

ARTICLE 15 – WESTERN CANADIAN OR CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 15.1. **LETTER OF INTENT:** To represent BC at a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, teams must complete an online “Letter of Intent” by June 1st of the current playing year. MINOR ONLY: Deadline is May 1st.
- 15.2. **MUST ATTEND:** Teams that have submitted a Letter of Intent to participate in a Western Canadian or a Canadian Championship, and won the right to attend where Softball BC has committed to and/or paid for such an opportunity to attend, shall attend pursuant to the Notice of Intent. Teams failing to attend upon their commitment to do so, shall immediately be:
- LIABLE FOR COSTS associated with that commitment, including but not limited to entry fees and penalty assessments made by the Western Canadian Softball Association or Softball Canada. Failure of players, coaches and where applicable, minor associations to reimburse Softball BC for any of the aforesaid costs and/or assessments upon a team’s failure to attend a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, will result in disciplinary action.
 - DISQUALIFIED from attending Districts or Provincials and ineligible for Western Canadian or Canadian Championships for the following season, having six or more returning players.
- 15.3. **REPRESENTATIVE TEAM:** The team representing British Columbia at Canadian (‘A’ Classification) or Western Canadian (‘B’ Classification) Championships shall be as follows:
- TOP PLACE The highest placing team at the Provincial Championship team (except Slo Pitch and Mixed Orthodox) to have completed a “Letter of Intent”.
 - TWO TEAMS If two teams are eligible to attend the Canadian or Western Canadian Championship, the top two eligible finishing teams are to represent British Columbia.
 - FOLLOW UP Within 48 hours of winning a Provincial Championship, the team must contact the Softball BC office for further information on the trip to further competitions (Softball BC 604-371-0302).
 - TRAVEL ASSISTANCE received by Softball BC from the Government or any other source allotted to teams, if any, will be

- by cheque at the discretion of the Softball BC Board of Directors.
- e. FOLLOWING YEAR Mixed Orthodox Only: The first place team from the BC Provincial Championship will be offered the opportunity to attend the Canadian Championship in the following year as the BC representative (including travel funding if available). The second place team is offered the opportunity to attend the Western Canadian Championship in the following year as the BC Representative (including travel funding if available). If a second spot in the Canadian Championship is offered to BC it shall be first offered to the second place finisher (without any available travel funding) before it is offered to lower finishers. If taken by the second place finisher then the Western Canadian Representative Spot (and any available travel funding), shall be offered to the next highest finisher from the BC Provincial Championship.
 - f. PRIOR YEAR CHAMPION Prior year's Provincial Champion (Slo Pitch and Mixed Orthodox only).
 - g. CLASSIFICATION OF MINOR PLAYERS To be eligible for Western Canadian Championships, all minor 'B' teams must be made up of no fewer than 11 players who have not participated on any 'A' classification team in the preceding year. For the purposes of this, players from teams reclassified from 'A' to 'B' by the Minor Director pursuant to Article 7.2 g) vi)/8.2 CO xii) shall be considered 'B' players,

- 15.4. **DEFENDING CHAMPION:** Defending Champions from the Western Canadian Championships in Minor to be the Silver Medal winner of the Provincial Championship in the current year if the defending champion does not have eight returning players. In the event the Silver Medal team cannot attend, the Bronze medal team would be given the option. NOTE: As per the WCSA, there is no returning champion in U19 'B'.

To be eligible to participate in any Minor Western or Canadian Championship all players must have participated in three games in an affiliated league with the team on which they are registered.

- 15.5. **PROVINCIAL HOST TEAM:** The host team will be determined as the highest finishing eligible team from the host:
- i. Association
 - ii. District
 - iii. City
- 15.5.1. Men and Women: If a team from the host association, city and/or District wins the Provincial Championship, then the second place team in the Provincial Championship would also go to the Canadian or Western Canadian Championship.
- 15.5.2. MINOR: If a host association/district/city does not compete in Provincials, the host team will be based on the decision of the host, declared prior to the Provincials

- 15.6. **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE:** Where a British Columbia team has won a Western Canadian Championship or Canadian Championship and, has the right to participate in the subsequent year's Western Canadian Championship or Canadian Championship as defending champion:
- a. **DUTY** Where the defending champions submits a Letter of Intent by the applicable Softball BC deadline, Softball BC will complete all necessary correspondence and pay all necessary fees to ensure that the team that is eligible for the Western Canadian Championship or the Canadian Championship;
 - b. **ALTERNATE** when the defending champion may not be a current year's provincial champion, Softball BC will complete all necessary correspondence and pay all necessary fees to ensure that the current year's provincial champion team is eligible for the Western Canadian Championship or the Canadian Championship as the provincial representative;
 - c. **BACKUP** when the defending champion may be the current year's provincial champion, Softball BC will complete all necessary correspondence and pay all necessary fees so the second place finisher in that provincial championship (or, another team, as deemed appropriate by the British Columbia Softball Association) is eligible for the Western Canadian Championship or the Canadian Championship.
- 15.7. **FEE TO SOFTBALL BC:** Softball BC shall receive \$250 for each Men and Women FP and SP and \$100 for each Minor Western Canadian Championship hosted in the Province of British Columbia.