

Please note: Playing and Seeding rules are subject to change prior to the start of the tournament. Managers should consult the Rules Supplement that will be distributed to them at the Managers Meeting on July 3.

Divisions and Maximum NAGAAA Ratings

No team will be registered unless it complies with the standards outlined in this section.

Division	Maximum team rating	Max individual rating
Open B	170	All but 2 players must be rated 20 or below
Open C	130	14
Open D	100	10
Women's Division	Teams and individual players are not rated in this division. Note: we are following the ASANA standard for the definition of "woman."	

Playing Rules

1. **Except as noted below, all rules follow ASA Slow Pitch (Without Stealing) guidelines.** This includes the ASA banned bat list.
2. Umpires will declare dead ball territory for each field prior to the game's start.
3. All players must wear a non-duplicated, clearly visible number on their jersey. Matching uniforms are encouraged but not required.
4. Any player not registered before the start of a game is not eligible to play in that game. On-field registration is available at each complex's information table until 1:30pm on Friday.
5. Teams must submit their lineup with players' names and numbers as well as available substitutes and their numbers to the opposing team and the umpire on lineup cards provided before the start of the game.
6. A minimum of nine players per team is required to start or continue a game. (A team may start a game with nine players in its lineup without penalty.) Once lineup cards have been exchanged, late-arriving players may be added to the list of available substitutes as long as the umpire and the opposing team have been notified.
7. Up to two Extra Hitters are permitted in the batting lineup, allowing a total of up to 12 batters.
8. Open division teams may designate up to two players per game who require a courtesy runner upon reaching base, and Women's division teams may designate up to three such players.
 - Players requiring a courtesy runner must be indicated with a star ("*") on the lineup card prior to the start of the game.
 - The courtesy runner is the last unstarred player who made out at bat (or the last unstarred player in lineup if there is no such player).
 - In the event of an injury to an unstarred player during the game, ASA substitution rules are the only recourse.
9. There is no grace period for teams unable to field the minimum number of players at game time, with the exception of a time allowance for a team whose prior game overran its scheduled time period.
10. For Round Robin games:
 - No inning shall start after 50 minutes; games can end in a tie.
 - The home team shall be determined by a coin flip.
 - Each batter starts with a one ball, one strike count, and a "courtesy foul" will be given on the first foul ball with two strikes.
11. For Double Elimination games:
 - No inning shall start after 60 minutes, except to break a tie. In the event of a tie score at the conclusion of seven innings or the end of the time period, the ASA tie-breaker rule applies (Rule 5, Section 11). [In summary, the ASA tie-breaker rule states that the inning begins with the player who batted last in the inning before starting on second base.]
 - The home team shall always be the higher seed, except in the first Championship game, in which the team coming out of the winner's bracket shall be home. *In an "If Necessary" game, the home team shall be the higher seed.*

- Each batter starts with 1-1 count, and a "courtesy foul" will be given.
 - Exception: Championship and "If Necessary" games shall have no time limit, no 1-1 count, and no "courtesy foul."
12. Both teams shall be charged with keeping score for the game and reporting scores to the umpire after each half-inning.
 13. Run rule: If a team is ahead by 20 runs after three innings, 15 runs after four innings, or 10 runs after five innings, this will constitute a complete game.
 14. No metal spikes are permitted.
 15. Open division games shall use 12" softballs. Women's division games shall use 11" softballs.
 16. Absolutely no alcohol is permitted in or around Central Park ball fields. Any team found with alcohol in Central Park will be subject to removal from the tournament.
 17. Good sportsmanship is expected of all players, coaches and fans at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including the use of inappropriate language, may result in a player being ejected from the game at the umpire's discretion, and/or removal from the tournament at the discretion of Playing For Life Tournament Officials.
 18. The Tournament Director will resolve and have the final say on any situation that may emerge during the tournament that is not covered by these or ASA rules.

Seeding Rules

Round robin results are used to determine seeding as follows:

- Teams are initially ranked based on 2 points per win, 1 point per tie, 0 per loss.
- Teams with the same number of points are ranked by run differential in all games.
- Teams with the same points and run differential will be ranked based on head-to-head results, or by a random draw if head-to-head results are indeterminate.

Player Eligibility Protests

- Player eligibility (NAGAAA rating) protests will be considered for members of Open division teams. The protest process will be outlined at the tournament Managers Meeting on July 3.