

## **Arkansas State Championship Advancement Procedures**

**Preliminary Indication of Intent:** At the time the team submits its online registration application for the Arkansas State Championships, the person registering the team will be required to answer a question regarding the team's preliminary intent to advance to Regional competition should the team qualify based upon the results of the State Championship tournament. This is only a preliminary intention and does not bind the team to advancement to Regional competition, whether that be Regional play at National Championship Series<sup>1</sup> or Regional play at Presidents Cup<sup>2</sup>.

**Signed Statement of Intent:** At the time of team check-in for State Championship competition, the person checking the team in will be required to sign a Statement of Intent as part of the check-in process. This signed Statement of Intent will indicate the team's desire, or lack thereof, to participate in any Regional competition should the team qualify based on the results of the State Championship tournament. This is a final opportunity to confirm/change their preliminary response provided during the initial registration for the event. If the Statement of Intent is not signed during the team check-in for any reason, the Preliminary Indication of Intent will become binding on the team. Therefore, whomever is checking the team in for the competition should be prepared to respond on behalf of the team on this issue.

### **Selection for Advancement:**

**State Champions:** Teams that win the 13U-18U State Championship will be guaranteed acceptance to either the National Championship Series Southern Regionals or the Presidents Cup Regionals, depending on their preference as indicated by their Statement of Intent (or governing Preliminary Indication of Intent).

**State Finalists:** State Finalist teams in the 13U-18U ages will be guaranteed acceptance to Presidents Cup Regionals **if** the spot is available (i.e. the State Champion did not opt for the Presidents Cup event). If the National Championship Series Southern Regionals spot is available and a finalist team is interested in accepting this invitation, advancement to the National Championship Series Southern Regionals competition is subject to review and approval by the Cups Committee for ASSA, though deference will be given to the team's desire.

**All Other Teams:** If either the National Championship Series Southern Regionals invitation or the Presidents Cup Regionals invitation are not taken by the State Champion and/or State Finalist, the Cups Committee for ASSA will determine if any other interested team competing in the State Championship should be offered the invitation to participate in the Regional event(s). Should any team earning the automatic right to advance to the appropriate Regional event by virtue of their finish in the State Championship decline to advance or be ineligible for any reason, the selection

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<sup>1</sup> Regional competition for National Championship Series generally occurs during the third week of June with the location changing each year. For the 2019-2020 season, it will occur from June 19-25 in Greenville, SC.

<sup>2</sup> Regional competition for Presidents Cup usually occurs during the second week of June, and like NCS, it also changes location each year. For the 2019-2020 season, it will occur from June 9-14 in Dallas, TX.

of an alternate team to represent Arkansas in Regional play shall be at the sole discretion of the Cups Committee for ASSA. There is no appeal available for any of the decisions referenced herein regarding the Cups Committee's decisions pertaining to possible invitations to non-guaranteed teams to the Regional events.

Fines and Timeline: Any teams that have indicated their intent to participate in Regional competitions should they advance out of the State Championship tournament and who then opt to withdraw from either Regional event will be subject to the following fines and timeline:

	<b>Fine Amount</b>	<b>Fall Age Groups</b>	<b>Spring Age Groups</b>
<b>Stage 1</b>	Up to \$500 <sup>3</sup>	Withdrawal occurs between State Championship check-in and Feb. 25	Not applicable
<b>Stage 2</b>	Up to \$1,000	Withdrawal occurs between Feb. 26 and Mar. 25	Not applicable
<b>Stage 3</b>	\$2,000	Withdrawal occurs between Mar. 26 and Apr. 25	Withdrawal occurs between State Championship check-in and before Friday, 5:00 p.m. following the conclusion of State Championships
<b>Stage 4</b>	\$3,000	Withdrawal occurs after Apr. 25	Withdrawal occurs after Friday, 5:00 p.m. following the conclusion of State Championships

**All fines for failure to fulfill Regional commitment are due and payable to ASSA within seven (7) days of notification of a team's withdrawal from said Regional event and are the responsibility of the member club. Failure to timely remit payment of these fines may result in the member club being deemed to be in bad standing with ASSA.**

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<sup>3</sup> The exact amount of the fine for Stage 1 and Stage 2 withdrawals will be at the discretion of the Cups Committee based upon the timing and circumstances regarding the withdrawal, as well as the possibility of finding a viable alternative team to replace them in the Regional event.