

SOUTH FLORIDA ASA

(Serving Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie Counties)
5201 S.W. 101st Terrace * Cooper City, FL * 33328-4949

Classification Code

(As approved by the Board of Directors on December 11th, 2008.)

ARTICLE I **PURPOSE**

Section 1.01 – Establishment of Classification Code: In accordance with the ***AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA***'s (hereinafter referred to as the ***ASA***) Code, as adopted on January 27, 1977, and as amended from year to year, ***SOUTH FLORIDA ASA*** (hereinafter referred to as the ***SFASA***) hereby establishes a ***SFASA Championship Play Classification Code*** (hereinafter referred to as the ***CPCC***) for the determination of team and/or player classification.

Section 1.02 – Classification Board: The Classification Board (hereinafter referred to as the ***BOARD***) shall determine team and/or player classification and shall review, upon written application, the classification of a team and/or player. Should it be determined that a team/player is not compliant with the ***CPCC***, the ***BOARD*** shall have the authority to change the classification. Furthermore, the Board of Directors of ***SFASA*** has the authority to make changes from time to time of the ***CPCC***.

Section 1.03 – Championship Play: The term “***Championship Play***” means one or a series of tournaments or competitions from which the winner or other selected teams may advance to higher levels of play of the ***ASA***, with the ultimate competition being the National Championship Tournament. A team must be classified in accordance with the ***ASA*** Code's division and classification Article for a team to be considered for ***Championship Play***.

Section 1.04 – ASA National Office: A copy of the ***CPCC*** shall be filed with the ***ASA***.

Section 1.05 – Website: A copy of the ***CPCC*** shall be posted to the ***South Florida ASA*** website at www.southfloridaasa.com.

Section 1.06 – Conflict: If there is a conflict between the ***CPCC*** and the ***ASA*** Code, then the ***ASA*** Code will rule.

ARTICLE II **CLASSIFICATION BOARD**

Section 2.01 – BOARD Members: The ***BOARD*** shall be made up of the following individuals:

- a. Commissioner.
- b. Deputy Commissioner.
- c. Junior Olympic (JO) Commissioner.
- d. Player Representative.
- e. At-Large Player Representative (if applicable).

Section 2.02 – Chairperson: The Chairperson shall be the Commissioner.

Section 2.03 – Meetings: The **BOARD** shall conduct meetings as follows:

- a. Whenever needed during the calendar year as called for by the Chairperson of the **BOARD**.

ARTICLE III
APPEALS

Section 3.01 – Appeals: Teams classified in accordance with the **ASA** Code and the **CPCC** have the right to appeal their classification after participating at the higher classification. The team must:

- a. Submit in writing to the **SFASA** Commissioner an appeal to reclassify the team to a lower classification.
- b. The Commissioner shall evaluate the information of the appeal presented and make a determination of a reclassification.
- c. The team has a right to appeal to the **BOARD**. The **BOARD** will then make a determination.
- d. Any other appeals must be made in accordance with the **ASA** Code.
- e. If that appeal is granted, the team's roster shall be frozen for the balance of the year.
- f. If the team adds a player to their roster, except "Pick-Up" players, the appeal is nullified and the team is reclassified to at least the next higher classification.

Section 3.02 – Appeal Date Deadline: All appeals must be postmarked by June 15th of the calendar year. Any appeal postmarked after June 15th of the calendar year will not be considered.

ARTICLE IV
TEAM CLASSIFICATION

Section 4.01 – Guidelines: The criteria that follow will be used as a guideline when evaluating teams. The **BOARD** will make the final determination as to what classification the team will be placed in based on the level of play where the team will be competitive. The **BOARD** has the right to conduct classification tournaments for the purpose of classifying a team into the team's proper classification.

Section 4.02 – SFASA Classification: Teams will be permitted to classify themselves for the first year that they register as a **Championship Play** team in **SFASA**. The Commissioner reserves the right to reclassify a team at anytime in accordance with the **CPCC**.

Section 4.03 – Team Classification: A team who has been classified in any division of play during the previous year will remain in the same classification during the current season unless meeting the **CPCC** Mandatory Reclassification Rule, or reclassified by the **BOARD**. However, if the team is subject to the **ASA** Mandatory and/or Restricted Reclassification rule, the new classification is effective immediately.

Section 4.04 – Recreational League (Non-Championship) Play: A recreational league team shall not be classified in accordance with the **ASA's** Code and can consist of slow pitch, fast pitch, or modified pitch. Accordingly, a recreational league team is not eligible to play in **Championship Play**. A recreational team has few skilled players. Offense and defense is limited and inconsistent. All players who wish to play are welcomed. Play is strictly recreational in nature, allowing players time to participate in other activities and not devote a large amount of time to softball. The recreational league team is not allowed to travel to any **ASA** events outside of the **SFASA** area. The roster of a recreational league team does not require the signature of the **SFASA** Commissioner, or designee.

Section 4.05 – Adult Championship Play: See the **ASA** Code for division and classification of play available. In addition,

- a. A team may participate in *Championship Play* in a higher classification (if applicable) but not below its selected or assigned classification. Participation in a higher classification could affect the team's classification.
- b. A team may not participate in more than one national championship final in any division of play.
- c. **ASA Mandatory Reclassification:** The *ASA* Code will be followed in reference to the mandatory reclassification.
- d. **ASA Restricted Classification:** The *ASA* Code will be followed in reference to the restricted classification.
- e. **SFASA Mandatory Reclassification:** Any team that finishes in the top four (4) positions in any *SFASA* sanctioned *Championship Play* event for two (2) consecutive playing years must advance to the next higher classification the following playing year. The team must remain at the higher classification for one (1) full playing year. The **BOARD** may advance a team to a higher classification in less than the two (2) year playing period. The number of returning players for a team being considered for reclassification due to their qualifying in the top four (4) positions for two (2) consecutive playing years of *Championship Play* will be in accordance with the *ASA* Code. *Exception:* A team may not be required to move up in classification if fewer than two (2) teams would be in the higher classification the next year.

Section 4.06 – Youth *Championship Play* Classification “B” (if applicable): A “B” team is a team consisting of recreational league “All Star” players from that recreational league. The “B” team plays in *SFASA* invitational events and/or the *SFASA* local *Championship Play* “B” Tournament. The “B” team is eligible to play in the Southern Region *Championship Play* “B” Tournament only if they participated in the *SFASA* local *Championship Play* “B” Tournament (if conducted). Any “B” team that earns a berth into the South *ASA Championship Play* “B” National Finals Tournament will be allowed to attend. If a “B” team and/or player(s) participate in an “A” *Championship Play* prior to entering *Championship Play* for “B”, the “B” team and/or player(s) will automatically be reclassified as a *Championship Play* “A” team for the remainder of the calendar year and shall not be eligible to participate in the *Championship Play* “B” competition. A “B” team must be made up of players who participate in the same Recreational League (Non-*Championship Play*). The roster of the “B” team must be signed by the Commissioner (or designee) prior to playing in any *Championship Play* “B” tournament(s).

Section 4.07 – Youth *Championship Play* Classification “A” (if applicable): An “A” team is a team consisting of competitive players with consistent ability. Players are skilled both offensively and defensively. Players are selected via tryouts or recruited. The “A” team may or may not be affiliated with a youth organization. The “A” team may have college or university students on the roster. The “A” team plays in Invitational tournaments, often traveling outside of the *SFASA* area. The “A” team is eligible to play in *Championship Play* “A” tournaments anywhere they wish. If an “A” team and/or player(s) participate in a *Championship Play* “GOLD” tournament prior to entering *Championship Play* for “A”, the “A” team and/or player(s) will automatically be reclassified as a *Championship Play* “GOLD” team for the remainder of the calendar year and shall not be eligible to participate in the *Championship Play* “A” National Finals Tournament. The roster of the “A” team must be signed by the Commissioner (or designee) prior to playing in any *Championship Play* “A” tournament(s).

Section 4.08 – Youth *Championship Play* Classification “GOLD” (if applicable): A “GOLD” team is a team consisting of highly competitive players with all players having consistent ability. Players are skilled both offensively and defensively. Players are selected via tryouts or recruited. The “GOLD” team may have college or university students on the roster. The “GOLD” team plays in Invitational tournaments, often traveling outside of the *SFASA* area. The “GOLD” team is eligible to play in *Championship Play* for the “GOLD” classification anywhere they wish. The roster of the “GOLD” team must be signed by the Commissioner (or designee) prior to playing in any *Championship Play* “GOLD” tournament(s).

ARTICLE V
PLAYER CLASSIFICATION

Section 5.01 – Player Classification: Once a team enters *Championship Play*, all players on the team are classified with the team. Once a team is eliminated from *Championship Play*, the player may be “Picked-Up” only by a team from the same or higher classification during the same calendar year.

Section 5.02 – Other Provisions: For any other player provisions as to classification, *CPCC* will follow the *ASA* Code.