

KANSAS AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.  
2011 CLASSIFICATION CODE ARTICLE 300.00

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### Article 300.00 Classification

301.00 Purpose: To establish rules and guidelines to classify teams and players for tournament and Championship Play.

302.00 Objectives: To attain in an equitable manner, classification of teams at their respective level of athletic proficiency for the various levels of tournaments and championship play conducted by ASA, Kansas ASA, and local State Associations.

303.00 Authority: The team roster shall be submitted prior to participating in league or tournament play. There shall be no transfers or additions of players to the team roster after a date that has been established by ASA or the State Association. Roster changes may be cause for reclassification.

### 304.00 Definitions:

304.01 Championship Tournaments: Tournament play leading to a district, region, state, regional, or national tournament championship. This includes qualifying tournaments.

304.02 Classification: A team's classification may consist of two components, 1) Age Group, 2) Class within a Division of Play.

1. Division of Play: Examples - Men's Fast Pitch, Women's Fast Pitch, Girls Fast Pitch, Men's Slow Pitch, Women's Slow Pitch, Girls Coach Pitch
2. Age Group - Set by ASA Code. (Not all Divisions of Play are divided into Age Groups)
3. Class - Defines the different levels of competition within an Age Group and/or a Division of Play.
  - a. Gold & Silver - Defines different levels of competition within a Class, with Gold being the highest level and Silver being the second level of competition.

305.00 Team Classification General: At the beginning of each season each Region Commissioner or his/her designee will classify all teams and players within their jurisdiction, and may reclassify any team for cause prior to the team's entry into Championship Play. Any team so reclassified will be eligible for competition in its new classification with the right to appeal.

305.01 Team Classification: A team or players that are classified in any division of play during the previous year will remain in the same class during the current season until reclassified by the State Classification Committee, their respective State Program Director, or their Region Commissioner or his/her designee.

- Exception:
1. ASA Mandatory Reclassification (See ASA Code).
  2. ASA Restricted Classification (See ASA Code).
  3. KASA Mandatory Reclassification.
  4. KASA Restricted Classification.

### 305.02 Mandatory Reclassification:

Adult and Junior Olympic (Youth) teams or players that finished as State Champion or Co-champions must play in the next higher classification the following season with the right to appeal.

National Championship Mandatory Reclassification Youth Teams.

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An team that has four or more players on a roster, including pick-up players, from a team or teams that finished in the following divisions and classifications in the same National Championship Final must participate in the next higher classification in championship play for their next KASA playing season unless they played in the highest classification. In all Youth national Championships, the top finishing 10% ( plus ties ) will be reclassified to the next higher classification. Fractions will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

Team(s) that fall under the Mandatory Reclassification rule may claim the berth for last years state champions by presenting a championship roster and paying the entry fee. Said teams do not have to qualify in district or region championship play. Mandatory Reclassification applies only to the following teams:

1. Adult Slow Pitch Class C and Lower and all Youth Teams

**Exception:** a. A team that participates in their National Championship and NOT Mandatory Reclassified by ASA Code may participate in the same Class the following year

2. Junior Olympic (Youth) Girls' Class B and C (Gold and Silver) Fast Pitch

**Exceptions:** b. Girls' 10C-Gold and Silver Fast Pitch, & Girls' 8C-Gold and Silver Coach Pitch Classification's Only - A team that moves up to the next higher age group may participate in the same classification the following year. Teams that are eligible and use this exception will qualify in their new age group as required by the Kansas ASA Region or Kansas ASA Competition Coed.

305.03 Restricted Classification: Teams and players that win two or more games in an ASA two game format (double elimination) excluding forfeits, in State/National Championship Play may not participate in a lower class in the same division of championship play during the following year.

Teams and players that win three or more games in an ASA three game format excluding forfeits, or finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place in tournaments with five (5) or more teams in State/National Championship Play may not participate in a lower class in the same division of championship play during the following year.

Note: If a team or player fails to participate in Championship Play the next calendar year this restriction will remain in effect until the team participates at the Higher classification.

305.04 Same Team: A team that has four (4) or more players on a roster, including pick-up players, from a team or teams that are classified under Article 305.01, 305.02, and 305.03 of this code shall be considered the same team for the purpose of classification.

305.05 Classification Appeals General: Teams have the right to appeal their class to the state classification board on or before June 10 of the current year. All appeals must be submitted to the State Classification Committee Chair Person by the team manager and contain the following information:

1. A copy of the team's current Championship Roster.

2. A brief statement stating the reason for their appeal.

3. Evidence to support the reclassification appeal

**Example:** Team Names, Game Scores, and Classification of other ASA registered teams played in the current softball season.

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### 305.06 Championship Play Protest and Appeals Committee:

1. A Protest and Appeals Committee will be appointed by the Tournament Director at all KASA State and Region Championships.
  - a. The tournament Protest and Appeals Committee will have jurisdiction to reclassify any Junior Olympic team participation in a KASA Region Championship Tournament in which teams are qualifying for a Class C-Gold or Silver State Championship.
  - b. A Tournament Protest and Appeals Committee shall have jurisdiction to disqualify a team from further tournament play for commission of fraud, willfully forfeiting a game, and failure to advance for the sole purpose of playing in and/or qualifying for a lower class.  
Note: See ASA Code for Disqualification Procedures

### **306.00 State Classification Committee General:**

306.01 Classification Committee: The Classification Committee will be appointed by the Kansas ASA President, and will consist of three (3) or more members, one of which should be the **State** Player Representative.

306.02 Classification Objectives: Promote teams and players to the level of play where the team is reasonably competitive. In determining proper athletic proficiency for teams, the Classification Board shall be limited to an overall comparison of all teams within the state except teams that regularly compete in championship tournaments. Teams that regularly compete in championship tournaments shall be evaluated on an overall comparison of all teams with reasonable consideration of teams on a regional and national level.

306.03 Meetings: The Classification Committee will meet twice a year, or any such time as deemed necessary to hear all appeals, and review all classifications. They shall determine the proper athletic proficiency for teams.

306.04 Authority: Kansas ASA State Classification Committee will evaluate and review team and player classification's. The Classification Committee will have the authority to act on the following:

1. Classify and reclassify players and teams prior to the appropriate deadline based on past performance and current season roster.
2. Fast Pitch - Classify pitchers' to a restricted classification.
3. Hear properly filed classification appeals.
4. Develop additional guidelines and regulations as the need arises.

306.05 Appeals: Teams classified in accordance with the KASA Classification Code have the right to appeal their classification to the State Classification Committee. All appeals must be submitted by the team manager and contain the following information:

1. A copy of the team's current Championship Roster.
2. A brief statement stating the reason for their appeal.
3. Evidence to support the reclassification appeal  
**Example:** Team Names, Game Scores, and Classification of other ASA registered teams played in the current softball season.
4. Teams may request the State Commissioner to review of the Classification Committee's decision. The decision of the State Commissioner will be final.

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**307.00 Combined Class:**

**307.01 Authority:** At the sole discretion of the State Commissioner, Kansas ASA may offer tournaments in which teams of two or more consecutive classes in the same division and age group may compete for championships and advancing berths.

a. **Mandatory or Restricted Classified Team(s):**

Teams that are classified under the Mandatory or Restricted Classification Codes of Kansas ASA or ASA are prohibited from participating in any pool play, winner's bracket, losers bracket, and elimination round designated for a lower classification.

b. **Junior Olympic Girls' Fast Pitch:** Teams and players that participate in tournaments that lead to a Class A National Championship shall not be eligible to participate in a lower Class. **Exception:** Class B teams may participate in USA|ASA National Qualifiers. See ASA Code.

**308.00 DIVISIONS & CLASSIFICATIONS OF CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY:** Kansas ASA may offer, but not limited to, the following divisions and classifications of championship play.

**Note:** Divisions of Play are listed in descending levels (Class) of play.

Divisions	Classifications	
	Age	Class
Men's Fast Pitch.....		Class A, B, C, D
Coed Slow Pitch.....		Class Open, C, D, E/Rec
Men's Slow Pitch.....		Class B, C, D, E/Rec.
Women's Slow Pitch.....		Class C, & D
Girls Fast Pitch.....	18-Under	Class A, B, & C
Girls Modified Pitch.....	18-Under	Class B, & C
Girls Fast Pitch.....	16-Under	Class A
Girls Modified Pitch.....	16-Under	Class B, & C
Girls Fast Pitch.....	14-Under	Class A, & B
Girls Fast Pitch.....	14-Under	Class C-Gold & Silver
Girls Modified Pitch.....	14-Under	Class B, & C
Girls Fast Pitch.....	12-Under	Class A, & B
Girls Fast Pitch.....	12-Under	Class C-Gold, & Silver
Girls Modified Pitch.....	12-Under	Class B, & C
Girls Fast Pitch.....	10-Under	Class A, & B
Girls Fast Pitch.....	10-Under	Class C-Gold, Silver
Girls Modified Pitch.....	10-Under	Class B, & C
Girls Coach Pitch .....	8-Under	Gold, Silver

**309.00 Adult Classification Men's Slow Pitch:**

**309.01 Class 'A':** Class 'A' teams have experienced players with excellent skills and athletic abilities. Eight (8) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of eight, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance. Class "A" teams may have two players from the ASA Restricted Player List.

**309.02 Class 'B':** Class 'B' will have experienced and skilled players offensively and defensively and most players wouldn't be competitive at the Class 'A' level. Class 'B' teams may have no more than three Class 'A' players and no players from the ASA Restricted Player List. Six (6) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of six the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

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309.03 Class 'C': Class 'C' teams may have no more than three Class 'B' players and no players from Class 'A' or the ASA Restricted Player List. Four (4) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of four, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

309.04 Class 'D': Class 'D' teams may have no more than three Class 'C' players and no players from Class 'A' & 'B' or the ASA Restricted Player List. Two (2) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of two, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

309.05 Class E/Rec: Class 'E/Rec' teams may have no more than two Class 'D' players and no players from Class 'A', 'B', & 'C' or the ASA Restricted Player List. No over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any over-the-fence home run is a ½ inning ending out.

### 310.00 Adult Classification Women's Slow Pitch:

310.01 Class 'Open': Any female player may participate. Unlimited home runs.

310.02 Class 'C': Class 'C' teams may have no more than three open players. Four (4) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of four, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

310.03 Class 'D': Class 'D' teams may have no more than three Class 'C' players. Two (2) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of two, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

### 311.00 Adult Classification Co-ed Slow Pitch:

311.01 'Open': Any Female Player and no more than two 2 men from the ASA Restricted Player List.

311.02 Class 'C': No male Class 'B' or above players and No Open rated female players. Four (4) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of four, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

311.03 Class 'D': Class "D" teams may have no more than two Class C rated male and female players. Two (2) over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any home runs in excess of two, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

311.04 Class 'E/Rec': Class "E/Rec" teams may have no more than two Class "D" rated male and female players. No over-the-fence home runs are allowed. Any over-the-fence home run, the ball is dead, the batter is out, and no runners may advance.

### 312.00 Adult Classification Men's & Women's Fast Pitch:

312.01 Class 'Major': Budgeted, traveling, highly competitive teams. These teams have a skilled defense and a proficient offense and are composed of strong, athletic skilled players. A team in this class will generally have two (2) or more major class pitchers.

312.02 Class "A": Class "A" teams are skilled offensively and defensively with players that have good skills, athletic abilities and experience. A team in this class generally has two (2) or more Class "A" pitchers.

312.03 Class "B": Class "B" teams may not have any "Major" players and only three (3) Class "A" players excluding pitchers. Any team which establishes itself as a strong Class "B" team, or which has improved through the addition of higher caliber players, will generally be moved up to Class "A."

312.04 Class "C": Class "C" teams may not have any "Major" or "A" players and only three (3) Class "B" players excluding pitchers. Any team which establishes itself as a strong Class "C" team, or which has improved through the addition of higher caliber players will generally be moved up to Class "B."

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**312.05 Class "D": Class "D" teams may not have any "Major", "A", or "B" players and only three (3) Class "C" players excluding pitchers. Any team which establishes itself as a strong Class "D" team, or which has improved through the addition of higher caliber players will generally be moved up to Class "C."**

312.06 Pitchers: Classified Pitchers may not participate in a lower classification.

313.00 Junior Olympic - Fast Pitch:

313.01 Class "A": Budgeted, traveling, highly competitive teams. These teams have skilled defense and a proficient offense and are composed of strong, athletic, skilled players.

313.02 Class "B": Class "B" teams are skilled offensively and defensively with players that have good skills, athletic abilities and experience. Class "B" teams will generally play in invitational tournaments within the state. Any team which establishes itself as a strong Class "B" team, or which has improved through the addition of higher caliber players, will generally be moved up to Class "A."

313.03 Class "C": Class "C" teams may have some skilled players, but cannot have all defensive positions filled by highly skilled or experienced players. Class "C" teams play in recreational level leagues and do not regularly participate in invitational tournaments. Any team which establishes itself as a strong Class "C" team, or which has improved through the addition of higher caliber players, will generally be moved up to Class "B."