

2024 Handbook



of Metro Detroit



www.USASoftballDetroit.org
"The Best in Softball!"



Where Olympic Journeys Begin



- ◆ Adult Programs
- ◆ Youth Junior Olympic Program
- ◆ Local and National Tournaments
- ◆ Softball and Kickball Purchase Program
- ◆ Field Improvement Grants
- ◆ Top Quality Umpire Program
- ◆ Insurance Benefits for Field Owners, Players, and Teams

Your Softball Resource Center!



HandbookTable of Contents



| | |
|--|-----------|
| Why USA Softball? | 3 |
| USA Softball of Metro Detroit – About Us | 4 |
| USA Softball of Metro Detroit Board of Directors..... | 5 |
| Junior Olympic Program – | |
| Youth Tournaments | 6 |
| JO Individual Registration | 7 |
| ACE Youth Coaches Education Program | 8 |
| All-American Games..... | 9 |
| USA Softball High Performance Program..... | 10 |
| SafeSport Requirement | 11 |
| Adult Program – | |
| Adult Individual Registration | 12 |
| USA Softball of Metro Detroit and Michigan State Tournaments | 13 |
| Classification Code | 14, 14 |
| Suspensions and Hearings | 15 |
| TournamentInformation – | |
| 2024 USA Softball National Tournaments..... | 16-18 |
| Sanction Invitational Tournament Request Form..... | 19 |
| Territory Qualifier Tournament Request Form..... | 20 |
| National Qualifier Request Form..... | 21 |
| Insurance Updates – | |
| Insurance Information – Why USA Softball Insurance, Programs..... | 22, 23 |
| Umpires – | |
| Umpire Information | 24 |
| Youth Umpire Training..... | 25 |
| Why Umpire?..... | 26 |
| USA Softball of Metro Detroit Hall of Fame | 27 |
| Timothy J. Doyle Community Grant Program | 28 |
| Softball and Kickball Purchase Program..... | 29 |
| USA Softball National Background Check Program..... | 30, 31 |
| Additional USA Softball Programs and Services | 32 |
| Top 10 Reasons to Play USA Softball in Metro Detroit | 33 |
| RISR Youth Training Program | 34 |
| Detroit Sports Commission | 35 |
| Dicks Sporting Goods | 36 |

Why USA Softball?



USA Softball...The national Governing Body of Softball!

Softball is a way of life for thousands of people each year, and their choice for softball is USA Softball (formerly Amateur Softball Association), the national governing body of softball in the United States. Not every team can come home with a national championship, but the USASoftball program gives people an opportunity to have clean, competitive fun playing slow pitch, fast pitch or modified pitch, at levels ranging from district to national championship.

Since its founding in 1933, the USA Softball has given the sport direction and strived to have the best program possible for the millions of people who play amateur softball each summer. Many of them started playing in the USA Softball Junior Olympic program before moving up to the adult divisions of play.

USA Softball has kept its hand on the pulse of the softball community in America and, when needed, has added divisions of championship play to meet the interests of those involved in the ASA program. Today, USA Softball has more than 100 national championships, ranging from 10-under fast pitch to 75-over slow pitch. Annually more than 40,000 players participate in USA National Championship Finals and they are assured of playing some of the best teams in America.

The tournaments they participate in are run by well-qualified tournament staffs who care about the players participating in their national tournament and want them to enjoy playing in a USA Softball adult national championship.

It's the substance behind USA Softball national championships that make them the best of the rest and teams realize they have accomplished something they can be proud of for a lifetime. Besides well-run national championships, the participants are assured of nothing but the best in umpiring. Each year more than 38,000 umpires register with one of the more than 64 USA Softball local associations. USA Softball annually hosts local, state and national umpire clinics, which cover the nation and bring together the best instruction available in the sport to all 10 regions of USA Softball. USA Softball strives to make its umpires the best they can be, and USA umpires are known for their professionalism and expertise.

As the NGB of softball, USA Softball is the only softball organization that can offer players the opportunity to play in these prestigious events, which are often held throughout the world. USA Softball is responsible for selecting and training the USA Teams for international competition. In the three Olympics, 1996, 2000, and 2004 the USA National Team has won the Gold Medal while capturing the Silver Medal in 2008. To help players improve their skills for not only these prestigious events but for national championships as well, USA Softball offers clinics, camps, publications, and videos, all designed to help people become better playing America's summer pastime - softball.



USA Softball of Metro Detroit . . . About Us



of Metro Detroit

www.USASoftballDetroit.org

USA Softball of Metro Detroit (USAMD) is an affiliate of the national USA Softball organization and one of 64 metro/state associations in the United States. The Metro Detroit coverage area includes the counties of Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, and Livingston.

The volunteer board of Metro Detroit is dedicated and committed to the game of softball – both youth and adult and for men and women. Metro Detroit went through some lean years in the 1960's and 1970's. In 1979 there were a mere 100 teams and 75 umpires registered through Metro Detroit. But in a matter of only three years, USAMD became the number one metro association in the United States for production and registration gains in both umpires and teams registered. From that year on, metro and state associations throughout the country look to Metro Detroit as a model association in many respects. Metro Detroit continues to be one of the best respected and top local associations in the United States.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of USA Softball of Metro Detroit is to provide assistance to and a quality softball experience for youth and adult teams, umpires, agencies, complexes, and supporters of the game of softball. Also, to develop, direct, and promote the sport of softball to ensure maximum participation, optimal performance, and educational excellence.

Umpires

USA Softball of Metro Detroit is the only organization that offers mechanics training for both fast and slow pitch along with rule seminars. These programs have been conducted annually since 1976. Metro Detroit has placed more than 200 local umpires in national USA Softball tournaments since 1990. Metro Detroit has 45 of these national tournament umpires in the National Indicator Fraternity (umpires who have worked three national tournaments). USA Softball also recognizes umpires through the "Elite" umpire program and the Medals program.

Structure

The metro commissioner is responsible for the organization and implementation of all policies and procedures within the local association. Board meetings, conducted by the President, are normally held every other month, in the metro Detroit area. More than 10 sub-committees help the association continue to strive for excellence and promotion of the game of softball each year.

Team Benefits

Access to official USASoftball Participant Guide
Official USA Softballscorebook
Ability to purchase team insurance at **reasonable** rates
Access to national publication *Balls and Strikes*
USA Softball team travel permits
Official USA Softball team identification card
Opportunity for registered team to compete in local, state, regional, national tournament play
mParks discount ticket program offerings
Opportunity to purchase softballs at a deep discount
Access to national publication *Balls and Strikes*
A liability insurance premium is included in the adult team registration fee if all teams in a league/agency are registered and USA Softball umpires are used.
Accidentinsurance is an option for \$200 per team.

Umpire Benefits

Fast and slow pitch clinics and virtual trainings
Access to national publication *Balls and Strikes*
Assignments to umpire local, state, regional and national USA Softball tournaments
USA Softball identification card and bat ring
Umpire Award Programs
Access to USA Softball rule book and umpire manual
Insurance coverage
Supplemental insurance available (optional)
USA Softball umpire merchandise catalog
mParks discount ticket program offerings

USA Softball of Metro Detroit . . . Meet Your Board of Directors



| | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Stu Alderman, Commissioner (Grosse Pointe) | 313.885.4600x13 | USASoftballDetroit@gmail.com |
| Derek Smith, Associate Commissioner (Northville) | 248.305.2729 | DSmith@twp.northville.mi.us |
| Jes Alger, President (Oak Park) | 248.691.7562 | jalger@oakparkmi.gov |
| Joseph Okaiye, President-Elect (Waterford Township) | 248.674.5441 | JOkaiye@waterfordmi.gov |
| Tom Newcombe, Treasurer (Oxford) | 248.770.5364 | newclan@aol.com |
| Kyle Langlois, Associate Treasurer (Sterling Heights) | 586.446.2705 | klanglois@sterling-heights.net |
| John Jonassen, Umpire-in-Chief | 586.779.8599 | jonassen@comcast.net |
| Mike Hodgins, Secretary (West Bloomfield) | 248.451.1933 | mhodgins@wbparcs.org |
| Joe Dorton, Board Member (Redford Township) | 313.387.2650 | jdorton@redfordtwp.com |
| John Fedele, Board Member (Royal Oak) | 248.246.3180 | JohnF@romi.gov |
| Chris Galatis, Board Member (Grosse Pointe Farms) | 313.343.2405 | cgalatis@grossepointefarms.org |
| Bob Lawson, Board Member (New Hudson) | 248.719.3951 | mdasabob@aol.com |
| Scott Mercer, Board Member (Rochester Hills) | 248.249.7409 | dsmerc15@gmail.com |
| Greg Morris, Board Member (Northville) | 248.662.9830 | gmorris@twp.northville.mi.us |
| Troy Nowotny, Board Member (Sterling Heights) | 989.286.6067 | tnowotny@sterling-heights.net |
| Dan Sullivan, Board Member (Oxford Township) | 248.628.1720 | dansullivan@oxparkrec.org |
| Dennis Troshak, Board Member, Registration Tech (Howell) | 517.548.0124 | USASoftballofmetrodetroitjo@gmail.com |
| Meghan Veiga, Board Member (Troy) | 248.524.3492 | Meghan.Veiga@troymi.gov |
| Tom Willette, Board Member (Plymouth) | 734.416.0843 | tomwillette@hotmail.com |
| George Birch, Legal Counsel | 586.295.6289 | birchlegal@yahoo.com |
| Justin Lippe, mParks Liaison | 517.485.9888 | jlippe@mparks.org |
| Jamie Valdez, mParks Liaison | 517.485.9888 | jvaldez@mparks.org |
| Nichole Fisher, mParks Liaison | 517.485.9888 | nfisher@mparks.org |

Specific Questions may be directed to sub-committees as listed below:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Junior Olympic Program | Dan Sullivan |
| Team and Field Insurance | Dennis Troshak |
| Hall of Fame Committee | Stu Alderman |
| Umpire Program | John Jonassen |
| Adult Tournaments and Kickball Purchase Program | Kyle Langlois |
| Softball Purchase Program | Greg Morris |

USA Softball of Metro Detroit website
USA Softball national website
USA Softball of Michigan website
RPS Bollinger Insurance website
Individual Player and Umpire Registration
Tournament Information and Registration
Midwest Region Vice-President, Darrin Duisttermars

www.USASoftballDetroit.org
www.USASoftball.com
www.usasoftballmi.org
www.RPSBollinger.com
www.RegisterUSASoftball.com
www.TournamentUSASoftball.com
darrin@usasoftballmi.org



Youth Tournaments – 2024

Compete in a youth tournaments in Michigan and you may have the opportunity to advance to a USA Softball national championships/territory national championship.

Tulip City Cup, Holland Township, MI

Date: June 28-30 5-game guarantee
Divisions: 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U (A and B)
Contact: Darrin Duisternars Phone: 616.395.0178
Amanda Baily Phone: 616.610.9985
Email: darrin@usasoftballmi.org
Register at: www.TourneyMachine.com or on their App
Deadline to register: June 17, 2024

Summer Slam, Redford Township, MI



Date: July 6-7 4-game guarantee
Divisions: 12U, 14U (B and C divisions; geared for teams who have not won a tournament)
Contact: Joe Dorton Phone: 313.387.2653
Email: jdorton@redfordtwp.com
Deadline to register: July 1

ALL USA Softball of Michigan and Metro Detroit teams entering any of the JO tournaments listed are required to:

- Register all players individually
- Those players that turn age 18 or older prior to August 31, 2024, must also be SafeSport certified (established 2021).
- Must have a background check and be SafeSport certified for the current year for all adults on the field or in dugout.
- Have at least one coach ACE certified in the dugout.
- Have proper Concussion paperwork on file with USA Softball of Metro Detroit for all coaches.

Registrations can be completed at www.RegisterUSASoftball.com
click on USA Softball of Metro Detroit/Michigan

Please visit www.TourneyMachine.com or on the Tourney Machine App for a complete list of tournaments in MetroDetroit, the region, and throughout the country! Click on each state to view their qualifiers.

Local Invitational Tournaments in the area:

(Not all are sanctioned USA Softball tournaments)

Ultimate Fastpitch Showcase June 20-23 Novi/West Bloomfield
www.michigangenerals.com/index.php/tournaments.html

Motor City Showdown June 28-30 Canton
www.teamsideline.com/fastpitchshowdowns

Reverse Exposure October 5-6 Canton
John Conway jconway0406@gmail.com

We are seeking sites in the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025 to host qualifying tournaments. If interested, please contact usasoftballdetroit@gmail.com



A Great Value for Players in 2024!

*Effective for 2024 season –
through August 31, 2024*



Junior Olympic Individual Registration

Includes Insurance for Players . . . Saves You \$\$\$!

What is Individual Registration?

As the National Governing Body for the sport of softball, USA Softball is committed to the goal of providing accident and liability insurance for all participants in the Junior Olympic (youth) program.

The ID card serves three purposes

1. Indisputable proof of age
2. Signature and photo ID card (now required for USA Softball championship play)
3. Proof of Insurance

If Metro Detroit area teams wish to participate in USA Softball national qualifiers or state tournament play, they must register players and coaches individually.

Additional benefits and information regarding Individual Registration:

- ◆ **Each player who registers** online will be covered for insurance purposes with a \$500 deductible policy – \$2,000,000 Liability Insurance, plus \$250,000 Excess Accident Medical Insurance. Coverage follows the individual throughout the calendar year for all USA Softball activities, even if the player changes to another USA Softball team.
- ◆ The team coach/manager will register players on their team online at: www.RegisterUSASoftball.com
- ◆ At the end of the registration process, an invoice will be produced on behalf of USA Softball of Metro Detroit. Payment and birth certificates must then be sent to Metro Detroit at the designated address. Allows for a team to import their own database and upload pictures.
- ◆ Once USA Softball of Metro Detroit receives payment from the team, a Metro Detroit representative will review the submittal and make any corrections/adds/deletes and then APPROVE. Once approved, Register USA Softball will send the ID cards to the coach.
- ◆ **Each registrant receives a digital card. Cost is per person): \$19, \$250 deductible**
- ◆ **COACHES/ADULTS: A Junior Olympic team participating in championship play must have at least one ACE certified coach (current year) in the dugout. All adults (on the field/dugout) must have a background check and be SafeSport certified for the current year. Those players that turn age 18 or older prior to August 31, 2024, must also be SafeSport certified and have a background check.**
- ◆ We highly recommend all members receive SafeSport training. It is our job as USA Softball the NGB and USA Softball of Detroit to encourage and promote education/training to all ages regarding preventing all forms of abuse and misconduct.

For further information, please contact Dennis Troshak at USASoftballofmetrodetroitjo@gmail.com

Get ACE Educated!



The ACE (Aspire, Challenge, Encourage) Coach Education Program is a coaching program, developed and designed to provide softball coaches of all levels – from beginning coaches to experienced veterans – an opportunity to be educated as a coach with a national softball organization.

As the National Governing Body of Softball, it is the USA Softball's responsibility to ensure that our coaches achieve a certain level of understanding of what their duties are as coach of a youth softball team. The ACE Education videos are a practical guide to the everyday situations you will encounter as a youth softball coach. After obtaining your ACE education, you will be well prepared to coach a youth softball team.

Benefits of ACE membership:

Here is a quick run through of the ACE Coaching Education program and how one would become certified and achieve the highest level of ACE Education.

The first step to complete for any coach who is attempting to become certified using the ACE online system is a profile lookup. If you are an existing coach who is coming to the site to complete another level of certification your profile should be located, and you should be able to continue from the position that you left off. For example, if John Doe has completed ACE Levels 1 and 2 in an ACE Clinic through its local association, when he looks up his profile the system will recognize this and make ACE Level 3 available for purchase and completion. For the system to properly find your coaches profile, you must enter your information (i.e. first name, last name, email address, zip code) exactly how you did when you registered. If you have moved since you last registered, enter the previous zip code under which you registered and then edit your information in the ACE Online System. If you are a previously registered coach and the system does not find your profile properly, DO NOT create a new profile, which you will do in Step 2 on the ACE Online Program. Instead, contact the ACE Administrator at the USA Softball national office. The administrator's contact information can be located on the ACE Website under the Contact Us tab.

If you are a first time ACE Coach or you have not certified through a local association in the last year, you will have to create a new profile and begin ACE Online Education at Level 1.

The guiding principles behind the ACE Coaching Education Program are:

A-spire: to achieve a comprehensive level of knowledge for the game.

C-hallenge: your understanding and knowledge through continued education and growth.

E-ncourage: yourself and others to be prepared and knowledgeable as a coach in order to provide your athletes an environment in which they can achieve success.

ALL USA Softball of Michigan and Metro Detroit teams entering a JO qualifiers, state, and national tournaments MUST register all players individually. A Junior Olympic team participating in championship play must have at least one ACE certified coach (current year) in the dugout. All adults (on the field/dugout) must have a background check and be SafeSport certified for the current year. Registrations can be completed at www.RegisterUSASoftball.com; click on Metro Detroit under Association.

**To begin your ACE Certification today, log on at
and get ACE Educated! www.RegisterUSASoftball.com**



Midwest Region 6

Illinois, Metro Chicago, Indiana-Kentucky, Michigan, Metro Detroit

We plan to have open tryouts for one team in 2024 for girls ages 12 and under. Individuals selected will have the opportunity to compete in the 8th Annual All-American Games at USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium, Oklahoma City, OK August 8-11, 2023.

2024 All-American Games Program Summary



"Where Olympic Dreams Begin"

The USA Softball All-American Games is a prestigious tournament to be hosted at the USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City. This event will provide National exposure to elite athletes in the 12u age division and has been designed to identify and highlight the best athletes from across the country.

Each Region will select teams (up to two teams) comprised of 15 players and 2 coaches each to represent their geographical area. Additional at-large selections are given to regions with highest registration. This event is designed to recognize individual athletes for their outstanding playing abilities and selections should represent the individual best players and not an in-tact team.

Designation to a USA Softball All-American team is the highest honor a player can receive and instantly brands the player as one of the top athletes in the United States. Only 360 girls Nationwide will have the opportunity to wear the USA Softball Jersey at this elite event.

Participants experience VIP treatment during their time at the USA Softball All-American Games. The event will feature a meet & greet with USA Softball National Team Members, Opening Ceremonies, intense competition in a 4 Game Guarantee Tournament and a swag bag for all participants.

Dates for tryouts and team selection will be scheduled later for the 2024 program. Please watch the website and social media for more information.



USA SOFTBALL™

HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

HIGH
PERFORMANCE
PROGRAM



REGIONAL IDENTIFIER



REGIONAL INVITATIONAL EVENT



NATIONAL SELECTION EVENT



The USA Softball High Performance Program (HPP) will identify a pool of athletes to train, compete and represent USA Softball through domestic and international competition. The program will focus on developing player skills, while teaching and growing the game of softball in the United States. Serving as a pipeline to the National Team, the program is inclusive to all that wish to participate/tryout and develop their skills. The program will also identify a pool of coaches who can lead athletes and support their goals to advance their skills and achieve success.

Through the HPP, athletes around the country will have the chance to make a USA Softball National Team at four different age groups. Working first at the local level, the best talent in the game will work through camps, clinics, identifiers and tryout to make local teams, region teams and potentially be selected to a National Team to participate with USA Softball at the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) international events.

The HPP age classifications are based on the age guidelines for the WBSC competition schedule. Age groups are defined by birth year and an athlete must be the age group age throughout the entire year. (Example: If an athlete is trying out for the 2024 14U region team, the athlete must not turn 15 until 2024.) The age of the athlete on December 31 determines their age group for the following year. An athlete may tryout of their age group team but be asked to move up in age group.

Check back to the USA Softball national website for identifier information.

<https://www.usasoftball.com/play-usa-softball/high-performance-program/>



USA Softball, together with the United States Olympic Committee, is committed to enabling a safe environment for participants involved in USA Softball. To this end, it has developed the following SafeSport Strategy for the attention of all Directors, Employees and Members of USA Softball.

Beginning immediately, the free SafeSport training program is available to all members of USA Softball and the course can be taken by first logging in to the RegisterUSASoftball website and then accessing the SafeSport option under the ACE Education tab. **Those players that turn age 18 or older must prior to August 31, 2022, must also be SafeSport certified.**

Mission

To cultivate and steward a culture of dignity and respect in sport.

Purpose

Enable every athlete to thrive by fostering a national sport culture of respect and safety, on and off the field of play.

Covered Individuals

The following is a list of categories under USA Softball that are subject to SafeSport training and reporting:

1. National Office Staff National Teams, including:
 - a. Staff
 - b. Coaches
 - c. Players
 - d. Athletic Trainers
 - e. Medical Personnel
 - f. Umpires appointed by the NGB to national championship events or international events
2. Local Association Softball Officials, including:
 - a. Board of Directors
 - b. Commissioners appointed by the NGB
 - c. JO Commissioners appointed by the NGB Commissioners
 - d. Player Representatives appointed by the NGB Commissioners
 - e. Umpires-In-Chief appointed by the NGB Commissioners
 - f. National Championship Tournament Directors appointed by the NGB or NGB Commissioners
3. A.C.E. Program Coaches of NGB's Local Association Members

SafeSport training topics include the following:

Sexual Misconduct Awareness Education

1. Mandatory Reporting
2. Emotional and Physical Misconduct

Each topic is approximately 30 minutes followed by a test and each topic provides a separate certificate upon completion. All three courses must be completed in order to show a completed status on the RegisterUSA system, and in some cases to be allowed to continue processing additional membership options. SafeSport training must be completed every two (2) years. We encourage everyone take the free training; refresher courses are added periodically. SafeSport is free to everyone including coaches, athletes, parents and administrators at all levels if involved with USA Softball.

GET STARTED: Login (or create an account) on RegisterUSASoftball.com and then access the SafeSport option under the ACE Education tab. When you're on the SafeSport site please be sure to select USA Softball from the Organization list for USA Softball to be notified by SafeSport of your completion status.

Big Benefit - Adult Individual Registration

Includes Insurance for Players – Don't Get Caught without Insurance!

What is Individual Registration?

As the National Governing Body for the sport of softball, USA Softball is committed to the goal of providing accident and liability insurance for all participants in the adult and youth programs. Only adult leagues can individually register and they must register all the teams in their league.

The ID card serves three purposes

2. Indisputable proof of age
2. Signature and photo ID card
4. Proof of Insurance

Additional benefits and information regarding Individual Registration:

- ◆ Each player who registers online will be covered for insurance purposes. The liability limit is \$2,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 aggregate per team for USA Softball liability plans, plus more! Coverage follows the individual throughout the calendar year for all USA Softball activities, even if the player changes to another USA Softball team.
- ◆ The team coach/manager will register players on their team online at **RegisterUSASoftball.com**
- ◆ Allows for a team to import their own database and upload pictures. At the end of the registration process, an invoice will be produced on behalf of USA Softball of Metro Detroit. Payment must then be sent to the Metro Detroit designated address.
- ◆ Once USA Softball of Metro Detroit receives the check from the team, a Metro Detroit representative will review the submittal and make any corrections/adds/deletes and then APPROVE.
- ◆ Once approved, Register USA Softball will send the ID cards to the coach. Each registrant receives one (1) ID card with their name, insurance deductible printed on the card, and information on insurance coverage including number to call in case of an accident claim. Options are listed below (cost is per person):
\$500 deductible \$19 pp for a non-photo ID

A liability insurance premium is included in the USA Softball of Metro Detroit adult team registration fee if all teams in the league/agency are registered and use USA Softball umpires! Unlike the General Liability insurance, Excess Accident insurance is not built into USA Softball Registration. The purchase of Excess Accident insurance remains a voluntary purchase for teams and leagues in 2022 at a standard rate of \$225 per team across the country. A single team may purchase the coverage, or an entire league. This \$225 per team premium represents the lowest premium charge in years for the Excess Accident insurance offered by USA Softball.

For further information, please visit the RPS Bollinger web site at www.RPSBollinger.com.

USA Softball of Michigan 2024 Tournament Offerings

- **April**
 - o MSP F – Qualifier 1 – April 20 & 21 Ypsilanti Township
 - o MSP D/E – Qualifier 1 – April 27 & 28 Holland
- **May**
 - o MSP F – Qualifier 2 – May 11 & 12 Sturgis
 - o MSP D/E – Qualifier 2 – May 18 & 19 Davison
- **June**
 - o MFP - USA NIT – June 1& 2 Holland
 - o MSP – F Qualifier 3 – June 15 & 16 Grand Rapids/Walker (State Games)
 - o MSP – D/E Qualifier 3 – June 22 & 23 Grand Rapids/Walker (State Games)
 - o Junior Olympic – June 28-30 Holland
 - o MSP – 35 & Over – June 29 Holland
- **July**
 - o MSP – F Qualifier 4 - July 13 & 14 Davison
 - o MSP – D/E Qualifier 4 - July 20 & 21 Ypsilanti Twp.
 - o MFP – Class B State – July 26-28 Petoskey
 - o MFP – Class C State – July 26-28 Holland
 - o MFP – 40+/50+/60+ Nationals – July 31-Aug.1 Rockford
- **August**
 - o MFP – Men’s Majors Nationals - August 1-4 Rockford
 - o MSP – Class F State – August 3 & 4 Ypsilanti Township
 - o MFP – Class D & E - August 9-11 Holland
 - o MSP – Class D/E State – August 10 & 11 Rockford
 - o MMP (10) – Class A & B – August 17 Midland
 - o Coed SP – Class D & E – August 24 Davison
- **September**
 - o MSP – Class D National – Sept. 6-8 Rockford

GREEN – Men’s Slow Pitch

BLUE – Men’s Fastpitch

RED – Coed Slow Pitch

PURPLE – Junior Olympic

ORANGE – Modified Pitch

USA SOFTBALL™
of Michigan

Classification Code – Women’s Slow Pitch

A sub-committee will review all tournament records and determine the teams that will move up to the next class. This committee will meet in the fall annually.

Class E

1. Must use local league roster.
2. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class D teams
3. May have a record of .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class E teams.
4. Must not place higher than fourth in any tournament that is Class D and above.

Class D

1. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class C and above.
2. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class D and below.
3. Must not place higher than fourth in any tournament that is class C and above.

Class C

1. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class B and above.
2. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class C and below.
3. Must not finish higher than fourth in any tournament that is Class B and above.

Open

All teams wishing to advance to the USA Softball Women’s Open slow pitch national championship.

Classification Code – Men’s Slow Pitch

A sub-committee will review all tournament records and determine the teams that will move up to the next class. This committee will meet in the fall annually.

Class F

1. Must use local league roster.
2. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class E and above teams.
3. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class F teams.
4. Must not place higher than fourth in any tournament that is Class E and above.

Class E

1. Must use local league roster.
2. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class D and above.
3. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class E and below.
4. Must not place higher than 4th in any tournament that is Class D and above.

Class D

1. Must use local league roster.
2. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class C and above.
3. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class D and below.
4. Must not finish higher than 4th in any tournament that is Class C and above.

Class C

1. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class B or above.
2. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class C and below.
3. Must not place higher than 4th in any tournament that is Class B and above

Class B

1. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class A Teams.
2. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of teams in Class B and below.
3. Must not finish higher than 4th in any tournament that is Class A.

Class A

1. Primary – Five (5) players from the USA Softball Restricted Player List
2. Secondary – All teams wishing to advance to the USA Softball Men's Class A slow pitch national championship

Classification Code – Coed

Class E

1. Must use local league roster.
2. The top three (3) finishing teams from the previous year's coed class E slow pitch state championship must participate in at least the next higher classification in their next tournament playing season.
3. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class D and above teams.
4. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class E teams.
5. Must not place higher than fourth in a Class D or above tournament.
6. Roster must be comprised of players from Men's and Women's Class D and below slow pitch.

Class D

1. Must use local league roster.
2. Teams finishing first or second for two (2) consecutive seasons must move up to class C in their next tournament playing season.
3. Must have a record below .500 if playing in a league primarily comprised of Class C teams.
4. May have a record above .500 if playing in a league comprised of Class D teams.
5. Must not place higher than 4th in a Class C tournament.
6. Roster must be comprised of players from Men's and Women's Class C and below slow-pitch.

Class C

All teams wishing to advance to the USA Softball Coed Open slow pitch national championship

Suspensions and Hearings

USA Softball of Metro Detroit leagues/agencies may submit a player/team for further suspensions to the Metro Detroitboard if the proper right of due process is followed at the local level. If the USAMD suspension committee agrees that the proper procedures have been followed at the local level and the offense warrants a hearing, the committee will then set up a hearing for the individual/team. Individuals suspended by USAMD are ineligible for Metro Detroit tournament play and will have their name(s) forwarded to local agencies as being suspended. Local agencies have the option to honor the suspension at the local level of league play.

2024 USA Softball National Tournaments



A complete listing of USA Softball national championship tournaments can be located on the USA Softball website:

<https://www.usasoftball.com/tournaments-national-championships/>

National championships are offered in:

Adult Fast Pitch

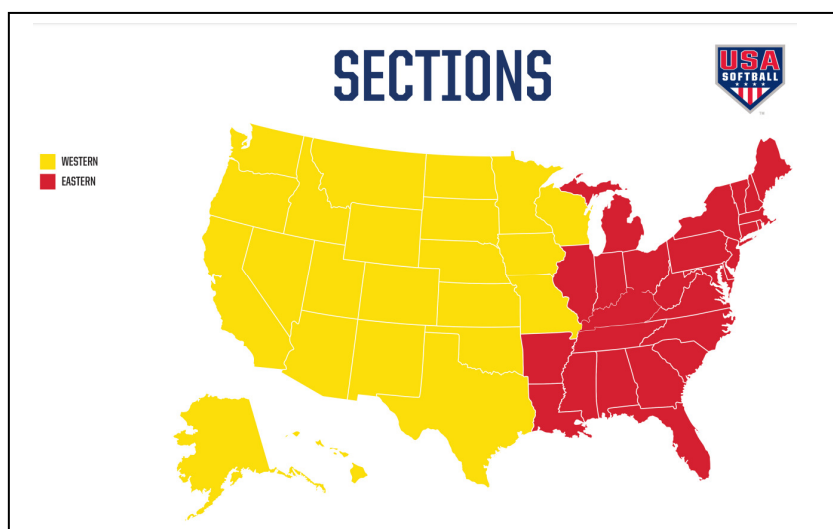
- Men's Major
- Men's Open East, Men's Open West
- Men's 23-Under
- Men's Masters 40-Over, Men's Masters 50-Over, Men's Senior 60-Over

Adult Men's Slow Pitch

- Super
- Class AA, Class A, Class B, Class C
- Masters 35-Over, Masters 40-Over, Masters 45-Over
- 16 Inch Major
- 16 Inch Class A
- 19-Under
- 21-Under
- Eastern Class D, Eastern Class E/Rec
- Northern Class D, Northern Class E/Rec

Adult Women's Slow Pitch

- Open
- Master 35-Over
- Class C, Class D, Class E/Rec
- Northern E/Rec



Adult: USA Softball shall conduct two National Championship Finals in Men's Open and Men's Senior Slow Pitch.

Youth: USA Softball shall conduct two National Championship Finals in Girls' 10-Under Class A Fast Pitch.

Adult Coed Slow Pitch

Open, Class C, Class D, Class E/Rec

Senior Slow Pitch

50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 East
(Major, AAA, AA)

50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 West
(Major, AAA, AA)

Modified Pitch

Men's (10), Men's (9)

Junior Olympic Fast Pitch

USA Girls GOLD 18U, 16U

USA Girls Class A 10U East, 10U West

USA Girls Class A 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U

Girls Class A 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U Territory National Championships –
Eastern, **Northern**, Southern, Western

Girls Class B 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U Territory National Championships –
Eastern, **Northern**, Southern, Western

Boys Fast Pitch

10-Under, 12-Under, 14-Under, 16-Under, 18-Under

Junior Olympic Slow Pitch

Girls 10U, Girls 12U, Girls 14U, Girls 16U, Girls 18U

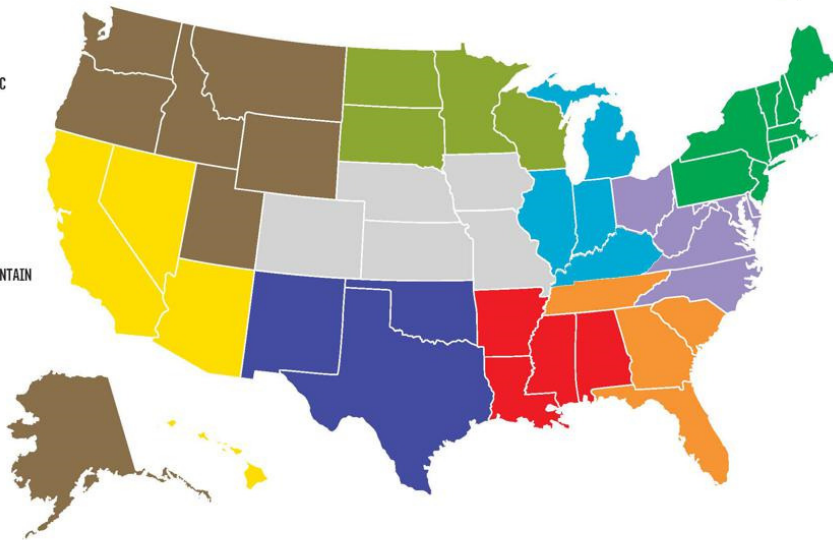
Boys 10U, Boys 12U, Boys 14U, Boys 16U, Boys 18U

USA Softball of Metro Detroit is located in the Northern Territory.

REGIONS



- REGION 1 NORTHEAST
- REGION 2 CENTRAL ATLANTIC
- REGION 3 SOUTHEAST
- REGION 4 SOUTH
- REGION 5 SOUTHWEST
- REGION 6 MIDWEST
- REGION 7 MID-AMERICA
- REGION 8 NORTHERN
- REGION 9 NORTHWEST MOUNTAIN
- REGION 10 PACIFIC COAST



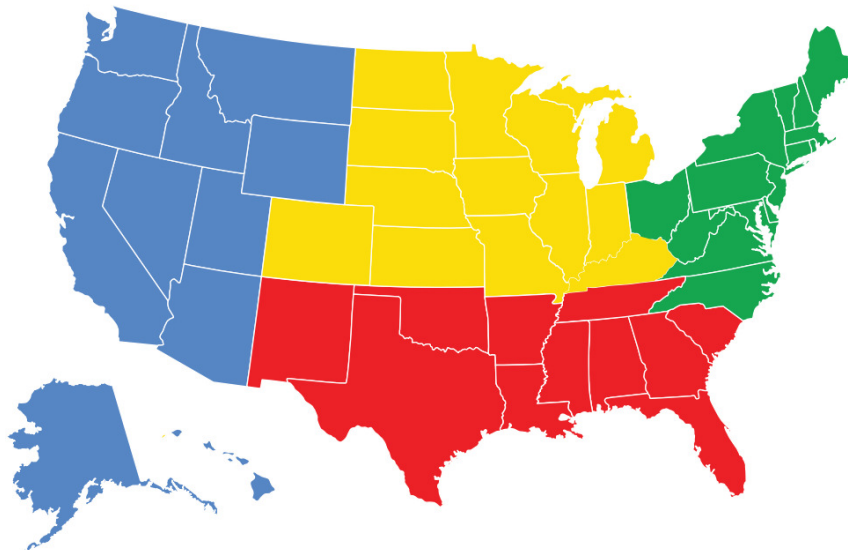
Adult: For a listing of qualifications and procedures for USA Softball Adult National Qualifiers, see the USA Softball Code.

Youth: All teams are eligible to qualify for the USA Softball Class A Fast Pitch National Championship Finals through their state/metro association.

TERRITORIES



- EASTERN
- NORTHERN
- SOUTHERN
- WESTERN



Youth: USA Softball shall conduct one National Tournament in each age classification in Girls Class A and Class B Fast Pitch. These National Tournaments are open to teams within the National Tournament territory (Eastern, Northern, Southern, Western) who have not qualified for the USA Softball Girls Class A National Championship Finals.

Adult: USA Softball shall conduct four National Championship Finals in Men's Class D and E/Rec Slow Pitch.

USA Softball Sanctioned Invitational TOURNAMENT REQUEST FORM



On behalf of the sponsoring organization listed below, please sanction the following invitational tournament:

of Metro Detroit

Sponsoring Organization _____ Name of Tournament _____

Tournament Site _____ Date _____ Classification _____ Entry Fee _____

Check Appropriate Boxes:

- () Men's () Fast Pitch () Slow Pitch () Coed
() Women's () Modified () Junior Olympic

The Sponsoring organization hereby agrees to comply with the following USA Softball of Metro Detroit conditions:

1. Pay a Sanctioning Fee \$25 due upon submission of this form.
2. **Teams** – Only teams currently registered with USA Softball will be allowed to participate. Exception: Foreign teams will be permitted with approval of their national sanctioning body.
3. **Awards** – No cash prizes may be awarded to any individual, team, or sponsor.
4. **Conflicts** – No Invitational Tournament may be conducted which will conflict with “USA Softball state elimination play”.
5. **Notification** – All teams shall receive adequate notification of game schedules prior to the start of the tournament. All entry blanks and publicity shall include the words **Sanctioned Invitational USA Softball of Metro Detroit Tournament**.
6. **Rosters** – Teams must participate with the same roster as used in regular season play. The team roster must include the team’s commissioner signature, or their designee. **Exception:** each team may add **three** pick-up players from another USA Softball registered team.
7. **Umpires** – Only registered USA Softball umpires may be used.
8. The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit a list of all umpires projected to umpire within one week of the tournament; and a complete list within one week after completion of the tournament.
9. The tournament representative **must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit a list of all projected teams in the tournament 72 hours prior to the start of the tournament; and a complete list of teams that participated and where they are from within one week of the completion of the tournament.**

This agreement shall be binding upon the payment of the \$25 Sanctioning fee and signatures of the sponsoring organization, the USA Softball of Metro Detroit Commissioner, or their designee. Send check made payable to “USA Softball of Metro Detroit”; mail to Stu Alderman, USA Softball, 17150 Waterloo Street, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

Signature of Tournament Director _____

Email Address _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Signature of USA Softball of Metro Detroit Representative _____

Date _____



USA Softball National Territory Qualifier TOURNAMENT REQUEST FORM



On behalf of the sponsoring organization listed below, please sanction the following invitational tournament:

| Sponsoring Organization | | Name of Tournament | |
|-------------------------|------|--------------------|-----------|
| Tournament Site | Date | Classification | Entry Fee |

Check Appropriate Boxes:

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> Coed |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's | <input type="checkbox"/> Modified | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Olympic | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 12Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 14Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 16Under <input type="checkbox"/> 18Under | |

The Sponsoring organization hereby agrees to comply with the following USA Softball of Metro Detroit conditions:

- Pay** an Assessment Fee of \$15 per team; due to USAMD no later than 14 days following tournament.
- Teams** – Only teams currently registered with USA Softball will be allowed to participate.
- Awards** – No cash prizes may be awarded to any individual, team, or sponsor.
- Conflicts** – No Qualifying Tournament may be conducted which will conflict with “USA Softball state elimination play”.
- Notification** – All teams shall receive adequate notification of game schedules prior to the start of the tournament. All entry blanks and publicity shall include the words “**Sanctioned Invitational USA Softball of Metro Detroit Tournament**”.
- Rosters** – Teams must participate with the same roster as used in regular season play. The team roster must include the team’s commissioner signature, or their designee. **No pick-up players are allowed.**
- Team entry form must be signed by the local USA Softball Commissioner or their designee.
- ACE and Background check form must be submitted and signed by local USA Softball Commissioner or their designee.
- Umpires** Only registered USA Softball umpires may be used. Rate minimum of \$50 per game two umpire system.
- Must have an Umpire-in-Chief assigned by USA Softball of Metro Detroit at a minimum rate of \$100 a day, who will select, assign and evaluate the umpires.
- The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit a list of all umpires projected to umpire within one week of the tournament; and a complete list within one week after completion of the tournament.
- The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit a list of all projected teams in the tournament 72 hours prior to the start of the tournament; and a complete list of teams that participated and where they are from within one week of the completion of the tournament.
- The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit with copies all entry forms, rosters, coaches certification forms, a completed bracket, and assessments fees due within one week of the completion of the tournament.

Send check payable to “USA Softball of Metro Detroit”; mail to Stu Alderman, USA Softball, 17150 Waterloo Street, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

Signature of Tournament Director

Email Address

Address

City

Zip Code

Telephone

Signature of USA Softball of Metro Detroit Representative

Date

USA Softball National Qualifier TOURNAMENT REQUEST FORM



On behalf of the sponsoring organization listed below, please sanction the following invitational tournament:

| Sponsoring Organization | Name of Tournament |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
|-------------------------|--------------------|

| Tournament Site | Date | Classification | Entry Fee |
|-----------------|------|----------------|-----------|
|-----------------|------|----------------|-----------|

Check Appropriate Boxes:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> Coed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's | <input type="checkbox"/> Modified | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Olympic | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 12Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 14Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 16Under <input type="checkbox"/> 18Under |



The Sponsoring organization hereby agrees to comply with the following USA Softball of Metro Detroit conditions:

- Pay** an Assessment Fee of \$25 per team; due to USA Softball of Metro Detroit no later than 14 days following tournament.
- Teams** – Only teams currently registered with USA Softball will be allowed to participate.
- Awards** – No cash prizes may be awarded to any individual, team, or sponsor.
- Conflicts** – No Qualifying Tournament may be conducted which will conflict with “USA Softballstate elimination play”.
- Notification** – All teams shall receive adequate notification of game schedules prior to the start of the tournament. All entry blanks and publicity shall include the words “**Sanctioned Invitational USA Softball of Metro Detroit Tournament**”.
- Rosters** – Teams must participate with the same roster as used in regular season play. The team roster must include the team’s commissioner, or their designee. **No pick-up players are allowed.**
- Teams’ entry form must be signed by the local Commissioner or their designee.
- ACE and Background check form must be submitted and signed by local USA Softball of Metro Detroit Commissioner or their designee.
- Umpires** Only registered USA Softball umpires may be used. Rate minimum of \$50 per game two umpire system.
- Must have an Umpire-in-Chief assigned by USA Softball of Metro Detroit at a minimum rate of \$100 a day, who will select, assign and evaluate the umpires.
- USA Softball of Metro Detroit will provide a staff member to act as the representative at this tournament.
- The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit a list of all umpires projected to umpire within one week of the tournament; and a complete list within one week after completion of the tournament.
- The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit a list of all projected teams in the tournament 72 hours prior to the start of the tournament; and a complete list of teams that participated and where they are from within one week of the completion of the tournament.
- The tournament representative must provide USA Softball of Metro Detroit with copies all entry forms, rosters, coaches certification forms, a completed bracket and assessments fees due within one week of the completion of the tournament.

Send check payable to “USA Softball of Metro Detroit”; mail to Stu Alderman, USA Softball, 17150 Waterloo Street, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

Signature of Tournament Director

Email Address

Address

City

Zip Code

Telephone

Signature of USA Softball of Metro Detroit Representative

Date

USA Softball Metro Detroit . . . Insurance

Why USA Softball for Insurance?

In today's economy, do not get caught without insurance!

FIELD OWNERS

All agencies that register their adult teams can now name field owners as additional insured at NO additional cost. This is a great value that can save your agency/complex money in the future for insurance premiums! USA Softball offers one of the best (highest) insurance benefits for field owners - **\$2,000,000** of liability insurance protection for claims arising out of the practice and play of softball by teams, leagues, and umpires registered with USA Softball; **\$5,000,000** aggregate per location.

JO (Youth) INDIVIDUAL

- All teams that register their players through the individual registration process will automatically have all their players covered for a **\$2,000,000** per occurrence insurance policy.
- Coverage follows the individual throughout the calendar year for all USA Softball softball activities, even if you change to another USA Softball team!
- Less expensive than team insurance!
- Liability - \$2,000,000; Accident/Medical - \$250,000 limit; Deductible - \$500 per injury

ADULT INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

If you desire insurance for your players, this is a great value for your players, especially in today's economic conditions! Provide for **\$3,000,000** occurrence; **\$5,000,000** aggregate per team of liability insurance; \$250,000 excess accident medical insurance with a \$500 deductible.

UMPIRE INSURANCE PROGRAM

USA Softball umpires are covered when they umpire games, leagues, and tournaments involving USA Softball registered teams; includes a policy of **\$3,000,000** per occurrence and \$5,000,000 aggregate of liability insurance. Umpires will now receive coverage while officiating other amateur sports. Game fee reimbursement is no longer included as part of the umpire insurance program along with no travel coverage.

YOUTH BASEBALL TEAMS

All youth baseball teams can also register with USA Softball and get the same benefits either as a youth team or for the individual registration program that includes insurance for their players!

For a more detailed explanation of the USA Softball insurance programs, please visit www.RPSBollinger.com

USA Softball Insurance Programs



Field Owners Liability Plan – **All agencies that register their adult teams can now name field owners as additional insured at NO additional cost.** Can help reduce insurance premiums at the local level due to excellent coverage as recommended by the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority.

Adult Team Insurance – **ALL adult teams will now have *Liability Only coverage* with the option to purchase accident insurance (\$200 for a \$500 deductible)!**

Adult Individual Registration (includes individual insurance) – This is the best deal for teams wishing to have both Liability and Accident insurance; includes team registration fee.

Youth Team Insurance – Teams can purchase team insurance (if they do not register their players individually). Liability and accident coverage are options.

Youth Individual Registration (includes individual insurance) – This is the best deal for JO (youth) teams; less expensive than purchasing a separate team insurance policy; includes team registration fee.

Umpire Insurance – This is included with each umpire registration. Coverage when they umpire games, leagues, tournaments involving USA Softball registered teams and the event has been authorized by an USA Softball commissioner/designee.

Clinic and Tournament Insurance – This is designed for those that offer a tournament or clinic only with coverage for tournament/clinic directors, sponsors, organizers, and leagues sponsoring tournaments. Teams and umpires must be registered with USA Softball with proper verification and proper USA Softball of Metro Detroit form must be submitted.

Director and Officer Liability for non-profit sports organizations – This policy protects sports organizations and their members from claims arising out of wrongful acts or errors and omissions. Coverage is provided to any member of the organization while acting in an official capacity on behalf of the team/league and is not limited just to the directors and officers of your association.

Crime Insurance Plan for non-profit sports organizations – This provides protection to sports associations against financial loss. Crime insurance covers your association from loss of money, securities or financial instruments resulting from a crime.

Equipment Insurance – This covers theft of equipment for private organizations. Deductible is \$250 per claim. Cost is based on equipment cost: Examples: \$5000 policy limit X .0158 = \$79. (Cost of policy - \$100 minimum premium); \$25,000 policy limit X .0158 = \$395.

Background Checks – This national background check conducted by Protect Youth Sports, Inc is a requirement for youth coaches playing in state and national tournaments and is now included with all umpire registrations. More than 33 convictions are checked including crimes of violent/behavioral, against children, drug related, alcohol related, and white-collar crimes. Inexpensive cost for a background check!

RPS Bollinger Insurance Solutions – Insuring USA Softball since 1963

USA Softball of Metro Detroit . . . Umpires

Metro Detroit Umpire Staff:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| John Jonassen, Umpire-in-Chief | 586.779.8599 | jonassen@comcast.net |
| Dan Daldine, Deputy UIC | 586.291.8178 | danieldaldine@yahoo.com |
| David Jakubowski, Deputy UIC | 248.790.6317 | tucogovinda@mac.com |
| Mike Scharf, Deputy UIC | 586.707.4323 | mikescharf41@gmail.com |
| Bob Lawson, UIC Emeritus | 248.719.3951 | mdasabob@aol.com |

2024 Umpire Educational Program

Fees are included in your registration for clinics listed below along with a Background Check through USA Softball. Adult - \$92 (**\$87 if register prior to May 1**)

East Mechanics Clinic

Saturday, March 16
Sterling Heights Community Center
40250 Dodge Park
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
Check In: 8:30 am
9:00 am-1:00 pm

West Mechanics Clinic

Sunday, March 3
Novi Civic Center
47175 West Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
Check In: 8:30 am
9:00 am-1:00 pm



The four-hour clinics will include training in plate umpire and base umpire mechanics as well as drills in the one and two umpire system.

Virtual Training Modules

Online training modules are also Included with your 2024 registration. Weekly sessions will be provided during February, March, and April. Module links will be emailed to registered umpires as they become available for education and review. Umpires will receive credit for completed modules viewable at: www.usasoftballdetroit.org

USA Softball Umpire National Indicator Fraternity (NIF)

This reward program is for those umpires who have been assigned and officiated in three national championships. The applicant must have been an USA Softball registered umpire for at least seven (7) years but does not have to be currently active. To qualify the umpire must have umpired or served as a national championship UIC or assistant UIC for three nationals or can substitute attendance at an USA Softball Advanced Umpire School for one of the nationals. The umpire receives a certificate, membership card and a patch and their name is permanently displayed in the National Hall of Fame.

Metro Detroit Umpires in the National Indicator Fraternity (NIF) * Members of the Elite Umpire Program

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mike DeLeo, 1990 *SP | Bob Kaump, 1991 | Mike Barel, 1992 *SP | Craig Thomson, 1992 | Doug Zimmerman, 1992 *FP |
| Bob Allen, 1993 | Mike Scharf, 1993 *SP | Ted Younce, 1993 *SP | Tom Fitzsimmons, 1995 | Chuck Lebert, 1995 |
| Dan Daldine, 1996 *SP | Mike Luttenberger, 1996 | Gillie David, 1997 | Sean Barel, 1998 *SP | Marc Drouillard, 1999 |
| Doug Flees, 1999 | Art Collyer, 2000 | Bob Lawson, 2000 *FP | Bill Geatches, 2002 *SP | Tom Mallon, 2002 |
| Bob Chant, 2005 | Dennis Troshak, 2005 | Arnie Gray, 2008 | John Jonassen, 2009 | Clark Lawrence, 2011 |
| Rick Fields, 2011 | David Jakubowski, 2011 | Larry Klimek, 2012 | Rodney Stachurski, 2012 | Jason Clark, 2014 *SP |
| Jim Niemiec, 2014 | Stephanie Perrie, 2014 | Jim Tiede, 2014 | Bill Blickensdorf, 2015 | Pete Condino, 2015 |
| Thomas Donovan, 2015 | Don Gillette, 2015 | Brandon Pappas, 2015 | Bernadette Aaron, 2016(*FP) | Ken Bertin, 2016 |
| Steve Barnes, 2016 | Doug Quick, 2016 | Danielle Shamus, 2016 | Mike Cavazos, 2017 | Willie Nuttall, 2017 |
| Katie Haydett, 2020 | Ray Lemanski, 2020 | Joel Petrie, 2020 | Shamar Sanders, 2020 | Steve Scharf, 2020 |

USA Softball Elite Umpire Program

This reward program is the highest honor an USA Softball umpire can obtain other than selection to the USA Softball Hall of Fame. To become eligible for this program, an umpire must have been an USA Softball registered umpire for at least seven (7) years and a current member in good standing. The umpire must have participated in at least four (4) national championships of which two (2) must be at the highest level of championship play. The USA Softball "Elite" umpire will receive a lapel pin, a navy USA Softball "Elite" cap, membership card, framed certificate, and their name listed in the USA Softball Hall of Fame.

2024 Youth Umpire Training

The success of your softball program is due, in part, to the quality of the umpires assigned to the games. Young umpires need to be schooled in the mechanics, positioning, rules and techniques for umpiring.

The USA Softball of Metro Detroit umpire staff will provide a training program to any USA Softball agency that registers 20 or more youth umpires. Recreation departments may find it convenient to combine with local agencies to meet the minimum requirement. We will conduct this instructional program at your facility.

The instructional program will include basic calls, positioning, mechanics and drills for plate and base umpires. Fundamentals of the one and two umpire systems will be covered and an introduction to softball rules will emphasize those unique to youth play. Registered youth umpires will receive: an USA Softball participant manual/rule book, umpire manual, a bat ring, and USA Softball umpire insurance.

Each participating agency will have the opportunity to select a youth umpire to receive a plaque at our annual Umpire Awards Breakfast.

The youth umpire and your softball program benefit will from this training. Take advantage of this opportunity to train your young umpires and give them a great start on a new season.

For more information, or to sign up for the youth umpire training, contact the USA Softball of Metro Detroit Umpire Staff.

RPS Bollinger Insurance Company offers Sports Officials insurance plans for USA Softball registered umpires. This exclusive coverage is available for umpires when officiating other sports. This must be purchased through your local USA Softball umpire association.



Why Umpire?



For those serious about umpiring, USA Softball umpire training is the best available in any sports organization today. National, regional, and local mechanic schools and rules clinics are scheduled each spring and in many cases in the fall for new umpires beginning at that time of year. Training is similar at each level, as described in the USA Softball Umpire Manual. Whether plate mechanics, base positioning, signals, working with players and coaches, or just tips in umpiring, the Manual is the most complete training guide available. To assist the local training official, USA Softball provides training aides through a Clinic Guide, instructional videos and presentations, school mechanics drill cards, an umpire examination, meeting quizzes, and a "Case Book."

Insurance for USA Softball umpires is by far the best for any sport or organization and includes a \$5,000,000 liability policy and accidental injury policy with maximum benefit of \$100,000 for any accidental injury arising out of the amateur softball activities (including clinics and schools), and games, leagues, and tournaments involving USA Softball registered teams and when working Scholastic, (Middle school, High School, NFHS) and Collegiate (NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, etc...) softball events. The medical expense coverage is provided on an excess basis. It also includes an accidental death and dismemberment policy, as well as a dental coverage that will pay the actual expense incurred for treatments to sound and natural teeth, with a \$500 limit for each individual tooth.

An umpire uniform and leisure wear program is available so that each registered umpire can purchase and wear the official USA Softball uniform with pride. Whether it's the shirt, cap, pants, shoes or ball bag or any of the variety of protective equipment, or optional wear such as sun glasses, the USA Softball umpire program has it.

USA Softball registered umpires are selected to officiate in metro, state, regional and national championships, and as members of the National Governing Body for Softball in the US, are the only organization in the US which softball umpires can apply for World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) certification and the opportunity to umpire in World Championships, Regional Games (Pan Am Games) or the Olympic Games. World Cup events held in Plant City Florida also are open to USA Softball umpires who have completed a "Qualifier" Seminar.

USA Softball umpires are rewarded for their years of service and expertise through the Medals Program, the National Indicator Fraternity, WBSC Certification, and possibly the National Softball Hall of Fame. No other organization has this various assortment of awards programs for their umpires.

Yes, it pays to be a USA Softball umpire! From expert training through being rewarded for individual umpire achievements, USA Softball offers the most to help umpires achieve their goals - to be the best they can be, and to reach the highest level their skills will take them.

USA Softball of Metro Detroit Hall of Fame Inductees

The USA Softball of Metro Detroit Hall of Fame honors individuals in the following categories:

Player (SPP/FPP), Modified Pitch (MP) Umpire (U), Manager (MG), Sponsor(S), Commissioner (C), Meritorious Service (MS); * Deceased.

1982

George Caloia-FPP
Bill Cole-SPP
Carl "Tex" Collins*-SPP
Mike Gouin-SPP
Bonnie Jones*-FPP
Sam Lombardo*-FPP

1986

Mike Axelson-SPP
George Gillies-U
Wilbur Landis*-C
Rocco Palmeri-FPP

1990

Wally Galba-SPP
George LaPlata-S
Don Lair*-C
Linda Mueller-SPP
Carl Walker-FPP
Jerry Zarick-FPP

1996

Mike Engan-MS
Paul Gatto-FPP
Jim "Torch" Scullen-S
Ed Shankin-SPP
Mike Turk-SPP

2006

Mike Bare*I-U
Dick Collard-MS
John Eckstein-SPP
Danny Lipinski*-C
Kelly Thayer -FPP
Doug Zimmerman-U

2014

Steve Bienkowski-SP
Dave Brubaker- MP
Kelly Holmes-FP
Margo Jonker-MS
Bob Lawson-U

2022

Sean Barel-U
Amanda Chidester-FPP
Donny Dreher-MS
Tim Hawkins*-MP
Mike Luttenberger-U
Phil Wolak-SPP
Tom Willette-MS

1983

Ed Figelski*-FPP
Mike Ilitch-S
Beatrice Lollar-SPP
Roy Lombardo*-MG
Jim Snyder*-S

1987

Joe Castrodale-FPP
Felix Michaels*-S
Jim Puckett-SPP

1991

Milo Karhu-SPP
Tony Mazza-SPP
Percy McConner*-FPP
Evans Telegadas-FPP
Jack Tobias-U

1998

Al Hortop*-MS
Shelley Larned*-FPP
George Lerchen-SPP
Frank Pilarowski*-P/MG
Al White-MP

2008

Bob Allen-U
Peter Karamanos, Jr.-S
Jeanne Martin - U
Mike O'Connor-SPP
Pam Ossenheimer-FPP
Mike Zdrodowski -SPP

2016

Melissa Bater-FPP
Dan Daldine-U
Harry Haroian*-FPP
Steve Hill-SPP
Jim Martin-U
Tom Newcombe-MS

1984

Mike Adray*-S
Bob Auten-SPP
Mack Phillips-S
Johnny Spring*-FPP
Frank Verbanac*-SPP

1988

Thomas Chappelle-SPP
Sammy Gee*-FPP
Bob McCaffrey*-U
John "Jack" Trompics-MS
Jack Westerlund-SPP

1992

Diane Laffey-MS
Bob Malicki*-SPP
Buck" Polonczyk*-MS
Charlie Williams-SPP

2002

Mike DeLeo-U
Scott Grace-S
Tom Kaminski-SPP
Don Stuckey*-MS
Bob/Sandy Thompson-MG

2010

Tom Fitzsimmons - U
Bob Green - SPP
Carol Hutchins - MS
Mike McDowell -SPP
Evelyn Michol - MS
Dennis Troshak - MS

2018

Tracy Carr-FPP
Detroit Sports Commission-MS
Bill Humphrey-MS
John Jonassen-MS
Chuck Maiorana-SPP
Mike Scharf-U

1985

Al Dolecki*-S
Joe Gauci-SPP
Charles Justice*-FPP
Anthony Lutomski*-C
William Svochak*-C

1989

George Corona-SPP
Jackie Huggins-SPP
Fred Nothdurft-S
Karl Nothdurft-S
Tom Trompics*-SPP
Ed Tyson-FPP

1994

Ernie Flowers-FPP
Leon Grunalt*-MG
Robert Kaump*-U
Andy Kovalcik*-MG
Gary LaDue-SPP
Sally Whalen*-MS

2004

Mike Busch-SPP
Tim Doyle*-C
Angie Fielder-FPP
Gary Urbanczyk-MS
Ted Younce-U

2012

Gary Bryce - MS
Bob Kost - U
Al Land - M
Julie Liljeberg - FPP
Tony Profita* - M
Don Sheffield - SPP
Tim Whitson - MS

2020 → 2021

George Birch-MS
Gary Caracciolo-SPP
Marc Drouillard-U
Bill Geatches-U
Mark Syzdek*-MG
Craig Thomson-U
Dave Pallister*-U

Team Recognitions

2016 - Golden Vipers, Sterling Heights
2018 - Finesse Youth Softball

Submissions for the USA Softball of Metro Detroit Hall of Fame can be submitted to Stu Alderman, 17150 Waterloo, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230. **The next Hall of Fame banquet is scheduled in November 2024** at the Century Club in Sterling Heights, MI. The National USA Softball Hall of Fame is in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and has an annual induction ceremony.



2024 Timothy J. Doyle Community Grant Program

General Information Sheet

Who:

Eligibility is open to any USA Softball of Metro Detroit registered community/agency. The metro Detroit area consists of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and Livingston counties. Community must have been part of the USA Softball of Metro Detroit program for at least two (2) years prior to application submittal (2021 and 2022). Communities receiving a grant the previous year (2021) are ineligible to apply for another grant until next year. If awarded a grant, the improvement project must be completed during the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

What:

Grants up to \$3000 will be awarded annually to a USA Softball of Metro Detroit community softball programs to enhance the quality of softball in our area. Amount of individual grants will depend on number of applications, proposed amounts, and the potential to improve the quality of softball with the proposed project.

When:

Applications are due January 5, 2024. The USA Softball of Metro Detroit board will select winning projects at its next bimonthly meeting. Applicants will be notified no later than early February. Upon approval, a signed agreement with USA Softball of Metro Detroit is mandatory to set project payment(s) schedule.

Where:

E-mail the completed application to:
Sterling Heights Parks and Recreation
Attn: Kyle Langlois
Email: klanglois@sterling-heights.net

Questions:

Contact Kyle Langlois at 586.446.2705 or at the e-mail address listed above.

Application is available on the USA Softball of Metro Detroit web site at www.USASoftballDetroit.org



2024 Softball and Kickball Purchase Program



Only USA Softball of Metro Detroit agencies and leagues (with multiple teams) that registered teams in 2022 or if pay in full for multiple registered teams in 2023 are eligible for this discount softball and kickball purchase program; The Dudley USA Softball approved softballs will be delivered to the location of your choice.

Softball Prices for 2024

| Dudley Thunder Softball (Yellow) | Per dozen | 12 inch | 11 inch |
|---|-----------|---------|---------|
| Dudley Thunder SY - .52/300 Synthetic Softball | \$54 | ✓ | ✓ |
| Dudley Thunder SY - .44/375 Synthetic Softball | \$54 | ✓ | ✓ |
| Dudley Thunder Heat Fast Pitch Leather Softball - .47/375 | \$66 | ✓ | ✓ |

All softballs USA Softball approved and stamped. Price includes delivery.

Kickball Purchase Program

8.5" Mikasa Official Kickball (yellow/red); nylon wound bladder for shape retention

* * * This is the same ball that is provided to each team with a kickball registration * * *

\$11.00 per kickball for USA Softball members; \$12.00 per kickball for non-USA Softball members

Order Early!

Purchasing Information

1. All softballs USA Softball approved and stamped.
2. Credit card payments will be accepted. A \$2 per dozen service fee will be added to the prices listed above for all credit card purchases.
3. **Providing service to agencies and leagues from the Metro Detroit area that registered multiple teams in 2023; or if pay in full for multiple registered teams in 2024.**
4. Delivery included in price. Tax will be added for non-governmental agencies.
5. Prices on softballs not listed are available upon request.

Interested agencies should contact the following individuals for detailed information on how USA Softball of Metro Detroit can work with your purchasing procedures to provide high quality softballs or kickballs at a great price:

Softballs – Greg Morris, usasoftballorders@gmail.com or 269.223.1300

Kickballs – Kyle Langlois, klanglois@sterling-heights.net or 586.446.2705



USA
SOFTBALL™
of Metro Detroit

USA Softball National Background Check Program

USA Softball, Inc. ("USA Softball") and/or USA Softball's state /metro association reserve the right to screen any volunteer and/or employee who has access to children in USA Softball programs. **Currently, all USA Softball of Metro Detroit board members and umpires receive an annual background check.**

The screening may consist of 1) a staff and volunteer application form, 2) an interview, 3) consent to reference and fingerprint for a background check report, and/or 4) approval by staff and/or committee members. Please note that the 50 states of the United States adopt different laws and categorize the offenses differently. The USA Softball list of offenses below is not intended to be an exhaustive list of offenses, but a list of commonly used terms to define the offenses. Other convictions, accusations, charges, or facts should be considered on a case by case basis.

If a background check is performed and the following convictions are revealed, USA Softball, its National Background Check Committee, and/or its state/metro associations shall undertake a review of such individual's application to determine whether such person should be permitted to participate in USA Softball programs:

- ** Murder
- ** Rape
- ** Sexual assault
- ** False Imprisonment
- ** Burglary
- ** Armed Robbery
- ** Indecent solicitation of a child
- ** Aggravated sexual abuse/assault of a child
- ** Child abuse
- ** Child molestation
- ** Sexual conduct with a minor
- ** Sexual abuse of a child
- ** Online solicitation of a minor

- Abandon/Endanger a child
- Arson
- Assault
- Bad checks/Insufficient Funds
- Bookmaking
- Breach of computer security
- Breaking and Entering
- Coercion
- Conspiracy
- Credit Card Abuse
- Crimes against elderly
- Disorderly Conduct
- Domestic violence in the presence of a minor
- Domestic violence/abuse
- Drug dealing
- Drug possession
- Drug trafficking
- DUI/DWI (3 in last 7 years)
- Escape from penitentiary
- Evading arrest
- Firearms/Weapons charges
- Forgery
- Furnishing alcohol to a minor
- Identity theft
- Indecency with a child
- Money laundering
- Petty theft
- Prostitution
- Public intoxication (2 in last 5 years)
- Shoplifting
- Theft/Robbery/Larceny
- Violation of a protective order



If a background check is performed and reveals a conviction of any of aforementioned offenses, then the application shall be reviewed by a member of the National Background Check Committee (or such person's designee) for a determination of eligibility. A denial of eligibility may be appealed by the applicant to the entire National Background Check Committee.

In addition, if the background check reveals that the applicant is listed on a sex offender registry**, then the applicant shall be ineligible for participation in USA Softball programs.

Appeal Process:

USA Softball recognizes that no policy can encompass every situation, so USA Softball has formed its National Background Check Committee to evaluate appeals and decide variance requests on a case-by-case basis in certain situations where good cause exists.

An applicant may appeal a denial of eligibility to the entire National Background Check Committee, so long as the appeal is timely filed within fourteen (14) days of the date on the denial correspondence. The appeal process shall provide the applicant with an opportunity to present his/her side of the story. An appeal may advise the Committee of incorrect information appearing in a background check report, a mistaken identity with another individual, or extenuating circumstances as to why the person should be permitted to participate despite a conviction of one of the aforementioned offenses.

Any person whose application for participation in USA Softball's program has been denied may appeal the denial within fourteen (14) days to USA Softball's National Background Check Committee by filing his/her appeal with his/her USA Softball state/metro Local Association Commissioner. All appeals shall be in writing and sent first to the Commissioner of the State/Metro association. The written appeal submission must contain a statement of the specific grounds why the prior determination should be reversed and must be accompanied by all evidence supporting the request for reversal. With the written appeal submission, the person filing the appeal may also file any other information or evidence in support of the appeal. The USA Softball state/metro Local Association Commissioner will review the information and make a recommendation to the National Background Check Committee in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The National Background Check Committee shall review the appeal and decide whether the applicant's appeal should be granted or denied.

Subject to the **Mandatory Ineligibility** requirements below, in extenuating circumstances and for good cause shown, USA Softball National Background Check Committee shall have the authority to, but not be required to, grant an appeal and permit an individual to participate in USA Softball's Junior Olympic youth program even though that person has been convicted of one of the above non-mandatory offenses (or its equivalent).

Mandatory Ineligibility for Certain Felony Offenses

An applicant listed on a sex offender registry and/or conviction of any felony convictions(s) occurring within the prior 15 years for any offenses(s) marked with and "***" shall constitute that applicant's mandatory ineligibility from participation in USA Softball programs. For all such applications, the National Background Check Committee may consider appeals based upon incorrectly reported information and/or mistaken identity but the Committee shall not have the authority to grant an appeal for extenuating circumstances or good cause shown in instances where the applicant is listed on a sex offender registry or has been convicted within the last 15 years of a felony of the type marked with a "***" above.

Revised October 2016

Additional USA Softball Programs and Services

- **Safety Awareness Guide**
- **Lighting Guidelines**
- **Parents Code of Ethics**
- **Coach Code of Ethics Pledge**
- **Lightning Standards**
- **Fundraising Opportunities**
- **Hotel Discounts**
- **Airline Discounts**
- **Rental Car Discounts**
- **Auto/Home Insurance Discounts**
- **“Play Positive” Program**





www.USASoftballDetroit.org

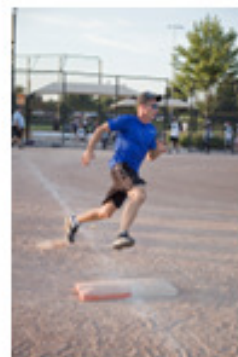


Stu Alderman, Commissioner
John Jonassen, Umpire-in-Chief

USASoftballDetroit@gmail.com
jonassen@comcast.net

Top 10 Reasons to Play USA Softball of Metro Detroit

1. Metro Detroit, which includes Oakland, Wayne, Macomb and Livingstone counties, is coordinated by a volunteer board. Get support from softball colleagues throughout the year. Continued partnership with mParks. A Free Softball Summit is also offered.
2. The Best umpire training programs for youth and adult in the country! Attain a list of registered umpires in your area from your local umpire association coordinator!
3. Recreation and competitive tournament options for men, women, coed, seniors, and youth - slow pitch, fast pitch, modified, and kickball!
4. National background check available for your coaches at a deep discount price and top notch online coaching certification program. Background checks can extend to coaches in your other local athletic programs if you register with USA Softball of Metro Detroit!
5. All registered teams receive a team score book and rule book—value of more than \$20!
6. Affordable insurance options for teams, players, tournaments and non-profit organizations! Liability insurance NOW INCLUDED for registered adult teams! Field owners insurance at NO cost if all teams are registered!
7. Softball and kickball purchase program to save MONEY; and a community grant field improvement program for agencies!
8. An outstanding ACE (Aspire, Challenge, Encourage) coaches training program! SafeSport training also available, at NO charge!
9. USA Softball is the leader in equipment standards and certification with continuous testing and online updates!!
10. USA Softball is the national governing body of softball as recognized by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee!



USA SOFTBALL
of Metro Detroit

"The Best in Softball!"





JANIE REED, OLY. ERIKA PIANCASTELLI, OLY. HAYLIE MCCLENEY, OLY. AMANDA CHIDESTER, OLY.

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The Detroit Sports Commission prides itself on being one of the most respected and hard-working sports commissions in the country. Our goal is to market and sell metro Detroit as a premier destination for regional, national and international amateur and youth sporting events. The DSC is proud to continue advancing our region's development, growth and image.

The organization's success would not be possible without the support of the Detroit Sports Organizing Corp., who works in coordination with the sports

commission, lending strategic thought and resources to bidding on and hosting events in metro Detroit.

The DSOC is made up of top leadership from Detroit's sports teams, the DSC, Visit Detroit, media and the local academic, civic, philanthropic and corporate community.

We always welcome the opportunity to transform and shape the future of youth sports. It is our commitment to provide an unparalleled experience for the athletes, coaches and fans.

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