

THE ROAD TO NATIONALS DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A BUMPY RIDE!



OF PENNSYLVANIA

Everything you need to know to ensure that your team is well-prepared and eligible to advance to NATIONAL or USA EASTERN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL. This outline applies to USA Softball of PA Teams ONLY. Any questions, please contact:

USA Softball of PA State JO Commissioner, Suzanne Robison. (Office: 717-545-1217)

Email: suzannerobison@earthlink.net.

Please take time to review additional information provided on the JO/Youth page of the USA Softball of PA website: www.usasoftballpa.org

CHECKLIST: *(details follow)*

- Register team through REGISTERUSA
- Purchase USA Photo ID's (highly recommended) or create your own.
- Complete all necessary background checks (PA and USA mandated)
- One coach that will be with team at all times must complete the ACE Certification
- Print USA Official Championship Roster; obtain signatures.
- Contact USA Softball of PA JO Commissioner for completion of the Official Tournament Entry Form.
- Find a qualifier tournament on TOURNAMENTUSA.
- Qualify & accept berth.
- Notify USA Softball of PA JO Commissioner for necessary documentation to be completed and for State JO Commissioner to complete and forward to Tournament Director.

BEFORE YOU HIT THE DIRT – INDIVIDUALLY REGISTER YOUR TEAM WITH USA Softball of PA:

- Go to **REGISTERUSA**
 - Individually register and insure all players on your team.
 - Consider purchasing USA Photo IDs for players (highly recommended) or create a Player Page for each player. ([See our website for the player template](#))
 - Purchase Background Checks for all adult team personnel that will be in the dugout or on the field.
 - Purchase ACE Certification for at least 1 coach (includes background check)
- Print *OFFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIP ROSTER* (once registration is paid and approved)
 - Primary Team Contact must complete the Manager's Affidavit section.
 - Obtain signatures for each player – MUST BE PARENT'S signature for players under 18.
 - Obtain your District/JO Commissioner's signature on Championship Roster.
 - Make several copies of your signed roster.
 - Submit original to State JO Commissioner.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- PA Teams advancing to an USA National Championship must be in good standing with USA Softball of PA including, but not limited to, satisfying all financial obligations related to their USA Softball of PA membership
- All National Tournament entry documents must be processed and submitted to appropriate Tournament Director by USA of PA State JO Commissioner – NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Any supplemental information, action or certification requested or required by the National Tournament director or staff is the sole responsibility of the advancing team.
 - Travel expenses are the sole responsibility of the advancing team.
 - Teams who placed in the top 10% of a previous years' National Championship event, are eligible to accept an automatic berth to the following years' National Championship event, providing the team meets the returning berth requirements as outlined in USA Softball Code.

QUALIFYING FOR A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT:

All Classifications (Class A, Class B & Gold teams):

- Go to www.tournamentusa.com.
 - Create coach profile & add your team.
 - Find qualifying tournaments
 - Follow instructions to register
 - Contact JO Commissioner for Official Entry Form.



OF PENNSYLVANIA

Class A Teams

USA Nationals¹

To Qualify:

- Win a USA National Qualifier²
Or
- Place in the top 3 at your age appropriate USA Softball of PA Class "A" State Championship tournament.

¹maximum of (7) PA berths to be awarded in 2016 (based on 2015 registrations).

²**NOTE: If Qualifier is an out-of-state USA National Qualifier contact State JO Commissioner for an Official Tournament Entry Form.**

Class A or Class B Teams

Eastern Nationals

To Qualify:

- Win an Eastern National Qualifier
and/or
- Participate in Age/Class appropriate USA Softball of PA State Championship tournament and at least one (1) other USA Softball of PA tournament, preferably a qualifier.

16U or 18U GOLD Class

GOLD Nationals

To Qualify:

- Compete in and finish as specified in an age appropriate Gold Qualifier *
- Note: number of berths offered in each qualifier are determined by ASA Code.

***NOTE:** All Gold Qualifying tournaments require an Official Tournament Entry form completed and submitted by State JO Commissioner.

AFTER QUALIFYING:

- Officially accept National Berth: Notify State JO Commissioner (Suzanne Robison) via email within 7 days of tournament completion.
- Pre-register for National/Eastern National Championship tournament through www.tournamentusa.com if applicable.
 - Forward copy of registration confirmation/invoice via email to suzannerobison@earthlink.net
- MAIL the following to Suzanne Robison within 7 days of accepting your berth or at least 1 week prior to national tournament deadline (whichever comes first):
 - Original Championship Roster*
 - Pick-up Player forms (if applicable) -- see **Pickup Player Rules & Forms** under "FORMS" tab above
 - Copy of TOURNAMENTUSA invoice
 - ENTRY FEE:
 - Make check payable and mail as instructed on TOURNAMENTUSA invoice OR
 - **Make check payable as instructed on invoice and mail with any other documents to State JO Commissioner (Suzanne Robison) to be forwarded to appropriate tournament with official entry documents.**

*Note: If your team participated at a State Championship tournament, your original roster should have been collected at check-in and forwarded to the State JO Commissioner.

USA Softball of PA State JO Commissioner – Suzanne Robison

717-545-1217 – suzannerobison@earthlink.net