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Dear National Championship participants, umpires and fans,

The 2020 season has been unlike any other. This year brought us unprecedented times, not only for our sport but for the global community as a whole, and with it so much uncertainty as to how we could stay connected until the day we could once again return to the ballparks.

We followed along as you all played it safe at home, connected with teammates over virtual chats and adapted to training and practices in your backyards. The participants and fans of our great game have adapted to the challenges that this year has brought, and despite these difficult times, it's been inspiring to see the resiliency, tenacity and determination within the softball community.

With the 2020 Championship Season finally upon us, I want to congratulate each and every one of you for earning your spot at a USA Softball National Championship Final.

As the National Governing Body of Softball in the United States, USA Softball has a reputation for providing the best-of-the-best in all aspects of the game. That reputation is built on a foundation of 80-plus years in sanctioning the sport of softball – a foundation that we will continue to build upon as we move into the 2020 Championship season and beyond.

We take protecting our members both on and off the field seriously and are dedicated to building and maintaining a supportive and nurturing environment in which our participants may flourish and grow. Simply put – USA Softball will not tolerate ANY abuse whether it is physical, mental, emotional or sexual. We are the leaders in the sport of softball and as such our commitment to athlete safety is unmatched. That is why every National Championship Tournament Director, umpire and all non-player participants 18 years of age and older in Junior Olympic (JO) Championship Play are required to complete both a background check and U.S. Center for SafeSport training.

As the leader in the sport of softball, USA Softball has a proud history and tradition unmatched by any softball association in crowning National Champions. By participating in a National Championship Finals, you are joining a legacy of over 400 individuals in the National Softball Hall of Fame who were once just like you, competing for a USA Softball National Championship.

The only thing more exciting than competing for a USA Softball National Championship is being crowned the National Champion! We know that there can only be one National Champion decided on the field per division and classification; however, we feel that everyone that participates in a USA Softball National Championship Finals is a 'Champion' and should take pride in competing for a National Championship title.

Again, congratulations on your team's success this year and thanks to the cities and the local organizing committees for their efforts in furthering the history and tradition of USA Softball National Championship Finals.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Cress
Chief Executive Officer
USA Softball



Where Olympic Journeys Begin