

ARTICLE 12 – MEN’S, WOMEN’S AND CO-ED SLO PITCH

12.1. SLO PITCH

12.1.1. Men’s AND WOMEN’S SLO PITCH CATEGORIES

| Canadian Championships | Western Canadian Championships | Provincial Championship |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Men’s Open A | B Men & Women | Intermediate A and B |
| Women’s Open A | Co-Ed B | Recreational A and B |
| Co-Ed Open A | Master Men’s 40+ | |
| Master Men’s Open | Master Women’s 30+ | |
| | 55+ & 60+ | |

12.1.2. CANADIAN MEN’S AND WOMEN’S OPEN A

Teams wishing to participate in the Softball Canada Men’s or Women’s Open Canadian Championship must express their intent to participate, with a formal letter of intent online submission by May 1st of the previous tournament year. Teams that do not comply with these dates will be considered for participation on a space available basis only. The Executive Director will determine if the team will be accepted for registration.

The criteria for ranking teams wishing to participate, in order, will be as follows:

- a. Order of finish at the most recent Softball Canada Championship. Teams entering in this tournament years Canadian Championship would be ranked by the previous years Provincial Qualifier.
- b. Host team as determined by Softball Canada Article 1.2 a) team representation Slo Pitch
- c. If there are two teams to be ranked, a two out of three playoff will be arranged in the championship year
- d. If there are more than two teams to be ranked, a ranking tournament between the teams who have submitted their letter of intent, along with all payments and deposits will be arranged in the championship year
- e. Any teams that participate in a ranking tournament that do not qualify to attend the Canadian Championship will not be invoiced for Canadian Championship entrance fee.

12.1.3. EQUIPMENT

12.1.3.1. Footwear – No metal cleats allowed in all categories of Slo Pitch.

12.1.3.2. Helmets:

i. Helmets are mandatory for:

- Batters
- On Deck Batters
- Batter-Runners
- Pitchers (Helmet with Mask)
- Runners

Effect: Players shall be called out immediately under the following circumstances:

ii. Failure to wear a helmet when ordered to do so by the umpire.

12.1.4. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS – CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP AND WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

12.1.4.1. In order for a team to be eligible to compete in a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship, the team registration form must be processed through the Softball BC electronic registration system by the registration deadline without exception. Note: Slo Pitch registration deadline – May 1st.

12.1.4.2. Each Men's and Women's Coordinator must notify the Softball BC office of team(s) from their District which intend to participate in a Canadian Championship by May 1st of the current year and for Western Canadian Championships by June 1st of the current year;

12.1.4.3. To be eligible to compete in a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship, all teams must submit a Letter of Intent and an entrance fee to Softball BC All entry fees are non-refundable unless the championship has been cancelled;

12.1.4.4. Any team continuing on to a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship must notify the Softball BC office. Where vacancies occur, the Men's and Women's Director shall offer available spots to other teams.

12.1.4.5. Every team competing in a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship must submit a roster form under the full membership plan.

12.1.5. REGISTRATION

- 12.1.5.1. Players, managers and coaches in membership are to be registered using the online registration system.
- i. Each team shall be entitled to carry a maximum of seventeen (17) properly registered players. Exception: Women's, Masters and Mixed categories (20).
 - ii. Females may register on a male team, but males are not allowed to register on female teams except as manager or coach.
- 12.1.5.3. A team that plays in two leagues or has two home parks will establish their District of registration by considering the following criteria:
- i. Where do they play a majority of their home games?
 - ii. Where do a majority of the players reside?
 - iii. Is there a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District?

12.1.6. FEE STRUCTURE – Men's and Women's SLO PITCH

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Team Fee | \$20 |
| Annual Dues (Includes players, coaches and managers) | \$20 per person |
| Lifetime Membership (One time only) | \$10 |
| League/Association Executive (Plus Lifetime Membership) | \$30 |

NOTE: Team registration fees include an accident and liability insurance program.

The registration date for Slo Pitch is May 1st. Teams not meeting this deadline will not be eligible for Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship qualifier play.

MINOR AGED PLAYERS:

Any minor aged (under 19 years) player or team, shall not sign or play with a Men's or Women's team until a written consent form from a parent(s) or guardian(s), is received by the District Minor Coordinator, who with the District Men's and Women's Coordinator shall forward their decision in writing to the Softball BC office by April 15 of that playing year and a copy sent to the parent or guardian.

12.1.7. MASTERS SLO PITCH

12.1.7.1. The representative Masters team from BC participating in a Canadian or Western Canadian Championship will comply with the Canadian roster size rule (maximum 20 players).

12.1.7.2. Masters Slo Pitch age:

Men: (+35): Celebrate their 35th birthday by or in the current playing year.

Men: (+40): Celebrate their 40th birthday by or in the current playing year.

Women: Celebrate their 30th birthday by or in the current playing year.

12.1.7.3. Masters Slo Pitch player may coach in any other category.

12.1.7.4. Mixed Masters age:

Men: 35th birthday by or in the current playing year.

Women: 30th birthday by or in the current playing year.

Softball Canada Rules will be adhered with the exception of the following:

12.2. RUN AHEAD RULE

- 12.2.1. A run ahead rule shall result in the conclusion of the game when:
- After 3 complete innings of play if there is a difference of 25 or more runs.
 - After 4 complete innings of play if there is a difference of 20 or more runs.
 - After 5 complete innings of play if there is a difference of 15 or more runs.

12.3. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- 12.3.1. FACE MASKS. All pitchers must wear a mask with helmet. Any defensive or offensive player may wear an approved plastic face mask/guard. Face masks/guards that are cracked or deformed, or if padding has deteriorated or is missing, are prohibited from use and must be removed from the game. Masks are recommended in Adult Slo Pitch.

12.4. PLAYERS

- 12.4.1. Co-ed: 10 players – (six males and four females) The batting order must not have more than 3 males in a row.
- 12.4.2. Co-ed with Extra Players (EPs): Twelve players – seven males and 5 females. The batting order must not have more than 3 males in a row.

12.5. ENTERING THE GAME (SUBSTITUTIONS)

- 12.5.1. Temporary Runner (may be used for the pitcher who gets on base, the following provisions apply:
- Optional before two outs – mandatory after two outs.
 - may be any player on the line-up card who is not on base at the time of application (even if they have previously been in the game and cannot legally re-enter the game) but cannot be a player who has been ejected or removed from the game for violation of the rules.
 - The player who finishes the previous inning in pitching position (or is designated as the pitcher in the line-up card for Home team's first inning at bat) is the only person eligible to have a temporary runner.
 - Re-entry and substitution rules are waived for temporary runner.
 - If the temporary runner is on base and due to bat, they shall be replaced by another eligible player without penalty.
 - Co-Ed only – Temporary Runner will be gender for gender.

12.5.2. Courtesy runner – is legal for a batter who gets on base. No courtesy runner for open divisions, three courtesy runners for intermediate divisions per game, unlimited courtesy runners for recreational division. The following apply to a courtesy runner:

12.5.2.1. may be any player on the line-up card who is not on base at the time of application (even if they have previously been in the game and cannot legally re-enter the game) but cannot be a player who has been ejected or removed from the game for violation of the rules.

12.5.2.2. If the courtesy runner is on base and due to bat, the batter shall be declared automatically out for the at bat. Vi. Co-Ed only – Courtesy Runner will be gender for gender.

12.6. BATTING ORDER

12.6.1. In Co-Ed Games, the batting order shall consist of six males and four females, no more than three males in a row (Co-ed).

12.6.2. If a team bats out of order, any player skipped in the order shall be declared automatically out.

APPENDIX 1 – PLAYING FIELD AND DIAMOND LAYOUT

QUICK REFERENCE TABLE

SAFE LINE

(Co-ed, Intermediate and Recreational Divisions Only)

Is a line drawn in foul territory starting at the front corner of home plate closest to third base and perpendicular to the third base line. It shall extend 1.22 m (4ft.) from the third base line in foul territory

APPENDIX 2 – BAT SPECIFICATIONS

OFFICIAL BAT

For open divisions add, only use 240 compression stamp/thump print on bats. Intermediate divisions add, same as above plus bats manufactured two years prior to the current year (two-year grandfather period). These grandfathered bats need to pass a 240 compression test.

APPENDIX 6 – SCORING

- a. MAXIMUM HOMERUNS SCORED PER GAME
For Co-ed, women who hit home runs do not count towards total homeruns for the team. Each team is responsible for recovering the ball.
- b. Open divisions – five homeruns, match plus one.
- c. Intermediate divisions – 3 homeruns, match plus one.
- d. Recreational division – 1 homerun, match plus one.