1. The Americans with Disabilities Act, which went into effect January 26, 1992, requires that public establishments offer equal access and services to people who are physically and mentally disabled. The facility must agree that it will be in compliance with all applicable cities, state or federal regulations concerning access and seating for people with disabilities.

2. The facility must be available from 7 a.m. the day preceding competition through the conclusion of the final game for the purpose of conducting practice and competition. During that period of time, the facility must be clean and accessible, and playing conditions must be safe and of championship caliber.

3. The NCAA specifically disclaims any responsibility to investigate the safety or code compliance of the facility and parking lots or the component products, equipment, materials, designs and constructions.

4. The facility must have a comprehensive evacuation plan in case of inclement weather conditions or emergencies. The host must secure at least one (preferably two) indoor practice facility for teams to practice during inclement weather.

5. The complex must be enclosed so that admission can be charged.

6. The game field(s) shall be arranged in accordance with the current NCAA Softball Rules Book as far in advance as possible, but in no event later than Wednesday before the competition, and must meet the following requirements:

   a. Field must have skinned infield and natural grass outfield. (Note: Artificial surfaces may be considered.)
   b. There must be 25 feet (maximum 30 feet) from home plate to the backstop.
   c. The backstop, sideline fence and outfield fence must completely enclose the playing field.
   d. It is highly recommended that the playing field be completely enclosed by sideline fences and a permanent home run fence in a smooth arc of not more than 235 feet from home plate. If a six-foot fence is used, it is highly recommended to be a minimum of 190 feet in left and right fields and 220 feet in center field. If a four-foot fence is used, it is highly recommended to be a minimum of 210 feet in left and right fields and 230 feet in center field. If a temporary home run fence is used, it must be secured so as not to collapse on and displace the foul pole and to prevent balls from rolling under.
   e. Fence guards are recommended to ensure student-athlete safety.
   f. The pitching distance must be 43 feet from the front of the pitcher’s plate to the back of home plate.
   g. The distance from the front center of the pitcher’s plate to the outfield grass shall be a 60-foot arc.
   h. Foul lines should be two inches wide on the dirt infield and two to four inches wide in the outfield.
   i. The facility must have white or yellow foul poles.
   j. Baselines must be 60 feet.
   k. Bullpens must be available within close proximity to the game field and dugout areas for both teams.
I. Dugouts must be covered and should be able to accommodate 31 persons.

m. The scoreboard (preferably electronic) must be visible and operate properly. All corporate identification must be covered or removed.

n. Lighted fields (or access to lighted fields) are recommended.

o. Priority will be given to hosts with a full infield tarp and adequate tarp personnel for tarping the field on short notice. This should be accomplished without the involvement of participating teams.

7. Two separate practice areas able to accommodate two full-team warm-ups must be available within close proximity to the game field.

8. Two separate pitching warm-up areas that include two pitching plates and two home plates must be available within close proximity to the game field.

9. Two separate cool-down areas (preferably covered) for teams following games.

10. Adequate restrooms (portable or permanent, and accessible for the disabled) must be available on site.

11. Separate dressing areas for male and female umpires with restrooms and access to running water must be available within close proximity to the game field.

12. An athletic training area must be available within close proximity to the game field. A tent may be used.

13. An area with a table and access to electricity to conduct bat testing must be available within close proximity to the game field. A tent may be used.

14. An area for press conferences following each game of the championship. A tent may be used. An NCAA media backdrop should be displayed behind a table with bunting and a minimum of three chairs. All interviews should be videotaped and the links should be posted on the championship host’s website.

15. The facility must provide the following additional space at its expense with all areas subject to the approval of the NCAA:

a. A press box with work space for a minimum of 10 media personnel.

b. A statistics control area containing at least one photocopy machine to provide game statistics and other materials. The host shall be responsible for the installation and service costs for the machine during the championships.

c. A room for drug testing, with a waiting area, toilet facilities and a minimum of 500 square feet of space.

d. An area for the sale of championship merchandise.

16. The facility shall provide complimentary parking spaces for the participating teams, NCAA
representatives and umpires in prime locations.

17. The facility shall provide, at its expense, tables, chairs, skirting, bunting, and platforms for all areas described herein as required by the NCAA.

18. The facility must cover all on-site corporate signage.