



Effective Immediately:

Louisiana USSSA Slow Pitch Softball will utilize the following CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINES for 2011:

- * 2010 Men's "C" teams will remain Men's "C" in 2011.
- * 2010 Men's "D" teams will remain Men's "D" in 2011.
- * 2010 Men's "E" teams will remain Men's "E" in 2011, except the following teams who have been moved up, by the Louisiana USSSA Classification Committee, and will participate as a Men's "D" team:
 - Bash Brothers
 - Chiefs Softball
 - Express Softball
 - Mayors of Smashtown
 - St. Amant Rays
- * Any and all teams may apply for reclassification after they have played in four (4) USSSA events. Please submit all appeals to Robert Boudreaux, State Director, 108 Innisbrook Drive, Broussard, 70518, or rboudreaux@laussa.com. All appeals should be filed on the proper appeal form, with substantiating information to validate an appeal.
- * Individual Men's "C" players can move down to Men's "D" and "E" teams.
- * Individual Men's "D" players can move down to Men's "E" teams.
- * Each 2011 Men's "D" team can have a maximum of three (3) Men's "C" players. The classification of the player is determined by the last year the player participated. If a player did not participate in 2010, his classification will be determined by the last year he participated in USSSA. Also of note, the classification of the player is determined by the highest classification the player played in his most recent year of participation.
- * Each 2011 Men's "E" team can have a maximum of three (3) Men's "C", "D" or combination of "C" & "D" players. The classification of the player is determined by the last year the player participated. If a player did not participate in 2010, his classification will be determined by the last year he participated in USSSA. Also of note, the classification of the player is determined by the highest classification the player played in his most recent year of participation.
- * When a player plays at a higher classification during the current year, he then attains that higher classification for the balance of that playing year.
- * Men's "B", "C" and "D" players can ONLY move down a MAXIMUM of TWO (2) classes per year. Please note, that this is a Louisiana rule.

PLEASE NOTE, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THE FOLLOWING HOME RUN RULES WILL BE UTILIZED IN LOUISIANA FOR ALL QUALIFIERS, THROUGH THE STATE TOURNAMENTS. THESE RULES WILL APPLY TO NITs, NATIONAL and WORLD TOURNAMENTS.

* **MEN'S "C"**. Men's "C" teams will be allowed TWO (2) home runs. When a batter hits an untouched, fair fly ball over the fence in fair territory, in excess of two (2), he will be declared an OUT. The ball is "dead" and no runners can advance.

* **MEN'S "D"**. Men's "D" teams will be allowed ZERO (0) home runs. When a batter hits an untouched, fair fly ball over the fence in fair territory, in excess of zero (0), he will be declared an OUT. The ball is "dead" and no runners can advance.

* **MEN'S "E"**. "Any batter who hits an untouched, fair fly ball over the fence in fair territory will be declared an INNING ENDING OUT. Each subsequent time that position in the lineup is due to bat, the batter shall automatically be declared out. The player shall remain in the game for defensive purposes only. This applies to any substitute in that batting position. (The "Inning Ending Out" is a NEW NATIONAL RULE, and will apply to all Qualifiers, State, NITs, National and World Tournaments.)

In any, and all Louisiana tournaments in 2011, when brackets are combined, and teams from different classifications participate, the Home Run Rule to be used, will be the Home Run Rule of the lower classified team, including the "Inning Ending Out".

The Official Ball of USSSA for 2011 will be the CLASSIC M, CLASSIC PLUS and Stadium balls. The Stadium ball is limited to stadium play, in Major and Open events.

Suggested Entry Fees for 2011 Qualifiers will be \$215.

Suggested Entry Fees for 2011 NITs will be \$275.

Entry Fees for 2011 State Championships will be \$290.

Of note, a team manager shall be allowed to add only six (6) players to the qualified team's roster. One of the six (6) players must be added prior to May 1st; one must be added prior to June 1st, and one must be added prior to July 1st."

And finally, a team can now have 12 players in a starting line up. This will allow for two (2) AHs.

