

ARTICLE 22 SOFTBALL GENERAL RULES

- 22.1 The official ball provided by the host city for local and state T.A.A.F. championship tournaments will be the officially marked T.A.A.F. ball. The ball must be factory stamped with the T.A.A.F. logo. T.A.A.F. logo softballs are available from the state office.
- 22.2 Rules governing all play will be those approved by the National or State governing body chosen by the host city with T.A.A.F. exceptions as approved by the Executive Committee.**
- 22.3 No metal spikes will be allowed at any time in any slow pitch softball.
- 22.4 Teams shall be prepared for day and night play in state tournaments.
- 22.5 Drawings may be made beforehand to facilitate advantageous handling of newspaper releases and to assist in building up interest in the tournament.
- .01 The date, time, playing rules to be followed and site of the tournament draw shall be published in the Tournament Information Sheet released to each member city.
 - .02 The draw shall be preceded by seeding the teams based on the order of finish at the previous year's T.A.A.F. state tournament.
- 22.6 The host city shall have the privilege of entering a host team when hosting the state tournament.
- 22.7 STATE TOURNAMENT DATES
- .01 All fall softball state tournaments will be held during the month of October. Divisions to be offered in the fall include: Men's SP and Co-Rec SP.
 - .02 State tournament host cities must notify, via packet or flyer containing pertinent dates, fees and other event information, all T.A.A.F. member cities, Regional Directors, Executive Board members and the T.A.A.F. State Office by the following deadlines:
 - Fall Season (Flag Football, Fall Softball, etc.)
Deadline: September Annual Meeting
 - Winter/Spring Season (basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, etc.)
Deadline: January - Winter Executive Board Meeting
 - Summer Season Sports (softball, baseball, summer basketball, etc.)
Deadline: May Executive Board Meeting
- 22.8 The state tournament directors shall accept as many teams as their host facilities allow.
- 22.9 The affiliate division may have up to a sixty four (64) team bracket.
- 22.10 OFFICIAL GAME:
- .01 The tournaments will be double elimination, 3-game guarantee, or 4-game guarantee.**
 - .02 All state tournament games shall consist of seven (7) innings.
 - .03 All games must be completed. In the event of rain or any other cause, which interrupts a game, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was stopped.

EXCEPTION: In the event the tournament cannot be completed as scheduled, the Tournament Committee will ascertain the procedure necessary to determine the final standings.

22.11 RUN AHEAD AND TIME LIMIT RULES:

.01 A time limit rule may be used in state tournaments as follows:

DIVISIONS	TIME LIMIT
Adult Fast Pitch	1 hour 30 minutes
Adult Slow Pitch	55 minutes
Youth Fast Pitch	1 hour 20 minutes
Youth Slow Pitch	55 minutes

.02 The run ahead rule used in State tournaments shall be that of the National or State governing body under which the tournament is being played

.03 If a game is tied at the end of regulation play and goes into extra innings, the ball and strike count for each batter that comes to the plate will be the same as that used during regulation play; i.e. "one pitch" will not be used in extra innings.

22.12 UNIFORMS: All teams competing in state tournament play must play in like colored and non-duplicated numbered jerseys. Coaches must be neatly attired, dressed uniformly and in accordance with the color code of the team.

22.13 DRAFTING PLAYERS: In the Adult and Youth age teams playing for the state championship may draft three (3) players.

.01 The drafted players must be from a T.A.A.F. registered team,

.02 The drafted players (Youth Divisions) must not have participated in championship play in another age division.

.03 The drafted players (Youth Divisions) must be from the same city where the drafting team competed and qualified to advance to the state tournament.

22.14 In all adult softball classifications a player (man or woman) may play with any team as long as he/she resides within the boundaries of the state of Texas.

22.15 The host city shall state in their bid which National organization's playing rules will be followed for the softball state tournament(s) they are hosting.

22.16 If the team has not previously qualified, the winner of each T.A.A.F. state softball tournament shall receive a berth to an ASA Regional tournament, subject to approval by the team's ASA commissioner.

22.17 If available, an at-large berth to an ASA National Tournament will be awarded providing ASA Region 7 does not hold a regional tournament in that division and class. This berth is subject to approval by the team's ASA commissioner.

22.18 The Girls' Fast Pitch State Tournaments will be divided by age groups and divisions.

ARTICLE 26 MEN'S SLOW PITCH

26.1 A maximum of twenty (20) players, including a playing manager and any drafted players (Article 22.13), will be permitted on a team roster.

26.2 **CLASSIFICATION: Adult Slow Pitch shall have three (3) Classifications: Class B/C, Class D and Class E. A team shall be classified by the region or local athletic director according to the guidelines established by the National or State governing body under which that team plays.**

26.3 **HOME RUNS: Teams in each classification are restricted to the number of home runs allowed by the National or State organization's playing rules under which the tournament is being played.**

ARTICLE 27 WOMEN'S SLOW PITCH

- 27.1 A maximum of twenty (20) players, including a playing manager and any drafted players (Article 22.13), will be permitted on a team roster.
- 27.2 Adult Women's Slow Pitch shall have two (2) Classifications: Class B/C and Class D. A team shall be classified by the region or local athletic director according to the guidelines established by the National or State governing body under which that team plays.**

ARTICLE 28 MEN'S INDUSTRIAL SLOW PITCH

- 28.1 Eligible Teams
- .01 All players must be full time or part time employees of one company, of one city or county government, or of one military installation.
 - .02 Players who do not meet the resident rule, including residents of Border States and Mexico may participate for their industrial team if they were current employees as stated above.
 - .03 A player may play on his industrial team as well as any other non-industrial team, providing he meets the eligibility requirements to participate on his industrial team.
 - .04 An industrial division team is restricted to hitting a total of six (6) unobstructed home runs in a game. The batter is ruled out for any excess of six (6) home runs per game.

ARTICLE 29 CO-REC SOFTBALL

- 29.1 A maximum of twenty (20) players, including a playing manager and any drafted players (article 22.13), will be permitted on a team roster.
- 29.2 A twelve (12) and eleven (11) inch ball will be used. Men will hit the 12" ball and the women will hit the 11" ball.
- 29.3 The official diamond shall consist of sixty-five (65) foot base distance, fifty-foot (50) pitching distance and **minimum** 275-foot fence distance.
- 29.4 No metal spikes will be allowed at any time.
- 29.5 Rules regarding batting order, extra hitters or additional hitters, and defensive positioning will be determined by the National or State governing body under which the tournament is being played.**
- 29.6 Spring/Summer Co-Rec - One (1) division
- .01 Three home runs per game: Each additional home run will be ruled an out.
- 29.7 The registration deadline for all Summer Co-Rec teams is June 1.
- 29.8 Fall Co-Rec Softball registration deadline is September 25. The state tournament allows three home runs. Each additional home run will be ruled an out.

ARTICLE 31 MEN'S CHURCH SLOW PITCH

- 31.1 The regular playing roster shall not exceed twenty (20) players, including a playing manager and any drafted players (Article 22.13).
- 31.2 Men's Church Slow Pitch shall have one (1) classification: Men's Church. Home run rules will be determined by the National or State governing body under which the state tournament is being played.**