. All rules of this association shall be observed. (**Exception:** Different playing rules may be used, but should be clearly specified in all tournament information.)

The sanction fee shall be \$150, which shall be payable to Colorado ASA, under whose jurisdiction such invitational tournaments shall be conducted. A charter shall be issued to all sanctioned tournaments to post during tournament play. The State Commissioner may adjust fees, as necessary, to incorporate any internet, web-based or other service fees.

The ASA municipality liability insurance protection extends to tournament officials of ASA sanctioned invitational tournaments or other non-championship tournaments, provided such tournaments are fully approved by the ASA and all teams and umpires participating are registered with the ASA. Local ASA associations are covered under the liability policy for their involvement in organizing and operating ASA sanctioned tournaments. Participating teams are not covered unless they have purchased the ASA team insurance or softball tournament coverage.

ASA National Qualifiers/Championship Tournaments

These tournaments will lead to a higher level of play. All championship play must be conducted in accordance with the Code and the playing rules as adopted by the ASA in article 310. Pick up players are not allowed.

Protests in Championship Tournament Play

All protests in Championship Tournament Play pertaining to interpretation of playing rules shall be settled immediately. The Tournament Director or his/her designee shall assemble the protest committee of a minimum of three (3) tournament officials. The decision of the protest committee shall be final.

Any protest involving player eligibility shall be submitted to the Tournament Director or his/her designee immediately upon its discovery.

Upon discovery of an ineligible player the Tournament Director shall act immediately, even without a formal protest. Any team competing with an ineligible player shall be subject to all penalties in the ASA Code, including:

The ineligible player shall immediately be suspended from further participation in the tournament.

The team that used the ineligible player shall forfeit the game being played or the game last played and shall be suspended from further play in the tournament and in any subsequent



tournament for which it may have qualified by virtue of its play in the tournament in which it was suspended and shall be placed last in the order of finish.

Absolutely no protest fee shall be used in ASA Championship play. Junior Olympic team participating in championship play must have at least one ACE certified coach on the field/dugout.

Suspension of Players / Protection of Officials

Any individual who initiates physical contact with an umpire, tournament official, or official of ASA during a game shall be removed from further participation immediately.

Any individual who is verbally abusive, threatens or who commits any act of physical violence on any umpire, league, and tournament or game official, either before, during or after a game shall be subject to the following:

The State Commissioner shall annually appoint Hearing Panels to conduct hearings as necessary at the annual Colorado ASA meeting. Any hearings necessary because of actions at a State Tournament, or that involve individuals from more than one region, shall be conducted at the State Meeting if at all possible. Any District Commissioner or any other disinterested party may serve on one of these hearing panels. Should the State Commissioner deem it necessary to do so, he/she may schedule the hearing at a different time and/or place.

The individual must be notified in writing of the time, place and date of the hearing. The individual is entitled to an alternative date if, for good cause, the original date is not acceptable. Should the individual not attend the hearing, the person conducting the hearing may proceed and take the evidence of those in attendance.

After hearing the evidence, the person presiding shall render a written decision within fourteen (14) days.

Following the decision of the person presiding over the hearing, the individual may appeal the decision in writing within fourteen (14) days to the Executive Director of the Amateur Softball Association of America, whose decision shall be final. The Executive Director must render a decision on any appeal within fourteen (14) days.

The individual shall be given a fair notice and an opportunity for a hearing before the tournament protest committee, whose decision shall be final.

The State Commissioner shall give the individual an opportunity for a hearing.

The State Commissioner may annually appoint standing Region Hearing Panels. These standing Region Hearing Panels shall be staffed by at-least three (3) District Commissioners from the Region. The standing Region Hearing Panels shall handle all hearings that are the result of actions, and that involve only individuals from within the region. In the event that a member of the standing Region Hearing Panels has a direct interest in the matter, the State Commissioner shall appoint an alternate panel member.

The State Commissioner may annually appoint Hearing Panels to conduct hearings as necessary at the annual Colorado ASA Spring Commissioners Convention / Hall of Fame Banquet. Any hearings necessary because of actions at a State Tournament, or that involve individuals from more than one region, shall be conducted at the State Meeting if at all possible.



Any District Commissioner or any other disinterested party may serve on one of these hearing panels. Should the State Commissioner deem it necessary to do so, he/she may schedule the hearing at a different time and/or place.

The individual must be notified in writing of the time, place and date of the hearing. The individual is entitled to an alternative date if, for good cause, the original date is not acceptable. Should the individual not attend the hearing, the person conducting the hearing may proceed and take the evidence of those in attendance.

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Conditions of Membership

In consideration of being permitted to become members of this association, teams and players agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Colorado Amateur Softball Association, Inc.; the Code of the Amateur Softball Association of America; and the Colorado ASA method of classifying teams and players.

Membership Fees (2015)

Annual membership dues may be amended from time by or at the direction of the Executive Board as needed. The State Commissioner may adjust fees, as necessary, to incorporate any internet, web-based or other service fees.

Adult Teams		
	Slowpitch	\$30.00
	Fastpitch	\$50.00
Junior Olympic (JO) Individual Registration* Gold and A teams must register as individuals.		
JO Youth Individuals	Non photo	\$12.00
Travel Team	Non photo	\$18.00
Travel Team	Photo	\$20.00
Background		\$11.00
ACE* Level (1) with background check		\$25.00
ACE 2, 3, and 4		\$20.00
Umpire registrations		\$55.00

*includes an additional 2,000,000.00 general liability insurance for the coach.