



## 2019 Select Program Outline

Revised 11/2/2018

We reserve the right to change or adapt this program as needed during the year.

### Overview:

The USA Softball of Sacramento Select program is designed to create a more competitive environment for players to participate in while still remaining in a recreational league setting. This program will allow Recreational leagues to form a team to represent their league in the Select program on a year-round basis.

Each league will be eligible to put together a Select team at the beginning of the year to compete against the other Select teams. This allows the league to retain the better players while keeping them in the recreational league. This in turn, creates a higher base level of play in the recreational league and drives participation back to the rec program.

Essentially, the Select program is a way for leagues to allow their 1<sup>st</sup> All-Star team an opportunity to form early, then opening up another opportunity for a secondary All-Star team come May 1<sup>st</sup> if desired.

### Schedule:

Since the players on the Select team will also be participating in the recreational league\*, it is important to make note of the Select Tournament Schedule and not schedule your league to play league games on those weekends. A player should never have to choose between playing on their regular rec team and their select team. If they do, the regular rec team should always come first.

In divisions that your league participates in Select, it is suggested you do NOT schedule rec league games on the weekends of Select tournaments. Instead play double headers for the other divisions. Then the Select divisions can play a double header the next weekend.

\*The leagues do have an option to not require participation in the recreational league, but it is recommended that leagues follow the model of requiring participation in the recreational league program. This allows the league to build the recreation program while also providing an opportunity of more competitive play to the players desiring such.

### Tournament Schedule:

The tournament schedule is not currently set. We will present options at the NorCal Presidents meeting, and participating leagues will vote. Once determined, the tournament schedule is a set schedule from February – June. After that, teams can choose to continue to play together for the summer/fall months. It should be the goal of teams to participate in the USA Softball “B” Western Nationals which is typically the last week of July/first week of August.

All additional tournaments are the responsibility of the team to select, fundraise for and contact the tournament director to enter. **Teams may ONLY play in ASA tournaments. Participation in any other type of event (NSA, USSSA, DF, PGF, etc) will result in immediate re-classification to the “A” program.**

\*\*Teams outside of USA Softball of Sacramento Association are eligible to sign up for individual tournaments. The deadline is 14 days prior to the tournament. Please contact [Cponzo@sacramentoasa.org](mailto:Cponzo@sacramentoasa.org) for more information.

**Teams should all have the goal of attending the ASA Western Nationals.**

**Cost:**

The cost, payable to USA Softball of Sacramento, of each Select team is estimated to be around \$3000. Cost may increase slightly this year due to increase in umpire and tournament fees – budget is currently under review. The cost includes 8 tournaments. These tournaments are part of a set schedule and cannot be substituted for. USA Softball will allocate the funds to each tournament director. Tournaments will include 5 Spring Tournaments + 3 Summer Tournaments (Stars of Cordova, Piece of the Rock, Association Championships, or NorCal All Stars – teams choose 3)

**Fundraising:**

It is suggested that the league come up with a separate fundraiser that can be managed and maintained by the teams playing in the Select program to help them off-set the player fees. Some suggestions of fundraising ideas include:

- Hosting a Tournament (Must have adequate playing facilities)
- Hosting a Crab Feed / Pasta Feed / Pancake Breakfast
- Hosting a Hit-A-Thon
- Partner with a Restaurant for “Team Night”
- Use a Fundraising Service (Discount Cards, Candy Sales, Scratchers, etc)
- Social Media Campaign
- Sell Sponsorship (Jerseys, Banner, Helmets, etc)
- Car Wash