

AFA National Qualifier 2026

St. Patricks Day Single Elimination Tournament

AFA National Qualifier Rules

The **American Fastpitch Association** follows the [National Federation of State High School Association](#) rules with some variations. If you would like to order an NFHS softball rule book you may do so by going to www.nfhs.com and selecting the 2020 Softball Rules Book. The American Fastpitch Association does not receive any portion of the cost of purchasing the NFHS rule book.

- All Teams must have an AFA membership.
<https://fastpitch.afasoftball.com/get-involved/team-membership/>
- Teams must check in one hour prior to their first game at the AFA site booth. - All teams must show their current roster, insurance, and must carry birth certificates
- First base team dugout team listed first in pool and top in bracket play.
- Coin tosses will determine the home team in pool play games. Higher seed will be the home team in an elimination play.
- Single Elimination
- All pool games are 1 hour and 30 minutes no new innings
- Games may end in a tie during pool play
- Elimination games must have a winner
- Championship game is 7 innings or 1:45 no new inning for 12U, 14U, HS Divisions
- Championship game is 6 innings or 1:45 no new inning for 10U
- Teams need to be prepared to play up to 20 minutes prior to scheduled start time
- Games may be shortened or moved to different fields in order to insure games stay on schedule

- Teams may use DP/Flex and 2 Extra hitters (EH) for a total of 11 hitters max/12 players
- Courtesy runners must come from a substitute.
- In the event the game goes to international tiebreaker the player who is due to bat last is placed on second base.
- Mercy rules: 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, 10 runs after 5 innings, 8 runs after 6 innings
- Coaches, please remember to sign up for the app for updates on fields, scores, and other event information. WC AFA on app store and google play.
- This is a national qualifier for our June 2026 Nationals in St. George, UT. six teams will qualify from our 10u division, 8 teams will qualify from our 12u division, 10 teams will qualify from our 14u division. If a team has qualified prior to this tournament, the tournament director may move another team to a qualifying spot. .
- Coaches: it's recommended that you carry a first aid kit and ice packs.
- Sportsmanship is a must. Ejected players and coaches may need to sit the following game. Final decision will be made by the UIC. There will be zero tolerance of harassment of umpires by fans.
- A protest fee is \$100.00 and the protest must happen at the exact time of play without any additional pitches made.

Download the West Coast AFA tournament app to follow live scores!

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/west-coast-afa/id1255908124> |

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.exposure.westcoastafa>

Pool Standings Tie Breakers:

1. W/L Record
2. Head to Head play (if all teams tied have each played each other)
3. Runs allowed
4. Runs scored