



2026 ASANA World Series Playing Rules

ALL USA SOFTBALL RULES SHALL APPLY EXCEPT AS MODIFIED OR NOTED HEREIN

- A) Manager Representation:** Each team participating in the ASANA Softball World Series must be represented by its team manager or their representative at the ASANA Softball World Series Manager's Meeting. Failure to attend this meeting will result in a fine, payable before taking the field.
- B) Player Registration:** Each eligible playing participant on each team, except for two late registers, shall be required to register with the Director of Competition or their designee prior to the start of their team's final pool play game, and shall be asked to furnish identification at that time.
- 1) The two late registering players must register with the Director of Competition or their designee prior to the start of their team's first bracket play game and shall be asked to furnish identification at that time.
- C) Bat Check:** Prior to the first World Series game all team bats must be inspected and approved for use by UIC or designated umpire in accordance with USA Softball standards, specifications, and compression testing (if available). If the approval sticker is removed, the bat must be re-tested before being issued another approval sticker. Failure to do so will render the bat illegal.
- 1) Any player discovered using an illegal bat that is doctored or loaded by additional weight shall be disqualified from further World Series competition.
A team that is discovered to have within its possession or control an illegal bat may be disqualified from further World Series competition.
 - 2) If an unapproved (non-ASANA stickered) bat is discovered in the batter's box (no pitch required):
 - a) The batter and documented team Manager are ejected from that game.
 - b) They must leave the playing field and dugout but not the complex based on the ejection alone.
 - c) The current ($\frac{1}{2}$) inning is immediately over no matter how many outs are recorded.
 - d) The entire team will receive a warning and if the team has a second occurrence of an unapproved bat entering the batter's box the team will be removed from the remainder of the World Series.
 - e) A \$100 fine will be imposed and required to be paid prior to the start of the team's next scheduled game. If the team refuses to pay the fine, they will forfeit all future games at a losing score of 0-7.
- D) Ball:** The Official ASANA Softball World Series ball for 2026:
- 1) The 11" yellow optic USA300YS11 - 52/300 (Baden Fire) will be used for World Series play.
- E) Official Scorekeeper & Final Scores:**
- 1) Home team is the Official Scorekeeper.
 - 2) Official Final Scores: Official final scores will be drawn only from the official game scores sheets. Managers are responsible for verifying the game score at the completion of each game and signing the scorecard confirming this verification.



F) Pitching: ASANA defines a “legal pitch” as between 6 and 12 feet high.

- 1) The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of at least six (6) feet from the ground while not exceeding a maximum height of twelve (12) feet from the ground.

G) Stealing: No stealing allowed in any divisions.

H) Homeruns: Batter and all runners are not required to advance nor touch any base on home runs over the fence; all are credited with a run.

B Division: 5 Home Runs

C Division: 3 Home Runs

D & E division: No home runs allowed.

The batter is called out and the inning is over regardless of the number of outs prior to the over-the-fence home run.

I) Courtesy Runner: A player may be a courtesy runner only once an inning for any player other than the pitcher. Pitchers can have a courtesy runner for each at bat that does not apply to the courtesy runner per inning rule. Courtesy runners must be reported to the plate umpire prior to use.

J) Game Time : Game times shall be as stated on the ASANA Series pool play game schedule, on the bracket play schedule, or when the field umpire declares it so. The designated team leader will be notified by ASANA by any means at their disposal to notify team leaders of any game time revisions. Teams will be required to abide by any time changes.

K) Forfeits: Scheduled game time or ASANA revised game time as communicated to the team leader, is forfeit time.

- 1) Forfeits in the ASANA Softball World Series will not be allowed unless there are extenuating circumstances, which are approved by the ASANA Board of Directors. USA Softball rules will be followed otherwise.
- 2) Both written and verbal notification of forfeit situations must occur immediately by the team designee to the Softball Tournament Director, UIC and/or a member of the ASANA Board of Directors so an assessment of the situation and resolution can occur immediately.
- 3) The Softball Tournament Director and/or a member of the ASANA Board of Directors will notify the opposing team within a reasonable period of their decision either verbally or in writing.
 - a) If the forfeit is approved, the forfeiting team will be given a loss with a score of 0-7, the winning team will be awarded the win with a score of 7-0, as dictated by USA Softball. If the forfeit is denied the team will have to immediately notify the Softball Tournament Director or a member of the ASANA Board of Directors of their decision to play or be removed from the World Series at that time.



- b) The seeding or bracket placement for all teams affected will be updated accordingly. Approved forfeits will simply be recorded as a win/loss accordingly and standings will reflect these games as decided.
- c) All decisions on forfeits are final. No appeals will be allowed.

L) ADA Rules:

- 1) These rules align with the approved ASANA ADA policy, set forth in the ASANA Bylaws.
- 2) All ADA player requests must be sent and approved by the tournament deadline, identified in the Due Date list.
- 3) The approved ADA player must have an asterisk next to their name on the lineup. The manager must also verbally confirm the ADA player with the umpire at home plate prior to the start of each game.
- 4) When a player utilizes the ADA accommodation at the beginning of a game, they must keep that designation for the entire game.
- 5) The ADA player will be eligible to receive a runner once they have reached first base and must take the runner each time they are designated as ADA on a lineup card.
- 6) If the ADA player is not in the game, or has been removed from the game and replaced by a substitute, the ADA player may not re-enter the game as a base runner. They must earn the base, as stated above.
- 7) The ADA player is not allowed to advance past first base, regardless of the outcome of their turn at bat.
- 8) Should an ADA player advance past first base to any other bases, the opposing coach/manager may challenge that the player advanced to the next base.
 - a) If the challenge is upheld, the ADA player will be out.
 - b) In the case of a dead ball play, the umpire may advance the runner to the proper location and then the ADA runner will be put in place.

M) Tournament Format:

- 1) **Line-up Cards:**
 - a) (1) to the umpire and (1) to your opponent.
 - b) Minimum of first initial and full legal last name for all eligible players in attendance.
 - c) Jersey number for all eligible players in attendance.
 - d) ADA players must be indicated on all line-up cards.
- 2) **Home/Away:** All Pool Play games and bracket games, a coin flip will be utilized to determine who shall be Home or Visitors. To begin all 3rd place and championship games, the team who is higher in the tournament bracket at that time will have the choice of Home or Visitor



- 3) **Players:** Teams must begin and finish with at least nine (9) players to avoid a forfeit. An out will be recorded every time the vacant 10th batting position has a turn to bat. If a 10th player arrives, the player must be immediately entered into the game. Any other player arriving after this shall be entered as a substitute. Teams may bat up to 12, using two (2) extra hitters. Extra hitters must be indicated as EH on the line up sheet. If a team starting with 10 or more players on the line up loses a player during the game and has no one to substitute, then an out will be assessed whenever that player would have come up to bat.
- 4) **Pitch Count** - Batters start with 1-1 count. There is no courtesy foul.
- 5) **Game Time:**
 - a) **Pool play games are 50 minutes** (no new after 50) or a full 7 innings, whichever occurs first and can end in a tie score.
 - b) **Bracket play games are 55 minutes** (no new after 55) or a full 7 innings, whichever occurs first and a winner must be declared (no ties).
 - c) **Tie Games:** If at the end of time or 7 innings the game is tied during tournament play, the ASANA One Pitch format will be utilized.
 - d) **ASANA One Pitch rule is defined as:**
 - (i) Last batter will be placed on second base
 - (ii) Each batter gets ONE PITCH.
 - (a) Foul ball, caught or dropped = OUT
 - (b) Strike, swinging or called = OUT
 - (c) Ball = Batter is awarded a walk
 - (d) Batted Ball = Outcome of play
- 6) **Pool Play Seeding:**
 - a) Seeding will be based on the team's record in the following order (wins-losses-ties):
 - (i) 4-0-0, 3-0-1, 3-1-0, 2-0-2, 2-2-0, 1-1-2, 1-2-1, 1-3-0, 0-1-3, 0-2-2, 0-3-1, 0-4-0.
 - b) In the event that two or more teams are tied with the same record, the tie-breaker(s) will be:
 - (i) Run differential (*runs scored vs runs against*)
 - (ii) Coin flip
- 7) **Semi-Finals and Championship Games:**
 - a) Semi-Finals and Championship games are 70 minutes (no new after 65) or a full 7 innings, whichever occurs first and cannot end in a tie score.
 - b) If there is a tie after a full 7 innings of play, the traditional USA softball International Tiebreaker rule will be utilized.
 - c) If for any reason the games determining 1st, 2nd and 3rd place cannot run a full seven innings (due to park hour limitations, weather, etc.) the Tournament Director and available ASANA Board of



Directors, along with the UIC will determine format changes and communicate them as quickly as possible to all teams involved.

- 8) **Completion of Games:** All games must be completed except as indicated below:
- a) In the event of rain or any other cause, which interrupts a game before the completion of 4 complete innings, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was stopped.
 - b) The format of the World Series will be revised as needed if weather, facility issues and the like become an issue. The ASANA Board of Directors and the Umpire in Charge will determine any format changes, which could result in shorter games, reduced pitch counts and the like. These format changes will take place at the top of the following inning.
 - c) The Softball Tournament Director and/or ASANA Board of Directors will communicate this to all teams within a reasonable time frame by a method decided in advance and communicated to all at the Manager's meeting.
 - d) In the event the World Series cannot be completed as scheduled, the ASANA Board of Directors shall ascertain the procedure to determine the final standings.

N) Player Uniforms

- 1) **Jerseys:**
 - a) Players competing in the ASANA Softball World Series Tournament championships must wear a uniform shirt/jersey (tees, tanks, and/or jerseys) of the same color. No ragged cut off sleeves allowed.
 - b) Each shirt/jersey must have a number clearly visible at least 3 inches in height.
 - c) Numbers can be one or two digits only, ranging from 0, 00 through 99. No decimals, or fractions are permitted.
 - d) No taped or handwritten numbers will be allowed. They must be professionally printed.
 - e) If a player is out of uniform, the opposing manager may approach the umpire (time does not stop) and the umpire can then request Tournament Director or Field Lead for clarification. If the Tournament Director/Field Lead deems the player is out of uniform, the manager will be asked to put the player in uniform by the end of the next half inning. The player may be asked to change/move into appropriate uniform or be removed from the game.
- 2) **Pants / Shorts:**
 - a) Teams should coordinate player bottoms to present a cohesive team appearance.
 - b) Any items worn underneath the official uniform top and bottom, such as: compression garments, sliding shorts, undershirts, arm sleeves, etc may be any color and do not need to match the team uniform.
 - c) Cargo shorts, jean shorts, and cargo pants are not permitted for players on the field.



- 3) Headgear and Jewelry: All headgear is optional and may or may not be worn at the individual player's discretion. For purposes of this section, headgear may be headbands, caps, visors, or any combination thereof, without regard to color.
 - a) Bandanas, handkerchiefs, and head coverings are allowed to be worn during play but may not be tied around the neck area.
 - b) Sunglasses may be worn atop of the head, ball cap, or visor as a known risk to the player.
 - c) Wearing a hat backwards is allowed for all players.
 - d) Jewelry is allowed at the discretion of the umpire. If it is deemed unsafe, taping will be allowed, or removal will be required.
- 4) Footwear:
 - a) Footwear must be worn at all times on the playing field.
 - b) No metal cleats shall be worn by any player, coach, or umpire.
 - c) Prohibitive footwear include: Croc-style footwear, open-toed footwear, and non-athletic footwear on the playing field for players or coaches.

O) Coaching Attire:

- 1) Coaches must be neatly attired, dressed uniformly and in accordance with the color code of the team.
- 2) All player guidelines for headgear/Jewelry and Footwear apply to all coaches and managers on the field or in the dugout.

P) Umpire Attire:

- 1) Umpires participating at the ASANA World Series are permitted to wear USA Softball navy shorts.

Q) World Series Awards will be provided in the following manner:

- 1) Team trophies shall be presented to the top three teams in each division
- 2) Individual awards shall be provided to each player and to all listed coaches, per the official roster
- 3) The cost of all awards listed above shall be borne by ASANA. Any participation awards borne by the host association must obtain prior ASANA approval.