



USA Softball of Iowa
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Welcome to the 2026 Softball Season! We are looking forward to another great year of softball and are very excited about the many opportunities that this season offers for USA Softball Umpires. The first thing you may notice is all registration is now online and includes your Umpire Insurance, being able to take the umpire exam online and much more! **The Background Check is only required for those umpiring any participants under 18 years of age and can be added to your registration fee.** This annual membership is effective from January 1st to December 31st.

Enclosed, please find your:

- 1) **2026 USA Softball Rule Book**
- 2) **Registration/Insurance Card**
- 3) **You can now take the Umpire exam online by entering the Test Code 1329 on your Registration Umpire Home Page at <https://www.registerusasoftball.com/>**

Insurance for USA Softball umpires is by far the best for any sport or organization and includes a \$3,000,000 liability policy and accidental injury arising out of the amateur softball activities of the umpire. These events include USA Softball sanctioned games, practices, clinics and tournaments. The medical expense benefit was increased to **\$250,000**, with a \$500 deductible and a 90/10 coinsurance coverage, accidental death is \$2,000 and accidental dismemberment is \$4,000. **Insurance coverage for the umpire again this year also insures the registered umpire for any other amateur sport, for example football, baseball, basketball... and includes Scholastic, (Middle school, High School, NFHS) and Collegiate (NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA) softball, with the exception of Non-USA Softball at no additional cost.** This was previously only available under the "Sports Officials" plan for an additional fee and has now been incorporated under the insurance policy for the USA Softball Registered Umpire. There is no loss of game reimbursement coverage or travel coverage under the new plan.

For those serious about umpiring or those just wanting to get a start in the avocation of softball umpiring, the USA Softball training is noted as one of the best officiating programs in any sports organization today. **Please sign up for one of our [2026 State Umpire Clinics](#) which are included in your umpire registration.** Whether plate mechanics, base positioning, signals, working with players and coaches, or just tips in umpiring, the USA Softball Manual is the most complete training guide available. **Please note that the [Umpire Manual](#) is only available online so that you can access it from your smart phone or print it out yourself in larger print.** The [USA Softball Rule Book](#) is also available in a digital version.

Adult Umpires who umpire any participants under 18 years of age are required to take the USA Softball Background Check and complete the SafeSport Certification Training Program. The SafeSport Core Training contains 3 modules: Sexual Misconduct Awareness, Mandatory Reporting, and Emotional & Physical Misconduct. We take protecting our members both on and off the field very seriously and are dedicated to building and maintaining a supportive and nurturing environment in which our participants may flourish and grow. We are the leaders in the sport of softball and as such our commitment to athlete safety is unmatched. There is no additional fee to certify. If your Umpire Membership Card in your registration packet states Adults Only you are only certified to umpire Adult Softball Only, and you will need to take your Federally Mandated SafeSport certification for the year to umpire those under 18 years of age.

USA Umpire Merchandise is also for sale to out-fit umpires to help give them that professional look and great first impression. You can find all your umpire equipment and apparel needs, as well as many more umpire resources and information on our [Umpire Home Web Page](#).

Yes, it pays to be an USA Softball Umpire! From expert training and quality insurance and benefits to offering affordable umpire merchandise, USA Softball gives each umpire the ability to achieve his/her goal - To Be The Best He or She Can Be! We would like to welcome you to the 2026 season as we work together to bring the players, coaches, and spectators the best-officiated softball game possible each and every game!