



SOFTBALL IMPORTANT DATES

2026-27 SOFTBALL SPORT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 1 (or start date of institution's Fall term, whichever is earlier)	START – First Allowable Date for Practices, Fall Competitions
NOVEMBER 4	START – National Coaches Polls <i>Dates: Nov. 4, Mar. 3, Mar. 17, Mar. 31, Apr. 14, Apr. 28, May 11, and Jun. 9</i>
NOVEMBER 17	DEADLINE – Submission of Sport Motions
DECEMBER 9-12	NFCA Convention – Atlantic City, NJ
JANUARY 15	DEADLINE – Facility Certification for Opening Rounds
JANUARY 28	START – First Allowable Date for Competitions
FEBRUARY 2	START – NAIA National Player of the Week <i>Dates: Feb. 2, Feb. 9, Feb. 16, Feb. 23, March 2, March 9, March 16, March 23, March 30, April 6, April 13, & April 20</i>
MARCH 22	START – Area Rating Committee Ranking Releases <i>Dates: Mar. 22, Apr. 5, Apr. 19, and May 4</i>
MARCH 22	START – National Selection Committee Polls Release <i>Dates: Mar. 22, Apr. 5, Apr. 19, and June 9</i>
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Submit Individual Champion of Character Nomination
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Submitting Bid Packet for Opening Rounds
APRIL 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Scholar-Athlete
APRIL 30	RELEASE – Opening Round Host Sites Announced
MAY 5	RELEASE – National Championship Qualifiers NAIA YouTube
MAY 6	DEADLINE – Submitting All-Conference/CAC/Group Team ballots to National Office
MAY 10	DEADLINE – Completion of Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated tournaments
MAY 17-20	NAIA Softball National Championship Opening Rounds <i>8 Campus Sites</i>
MAY 27-June 2	NAIA Softball World Series
JUNE 1	RELEASE – All-American, Pitcher of the Year, & Player of the Year honors
JUNE 11	RELEASE – Coach of the Year
JUNE 30	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Scholar Teams Due
JULY 15	DEADLINE – Nominations for NAIA Hall of Fame Due

FIVE-YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Conference Tournament Deadline	May 10	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5
Opening Round	May 17-20	May 15-18	May 14-17	May 13-16	May 12-15
World Series	May 27 – June 2	May 25 – 31	May 24 – 30	May 24 – June 1	May 22 – 28

National Championship Website – [Click Here](#)