









## USA Softball Class B 14-18u Western National Championship

# TOURNAMENT PACKET

July 22-27, 2025

Hosted by USA Softball of Central California https://usasoftballcentralcal.com

# **WELCOME TO**





USA Softball Western National Championship | Class B 14-18u

#### Dear USA MEMBERS,

On behalf of USA Softball Central California, congratulations to your team for attaining the privilege to compete in the 2025 Western National Championship for your respective age division. This prestigious tournament will be hosted by USA Softball of Central California

USA Softball of Central California honored to host a National Championship of this caliber and will strive to make your experience the best it can be.

Inside this tournament packet, you will find important information for your team about registration, deadlines, the tentative tournament schedule, accommodations while you're here, and rules and regulations governing the tournament. Please read this packet carefully and, if you still have questions, give us a call or send us an email. We love hearing from you so please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Please remember that the deadline for entry in this tournament is July 11, 2025. Completed packets must be received by this date. We will contact you once your packet is received to confirm the information. Please include a current email address so we can keep you updated with the most current information. Email is our preferred method of communicating.

We look forward to this summer and all of the exciting and competitive softball that will be played. We welcome you to Bakersfield, CA and promise to make this event enjoyable for your team and fans. Good luck in the tournament and should you have further questions, please contact us at your convenience. Sincerely,

Manuel Alderete USACC COMMISSIONER

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## **TOURNAMENT FACT SHEET**

USA Softball Western National Championship | Class B 14-18u

#### DATES

July 22 - 27, 2025

#### PLAYING FIELDS

### POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312

#### NUMBER OF TEAMS

The number of teams is estimated at 20-30 total.

#### ELIGIBILITY

Teams must be registered with USA Softball and participate in their local Association Championships in order to be eligible for this event.

#### WEBSITE

https://usasoftballcentralcal.com

#### ENTRY FEE

\$1300 TOTAL: \$700 Entry Fee + \$600 Team Admission Fee This includes all admission entry to the tournament so there will be no gate charged at the event. This fee should be split among the team but should be paid with one check. This should be paid with one check/payment please.

#### ENTRY PAPERWORK

Entry Packet MUST be received in our office by July 11, 2025. The following information should be included:

- National Tournament Entry Form (Form A)
- Original Championship Roster (Form B)
- Entry Fee
- Coaches Form (Form C)
- Pick-Up Player Forms (Form D) \*\* Optional

The following information MUST be emailed to us by July 11, 2025:

- Digital Team Photo
- Typed List of Manager, Coaches, and Players

Tournament Paperwork also needed (included in this packet):

- Manager Lunch Extra Ticket Pre-Order (optional)B
- Hotel Report (Form E)

#### FORMAT

Pool Play with Double Elimination - 5 Game Minimum Pool Play Games DO count for Seeding Purposes

## CHECKLIST

USA Softball Western National Championship | Class B 14-18u

Make sure all forms and documents are submitted to the USA Softball of Sacramento Office. All forms are DUE by July 11, 2025

of Central California

### MAIL to USACC

PO Box 70128, Bakersfield 93387

- Completed Entry Form (Form A) Must be signed by USA Softball Commissioner
- Official Roster (Form B) Must be signed by USA Softball Commissioner on BOTH sides
- Tournament Entry Fee Made payable to USA Softball
- Coach Form (Form C)
- Player Pick-Up Form (Form D) Must be signed by USA Softball Commissioner (This form only can be turned in as late as Check-In at Tournament)

#### **EMAIL to USACC Office**

manny@usasoftballcentralcal.com

Digital team photo for tournament program

Tournament Program Form (Form E - link at end of packet)

## SAMPLE FORMS

The required forms for the tournament can be printed directly through your team's RegisterUSA account and will be pre-populated with the information from your team. Please contact your league/team administrator for copies.

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SAMPLE FORM B Official Roster (Double Sided)

#### SAMPLE FORM C

Coaches Form JO Champ Requirements

Tournament Program Form			
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SAMPLE FORM A Tournament Entry Form

USA Softball Website

SAMPLE FORM D

Pick-Up Plaver

Form

#### This Packet

SAMPLE FORM E

Tournament

Program Form

## **EVENT SCHEDULE**

USA Softball Western National Championship | Class B 14-18u



### **TUESDAY, JULY 22**

#### **OPENING DAY**

- Opening Ceremonies/DJ Player Activities Manager Check-In Manager Luncheon / Meeting Player Check-In / Bat Testing Team Photos CONCERT/DJ
- 10:00am 11:15am 11:30am - 4:00pm 11:30am - 12:00am 12:00am - 1:30pm 12:00pm - 4:00pm 2:00pm - 4:00pm

### POLO Park

### WEDNESDAY JULY 23

#### **POOL PLAY GAMES**

Pool play will begin on Wednesday and continue through the day. Teams should expect to play a total of 3 Pool Play Games between Wed/Thur. Pool Play games DO count toward seeding.

#### **GIFT EXCHANGE**

All teams will exchange a gift with the first team they play in Pool Play.

### **THURSDAY JULY 24**

#### POOL PLAY GAMES

Pool play will continue on Thursday. Double elimination games will begin on Thursday and continue through the end of the week.

### **FRIDAY JULY 25**

#### DOUBLE ELIMINATION BRACKET GAMES BEGIN

Double elimination games will continue through the end of the week.

## **SATURDAY JULY 26**

#### DOUBLE ELIMINATION BRACKET GAMES CONTINUE-(Flexible)

Double elimination games will continue through the end of the week.

## **SUNDAY JULY 27**

#### CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY-(Flexible)

Championship Sunday includes the final rounds of the tournament including the Semi-Final and Championship Game. Championship Sunday's typically draw a good crowd of spectators from the eliminated teams and other local teams wanting to see competitive games. Championship Games will be announced.

# **OPENING DAY ACTIVITIES**

Tuesday, July 22 | Summary of activities and events

#### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

LOCATION: POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312 TIME: 10:00am - 11:15am (Teams lineup at 9:45am)

DESCRIPTION: Opening Ceremonies is our way of kicking off a fun and competitive week of softball. This will take place on the softball field. Parents and spectators are welcome to bring bleacher seats or chairs. If using tents or umbrellas, please sit at the back of the field to avoid blocking the view for other spectators.

#### MANAGER CHECK-IN

LOCATION: POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312 TIME: 10:30am - 11:00am

DESCRIPTION: Manager or Head Coach will officially check-in to the tournament. This is the final opportunity to turn in any pick-up player forms and the hotel report. The manager will receive a welcome bag for the team as well as important tournament materials.

#### MANAGER BRUNCH

LOCATION: TBD TIME: 11:00am - 12:30pm

DESCRIPTION: Teams must attend as there will be important tournament information covered during this meeting. Each team will receive two free tickets to the Managers Luncheon (additional tickets are available for purchase).

#### PLAYER CHECK-IN

LOCATION: POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312 TIME: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

DESCRIPTION: Each athlete must individually check-in for this tournament with a photo and proof of age. To make the process smooth, your team will be asked to line up outside the building in the order they appear on the Championship Roster. Once they are in the correct order, they will be called inside to one of the check-in stations. Each player must show their photo/age verification individually and physically sign into the tournament. Every player who checks-in will receive a special tournament gift.

*Late Check-In?* If you have a player coming later in the week, they will need to check in at <u>POLO PARK</u> Tournament Headquarters before they can participate in a game.

#### Acceptable Forms of Photo ID/Proof of Age

Option 1: RegisterUSA Photo ID Card

- Option 2: Birth Certificate with player's photo attached
- Option 3: Passport or State ID



# **OPENING DAY ACTIVITIES**

Tuesday, July 22 | Summary of activities and events





LOCATION: POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312 TIME: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

DESCRIPTION: Immediately following individual player check-in, all players will need to present any bats to be used during the tournament to the equipment check committee.

The committee will conduct a visual check of the bats for cracks, dents, rattles, signs of excessive wear, or any foreign substance on the barrel). They will also make sure the bat has an USA/ASA Certification Mark and is not on the non- approved bat list.

If the bat passes the visual inspection, they will inspect it using the USA Softball Compression Bat Tester. If the bat passes the compression test, a USA Softball approved hologram will be placed on the bat and returned to the player or coach.

If the bat fails the compression test, we will return the bat to the player and instruct them not to use for the tournament because they will not get an USA Softball National sticker.

## ONLY BATS WITH THE APPROVED USA SOFTBALL NATIONAL STICKER WILL BE PERMITTED DURING THE TOURNAMENT.

#### TEAM PHOTOS LOCATION: POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312 TIME: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

DESCRIPTION: Immediately following your check-in and bat testing, you will take your officialB team photo. Please wear your full uniform minus cleats. The floor is slippery inside and we do notB want players falling.



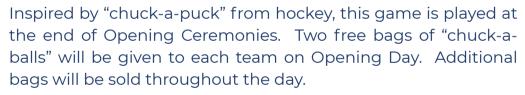
# **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Tuesday, July 22 | 10:00am - 11:15am LOCATION: POLO Park 11801 Noriega Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93312

Opening Ceremonies is our way of kicking off a fun and competitive week of softball for the athletes, coaches, participants and community. This event will take place on the fields at Maidu Park and will kick-off with the parade of teams and other festivities!

## COSTUME CONTEST

Show your team spirit and creativity by dressing up for the parade of teams during opening ceremonies. Judges will select winners based off of creativity, team spirit and participation of the entire team. Theme is "STREET OF BAKERSFIELD" INSPIRED BY BUCK OWENS, MERLE HAGGARD AND DWIGHT YOKUM. The winning team in each age division will earn a pizza party at a local restaurant during the week. Additional prizes may be awarded as available.



The balls in the bag are numbered and the tickets in the bag have corresponding numbers. Keep the tickets as you will need them to retrieve your prize if you win.

During opening ceremonies, everyone will throw their balls. The goal is to get your ball into one of the prize buckets.

- If your ball lands in a bucket, you will get a prize.
- If your ball lands in the grand prize bucket, you will be eligible for the grand prize.
- If more than one ball lands in the grand prize bucket, a ball will be chosen at random to win the grand prize. All other balls in that bucket will be given a consolation prize.

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON FACEBOOK - WINNERS CAN COLLECT THEIR PRIZE AT THE PRIZE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR TABLE AT POLO ONLY.

### CHUCK-A-BALL











# **GIFT EXCHANGE**

Wednesday, July 23 Exchange with the first team you play in pool play.



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As is tradition at many National sporting events, there will be a gift exchange at the conclusion of each team's first pool play game. Please be prepared with a small gift to exchange with each member of the opposing team. (approx.15-18 gifts). This is a fun, memorable part of the tournament. The gift should be a team decision, based on items the girls themselves would like to receive. It is fun to have them put together gift bags or boxes as a team which creates some fun team bonding experiences.

## **GIFT IDEAS**

- Something representing the tournament, your team or your team's home area
- Team Pins/Magnets/Stickers/Key Chain
- Gift Bag with useful items such as chap stick, hair ties, sunblock, eye-black, etc.
- Personally decorated softball ornaments
- Team craft projects of necklaces, headbands or hair bows in team colors

If you are at a loss of what to do - ask your kids what they would want to receive.









# **TOURNAMENT INFO A-Z**



of Central California

**Admission**: There will be no admission fee charged at the gate for parents or spectators during the tournament. The cost of admission is included in the team's entry fee.

**Alcohol/Tobacco**: Alcohol, smoking, vaping or use of tobacco products are not allowed during any of part of our tournament at any park or facility. INDIVIDUALS IN VIOLATION OF THIS WILL BE REMOVED AND BANNED FROM EVENT FOR THE DURATION OF THE EVENT.

**Awards**: Awards will be distributed in accordance with Article 606 of the USA Softball Procedural Code.

**Badges**: All coaches or team personnel must visibly display their USA Softball Coaches Badges with proof of background check. Badges must be worn in the dugout or on the field.

**Bat Testing**: All bats must be tested as part of the player check-in process. Players should bring every bat they plan to use during gameplay. A designated crew will conduct a visual inspection and compression test before applying a sticker to bats that pass. Only stickered bats may be used in games.

**Chuck-A-Ball**: Inspired by Chuck-A-Puck from hockey, this fun activity takes place at the end of Opening Ceremonies. Each team will receive a free bag of numbered balls on Opening Day. Additional bags may be purchased or earned. Each ball has a corresponding ticket—keep the ticket to claim your prize if you win. When the DJ gives the green light, participants throw their balls onto the field aiming for buckets. If your ball lands in a bucket, you're eligible for a prize!

**Conduct**: Managers are expected to maintain full control of their teams, including coaches, players, and spectators—both on and off the field. All participants are encouraged to read and understand the USA Softball Code of Conduct. Event staff reserve the right to remove any coach, participant, or spectator whose behavior is not aligned with the spirit of youth sports.

**Double Elimination Draw**: A double elimination draw meeting will be held THURSDAY (TBD), immediately following the conclusion of Pool Play games. Teams will draw their bracket position based on their seeding.

**Dress Code**: Players on a team shall properly wear uniforms that are alike in color, trim and style (USA Softball Rule 3, Section 6, A-G). Coaches must be neatly attired and dressed alike or in a team uniform in accordance with the color code of the team.

**Dugout Assignments**: Only players, coaches, and a designated bat person are allowed in the dugout. All individuals must be USA Softball registered and have their registration card on hand—including the bat person. The team listed at the top of the bracket (or listed first) will occupy the third base dugout, unless they are playing in back-to-back games.

# **TOURNAMENT INFO A-Z**



of Central California

**Equipment Confiscation**: Any piece of equipment found during a game to be unsafe, or not meeting USA Softball standards will be confiscated by the umpire or tournament official and held safely until the team is eliminated from the tournament. The owner of the equipment will receive a ticket to be used for collection of the equipment at the end of the tournament.

**Fields**: Primary locations will be at Maidu Regional Park and Mahany Park in Roseville, CA. Additional locations may be added as necessary.

**Format**: This tournament is a 5 Game Guarantee. Teams will play three pool play games followed by double elimination bracket play. The pool play games DO count for seeding.

**Game Changer**: We plan to use GameChanger to score all games. Fans at home can follow live play-by-play and real-time stats online. While GameChanger will serve as the official scorekeeping platform, it is not used for official stats. Please do not approach scorekeepers with questions about specific plays.

**Game Schedule**: Pool Play games will be posted online no later than Wednesday, July 19. Teams are protected from playing someone from their same Association (where possible) per the USA Code. Pool Play does count toward the Double Elimination Bracket placement.

**Gatorade**: Gatorade is our official tournament partner and will provide drinks throughout the event. Participants are encouraged to stay hydrated throughout the event.

**Gift Exchange**: In keeping with tradition at many national-level events, teams will participate in a gift exchange following their first pool play game. Each player should bring a small gift to exchange with the opposing team (approx. 18 gifts). Not sure what to bring? Ask your players what they'd like to receive!

**Hotels**: Please visit the tournament website for a list of our recommended hotel partners. While this is not a stay-to-play event, we strongly encourage teams to stay in the Placer Valley area. If you've already booked rooms, please complete the attached Hotel Report and email it back to us—this helps streamline check-in.

**Lineup Cards**: Tournament officials will provide official lineup card forms for each team. Managers must list full first and last names, along with jersey numbers. Lineup cards can be picked up from the scorekeeper before each game.

**Live Streaming**: We are in discussions with a few vendors about the possibility of live streaming.

**Merchandise**: The Official Tournament Merchandiser will be onsite starting Monday and available during all game times to sell souvenirs and apparel.

# **TOURNAMENT INFO A-Z**



of Central California

**Opening Ceremonies:** Opening Ceremonies will feature a variety of activities and vendors, and all teams are invited to join the costume contest! The winning team in each age division will receive a special prize.

**Photographer**: There will be an Official Tournament Photographer onsite to take team photos during check-in. Families may also coordinate with the photographer to schedule action shots of individual players during games.

**Pick Up Player Forms**: If you are using pick-up players, you must have the Pick-Up Player Form completed and signed by your Commissioner prior to arrival. Once the form is complete, please email it in advance so we can add it to your file—one less thing to handle at Check-In!

**Pin Trading**: In keeping with the tradition of many national sporting events, pin trading will take place during Opening Day festivities, immediately following the Opening Ceremonies. Participation is optional, but many players enjoy the experience.

**Practice Fields**: If you would like to schedule a practice session while in town, please contact our office. We will assist in reserving field space for your team.

**Protests**: Protest is not a dirty word. If at any time during the tournament, you feel that a rule was improperly applied, you should tell the umpire you are placing the game under protest. The score-keeper should then contact the UIC to come to the field. Protests can not be made on judgement calls.

**Rules**: All tournament play will follow the current USA Softball Official Rule Book. A coin flip will determine home/away for all games.

**Social Media**: We're hosting some exciting contests on our social media pages—don't miss out! Visit our website for links and details on how to participate.

**Time Limit**: All games will be played with no new inning after 1:40. The Championship Game and IF Games will be a full 7 innings.

**Umpires**: All the umpires have been selected by their local Umpire-In-Chief to work this event. Please treat them with respect and if there is an issue on the field, please calmly discuss with the Tournament UIC.

**Vendors**: There will be a variety of vendors at Opening Ceremonies, and several will remain onsite throughout the week. These are our tournament partners—please take time to visit and support them!

**Weather**: While we hope you enjoy Roseville's warm hospitality, please be aware that summer temperatures in the Sacramento Valley can be very hot! We strongly encourage players and spectators to hydrate before arriving and continue drinking fluids throughout the event.





#### Playing Rules:

All playing rules will be in accordance with the 2025 USA Softball Official Rules of Softball.

#### Time Limit:

The time limit shall be no new inning after 1:40 minutes. There shall be no time limit on games beginning with the Winner's Bracket Final.

#### Tie Breaker:

At the beginning of the 8th inning, or in the next inning after the game is set to end, the batter scheduled to bat last that inning will begin on 2nd base.

#### Run Rule:

The game will be immediately ended if a team is ahead by: 15 runs after 3 Innings, 12 runs after 4 Innings,8 runs after 5 Innings

#### Batting:

During pool play only, teams have the option of batting their entire lineup. During bracket play, the teams must bat 9 or 10 with DP/Flex.

#### Courtesy Runner:

For the pitcher and catcher only.

Pool Play - Any player can be a courtesy runner. If they are on base when it is their turn to bat, they will be called out on the bases & must take their turn at bat.

Bracket Play - Must be a player off the bench who hasn't participated in the game.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

#### Lineup Cards:

When filling out a line-up card, the manager must put down FULL names as they appear on the official roster. Also must include jersey number and position.

#### Substitutions:

All changes, including defensive, must be reported to the home plate umpire who will report to the scorekeeper for GameChanger.

#### Dugouts:

The team listed at the top of the bracket (or first) will occupy the 1st base dug- out. The team listed at the bottom of the bracket (or second) will occupy the 3rd base dugout. If a team is playing back-to-back they will not be expected to move.

#### Coaches:

All adults in the dugout must visually display their USA Softball Background check card. The card may not be tucked inside a shirt or pocket.

**Bat Persons**: Teams may have a bat person. Any non-rostered bat person in the dugout must visually display their USA Softball insurance card and wear a helmet on the field.

#### Noisemakers:

No use of artificial noisemakers per USA Softball Code.



## **HOTEL OPTIONS**

We know that there are many choices and factors that go into making a decision on here to stay for your Western National tournament experience. The hotels listed by USA Softball of Central California have been chosen for a number of reasons including feedback from teams from previous events.

## LIST OF SUGGESTED LOCAL HOTELS



Find the best hotel for your team: https://www.visitbakersfield.com/

MARRIOTT BY COURTYARD \$114.00+TX STARTING JULY 20-28 BOOK HERE. DEADLINE JULY 6, 2025



Use Lucid Travel-Click here



## **TOURNAMENT FORMS**

USA Softball Western National Championship | Class B 14-18u

To complete registration for this tournament, you will need the following forms:

Entry Form (Form A): accessible on your RegisterUSA account
Official Roster (Form B): accessible on yourRegisterUSA account
Coach Form (Form C): accessible on yourRegisterUSA account
Player Pick-Up Form (Form D): accessible on the USA Softball website

Tournament Program Form: Google Form (link below) Hotel Report: Google Form (link below) Manager Lunch - Extra Tickets: Google Form (link below) \*optional

## PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS AND LUNCH ADD ONS



## **TOURNAMENT PROGRAM**

#### DUE by July 11, 2025

This is your formal entry for the Tournament Program. Your entry will be copied as-is.

- Use proper punctuation.
- Do not use all caps.
- Do not include anything other than names.

Google Form: <u>https://forms.gle/Si9m79CTWxkywj4Q8</u>

## **MANAGER BRUNCH TICKETS**

#### DUE by July 11, 2025

All teams will automatically receive 2 tickets to the Managers Brunch.

If teams would like to bring additional coaches, please fill out this form in its entirety and submit by the deadline. You must PRE-ORDER extra tickets as we have to order meals from the caterer. Additional tickets are \$10 per person. An invoice for the tickets will be

sent to the team.

Google Form: <a href="https://forms.gle/qr72vnq4dfp1weQTA">https://forms.gle/qr72vnq4dfp1weQTA</a>

### HOTEL REPORT DUE by July 20, 2025

Each team manager should turn in one (1) hotel report form on behalf of the entire team. The numbers should be based on what your team booked. To ensure accuracy, please check with all members of your team if you are staying in separate hotels prior to fillingBout the form

Google Form: