



USA Softball of Iowa
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Website: <http://www.asasoftball.com/iowa/>

Welcome to the 2018 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 Background Check, Umpire Insurance, Registration/Background Check card, being able to take the umpire exam online and much more!

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. 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 Umpire Manual can be found at: <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/umpires/umpire-manual> The USA Softball Rule Book App is also a great resource for your mobile device and is available for purchase online at: <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/media/mobile-apps>

Each year we attempt to offer additional training for all umpires that work either high school, collegiate, USA Softball Championship level and recreational level softball play. USA Softball - Iowa, will be hosting two state umpire clinics. The State Umpire Clinics will be held (both are from 1:00pm to 5:00pm) and are at no additional cost to the umpire:

Sunday, March 18th – Robert E. Lee Recreation Center, Iowa City

Sunday, March 25th - Clive Aquatic Center Special Events Building, Clive

The State Umpire Clinics, no matter what your experience, are excellent ways to improve your umpiring mechanics and skills, whether you umpire USA Softball, College Fast Pitch, High School Fast Pitch or the game of Slow Pitch Softball. Please also feel free to visit us on the web at: <http://www.asasoftball.com/iowa/UmpireHomePage.htm> This link will take you to the USA Softball Umpire Web Page where you can register, check out new rules, purchase umpire equipment and much more.

For the 16th year USA Softball also has offered the **“Officials All-Sport Insurance”** which gives the official coverage for every high school and college sport. Officials are also covered for loss of officiating game fees of up to \$200 per week. In addition, the All-Sports Officials Insurance Plan covers up to a maximum of \$3 million in liability coverage and \$100,000 Excess Accident Benefit with a \$10,000 accidental death policy. The additional coverage can be purchased for just \$25 on the USA Softball – Iowa All-Sports Insurance Form.

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 2018 season as we work together to bring the players, coaches and spectators the best-officiated softball game possible each and every game!