

# Constitution, By-Laws, and Operating Rules

---

*Softball BC gratefully acknowledges the financial  
assistance of the Province of BC*



**MEMBER:**

SOFTBALL CANADA  
SPORT BC

**ALLIED MEMBER:**

AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSN. OF AMERICA  
WORLD BASEBALL SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION

The Softball BC Handbook is produced and published by Softball BC

**Unit 201 – 8889 Walnut Grove Drive, Langley, BC V1M 2N7**  
**604-371-0302 | [info@softball.bc.ca](mailto:info@softball.bc.ca)**  
**[www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca)**

*We would like to acknowledge that our Softball BC Office is located  
on the traditional and unceded territories of the Katzie and  
Kwantlen First Nations.*



# Table of Contents

---

General Information	5
Softball BC Constitution	23
Softball BC By-Laws	27
Special Operating Rules	49
ARTICLE 1 – Definitions	50
ARTICLE 2 – Residence Rule	51
ARTICLE 3 – Amateur	52
ARTICLE 4 – Disciplinary Action	53
ARTICLE 5 – Appeals	55
ARTICLE 6 – Travel Permits	59
ARTICLE 7 – Minor Fastpitch Rules	60
ARTICLE 8 – Minor Girls Fastpitch	70
ARTICLE 9 – Minor Boys Fastpitch	92
ARTICLE 10 – Women’s Fastpitch	114
ARTICLE 11 – Men’s Fastpitch	121
ARTICLE 12 – Men’s, Women’s and Co-ed Slo Pitch	128
ARTICLE 13 – Provincial Championships	133
ARTICLE 14 – Regional & Provincial Championship Bids	143
ARTICLE 15 – Western Canadian or Canadian Championships	145
ARTICLE 16 – Western/Canadian Bids	148
ARTICLE 17 – Invitational Tournaments	149
ARTICLE 18 – General	150
ARTICLE 19 – Umpires	153
ARTICLE 20 – Softball BC Honorary Life Members and Hall of Fame	157
ARTICLE 21 – Fees and Financial Items	161
Annexes and Links	165





## **VISION STATEMENT**

Softball for Everyone Softball for Life

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Provide a fun, fair, safe and inclusive environment  
for participants to enjoy the game at all levels

## **VALUE STATEMENTS**

Softball BC seeks to build a fun, fair and safe environment  
for all participants to enjoy the game at any level

# President's Message



Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) is a big theme these days. You hear it everywhere, and it is easy to dismiss it as just the latest acronym or set of buzzwords. I get that, I'm not a particularly touchy-feely person myself, and I've been known to roll my eyes when the latest "everyone has to do it" bit of better behaviour training comes out. But lately I have really been thinking about what EDI means for Softball BC, and I encourage all of our members to do the same. Like many people, I grew up thinking that "treating everyone the same" was the standard, and in some senses it can be, but my favorite illustration of the problem with that is the cartoon showing a bunch of animals lined up in front of a big tree with a human telling them "For a fair selection everybody has to take the same exam: please climb that tree". The monkey and bird looked pumped – the elephant, goldfish in a bowl, seal and dog less so. Not actively discriminating against people was the first step we all had to take (and sadly continue to work on to some extent), but recognizing that people's differing experiences give them different tools, abilities and strengths and that we need to adapt to recognize this to allow for everyone to flourish is the thing we all need to be better at.

At its heart, EDI for softball is about ensuring that everyone feels that they belong in our sport, and that they feel safe once they are part of it, regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics, or differing ability. It's not really about complicated policies (though it is important to have standards around EDI) or about the political correctness that might jump to mind when you first hear the term, and it is not about "including" historically excluded groups by bringing them into our traditional models of sport and ways of doing things. The fact is that our traditional way of doing things is often itself exclusionary, and what we need to do is to adopt sport models that value others' lived experiences and support them in having control over their own sporting opportunities.

When it comes to softball, there are so many ways that we can incorporate the principles of EDI into our everyday. We need to change our way of thinking, and get rid of our expectations that softball programming can only be offered one way and that all softball players must participate the same way. If we need to change where we play the game, how we play the game, the rules, the equipment – think Baseball 5, whose tag lines include "all you need is a ball" and "play everywhere", or kids' slopitch, which eliminates the need for trained pitchers, a big barrier to playing softball in smaller and more isolated communities – to make our sport inclusive, then that's what we should do. We have great people and organizations in our sport that are already making strides in the area of EDI, and there's no need for the rest of us to reinvent the wheel. If we all commit to taking one or two small steps this season to increase the inclusivity of our sport by embracing diversity and increasing equity for those that might want to participate, we can be a small part of dismantling the barriers to sport that still exist for so many.

**Lisa Parkes** President

# Softball BC Past Presidents

March 2022- Present	Lisa Parkes
2020 - 2022	Graeme Duncan
2013 - 2020	Jake Dewitt
2012 - 2013	Jackie Dugger
2007 - 2012	Dennis Bidin
2000 - 2006	Tom Taylor
1992 - 2000	Jean Martens
1990 - 1992	Gerry Martin
1986 - 1990	Dale McMann
1979 - 1986	Al Buchanan
1977 - 1979	Shirley Randall
1971 - 1976	Al Beasley
1970 - 1971	Bill Gibson
1964 - 1970	Ward Lloyd
1958 - 1964	William Hallinan
1956 - 1958	Jack Stevens
1948 - 1956	Don Fraser

# Softball BC Board of Directors

<b>Lisa Parkes</b> <i>President</i>	president@softball.bc.ca
<b>Rachel Charles</b> <i>VP Finance</i>	vpfinance@softball.bc.ca
<b>Kevin Langley</b> <i>Vice President</i>	vp@softball.bc.ca
<b>Chad Bryden</b> <i>Director of Coaching</i>	directorofcoaching@softball.bc.ca
<b>Lavaughn Larson</b> <i>Minor Director</i>	minordirector@softball.bc.ca
<b>Al Groff</b> <i>Men's and Women's Director</i>	seniordirector@softball.bc.ca
<b>Jason Ranchoux</b> <i>Provincial Umpire-in-Chief</i>	provincialuic@softball.bc.ca
<b>Scott Wheatley</b> <i>Director-at-Large</i>	directoratlarge@softball.bc.ca



# Softball BC Staff Directory

<b>Diane St-Denis</b> <i>Executive Director</i>	executive.director@softball.bc.ca 604-371-0302 Ext 103
<b>Rick Benson</b> <i>Interim Operations Manager</i>	rick.benson@softball.bc.ca 604.371.0302 Ext. 104
<b>Haili Pettifer</b> <i>Administration Manager</i>	admin@softball.bc.ca 604-371-0302 Ext 101
<b>Jennifer He</b> <i>Finance and Office Manager</i>	accounting@softball.bc.ca 604-371-0302 Ext 102

## MAILING ADDRESS:

Softball BC  
Unit 201 -8889 Walnut Grove Drive  
Langley, BC V1M 2N7

Phone: 604-371-0302

# Softball BC Districts

---

## **DISTRICT #1** (Zone 6: Vancouver Island – Central Coast)

MAJOR CENTRES: Victoria, Saanich, Oak Bay, the Western Communities, View Royal, Sooke, the Saanich Peninsula, and the Southern Gulf Islands

## **DISTRICT #2** (Zone 6: Vancouver Island – Central Coast)

MAJOR CENTRES: Nanaimo, Parksville, Port Alberni, Ladysmith, Ucluelet, Nanoose, Cedar, Tofino, Bowser, Errington, Lantzville, Qualicum

## **DISTRICT #3** (Zone 6: Vancouver Island – Central Coast)

MAJOR CENTRES: Campbell River, Comox, Cumberland, Courtenay, Quadra, Merville, Powell River, San Josef, Port Hardy, Coal Harbour, Gold River, Woss, Lazo, Tahsis, Texada, Sayward, Port McNeil, Holberg, Sointula, Port Alice, Bella Bella, Ocean Falls

## **DISTRICT #4** (Zone 5: Vancouver Coastal)

The Regional Districts of Squamish-Lillooet (excluding Electoral Areas A & B), Sunshine Coast. The Corporations of the Districts of North and West Vancouver, the Village of Lions Bay

MAJOR CENTRES: North Vancouver, Squamish, Garibaldi Highlands, Britannia, Whistler, Pemberton, Gibsons, West Vancouver, Shalalth, Seton Portage, Brackendale, Bowen Island

## **DISTRICT #5** (Zone 5: Vancouver Coastal)

MAJOR CENTRES: Vancouver, Richmond

## **DISTRICT #6** (Zone 4: Fraser River)

The Corporation of District of Burnaby, The Corporation of the City of New Westminster,

MAJOR CENTRES: Burnaby, New Westminster, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and Port Moody (including Tri-Cities)

## **DISTRICT #7** (Zone 4: Fraser River)

The City of Surrey, The Corporation of the City of White Rock.

MAJOR CENTRES: Surrey (including White Rock, Fleetwood, Cloverdale, Guildford, Newton and Whalley)

## **DISTRICT #8** (Zone 3: Fraser Valley)

Regional Districts of Central Fraser Valley, Fraser-Cheam.

MAJOR CENTRES: Aldergrove, Abbotsford, Clearbrook, Chilliwack, Bradner, Yarrow, Hope, Agassiz, Sardis, Vedder Crossing, Langley

**DISTRICT #9** (Zone 2: Thompson – Okanagan)

Regional Districts of Central Okanagan, North Okanagan

MAJOR CENTRES: Kelowna, Penticton, Salmon Arm, Vernon, Rutland, Sicamous, Winfield, Armstrong, Sorrento, Chase, Celista, Princeton, Revelstoke, Westbank, Peachland, Oliver, Cawston, Keremeos, Summerland, Lumby, Pritchard, Enderby, Osoyoos

**DISTRICT #10** (Zone 1: Kootenays)

Regional Districts of Central Kootenay, East Kootenay, Kootenay Boundary and Electoral Area 'A' of Columbia-Shuswap Regional District

MAJOR CENTRES: Cranbrook, Castlegar, Trail, Blueberry Creek, Salmo, Montrose, Robson, Yahk, Creston, Marysville, Invermere, Nelson, Fernie, Grand Forks, Winlaw, Windermere, Fruitvale, Sparwood, Golden, Edgewater, Kimberley, Radium, Nakusp, Burton, Kaslo, Jaffrey

**DISTRICT #11** (Zone 2: Thompson – Okanagan)

Regional Districts of Thompson-Nicola, Electoral Area A & B of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

MAJOR CENTRES: Kamloops, Barriere, Merritt, Lone Butte, Darfield, McLure, Logan Lake, Louis Creek, Vavenby, Clearwater, Birch Island, Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Lytton, Clinton, Lillooet

**DISTRICT #12** (Zone 8: Cariboo – Northeast)

The Regional Districts of Cariboo, Fraser-Fort George, Peace River-Liard and Central Coast Electoral Areas C,D,E

MAJOR CENTRES: Prince George, Taylor, Willow River, Lac La Hache, Quesnel, Pouce Coupe, Chetwynd, Williams Lake, Fort St. John, Mackenzie, Hixon, Dawson Creek, Valemount, McBride, 100 Mile House, Fort Nelson, Bella Coola

**DISTRICT #13** (Zone 7: North West)

The Regional Districts of Bulkley – Nechako, Kitimat-Stikine, Skeena-Queen Charlotte and the unorganized Stikine Area

MAJOR CENTRES: Prince Rupert, Terrace, Kitimat, Queen Charlotte Island, Houston, Thornhill, Port Clements, Masset, Hazelton, Telkwa, Fraser Lake, Smithers, Fort St. James, Sandspit, Vanderhoof, Kitwanga, Fort Fraser, Burns Lake, Port Edward

**DISTRICT #14** (Zone 3: Fraser Valley)

Regional District of Dewdney-Alouette

MAJOR CENTRES: Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Whonnock, Mission and Deroche

**DISTRICT #15** (Zone 5: Vancouver Coastal)

The Corporation of Delta

MAJOR CENTRES: Ladner, Delta, Tsawwassen

# Softball BC District Representatives

## MINOR COORDINATORS

DISTRICT	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL
1	Bill Hawkins	250-888-9625	d1minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
2	Al Charlesworth	250-735-2526	d2minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
3	Guy Adams	604-371-0302	d3minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
4	Houtan Maleki	604-617-6434	d4minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
5	Baukje Edamura	604-836-9935	D5minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
6	Elizabeth Lee	778-319-3273	d6minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
7	Shannon Maion	604-340-6133	d7minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
8	Kathy Weston	604-805-4750	d8minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
9	Chris Topping	250-308-0699	d9minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
10	Margaret MacDonald	250-357-2134	d10minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
11	Yvonne Dymterko	250-320-9709	d11minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
12	Andy Ferguson	250-981-6539	d12minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
13	Andy Ferguson	250-981-6539	d13minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
14	Chris Young	604-465-8223	d14minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
15	Gord Johnson	604-787-1348	d15minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca

*For complete contact information please visit [www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca)*

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S COORDINATORS

DISTRICT	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL
1	Ashley Vukovic	604-371-0302	d1seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
2	Lindsay Dealy	250-686-0402	d2seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
3	Lisa Hayton	250-383-3936	d3seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
4	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	seniordirector@softball.bc.ca
5	Tracy Sherlock	604-818-3090	d5seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
6	Suzy Parker	604-276-8565	d6seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
7	Tracey Oye	604-377-5744	d7seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
8	Harv Wiens	604-309-1685	d8seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
9	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	d9seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
10	Derek Hipwell	250-365-7697	d10seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
11	John Pagnotta	250-330-2185	d11seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
12	Joe LaLiberte	250-565-4824	seniordirector@softball.bc.ca
13	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	seniordirector@softball.bc.ca
14	Diane MacPherson	604-463-3872	d14seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
15	Amanda Kennedy	778-989-3456	d15seniorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca

*For complete contact information please visit [www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca)*

## UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

DISTRICT	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL
1	Teresa Allen	604-306-2023	D1umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
2	Shawn Miller	250-327-2067	D2umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
3	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	provincialuic@softball.bc.ca
4	Geoff Bowering	604-505-3047	D4umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
5	David Maandag	604-862-4485	D5umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
6	Tyler Warren	604-316-2266	D6umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
7	Jeffrey Vanzella	778-988-6493	D7umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
8	Paul Muirhead	778-384-6081	D8umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
9	Lucas Crosby	905-465-5318	D9umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
10	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	provincialuic@softball.bc.ca
11	Kaleb Hutchinson	778-257-4563	D11umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
12	Ken Edwards	604-371-0302	D12umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
13	Geoff Watt	250-638-0746	D13umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
14	Josko Dujmovic	604 818-3032	D14umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca
15	Calvin Holman	778-788-2403	D15umpireinchief@softball.bc.ca

*For complete contact information please visit [www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca)*

## SLO PITCH COORDINATORS

DISTRICT	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL
1	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
2	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
3	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
4	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
5	Krista Hirvonen	-	d5slopitchcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
6	Chelsea Turtle	778-255-8350	d6slopitchcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
7	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
8	Bobbie-Joe Delorme	604-671-4571	d8slopitchcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
9	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
10	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
11	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
12	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
13	<b>VACANT</b>	604-371-0302	admin@softball.bc.ca
14	Cordi Warbrick	778-989-6075	d14slopitchcoordinator@softball.bc.ca
15	Carol Carrier	-	d15slopitchcoordinator@softball.bc.ca

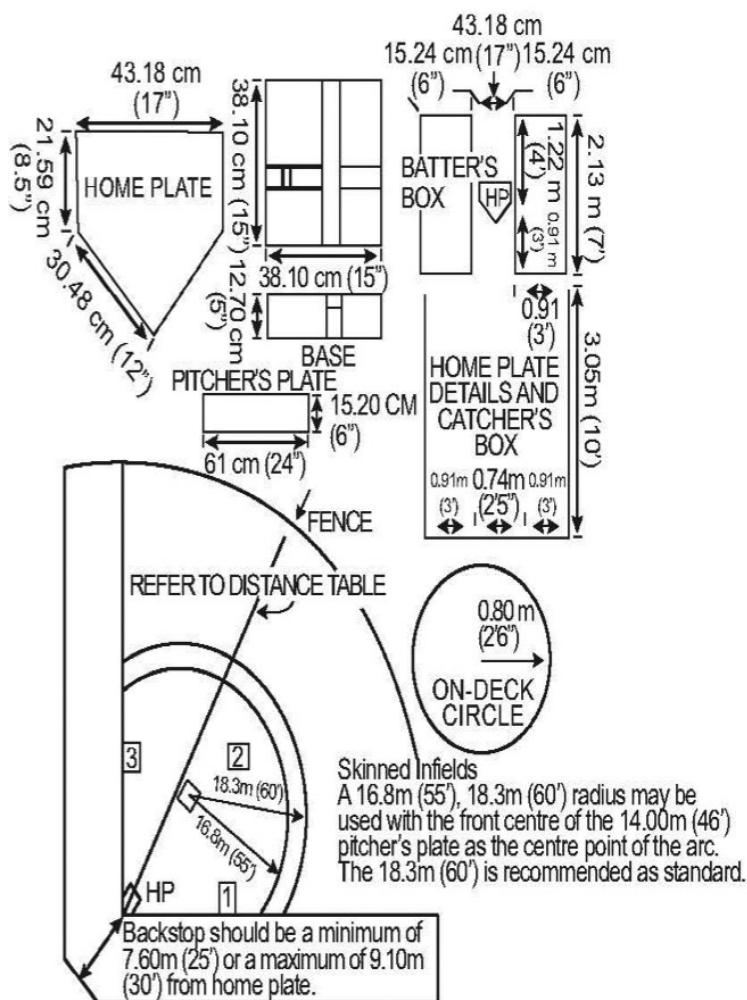
***For complete contact information please visit [www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca)***



BASEPATH	DIAGONAL
13.72m (45')	19.29m (63' 8")
16.76m (55')	23.57m (77' 9.25")
18.29m (60')	25.86m (84' 10.25")



# Official Dimensions for Fast Pitch Softball Diamonds



# BC Summer Games Zones

ZONE NUMBER	DISTRICTS IN ZONES
<b>ZONE 1</b> Kootenays	District 10
<b>ZONE 2</b> Thompson – Okanagan	Districts 9 and 11
<b>ZONE 3</b> Fraser Valley	Districts 8 and 14
<b>ZONE 4</b> Fraser River	Districts 6 and 7
<b>ZONE 5</b> Vancouver –Coastal	Districts 4, 5 and 15
<b>ZONE 6</b> Vancouver Island-Central Coast	Districts 1, 2, and 3
<b>ZONE 7</b> North West	District 13
<b>ZONE 8</b> Cariboo – North East	District 12

2024 BC SUMMER GAMES:

Maple Ridge  
July 18-21, 2024

# 2024 Age and Distance Chart

CATEGORY	AGE (PRIOR TO JANUARY 1ST OF THE CURRENT YEAR)	YEAR	BALL	PITCHING	BASELINES	FENCES (MIN-MAX)
MALE						
MASTERS*	40+	X	12"	46'	60'	225'-265'
MASTERS	55+	X	12"	46'	60'	225'-265'
*In Master Men's Slo Pitch, the minimum age limit will be 40 years of age, in the year of the event.						
MEN'S FFP	X	X	12"	46'	60'	225'-265'
U23	23 AND UNDER	2000/2001/2002	12"	46'	60'	225'-265'
U20	20 AND UNDER	2003/2004/2005	12"	46'	60'	225'-265'
U17	17 AND UNDER	2007/2008	12"	46'	60'	225'-265'
U15	15 AND UNDER	2009/2010	12"	42'	60'	210'-250'
U13	13 AND UNDER	2011/2012	11"	38'	55'	170'-225'
U11	11 AND UNDER	2013/2014	11"	35'	45'	160'-225'
U9	9 AND UNDER	2015/2016	11"	30'	45'	160'-225'
U7	7 AND UNDER	2018/2019	11"	30'	45'	160'-225'

FEMALE								
MASTERS*	35+		X		12"	43'	60'	210'-225'
MASTERS	45+		X		12"	43'	60'	210'-225'
*in Master Women's Fastpitch the minimum age will be 35 years of age in the year of the event.								
WOMEN A, B & C	X		X		12"	43'	60'	220'-235'
INTERMEDIATE A	X		X		12"	43'	60'	220'-235'
WOMEN D	X		X		12"	43'	60'	200'-210'
U19 A & B	19 AND UNDER		2005/2006		12"	43'	60'	200'-210'
U20C	20 AND UNDER		2004/2005/2006		12"	43'	60'	200'-210'
U17	17 AND UNDER		2007/2008		12"	43'	60'	180'-210'
U15	15 AND UNDER		2009/2010		12"	40'	60'	170'-210'
U13	13 AND UNDER		2011/2012		11"	38'	55'	160'-210'
U11	11 AND UNDER		2013/2014		11"	35'	45'	150'-210'
U9	9 AND UNDER		2015/2016		11"	30'	45'	150'-210'
U7	7 AND UNDER		2017/2018/2019		11"	30'	45'	150'-210'

SLO PITCH								
MEN		X		X	12"	50'	70'	300'-375'
WOMEN		X		X	11"	50'	65'	225'-275'
CO-ED		X		X	12"	50'	65'	275'-325'





# Softball BC Constitution

**AMENDED AND UPDATED  
COPY OF THE  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
of the  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION  
FROM ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION  
REGISTERED: APRIL 26, 1948**

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Constitution and By-Laws of the British Columbia Amateur Softball Association (Operating as Softball BC) are incorporated under the "Society Act" and registered with the office of the Registrar of Companies in Victoria, BC.

The 2024 Softball BC Special Operating Rules includes a specific articles for Minor Softball, Men's and Women's Fastpitch Softball, Men's and Women's Slo Pitch Softball and Umpires. This format will assist coaches in locating the specific Operating Rules that pertain to their team.

However, all coaches must make a point of reading all of the GENERAL Articles of the Handbook, to achieve a full understanding of our regulations.

Changes to rules are enclosed in a box. Areas shaded indicate a change to a rule on a one-year trial basis.

The work of re-writing and re-editing this digital booklet was completed January 2024.

***While all efforts are taken to ensure the accuracy of the content, any omissions or errors will be posted on the Softball BC website.***

***[www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca)***



# **BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**

*Incorporated under the "Society Act" S.B.C 1948 and  
Amendments Thereto*

## **CONSTITUTION**

The name of the Society is: British Columbia Amateur Softball Association

1. The purposes of the Society are:
  - a. To promote the game of softball and other associated sports and pastimes.
  - b. To hold and arrange softball and other matches and competitions, and to offer and grant, or contribute towards the provisions of prizes, awards and distinctions on a provincial level.
  - c. To subscribe to, become a member of, and cooperate with other associations, whether incorporated or not, whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of this Society.
  - d. To make, adopt, vary, and publish Rules and Regulations, By-Laws, Conditions, and Special Operating Rules, for the regulation of the said game or otherwise, and to take all such steps as shall be deemed necessary or advisable, for the enforcing of such Regulations, By-Laws, Conditions and Special Operating Rules.
  - e. To promote, support or assist in all or any such athletic contests or sports for which any property of the Society may be available or which may be determined on or approved by the Society.
  - f. To raise, use investment and reinvest money to support the activities of the Society, provided, however, that no property, funds or income of the Society shall inure to the private profit of any member, club or person. This purpose was previously unalterable.





# Softball BC By-Laws

# By-Laws of British Columbia Amateur Softball Association

---

## PART 1 - INTERPRETATION

- 1.1. In these By-Laws, unless the context otherwise requires,
  - a. "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Society;
  - b. "Act" means the Societies Act of the Province of British Columbia from time to time in force and all amendments to it;
  - c. "Registered address" of a member means the address as recorded in the register of members.
- 1.2. The definitions in the Act on the date these By-Laws become effective apply to these By-Laws.
- 1.3. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; and words importing a male person include a female person and corporation.
- 1.4. The Society shall have present at all meetings of the Society a copy of "Roberts Rules of Order" and all items not covered by these By-Laws or by the Act shall be governed by those rules.

## PART 2 – MEMBERSHIP

2.1. The Society has the following category of Member:

- a. **Individual Member** – Individuals who have agreed to abide by and adhere to the Society's By-laws, policies, procedures, and rules (or, if the individual is under the age of 18, who have had a parent or guardian agree to abide by the Society's By-laws, policies, procedures, and rules on behalf of the individual) including:
  - i. Participants
  - ii. Umpires
  - iii. Coaches
  - iv. Managers
  - v. Directors of recognized associations or leagues
  - vi. Other individuals approved by the Board
- b. **Association/League Member** – An association or league that is recognized by the Society and has agreed to abide by the Society's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
- c. **Director Member** – Any individual who is a Director with the Society and has who agreed to abide by the Society's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations
- d. **District Member** – A recognized District of the Society that has agreed to abide by the Society's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
- e. **Honorary Life Member** – Any individual approved by Special Resolution of the Board who has contributed greatly to the development or promotion of the Society and who has agreed to abide by the Society's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.

2.2. A candidate member may apply to the Society for membership and unless such application shall be declined by the Board within ninety (90) days of the date of receipt of the application, that person shall be a member effective on the date of such receipted application. The form of application and prescribed membership fee shall be as approved from time to time by the Board.

2.3. There shall be annual membership dues which shall be determined by the Board from time to time, set for each separate playing level and/or other membership category.

- 2.4. A member in good standing:
- Has not been suspended or expelled from membership, or had other membership restrictions or sanctions imposed;
  - Has paid the prescribed annual membership dues in the current fiscal year;
  - Has complied with the By-laws, policies, and rules of the Society; and
  - Is not subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by the Society, or if subject to disciplinary action previously, has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board.
- 2.5. A Member shall cease to be a Member of the Society:
- On failure to pay before the fiscal year end of the Society, the prescribed annual membership dues and other assessments set from time to time by the Board including player registration fees and insurance;
  - On being expelled;
  - On delivering a written resignation to the Registered Office of the Society; or
  - On death or dissolution.
- 2.6. A Member may be expelled by a resolution of the Board passed at a meeting of the Board, provided that:
- Notice of a resolution for expulsion shall be given to the Member, accompanied by a brief statement of the reason or reasons for the proposed expulsion.
  - The Member who is the subject of the proposed resolution for expulsion shall be given an opportunity to be heard at a meeting of the Board before the resolution is put to a vote.

## PART 3 – MEETING OF MEMBERS

- 3.1. The Society will hold meetings of Members at such date, time, and place as determined by the Board within the Province of British Columbia.
- 3.2. An Annual General Meeting must be held once every calendar year.
- 3.3. A General Meeting of the Members may be called at any time by Ordinary Resolution of the Board or upon the written requisition of ten percent (10%) or more of the Members, in the form described in the Act, for any purpose connected with the affairs of the Society that does not fall within the exceptions listed in the Act or is otherwise inconsistent with the Act.
- 3.4. Written or electronic notice of the date of a meeting of the Members will be given to all Members in good standing, Directors, and the Auditor (if any) at least seven (7) days and not more than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the meeting. Notice will contain a reminder of the right to vote by proxy, a proposed agenda, any Member Proposals, reasonable information to permit Members to make informed decisions, nominations of Directors, and the text of any resolutions or amendments to be decided. If the Society has more than 250 Members, it may deliver, at least seven (7) days and not more than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the meeting, notice to Members who have provided an email address to the Society. Notice will also be considered to have been given to Members if it is published, throughout the period commencing at least twenty-one (21) days before the meeting, on the Society's website.
- 3.5. Every meeting of the Members, other than an Annual General Meeting, is a General Meeting.
- 3.6. The President, or in his absence, the First Vice-President, or in the absence of both, some member of the Board, shall preside at all meetings of the Members.
- 3.7. A quorum at any Annual General Meeting or General Meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of the voting members. No proxy shall be allowed at any Annual General Meeting or General Meeting.
  - a. No business, other than the appointment of the Chairperson or the adjournment or termination of the meeting, shall be conducted at a time when a quorum is not present.
  - b. If at any time there ceases to be a quorum present, business then in progress shall be suspended until there is a quorum present or until the meeting is adjourned or terminated.

- 3.8. Members will have the following voting rights at all meetings of the Members:
  - a. Individual Members do not have a vote.
  - b. Association/League Members do not have a vote.
  - c. Director Members have one vote each.
  - d. District Members are entitled to appoint Delegates who have one vote each.
  - e. Honorary Life Members do not have a vote.
- 3.9. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairperson of the meeting shall not have a casting or second vote in addition to the vote which he may be entitled to as a Member. The proposed resolution shall not pass.
- 3.10. Each of the Society's District Members may have up to ten (10) voting delegates at meetings of the Members. Districts are only entitled to voting delegates if they have duly registered teams of the same category as the vote held. The district boundaries will be as per the official map kept in the business office of the society.
- 3.11. District Members will provide in writing or electronic form to the Society, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting of Members, the name(s) of the Delegate(s) who will represent the Member. Delegates must be at least eighteen years of age, of sound mind, and be acting as the Member's representative. District Members may appoint Delegates in each of the following roles:
  - a. Men's and Women's Coordinator
  - b. Men's and Women's Fastpitch Men's Representative
  - c. Men's and Women's Fastpitch Women's Representative
  - d. Minor Boys / Mixed Teams Representative
  - e. Minor Girls / Mixed Teams Representative
  - f. Slo Pitch Coordinator
  - g. Slo Pitch Men's Representative
  - h. Slo Pitch Women's Representative
  - i. Umpire-in-Chief
  - j. Minor Coordinator



- 3.12. If appointed by a District Member, Delegates must be appointed for the following terms:
- a. One year:
    - i. Men's and Women's Fastpitch Men's Representative
    - ii. Men's and Women's Fastpitch Women's Representative
    - iii. Minor Boys / Mixed Teams Representative
    - iv. Minor Girls / Mixed Teams Representative
  - b. Two years, in odd numbered years:
    - i. Men's and Women's Coordinator
    - ii. Umpire-in-Chief
  - c. Two years in even numbered years:
    - i. Slo Pitch Representative
    - ii. Minor Coordinator

Delegates appointed for two year terms have more responsibilities and are required to serve on committees of the Society.

All business conducted at a meeting of the Members is Special Business except the following, which must be conducted at an Annual General Meeting:

- The consideration of the financial statements;
- The report of the Directors;
- The report of the auditors, if any;
- The election of Directors;
- The appointment of the auditor, if required
- Such other business as, under these by-laws, ought to be transacted at an Annual General Meeting, or business which is brought under consideration by the report of the Directors issued with the notice convening the meeting.

A meeting of the Members may be adjourned from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

Where a meeting is adjourned for ten (10) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of the original meeting.

Except as provided in these By-Laws, it is not necessary to give notice of the adjournment or of the business to be transacted at the adjourned meeting.

- 3.13. District Members may appoint an individual to act as a temporary Delegate in a certain role provided the substitute individual meets the criteria for an appointed Delegate described in Part 3, section 11.

## PART 4 – DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

- 4.1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Immediate Past President or Director-at-Large, President, First Vice-President, Director of Coaching, Vice-President of Finance, Minor Director, Men's and Women's Director and Umpire-in-Chief.
- 4.2. The First Vice-President, Vice-President of Finance, and Umpire-in-Chief shall be elected for a two (2) year term on the odd-numbered years. The President, Minor Director, Men's and Women's Director and Director of Coaching shall be elected for a two (2) year term on the even-numbered years. In the event of the vacancy of the Immediate Past President, a Director-at-Large shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a two-year term.
- 4.3. Any member of the Board may, by notice in writing, resign at any time and on acceptance by the remaining members of the Board the office shall become vacant.
- 4.4. Elections:
  - a. Directors shall retire from office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting for the Society at the termination of their term of office.
  - b. Separate elections shall be held for each office to be filled.
  - c. Nominations shall be in writing or electronic form, accompanied by a resume, thirty (30) days in advance of published date of the Annual General Meeting. If no written nominations are received for a position, nominations from the floor will be accepted.
  - d. Any election may be by acclamation; otherwise it shall be by secret ballot.
  - e. If a Director wishes to let his or her name stand for another position on the Board before his or her term of office expires, he must resign his position before the election. The notice of intent to resign must be received by the Board sixty (60) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. However, if unsuccessful in election to the new position, the Director may let his name stand for election to his previous position, if that position has not already been filled.
  - f. All nominations to be circulated to the members with the notice of the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.5. The Members may, by Special Resolution, remove a Director before the expiration of the Director's term of office and may elect a successor to complete the term of office.

- 4.6. Should a vacancy occur on the Board, the remaining Directors shall continue to act notwithstanding such vacancy and the acts of such remaining Directors shall be valid. The Board may fill not more than two (2) such vacancies by the appointment of an active voting member of the Society to each vacancy. Such appointees shall hold office only until the first Annual General Meeting or General Meeting of the Society, following the date of such appointment.
- 4.7. A Nominating Committee will consist of a chair and two additional members of their choice, and that committee shall announce the names of prospective candidates to the Members.
- 4.8. A Director must not be remunerated for being or acting as a Director, but a Director may be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred by the Director while engaged in the affairs of the Society.
- 4.9. To be eligible to serve as a Director, an individual must:
  - a. Have the power under law to contract;
  - b. Have not been convicted of an offense involving fraud in the past five years;
  - c. Have not been declared incapable by a Court in Canada or in another country;
  - d. Not have the status of an undischarged bankrupt;
  - e. For the Vice President of Finance position, hold a recognized accounting designation;
  - f. For the Umpire-in-Chief, hold an active Level 4 BC Umpire's certification; and
  - g. For the Director of Coaching, be an NCCP Competition Introduction certified softball coach with a minimum of two years' experience.
- 4.10. The three (3) voting delegates to the Canadian Amateur Softball Association's Annual Meeting shall be designated by the President of the Society.
- 4.11. Except as otherwise provided in the Act or these By-laws, the Board has the powers of the Society and may delegate any of its powers, duties, and functions.

4.12. The Board is empowered to:

- a. Make policies and procedures or manage the affairs of the Society in accordance with the Act and these By-laws;
- b. Make policies and procedures relating to the discipline of Members, and have the authority to discipline these individuals in accordance with such policies and procedures;
- c. Make policies and procedures relating to the management of disputes within the Society and deal with disputes in accordance with such policies and procedures;
- d. Approve or reject recommendations from Advisory Councils and Committees that are appointed by the Board to recommend changes to the Society's rules and operations;
- e. Appoint, on an annual basis, an independent auditor;
- f. Employ or engage under contract such persons, including a Senior Manager, as it deems necessary to carry out the work of the Society;
- g. Determine registration procedures, recommend membership dues, and determine other registration requirements;
- h. Enable the Society to receive donations and benefits for the purpose of furthering the objects and purposes of the Society;
- i. Make expenditures for the purpose of furthering the purposes of the Society;
- j. Borrow money upon the credit of the Society as it deems necessary in accordance with these By-laws; and
- k. Perform any other duties from time to time as may be in the best interests of the Society.

4.13. The Board may employ or contract a Senior Manager who shall have the title of "Executive Director". When employed or contracted, the Board will delegate to the Senior Manager the responsibility to manage the day-to-day operations of the Society in accordance with Board policies and direction, and subject to any limits established by the Board.

- 4.14. The Board may create Advisory Councils and Committees and may delegate to such groups the power to recommend Rules and Regulations governing all Members and covering players, districts, age limits, championships, trustees of trophies, umpires, and all other relevant and incidental matters necessary to the operation of the Society. Advisory Councils and Committees created by the Board for this purpose will have terms of reference approved by the voting delegates' discipline (Umpires, Men and Women and Minors) by way of ordinary resolution. For clarity, only the Minor Delegates will vote on the approval of terms of reference applicable to the Minors.

When the council provides written, recommendation for additions/deletions/revisions to special operating rules for the board of director's consideration, and the board does not accept the recommendation, as written, the following steps will be taken:

1. The board shall provide, in writing, reasons for not approving the recommendation. This is to be communicated to the council through their board representative within 14 days of the board's decision.
2. The council will have the authority to amend the recommendation, or provide further written information intended to clarify the advisory council's rationale/intent for the proposed addition/deletion/revision. The response from the advisory council is to be presented to the board, either in person or electronically, within 45 days.
3. The council may re-submit proposed changes two times only during a calendar year.

- 4.15. The Board will create the following Advisory Councils:

- a. Minor / Youth
- b. Umpire
- c. Men's and Women's

## PART 5 - PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTORS

- 5.1. Meetings of the Board of Directors:
  - a. The Board may meet at such places as they see fit for the dispatch of business, and may adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings and proceedings.
  - b. The Board may from time to time fix the quorum necessary for the transaction of business and unless so fixed the quorum shall be a majority of Directors then in office.
  - c. The President shall be Chairperson at all meetings of the Board; but if at any meeting the President is not present, the Directors present may choose another Director to be Chairperson of the meeting.
  - d. A Director may at any time, on the request of a Director, convene a meeting of the Board.
- 5.2. For the first meeting of the Board held immediately following the appointment or election of a Director or Directors at an Annual General Meeting or other General Meeting, or for a meeting of the Board at which a Director is appointed to fill a vacancy in the Board, it is not necessary to give notice of the meeting to the newly-elected or appointed Director or Directors for the meeting to be duly constituted, if a quorum is present.
- 5.3. Voting at meetings of the Board:
  - a. Questions arising at any meeting of the Board shall be decided by a majority vote.
  - b. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairperson does not have a second or deciding vote in addition to the vote which he or she may be entitled as the Chairperson.
- 5.4. A resolution in writing, signed by all the Directors and placed with the minutes of the meeting of the Board is as valid and effective as if regularly passed at a meeting of the Board.
- 5.5. The Board shall keep proper minutes of their proceedings.

## PART 6 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- 6.1. The **President** is the Chairperson of the Board of Directors and shall:
- Preside at all meetings of the Members and of the Board.
  - Supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.
  - Apply and enforce all By-Laws, policies, and rules of the Society.
  - Appoint a member of the Board to all committees.
  - Be responsible for the approval of all accounts, bills, or commitments against the Society before payment, acceptance or delivery. The President of the Society is empowered to make decisions on any single emergency expenditure of funds, without approval of the Board or the Members up to the amount of \$10,000.00.
  - Watch over the assets and records of the Society.
  - Perform such other acts and duties as may be incidental to the office and as may properly be required by the Board.
  - Sign the minutes of all meetings of the Board, and may delegate any duties as necessary.
- 6.2. The **Immediate Past President's** term of office shall be a maximum of two (2) years. Following that term, should the incumbent President be elected to a further term(s), the Immediate Past President's position will be filled by an individual who shall be designated as a "Director-at-Large" and who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a two year term. Duties of the "Director-at-Large" will be designated by the President. The Immediate Past President will:
- Be eligible to act on any committee.
  - Be a voting member of the Board.
  - Perform such other acts and duties as may be delegated by the President.
  - Generally assist the President.
- 6.3. The **First Vice-President** shall assist the President in the discharge of duties, and in the absence or disability of the President, shall act in the President's stead.
- 6.4. The **Director of Coaching** shall assist the President and the Board in the discharge of their duties, they shall promote and direct the development of coaching at all levels of Softball. The Director of Coaching will assist Staff in overseeing the delivery of the NCCP.

- 6.5. The **Vice President of Finance** shall be responsible for the supervision of the accounts and records of the Society. The Vice President of Finance shall:
- Keep such financial records, including books of accounts, as are necessary to comply with the Act.
  - Render financial statements to the Board, members and others when required, in consultation with the appointed auditor.
  - Carry out policies formulated by the Board as required.
  - Be responsible for the deposit of all receipts of cash and or cheques in the bank or depository of the Society, and for the drawing of cheques for payment of the liabilities and expenditures of the Society
  - Be responsible, at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, for duly certifying the voting strength of the meeting from time to time.
  - Take direction generally from the President.
- 6.6. The **Minor Director** shall promote and direct the game of softball in the minor divisions and shall oversee playoffs and tournaments in these divisions. The Minor Director shall chair the Minor Advisory Council.
- 6.7. The **Men's and Women's Director** shall promote and direct the game of softball in the Men's and Women's divisions and shall oversee playoffs and tournaments in these divisions. The Men's and Women's Director shall chair the Men's and Women's Advisory Council.
- 6.8. The **Umpire-in-Chief** shall promote and direct the training and provision of umpires for all levels of softball and promote, direct and supervise the game of softball. A prerequisite to being nominated for the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief's position is that the individual hold a current, minimum Level 4, BC Umpire's ticket. The Umpire-in-Chief shall chair the Umpire Advisory Council.



## **PART 7 – SEAL**

- 7.1. The Seal of the Society shall be located at the Society's head office.
- 7.2. The Seal shall be affixed to such instruments as may be required to be sealed, by the Vice-President of Finance and either the President or Vice-President.

## PART 8 – FINANCES AND RECORD KEEPING

- 8.1. The fiscal year end of the Society shall be April 30th.
- 8.2. The Society may exercise, by Special Resolution, any borrowing powers conferred upon it by the Act.
- 8.3. The Accounts of the Society shall be annually examined and the correctness of the balance sheet and account book shall be ascertained by an auditor so appointed by the Board.
- 8.4. All cheques of the Society shall be signed by any two people (staff or Directors) as designated by the Vice-President of Finance or the President to be signing authorities.
- 8.5. The auditor shall be remunerated for services rendered.
- 8.6. The Board will approve financial statements (evidenced by signature of two or more Directors) of the Society of the last fiscal year of the Society. The statements must be for the period ending not more than six (6) months before the Annual General Meeting. A copy of the Annual Financial Statements will be provided to any Member requesting a copy of the Financial Statements. The Financial Statements will include:
  - a. The financial statements;
  - b. The auditor's report (if any);
  - c. Remuneration paid to any Directors including the exact amount and for what purpose;
  - d. Remuneration paid to any employee or contractor of the Society, identified by position or title, who received \$75,000 or more from the Society and the exact amount of the remuneration and (for contractors) the nature of the service performed, and
  - e. Any further information respecting the financial position of the Society.
- 8.7. All documents of this Society, including minutes and financial records shall be kept at the head office of the Society.
- 8.8. The necessary books and records of the Society required by these By-laws, by the Act, or by applicable law will be necessarily and properly kept. The books and records include, but are not limited to:
  - a. The Society's certificate of incorporation;
  - b. The Society's Constitution and By-laws;
  - c. A register of Directors (including contact information);
  - d. Written consent of each Director to act as a Director;
  - e. Written resignation(s) of any Director(s);

- f. Disclosure of any conflict of interest by any Director or the Senior Manager (when employed or contracted);
- g. A register of Members (including names and contact information);
- h. The minutes of meetings of the Members;
- i. The resolutions of the Members from any meeting of the Members;
- j. Annual Financial Statements, with the applicable auditor's report (if any);
- k. The minutes of meetings of the Directors (including attendance);
- l. The resolutions of the Directors;
- m. The in-camera minutes of meetings of the Directors; and
- n. Adequate accounting records for each of the Society's financial years, including a record of each transaction that materially affected the financial position of the Society.

**8.9. Access to Books and Records by Members and Directors** – Access to books and records by Members and Directors is permitted as follows:

- a. Directors have access to records described in 8.8a) to 8.8n); and
- b. Members have access to records described in 8.8a) to 8.8 l) though the directors may restrict access to the record described in 8.8g) if the Directors are of the opinion that the access would be harmful to the Society or in the interests of one or more Members.

**8.10. Access to Books and Records by the public** – Access to books and records by the public is permitted as follows:

- a. The public does not have access to records described in 8.8a) to 8.8i) or to records described in 8.8k) to 8.8n)
- b. The public may request access to records described in 8.8j) by submitting a request to the Society and paying a fee of \$10.00. The records will be delivered by email to the individual making the request within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the fee.

**8.11.** The Society may discard a record if the record is no longer relevant to the activities or internal affairs of the Society, after ten years have passed since the record was created or, if the record has been altered, since the record was last altered.

## PART 9 – BY-LAWS

- 9.1. These By-laws may be amended, revised, repealed or added to:
- By Ordinary Resolution of the Board. Any By-laws amendments will be submitted to the Members at the next meeting of Members and the voting Members may confirm or reject the By-laws amendment by Special Resolution; or
  - By a Member in the form of a Member Proposal. Member Proposals that amend the By-laws will be submitted to the Members at the next meeting of Members and the voting Members may confirm or reject the By-laws amendment by Special Resolution.
- 9.2. A Member Proposal, submitted to the Society at least seven (7) days before notice of the meeting of the Members is sent to the Members, must include the proposal itself, the names and signatures of at least 5% of the voting Members, and, optionally, a statement of support for the proposal (consisting of fewer than 200 words). A Member Proposal may not be substantially similar to Member Proposal that was proposed at a meeting of the Members in the past two calendar years.
- 9.3. A Parliamentary and Rules Committee will be struck no less than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting whose function will be to clarify motions prior to the distribution of motions to the voting delegates.
- 9.4. By-laws amendments take effect when the bylaw alteration application is filed with BC Registry Services.

## **PART 10 - PERMANENT EMPLOYEES**

- 10.1. The President may appoint any paid employee with the approval of the Directors and any employee so appointed shall be paid a salary approved and determined by the Directors. The employee(s) will be directly responsible to the President of the Society, or designate.
- 10.2. Employees of the Society shall not be a Director and may not be granted a vote at meetings of the Members or meetings of the Board.

## **PART 11 - LOGOS, TRADEMARKS AND PUBLICATIONS**

- 11.1. No one is allowed to use the Society's name or logo, conduct activities under the auspices of the Society, or represent themselves or their endeavors or goods under the auspices of the Board.

## **PART 12 – DISSOLUTION**

- 12.1. In the event of winding up or dissolution of the Society, the liquidators appointed shall cause all assets of the Society available for distribution to be transferred to an organization or organization, situated in British Columbia and devoted to the advancement of similar or like objects as this Society. Such organization shall be chosen by majority vote of the members attending the first meeting called by the liquidators.

## PART 13 – INDEMNIFICATION

- 13.1. **Will Indemnify** – The Society will indemnify and hold harmless out of the funds of the Society each Director, the Senior Manager, and any individual who acts at the Society's request in a similar capacity, their heirs, executors and administrators from and against any and all claims, charges, expenses, demands, actions or costs, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, which may arise or be incurred as a result of occupying the position or performing the duties of a Director or and any individual who acts at the Society's request in a similar capacity.
- 13.2. **Will Not Indemnify** – The Society will not indemnify a Director or any individual who acts at the Society's request in a similar capacity for acts of fraud, dishonesty, bad faith, breach of statutory duty or responsibility imposed upon him or her under the Act. For further clarity, the Society will not indemnify an individual unless:
- a. The individual acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Society, and
  - b. If the matter is a criminal or administrative proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, the individual had reasonable grounds for believing that his or her conduct was lawful.
- 13.1. **Insurance** – The Society will, at times, maintain in force Directors and Officers liability insurance.







# Special Operating Rules

*The Special Operating Rules of Softball BC describe how Softball BC operates as an amateur sports association, and governs softball in BC. It also identifies exceptions to Softball Canada Rules that apply to softball in BC.*

## ARTICLE 1 – DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. **ASSOCIATION & LEAGUE** – Associations register teams with Softball BC, and Leagues are three or more teams of the same category/classification that play scheduled games. Some entities are one and not the other, and some are both. A league that includes Softball BC Registered teams is considered affiliated with Softball BC and subject to these SOR. Any Association that registers one team with Softball BC must register all teams with Softball BC for any team in that Association to be eligible for Provincial Championships.
- 1.2. **CATEGORY** – i.e. U13, U17, U20, Men and Women etc.
- 1.3. **CLASSIFICATION** – i.e. A, B, C, D, R, etc.
- 1.4. **HANDBOOK** – Softball BC Constitution and Operating Rules Handbook.
- 1.5. **ROSTER FORM** – the approved Team Roster from Softball BC's Registration system.
- 1.6. **RULE CHANGE** – All Softball BC Rule Changes resulting from a Softball Canada rule change being used for a one year trial, subject to permanent approval of the Softball BC Board of Directors.
- 1.7. **SOFTBALL BC** – The BC Amateur Softball Association (BCASA)
- 1.8. **SOFTBALL CANADA** – The Canadian Amateur Softball Association (CASA)

## ARTICLE 2 – RESIDENCE RULE

- 2.1. **RESIDENCY:** To participate in a Provincial Championship, a player, coach or manager on May 1 of the current year must be a BC resident and:
- 2.1.1. CANADIAN CITIZEN, or
  - 2.1.2. CANADIAN LANDED IMMIGRANT or
  - 2.1.3. RESIDENT OF CANADA for one calendar year.
  - 2.1.4. EXCEPTIONS:
    - 2.1.4.1. MINOR PLAYERS Minor players, coaches or managers who are:
      - ii. In BC on a work or study visa
      - iii. attending school out of province whose parents are BC Residents on May 1
    - 2.1.4.2. NON-BC COMPETITION Canadian citizens participating in American college softball competition or in a professional sport competition (other than softball or baseball) are exempted from the May 1st residency requirement if they return to Canada immediately after the event.
    - 2.1.4.3. Men's and Women's A FP ONLY up to two (2) players, - who are Canadian citizens living outside of BC and/or Canada who return to BC and/or Canada after the official residence date and register for softball participation by the Provincial roster deadline date. NOTE: (Men's and Women's A FP ONLY) - Only one of these two players can be a pitcher.

## ARTICLE 3 – AMATEUR

- 3.1. **AMATEUR:** An amateur softball player is one who engages in softball solely for the pleasure and physical, mental or social benefits he/she derives, as defined by Softball Canada. Notwithstanding, a player may, without jeopardy to their amateur status receive recompense for bona fide expenses actually incurred because of their SOFTBALL participation for travel, meals, accommodation and/or income lost due to absence from employment (substantiated by genuine receipts – to be produced on demand when requested by duly responsible and authorized Softball Canada or Softball BC officers having deemed necessary by the officials concerned.)

NOTE: Show teams (i.e. King and His Court) are not considered as a professional team.

### 3.2. REINSTATEMENT TO AMATEUR STATUS

- 3.2.1. **ELIGIBILITY** A professional softball/baseball player, regardless of age, may apply for reinstatement as an amateur in the following year from the last game of the league schedule in which they participated.
- 3.2.2. **APPLY TO SOFTBALL BC** A player must apply to the Softball BC office in writing for approval.
- 3.2.3. **EFFECTIVE DATE** The amateur reinstatement request must be made by May 15th of the current year.
- 3.2.4. **INELIGIBLE** A player who is reinstated as an amateur and then returns to a known, established professional softball/baseball team/league in the current playing year will not be eligible for amateur status in the following two years from the date of application.

## ARTICLE 4 – DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 4.1. **DISCIPLINARY ACTION** shall be to further the interests of softball.
- 4.1.1. **AUTHORITY** Disciplinary action may be taken against any member by:
- a. an affiliated Association/League
    - i) This will only affect a member's eligibility to participate in games against other teams belonging to the Association/League.
    - ii) Suspensions issued by Association/Leagues shall not exceed one year. A detailed written or electronic report of any suspension exceeding 30 days must be submitted to the Softball BC office.
  - b. any member of the Board of Directors;
- 4.1.2. **GROUND**S Conduct of a member that might reasonably lead to disciplinary action includes (the list is not exhaustive):
- 4.1.2.1. Verbally and/or physically abusing an umpire or other member;
  - 4.1.2.2. Knowingly playing with or against a suspended coach, player or team;
  - 4.1.2.3. Knowingly playing an ineligible player;
  - 4.1.2.4. Misconduct in hotels, restaurants, and/or drinking establishments while attending exhibition, league, playoff, tournament, Provincial Championship and extra-Provincial Championship events;
  - 4.1.2.5. Not returning uniforms or equipment to teams, Associations or leagues within a reasonable time after being requested to do so;
  - 4.1.2.6. Competing under an assumed name;
  - 4.1.2.7. Committing fraud involving the game of softball;
  - 4.1.2.8. Violating the Constitution, By-Laws and/or Operating Rules of an affiliated Association, League or Softball BC;
- 4.1.3. **NOTIFICATION** of disciplinary action shall be delivered to the member and copied to the member's team and Association/League in writing or electronic form.

- 4.1.4. PRO TEM (interim) suspensions of less than 31 days may be issued, in writing by priority courier, or in person in exceptional circumstances (i.e. flagrant abuse (verbal or physical) of an umpire, player, fan or official; criminal or civil misbehaviour; gross misconduct relating to, and/or defiance of, established Special Operating Rules):
- Upon agreement between the appropriate District Umpire-in-Chief and District Coordinator;
  - In the case of Provincial Championship, by the Board Member, or their designate in charge of the Championship.
- 4.1.5. EXPIRY Disciplinary actions, including Pro tem suspensions, shall be deemed to have expired 31 days after they have been issued at 2400H, however further disciplinary action could be imposed in accordance with Article 4.1.
- 4.1.6. INVESTIGATION barring exceptional circumstances, a full investigation, in adherence with the principles of “Natural Justice”, shall be undertaken before any disciplinary action is taken. Where a Pro tem suspension is issued, such an investigation shall be commenced as soon as possible and ratified, revoked or revised where the investigation results deem it appropriate.
- 4.1.7. SUBJECT TO APPEAL Disciplinary action may be appealed as provided in Article 5.
- 4.1.8. NOT IN GOOD STANDING When a member is suspended according to Article 4.1, they shall be considered a member not in good standing with Softball BC and lose all rights granted to a member in good standing. If they are found to have had contact with any member of their team or executive, they may be subject to further disciplinary action.
- 4.1.9. POSTING When a member is suspended, they will have their name posted on the Softball BC website until the conclusion of the suspension. The information will include the reason for suspension and the length of the suspension. The notice of suspension, if not for bad debt, will also be forwarded to Softball Canada with a request that it be forwarded to the ASA and its affiliates, as well as all Provincial/Territorial associations.



## ARTICLE 5 - APPEALS

### 5.1. SUBJECT TO APPEAL

- 5.1.1. DISCIPLINARY action issued pursuant to Article 4
- 5.1.2. NON-DISCIPLINARY action the appellant feels is an unjust decision set down by their ruling executive, District Coordinator, or a member of the Board of Directors of Softball BC
- 5.1.3. PLAY-RELATED Rulings related to play will be appealed per Softball Canada Rules.

### 5.2. APPEAL REQUIREMENTS

5.2.1. Both DISCIPLINARY and NON-DISCIPLINARY APPEALS TO THE Softball BC Appeal Committee must be:

- a. initiated by verbal notice that must reach the Softball BC office within 72 hours of the date of decision; and
- b. followed by written or electronic notice of appeal, postmarked or delivered to Softball BC within 14 days of notification of the applicable action. A \$250.00 cash deposit or alternative in a form acceptable to Softball BC, must accompany the notice (Note: Start of the appeal period is the date when the decision being appealed is delivered formally).

#### 5.2.2. NON-DISCIPLINARY

- 5.2.2.1. Before a Non-disciplinary appeal will be considered by the Softball BC Appeal Committee, an Appeal must first be submitted in writing or electronic form to the appropriate level as outlined below and dealt with at that level, and where necessary, each succedent level.
  - a. ASSOCIATION LEVEL where the Association or League has rendered the decision, to the appropriate District Coordinator or District U.I.C.;
  - b. DISTRICT LEVEL where the District Coordinator or District U.I.C has rendered the decision, to the appropriate Director or Provincial U.I.C.;
  - c. SOFTBALL BC LEVEL where a Softball BC Director or Provincial U.I.C. has rendered the decision, to Appeal to a Softball BC Appeal Committee;
  - d. CONFLICT the President of Softball BC may direct it to the next appropriate level or directly to an Appeal Committee where there is a level conflict.

### 5.2.3. CONTENT OF APPEAL NOTICE:

- a. Name, address and phone number of appellant;
- b. Names of parent Association and/or League and team to which appellant is affiliated;
- c. Grounds for Appeal;
- d. A detailed outline of the circumstances in question which shall contain detailed supporting documentation and witness statements if available, and may contain character references.

### 5.3. **APPEAL OF PRO TEM**

Suspension shall be reviewed by the President of Softball BC, to determine if the correct protocol has been followed in issuance of the Pro tem suspension, who shall direct or conduct an investigation and shall issue a timely and reasonable ruling or the vice president, if the president has issued the pro tem.

### 5.4. **APPEAL COMMITTEE**

Any member of Softball BC in good standing may be appointed to an Appeal Committee. The Chair of the Committee shall be a Director appointed by the President, and the other members of the committee shall be appointed by or on behalf of the President through the chair of the Committee and shall reflect the make-up of the membership. It is recommended, but not compulsory, that each appointed Committee have five members, but must have at least three members.

5.4.1. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST** No persons shall participate in adjudicating an appeal where they were:

- a. **PARTICIPANT** a significant participant in the decision being appealed
- b. **WITNESS** a potential witness in the matter under consideration.

5.4.2. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION** should a conflict become evident, the President of Softball BC may designate a replacement to ensure that a fair and impartial appellate decision will be made.

### 5.5. **APPEALS INVESTIGATION**

An appeal investigation procedure shall be determined by the President guided by this section.

5.5.1. **PRELIMINARY RULING** When an appeal has been received by Softball BC, the President or the chair of the Appeal Committee shall, within 5 days, advise the appellant that:

- a. further elaboration is necessary before consideration can be given to the Notice of Appeal where it is found the material provided is insufficient or lacking:



- b. the basis of the appeal is vexatious or without foundation, and will not be considered by Softball BC
- c. the Notice of Appeal is approved for investigation and deliberation by the President

5.5.2. **PROCESS** The appeal process may involve:

- a. An inquiry through a collaboration of witness statements, reports and other evidence, which may or may not include an interview of the appellant by one or more Appeal Committee members;
- b. an oral hearing pursuant to Article 5.6 where witnesses and/or the appellant shall appear in person before the Appeal Committee, or:
- c. both an inquiry and an oral hearing.

5.6. **HEARING**

Hearing procedure shall be determined by the Appeal Committee Chair, or in the case of a Pro tem Suspension appeal, by the President.

5.6.1. **OPEN OR CLOSED** The procedure may involve an open session where all parties may be present during the hearing, or may involve a closed session where each witness, appellant or respondent may come before the committee independently.

5.6.2. **NOTIFICATION** The Appeal Committee shall ensure that the appellant, respondent and witnesses are notified in writing or electronic form of the date, time and place of the hearing. Normally two clear days prior to the hearing will constitute sufficient notice.

5.6.3. **SUPPORT** In addition to witnesses summoned by the Appeal Committee, the appellant and the respondent shall be entitled to include one supporting person per party who may speak at the hearing.

5.6.4. **INTERESTED PERSONS** Any other interested person wishing to attend may do so, bearing in mind that the hearing process may include a closed session pursuant to Article 5.6(a). Any person so attending may, at the discretion of the Chair, address the Appeal Committee.

5.6.5. **FAILURE TO APPEAR** Failure of an appellant, respondent or witness to appear for a hearing when it is confirmed they have been properly notified, shall not prevent the Appeal Committee from proceeding to adjudicate the issue.

### 5.7. **ONUS ON APPELLANT**

The onus shall rest with the appellant to convince the Appeal Committee that a wrong or unjust decision was set down by their ruling executive, District Coordinator or members of the Board of Directors. After completion of an investigation and deliberation, an appeal shall only be considered successful, in whole or in part, where a majority of the Appeal Committee find for the appellant.

### 5.8. **DECISION**

5.8.1. Following completion of the investigation and/or oral hearing process, the Appeal Committee shall deliberate the issue and render a decision. The Appeal Committee may:

- i. Vacate the decision, or
- ii. Uphold the decision, or
- iii. Vary the decision.

5.8.2. A WRITTEN DECISION shall be rendered by the Appeal Committee, or in the case of a Pro tem Suspension appeal, by the President, and shall be mailed to the appellant and aggrieved parties postmarked within 5 days of the conclusion of the hearing, or delivered electronically, if applicable.

5.8.3. SUCCESSFUL APPEAL Where an appeal is successful in whole or in part, the \$250 deposit shall be returned to the appellant.

5.8.4. FINAL Decisions of the Appeal Committee, or the President in the case of a Pro tem Suspension appeal, shall be conclusive and not subject to further appeal.

5.8.5. APPLICATION TO THE COURTS Any member who fails to exhaust the appeal procedures provided herein prior to resorting to external legal remedies shall be subject to further disciplinary action at the discretion of the majority of the Appeal Committee.

5.8.6. JURISDICTION Softball Canada may be requested to enforce any disciplinary action taken by the Association throughout Softball Canada's jurisdiction.

### 5.9. **FORFEIT RIGHT TO APPEAL**

Any member who does not follow these procedures, and contacts multiple members of the Board directly, shall forfeit their right to an appeal.

## ARTICLE 6 – TRAVEL PERMITS

- 6.1. **REQUIRED:** To play or officiate softball outside of BC, travel permits must be obtained from Softball BC by affiliated players, and umpires.
- 6.2. **NOT REQUIRED:** Travel permits are not necessary to travel to events within BC.

## **ARTICLE 7 - MINOR FASTPITCH RULES U9, U11, U13C (BOYS AND GIRLS) DOES NOT APPLY TO U13A OR U13B**

Softball Canada has a plan to systematically develop players once they enter the sport up until they reach their full potential. This process is called Long-Term Player Development (LTPD). The LTPD guidelines are an important step in aligning player development and program development across the country and our province, at all levels and for all ages. Softball BC's minor softball rules follow the guidelines of the LTPD model and the Athlete Development Matrix set out by Softball Canada. These rules are guidelines for U9, U11 and U13C.

*In addition to any other rules in the handbook, the following rules also apply to U9 to U13C.*

<b>RULE</b>	<b>U9</b>	<b>U11</b>	<b>U13</b>
<b>Rule 2 – The Playing Field</b>			
<b>Base Path Distance</b>			
45' (Softball Canada Standard)	✓	✓	
55' (Softball Canada Standard)			✓
<b>Pitching Distance</b>			
30' (Softball Canada Standard)	✓		
35' (Softball Canada Standard)		✓	
38' (Softball Canada Standard)			✓
Note: If coach pitcher, the defensive pitcher should stand at the minimum pitching distance listed above and no closer.			
<b>Rule 3 – Equipment</b>			
<b>Ball</b>			
11" indoor ball		✓	
11" ball (COR .47)			✓
<b>Helmet</b>			
All batters will wear a batting helmet with cage with strap done up while at bat and on base.	✓	✓	
All batters will wear a batting helmet with cage while at bat and on base.			✓

RULE	U9	U11	U13
<b>Defensive Face Mask</b>			
Mandatory for all pitchers.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rule 4 – Coaches, Players and Substitutes</b>			
<b>Coaches</b>			
Offensive and defensive coaches are permitted to coach on the field in fair territory.	✓		
<b>Players - Number of Players</b>			
Recommended maximum of 8-9 players on a team.	✓		
Recommended 6-7 players on the field¹	✓		
Must start the game with 9 players but may go down to 8 players due to injury.		✓	✓
When playing with less than the maximum number of players, there are no automatic outs.		✓	✓
If a player arrives late, they may be added to the bottom of the lineup.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Substitutes</b>			
Unlimited defensive substitutions.	✓	✓	✓

RULE	U9	U11	U13
<b>Temporary Runner</b>			
A coach may use a courtesy runner for the catcher to allow that catcher to suit up for the next half inning.	✓	✓	
A player who may run for the catcher of record from the previous defensive inning and who is now on base with two out. The temporary runner must be: 1. Currently in the batting order. 2. The person in the batting order who is furthest from coming to bat and who is not on base.			✓
<b>Playing Time</b>			
No player is to sit more than one consecutive inning <sup>2</sup> (pitchers warming up to enter the game are not considered to be sitting).	✓	✓	✓
A player cannot play the same position for more than 1 inning a game.	✓		
A player cannot play the same position for more than 2 innings a game.		✓	
A player cannot play the same position for more than 2 consecutive innings (except pitchers).			✓
A player cannot play in the same position more than 3 innings per game (except pitchers).			✓
Each player must play an infield and outfield position in a game.		✓	
Each player must play multiple positions in a game.			✓
Coaches are encouraged to play all players as equally as possible over the course of the season.	✓	✓	✓

RULE	U9	U11	U13
<b>Rule 5 – The Game</b>			
<b>Regulation Game</b>			
A new inning will not start after 1 hour 15 minutes after the scheduled start time.	✓		
A new inning will not start after 1 hour 30 minutes after the scheduled start time.		✓	✓
In case of weather or cancellation of a game by an official and when two innings have been completed, the score of the game will revert to the last fully completed inning.		✓	✓
<b>Run Ahead Rule</b>			
If any team is ahead by fifteen runs or more after three innings, or any inning thereafter, the game will be called. If any team is ahead by ten runs or more after five innings (4 ½ if Home Team), or any inning thereafter, the game will be called.		✓	
A Run Ahead Rule shall result in the conclusion of the game when after 2 ½, 3, 3 ½, or 4 complete innings of play a 10 run mercy rule will be in effect.			✓
<b>Run Limit Per Inning</b>			
Maximum of 3 runs per half inning for all innings of the game.	✓		
Maximum of 4 runs per half inning for all innings of the game.		✓	
Maximum of 5 runs per half inning for all games.			✓



<b>RULE</b>	<b>U9</b>	<b>U11</b>	<b>U13</b>
<b>Charged Conferences</b>			
A team is permitted three offensive conferences per inning.		✓	
A team is permitted two offensive conferences per inning.			✓
A team is permitted two defensive conferences per inning. With the third conference, the pitcher must be removed from the pitcher position for the balance of the inning.		✓	✓
<b>Rule 6 – Pitching Regulations</b>			
<b>Pitching</b>			
Coach pitcher – 5 pitches. If they haven't hit after 5 pitches, they are given first base.	✓		
First half of the season: Player pitching to opposing team until the batter receives a 4th ball, which would normally result in a walk. This is where the game changes. After the 4th ball, the batter will have a count against them. It will either be 4 balls (0 strikes 4-0), 4-1 or 4-2. The hitter's coach or designate from offensive team, will now come in and pitch to their own batter and carry out the count. Now a 5th ball will be a walk and 3rd strike is still an out.		✓	
Last half of season: Player pitch – normal count. After 3 strikes, batter out. After 4 balls, batter walks.		✓	
Player pitch – normal count. After 3 strikes, batter out. After 4 balls, batter walks.			✓
<b>Pitching Limitations</b>			
A pitcher is allowed to pitch a maximum of two innings. One pitch equals one inning.		✓	
A pitcher is allowed to pitch a maximum of four innings. One pitch equals one inning.			✓
Pitching limitation rule is suspended in extra innings or international rule.			✓

RULE	U9	U11	U13
<b>Hit Batters</b>			
If the same pitcher hits two batters in an inning, the coach should consider removing the pitcher for the remainder of that inning.		✓	
<b>Walks</b>			
Walks are allowed.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Intentional Walks</b>			
There are no intentional walks.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rule 7 – Batting</b>			
<b>Number of Batters</b>			
All players bat. All eligible players will appear on the batting order (whether they are in the field defensively or not).	✓	✓	✓
<b>Late Players</b>			
Players who arrive after the start of the game will be placed last in the batting order and bat their turn.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Bunting</b>			
Bunting is permitted.		✓	✓
Slapping is not permitted.	✓	✓	

<b>RULE</b>	<b>U9</b>	<b>U11</b>	<b>U13</b>
<b>Rule 8 – Batter-Runner &amp; Runner</b>			
<b>Third Strike Rule</b>			
Third strike rule is not in effect.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Infield Fly Rule</b>			
Infield fly rule is not in effect.	✓	✓	✓
<b>Stealing</b>			
Base runner cannot steal bases; runner can only run when the batter makes contact (no stealing).	✓		
Base runners may steal on any legally pitched ball when it has left the pitchers hand.		✓	✓
A player can only advance one base on a steal attempt.		✓	
A player can advance two bases on a steal attempt.			✓
A player cannot advance to home on a steal, passed ball, or wild pitch. The player must be batted in or forced home by a walk or is part of a continuation of a play (i.e. overthrow).		✓	
<b>Lead Offs</b>			
Runners may leave the base when the ball has left the pitchers hand. Runner will be called out for leaving early.		✓	✓
<b>Sliding</b>			
Sliding is allowed.	✓	✓	✓

RULE	U9	U11	U13
<b>Base Runner Advancement</b>			
Following a fair hit ball, runners may only advance a maximum of two bases.	✓		
Following a fair hit ball, the advancing of runners is considered 'over' when the ball is returned to a player in the infield (inside the base paths or on a base). Runners may continue to the base they are heading to but the fielders may attempt to throw/tag the runner out.		✓	
<b>Overthrows</b>			
Runners do not advance on an overthrow.	✓		
Runners may advance one base on an overthrow and do so at the risk of being thrown/tagged out. Runner cannot advance an additional base if two consecutive overthrows are made in the same play.		✓	
Runner may advance one base on an overthrow and do so at the risk of being thrown/tagged out. Runner may try to advance one base per overthrow if consecutive overthrows are made in the same play to a maximum of two throws <sup>3</sup>			✓
<b>Rule 9 – Dead Ball–Ball in Play</b>			
First base will not be awarded for being hit by a pitch from a coach-pitcher.	✓		
First base is awarded for being hit by a pitch from a player-pitcher.		✓	✓
<b>Rule 11 – Protests</b>			
There are no protests or appeals.	✓		
There are no protests but appeals are allowed.		✓	✓
Protests are permitted at Districts and Provincials only.			✓

RULE	U9	U11	U13
<b>Rule 12 – Scoring</b>			
<b>Scores &amp; Standings</b>			
Score and standing will not be kept as emphasis is on player and team skill development.	✓	✓	✓
Score and standings can be kept.			

## BEST PRACTICES:

<sup>1</sup>Number of players on the field could depend on several factors. Teams may choose not to have a player in the catching position or in the outfield. Instead, extra players can be on the side lines participating in one or two skill stations while their team is on defense. Teams may also choose to have extra players on the side lines practicing pitching with a parent or coach while their team is on defense. Coaches with larger teams are encouraged to find creative ways to engage their players in additional skill practice instead of placing additional players in the outfield at this level.

<sup>2</sup>Coaches should try to ensure that every player sits out one inning before any player sits out two innings.

## CLARIFICATIONS:

<sup>3</sup>For example: A player cannot get a homerun on a bunt. If a batter bunts a ball and an overthrow occurs at first, the batter may try to advance to second at their own risk. If there is then an overthrow at second base, the batter-runner may try to advance to third base at their own risk. If there is a subsequent overthrow at third base, the batter-runner will hold at third base.

## RESOURCES:

### U7 Timbits Softball

- refer to the Timbits Softball program manual which can be ordered from Softball BC
- more information about Timbits softball can be found at [softball.bc.ca/content/timbits-softball](https://softball.bc.ca/content/timbits-softball) and [softball.ca/programs/timbitssoftball](https://softball.ca/programs/timbitssoftball)

### Long-Term Player Development (LTPD)

- more information about the LTPD can be found at [softball.bc.ca/content/long-term-player-development](https://softball.bc.ca/content/long-term-player-development) and [softball.ca/ltpd](https://softball.ca/ltpd)

### Athlete Development Matrix (ADM)

- more information about the ADM can be found at [softball.bc.ca/content/long-term-player-development](https://softball.bc.ca/content/long-term-player-development) and [softball.ca/ltpd/adm](https://softball.ca/ltpd/adm)

## ARTICLE 8 – MINOR GIRLS FASTPITCH

### 8.1. MINOR GIRLS – DEFINITIONS

- 8.1.1. ALL STAR TEAM – Team(s) formed of outstanding players chosen from two or more teams playing in an association/league, to compete in a Provincial Championship, is not allowed. EXCEPTIONS: Article 8.3.2.1) and Article 8.3.6.7)
- 8.1.2. BATS – Devices including attachments to otherwise official bats, as commercially manufactured and marketed specifically for use by amputee or physically challenged players, and which do not impose an impractical or unreasonable hazard to any participant engaged in the game, will be allowed.
- 8.1.3. BATTING POSITION – A player may touch the lines of the batter's box, but no part of the feet may be outside of the lines prior to the pitch.
- 8.1.4. CHARGED CONFERENCE (Defensive and Offensive) – the defensive conference rule regarding' to pitchers and the offensive conference rule are both waived for the U13 and below categories.
- 8.1.5. DESIGNATED PLAYER – the designated player rule is in effect for U15 and above categories.

#### 8.1.6. DOUBLE BASE

- a. The Batter-running is subject to the following:
  - A batted ball hitting the fair portion is declared fair and a batted ball hitting the foul portion only is declared foul.
  - A defensive player must use only the fair portion of the base at all times, except on any live ball play made from first base foul territory. The batter-runner and the defensive player may use either portion of the double base. When the defensive player uses the foul portion of the double base, the batter-runner can run in fair territory, and if hit by a throw from the foul side of first base it would not be interference. If intentional interference is ruled, the batter-runner would be out. The one-meter line is duplicated on either side of the foul line on throws from foul territory.

- 8.1.7. DROPPED THIRD STRIKE – in U13B & C and under categories the batter is out on the third strike, whether or not the ball is caught. The ball remains alive.

- 8.1.8. **ELECTRONIC DEVICES** –including mobile phones, tablets, earpieces, smart watches and cameras may not be used on the field of play except in the following circumstances:
- By or under the supervision of a coach for purposes of stats, scorekeeping, and music.
  - By a coach for purposes of tracking time.
  - In no circumstances may electronic devices be used for purposes of communication amongst participants or between participants and spectators or others outside the game.
- 8.1.9. **FOOTWEAR** – players may choose to wear metal cleats beginning in the U15A, U15B, U17A, U17B, U19A, U19B age categories and classifications. Not C players, U13A or U13B.
- 8.1.10. **HELMETS – BATTING**: an approved helmet shall be one that is fully enclosed, with two ear flaps, a foam liner, and a peak. For U17 and below, all on-deck batters, batters and baserunners must have an attached face mask.
- 8.1.11. **HELMETS & MASKS (Catchers)** – Minor catchers must wear a regulation helmet and mask and/or approved equipment.
- 8.1.12. **HOME PLATE** – the distance from the plate to the backstop shall be between 17 feet, and 25 feet.
- 8.1.13. **INFIELD FLY** – the Infield Fly rule does not apply to U9, U11 and U13. Does apply to U15 and up.
- 8.1.14. **LEAGUE** – three teams of the same classification ('A', 'B', 'C').
- 8.1.15. **MINOR APPRENTICE COACH** – a Registered Minor Player that will help to coach in categories below their own. Apprentice Coaches are approved before Rosters are submitted, through an application.
- 8.1.16. **CLASSIFICATIONS**: Minor Teams are classified as Rep (further classified as A or B) or Community (classified as C).
- 8.1.17. **REPLACEMENT PLAYER** – A player picked up to replace a player not able to attend/participate with her team at the U13C Girls Regional Championships.
- 8.1.18. **RETURNING PLAYER**:
- players registered on a team in the previous year and
  - pick-ups used by the team in Provincial, Western Canadian Championships and Canadian Championships in the prior year.
- 8.1.19. **MALE PLAYER** – a minor male player may play in the girl's program at LTP up to and including U15C. The U15C category will be permitted to have up to 2 male players on a girls' team. LTP to U13C categories, no limit to the number of boys on a girl's teams.

8.1.20. **START TIME** – Time will start after the first warm up pitch, and a new inning is deemed to start on the umpire's "out" call of the third out on the home team.

- a. U19A, U17A, U19B, U17B: none
- b. U20C, U17C, U15A, U15B: no new inning after 90 minutes. No time limit will be in effect for all medal games.
- c. All other classifications/categories: no new inning after 90 minutes. No time limit will be in effect for the Gold Pool, Gold Medal Game only.

8.1.21. **PICK-UP PLAYER** – The temporary addition of a player rostered on another team. Any coach picking up a player from another team must first obtain permission in writing (including electronic communications) from the player's coach.

8.1.22. **MAXIMUM 20 GAMES** – A team may not pick up the same player for more than 20 combined games as a pick-up player where that SBBC team registers at a higher classification and/or category. Playing in more than 20 combined games will result in the player being ineligible to participate in a SBBC District Playdown tournament, a SBBC Provincial Championship and a Canadian Championship. A waiver may be applied for by the player contacting the minor Director in writing to request permission. The waiver will be determined at the Minor Director's sole discretion. Number of games calculation will be from March 1st to June 15th of the playing season. It will include all tournament, exhibition and regular season games, both in and out of province.

8.1.23. **PARTICIPATION** – This definition applies to games played using the batting order modification described in Section 8.7.9.1. All players on the entry roster shall receive a minimum of 2 defensive innings in the first 4 innings of the games unless injured or unavailable.



## 8.2. 8.2. MINOR STRUCTURE

- 8.2.1. U11 Community teams will be classified as C. U11 Category Teams classified as Rep will not be further subdivided into A or B Classifications.
- 8.2.2. For all other Minor Categories, teams will be classified as follows:
  - a. A Classification: Rep Classification open to all teams, with the intent that this classification includes the most competitive teams in the Category.
  - b. B Classification: Rep Classification for teams not competing in the A Classification, subject to a Classification Review by the Minor Coordinator
  - c. C Classification: Community Classification open to teams of novice or recreational players.
    - i. Tryouts are not allowed for teams in the C Classification.
    - ii. The 'C' Provincial Championships, U13C Regional Championships and U11 Celebrations of Softball will emphasize participation and fun.
  - d. The District Minor Coordinator has the obligation and responsibility to ensure that teams are properly classified within his or her District. For any team in question, the District Minor Coordinator shall provide the Minor Director with the results of a thorough investigation and a recommendation to reclassify or not. The Minor Director shall decide and inform the team and the District Minor Coordinator. Reclassification can be done up to but not including the date of the team's participation in a Provincial Championship.

## 8.3. REGISTRATION

- 8.3.1. RECOGNIZED MINOR ASSOCIATION is an association that had minor teams registered with Softball B.C. in the prior year. An organization wanting to become a new Recognized Minor Association must apply to the Softball BC Board of Directors, setting out why their organization becoming a new Recognized Minor Association is to the betterment of softball in their District and the Province.

Where an organization applies to become a new Recognized Minor Association, the existing Recognized Minor Associations within their District will be given the opportunity to make submissions to the Board on the application, and the Board shall consider such submissions in making its decision.

8.3.2. REGISTERED MINOR PLAYER is on a Team Roster approved by their District Minor Coordinator. This affiliation concludes when the teams in their category/classification have completed competition at the Provincial, Western Canadian or Canadian Championship level.

8.3.2.1. A minor player may not appear on more than one Approved Roster. EFFECT: They are ineligible for either team, and ineligible to participate on any team in District, Provincial or extra-Provincial events. EXCEPTION: Players may register with two different teams to form a team in a higher classification (example: players from 'C' teams combine to form a 'B' team) but only if there is not a team registered in that classification in the District. This team must be made up of players from at least three teams of a lower classification. A Softball BC registration fee of \$200 will apply.

8.3.2.2. Any coach who allows participation of an ineligible player in District, Provincial or extra-Provincial events may be disciplined.

8.3.2.3. Release/Abandon: No player shall be released from a team or abandon a team within an Association once the player has registered with the Association, paid their registration fees to the Association and has been placed on a team for that current season by the Association. The player must play for this Association for the current season and is not permitted to switch associations and teams during the season. A release from an Association's team shall only be considered if:

- a. A written release request is received by the Association from the player explaining the reasons for the release request.
- b. The players team will not be jeopardized or put into a position of collapse due to the loss of the player.
- c. The District Minor Coordinator and Minor Director mutually agree that under exceptional circumstances a release and/or transfer is in the best interest of the player and the programs of Softball BC.

8.3.2.4. Release: The discharge of a player already approved to a Softball BC Team Registration Form in the current year. A release shall only be considered if:

- a. A written request is received from a player, as confirmed by the player's coach, by the District Minor Coordinator seven (7) clear days prior to any District playdown affecting the team in which a player wishes to be released from, and from the team the player wishes to transfer to, and;
- b. The coach mutually agrees to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form, and;
- c. A coach from any other team in the District mutually agrees to accept the player's registration on their team without affecting the registration of any other player already signed with the team and;
- d. The District Minor Coordinator and Minor Director mutually agree that under exceptional circumstances a release and/or transfer is in the best interest of the player and the programs of Softball BC

8.3.2.5. Any Minor player considered ineligible pursuant to these rules may be disciplined.

8.3.3. REGISTERED MINOR TEAM is registered on the date when the Roster Form is uploaded by the coach or a representative of a Recognized Association has been approved by the District Minor Coordinator, or the Final Registration Deadline, whichever is first.

#### 8.3.4. MINOR REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

- 8.3.4.1. 'A' team Rosters must be uploaded and marked confirmed by the registrar by May 1st of the current year. Additions/deletions under the extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 1st of the current year. After June 1st, only the Minor Director may authorize additions/deletions to an approved roster.
- 8.3.4.2. All "B" classification team rosters and Executive rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed May 15th of the current year. All "C" classification team rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed by May 31st of the current year. Additions/deletions under extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 5th of the current year. After June 5th, only the Minor Director may authorize additions/deletions to an approved roster.
- 8.3.4.3. Changes after the deadline must be approved by the Minor Director. Such changes shall be processed by the Softball BC office once per week. Changes will be considered for extreme circumstances only.

#### 8.3.5. TRANSFER: The transfer of a Registered Minor Player from one Softball BC Roster Form to another. Only considered if:

- a. A written request is received from a player, approved by the player's coach and the District Minor Coordinator at least seven days prior to District playdown affecting either team; and
- b. The coach agrees; and
- c. A coach from another team in the District agrees to accept the player's registration on their team without affecting the registration of any other Registered Minor Player already on that team; and
- d. The District Minor Coordinator(s) and Minor Director agree that exceptional circumstances mean that a transfer is in the best interest of the player and the programs of Softball BC

### 8.3.6. TEAM

- 8.3.6.1. Maximum Players:  
For teams U17 and under, maximum of 15 players.  
For U19 A & B and U20C teams, maximum of 17 players.  
Exceptions may be granted under extraordinary circumstances with the approval of the District Minor Coordinator and the Minor Director.
- 8.3.6.2. Coaches:  
Five (5) coaches plus one Approved Minor Apprentice Coach paired with the rostered Mentor Coach.
- 8.3.6.3. Minimum nine players in U13 or above.
- 8.3.6.4. Teams registered must have an appropriate NCCP level coach listed on the Softball BC Team Registration form at the time of registration with Softball BC unless an exemption is granted due to reclassification. Failure to do so will make the team ineligible for participation in any Softball BC Provincial Championship.

Teams that are eligible to participate in District Playdowns or the U13 Regional Championship, U11C Celebration of Softball, U11 Rep or a Provincial must have a minimum of two (2) coaches registered with the team. Only one (1) needs to be certified.

- 8.3.6.5. Adult coaches or non-playing coaches may register on and participate with multiple Minor teams in a given year.
- 8.3.6.6. When Roster Forms are submitted, they must be classified ('A', 'B', or 'C'). Teams may not change category or classification unless reclassified by the Minor Director.
- 8.3.6.7. Any District with 60 or fewer players registered in a category may form a combined 'C' team for District and Provincial Championships but this team may not pick-up players.

The team must submit an appropriate roster for approval prior to attending the Provincial Championship.

- 8.3.6.8. Where an affiliated league of the appropriate category and classification exists in the geographical area where a minor team is registered, and that team elects to participate in a league of a higher category and classification, after four or more league games in that higher category or classification that team will not be eligible to participate in a District or Provincial Championship in the initial lower classification. Where two teams or less exist, the District Minor Coordinator may grant an exception. In any association where there are not enough teams to form an 'A', 'B' or 'C' classification league, that association may form a combined classification league, without prejudice to participation in Provincial Championships. This rule does not apply to minor teams registered in Men's or Women's programs.
- 8.3.6.9. Where an affiliated league is available with three or more teams in a particular category and classification, and a team elects to participate in a Men's or Women's league, whether or not they participate in a Minor league within the appropriate category or not, the team is not eligible to register in 'C'.
- 8.3.6.10. A team that plays in two affiliated leagues or has two home parks will establish their District of registration by considering:
- Where most home games are played.
  - Where most of the players reside;
  - Whether there is a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District.
- 8.3.6.11. U20C Category & Classification – Exception – A player who was registered on a U19A team in the previous year or was/is a collegiate player will be excluded from eligibility to participate on a U20C team.

#### 8.4. MINOR PLAY IN MEN'S OR WOMEN'S

- 8.4.1. A minor player other than a second year U19A or B player or a second or third year U20C player, may only play with or against Men's or Women's teams as a pickup or registered player with the written consent of the player's parents and the District's Minor Coordinator.

- 8.4.2. In making their decision about whether to permit a Minor player to play with or against Men's or Women's teams, the Minor Coordinator will consider the best interests of the player, the Minor team/association which that player is or would otherwise be registered with, and the Men's or Women's team/association with which they wish to play or register. In undertaking this consideration, the Minor Coordinator will consult with the District's Men's and Women's Coordinator as appropriate.
- 8.4.3. A second year U19A or B player or a second or third year U20C player may register on a Minor team, or on a men's or women's team without needing approval from their District's Minor Coordinator or otherwise.
- 8.4.4. Teams of Minor Players wishing to play league or exhibition games against Men's or Women's teams must have written consent from the Minor Director and the Men's and Women's Director.
- 8.4.5. Any coach, player, team or association permitting a Minor player to participate in practices or games with a Men's or Women's team without having obtained written consent as required by this section may be subject to discipline.

## 8.5. COACHING REQUIREMENTS

- 8.5.1. QUALIFICATION: U13A, U13B, U15C, U17C and U20C – minimum: NCCP *Community – Sport On-Going Participation* with successful completion of *Making Ethical Decisions*.  
 U15A, U15B, U17A, U17B, U19A, U19B – minimum: NCCP *Introduction to Competition training* (i.e., attended Clinic #1 & #2) with successful completion of *Making Ethical Decisions* module.  
*Competition – Introduction – Clinic #1 (In Training)* - 16 hours  
*Competition – Introduction – Clinic #2 (In Training)* - 16 hours  
 Make Ethical Decisions module - online
- 8.5.2. COACH ON FIELD: A qualified NCCP coach must be on the field of play at the District Playdowns and Provincial Championship with the team they are registered with. EFFECT: the team is ineligible without a coach, and the game would be forfeited. EXCEPTIONS:
  - a. Medical emergencies or any unforeseen circumstances deemed so by the Softball BC Board Rep
  - b. The Softball BC Director of Coaching may exempt any coach who, for any unusual or exigent circumstance, may not have achieved the appropriate level prior to a Provincial Championship.

## 8.6. DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

*see also Article 13*

- 8.6.1. RULES: Softball BC rules apply to all play leading to Provincial Championships including District playdowns.
- 8.6.2. DISTRICT MINOR COORDINATOR DUTY A form will be provided for District Coordinators to notify the Softball BC office of his / her District's intent to participate in each category of Provincial Championships. Failure to submit the form prior to the deadline will result in disqualification of that District in further Provincial play.
- 8.6.3. PROVINCIAL 'A' CHAMPIONSHIPS are open to all teams registered in that classification. Any 'A' Championship having eight or more participating teams shall be a three day event.
- 8.6.4. PROVINCIAL 'B' and 'C' CHAMPIONSHIPS shall be open to 16 teams selected in District playdowns. If each District is not represented, the Pro Rata system will be implemented.
- 8.6.5. DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE – Will be:
  - a. Where all associations in the District agree on a format and the District Minor Coordinator agrees, the winner of association or inter-association qualifier competitions.
  - b. Otherwise will be, the winner of a playdown open to qualified district teams.
- 8.6.6. PRO RATA SYSTEM - If a Championship specified to contain 16 teams (one per District plus Host Team) is not filled to 16 teams by District Representation then each District shall be allocated a weighted lottery with each District receiving one opportunity for each team placing second or lower for the Pro rata spot. This determination process will repeat in multiple rounds until all Provincial Championship sports are filled.
- 8.6.7. DISQUALIFIED Teams with six or more returning players from a team that indicated they would attend district playdowns that do not attend Provincials when offered a place, will be disqualified from attending districts or provincials for the next season. Coach or team name change will not be cause for an exemption.
- 8.6.8. DISTRICT PLAYDOWNS
  - 8.6.8.1. District playdowns will be a modified Round Robin or Knockout Championship Draw, as determined by the District Minor Coordinator.
  - 8.6.8.2. The Softball BC Minor Director shall provide the District Minor Coordinators with standard draws for District playdowns.



- 8.6.8.3. Teams not intending to participate in a Provincial Championship may not participate in the related District playdown.
- 8.6.8.4. The Roster Form must be approved by the District Coordinator by the registration date, and available at District playdown.
- 8.6.8.5. Pick ups are not allowed at District playdowns.
- 8.6.8.6. District playdown winners must be declared by the dates set by Softball BC
- 8.6.9. **HOST TEAM** The Host Association of a Provincial Championship shall be allocated a place in the round robin. The Host Team shall be:
  - a. The team designated by the Host Association prior to the playdown, or if not designated prior to the playdown, the Host Association team placing highest in the District playdown.
  - b. Where the Host Team chooses to play in the playdown and places first, the team placing second will be the District representative.
  - c. Where the Host does not have a team registered in the applicable category/classification, or elects not to enter any association team in the Provincial Championship, the Host Team shall be identified as the team placing second at the Host District playdown.
- 8.6.10. **ENTRY** District playdown winners and pro rata teams must confirm their participation to the Softball BC office and the appropriate Tournament Director 15 days prior to the Provincial Championship.
- 8.6.11. **MULTIPLE PROVINCIALS** Players, coaches, and pick-ups may participate in more than one Minor Provincial in the same year.
- 8.6.12. **COACHES MEETING** At the pre-Provincial Championships coaches meeting, coaches must be able to provide:
  - a. A copy of their team registration form and a signed Softball BC Provincial Player Pick-up Approval Form for each pick-up. **EFFECT:** Pick-ups without documents are ineligible.
  - b. Proof of age in the form of a photocopy of birth certificate, baptismal certificate or other recognized government identification for players and pick-ups. A player is ineligible until suitable proof of age is supplied.
  - c. Proof of participation of each player or pick-up in a minimum of three league, exhibition or tournament games with their Registered Minor Team, in the form of game score sheets, on request. **EFFECT:** disqualification of a player or team following a review by the appointed protest committee. **EXCEPTION:** National Team Players

8.6.13. **CLASSIFICATION CHANGE** - Any team placing 1st in a Provincial Championship moves up on classification, if playing in the same category and having 6 or more returning players to the team in the following year. As well, this move in classification must be approved by the District Coordinator.

EXCEPT AT U20C and when players from teams placing first, second or third in a Provincial Championship in the previous year, amalgamate into one team the following year, that team must move up one classification if playing in the same category and having a combination of six (6) or more players returning from the former teams that placed first, second or third in the previous Provincial.

EXCEPT AT U20C, any team placing first or second in a Provincial Championship will remain in the same or higher classification if playing in the next higher category when having six (6) or more players returning to the team, or when amalgamated into one team and having a combination of six (6) or more players from the former teams that placed first or second in the previous Provincial.

#### 8.6.14. **PICK-UPS (REFER TO ANNEX 'E')**

8.6.14.1. Teams may use up to three pickups for Provincial Championships, one or more of which may be coaches, provided that total number of registered players and coaches on the team together with pickups may not exceed the maximum number permitted in these Special Operating Rules.

8.6.14.2. "A" teams may pick up from any District, no priority is given to teams within a given District.

8.6.14.3. The following apply to "B" and "C" teams picking up players for Provincial Championships:

- a. Within a given District, teams will be permitted to pick up in the following order:
  - i. The team that places first at District Championships.
  - ii. The team that is hosting the Provincial Championships.
  - iii. Teams that earned pro rata spots in the Provincial Championships, in the order in which they earned those spots.
- b. Each team will be given 48 hours to select their pickups before the next team is given their turn.
- c. In-District pickups must be approved in writing by the District Minor Coordinator.
- d. Teams must pick up from within their District where there are players available in the same category and classification or one lower category or classification (but not both).

- e. A player that declines an invitation to be a pickup for a team within her or his District may subsequently accept an offer to be a pickup for another team within her or his District but may not be a pickup for any team outside her or his District for any Provincial Championship that season.
- 8.6.14.4. Pickup players are not position specific. If a team needs to pick up a player, they must ask everyone who is eligible in their own district first if they are willing to be picked up (this means that all players must be asked to be a pickup and not just a specific position before a team can go out of district). The Minor Director may authorize out of district pickups under extreme and unusual circumstances.
- 8.6.14.5. A player who is requested to be a pickup and whose team is participating in a Western or National Championship after the Provincial Championship for which they are being picked up must have written permission of their coach before they may be picked up. Permission may be indicated by providing a copy of the team's approved Softball BC roster to the coach of the team picking the player up.
- 8.6.14.6. In "C" Provincial Championships only one of a team's pickups may be a pitcher, and such pickup will be declared at the commencement of the Championship. No other pickup may be used as a pitcher once this declaration is made.
- 8.6.14.7. Out of District pickups, where permitted by this section, must be approved in writing by the Minor Coordinators of both the home District of the team picking up the player and the home District of the player.

8.7. **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT** The format of the Provincial Championships shall be qualifying round robin followed by a knockout championship draw with single knockout final. EXCEPTION: U13C, Article 8.8

- 8.7.1. ROUND ROBIN DRAW format is provided in Annex 'A'
- 8.7.2. DRAW DATE All Minor Provincial Championship Draws may be conducted up to one week in advance of the start of championship and may be virtual or in person at the pre-Provincial Championship coaches meeting as preferred by the host and the Softball BC Representative. The Host Team may choose to be the highest number in the draw in or can be part of the draw.
- 8.7.3. HOME TEAM for round robin games will be determined by a coin toss at the coaches meeting. Knockout Championship Draw home team will be determined by the higher seeded team's choice at least 30 minutes prior to the start of those games. EXCEPTION: In the Championship final game, the undefeated team in the championship round will have the choice of home team at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the final game.
- 8.7.4. TIME LIMITS:
  - a. U19A, U17A, U19B, U17B: none
  - b. U20C, U17C, U15A, U15B: no new inning after 90minutes.

Time will start after the first warm up pitch,

and a new inning is deemed to start on the umpire's "out" call of the third out on the home team. No time limit will be in effect for all medal games.

- c. All other classifications/categories: no new inning after 90 minutes. No time limit will be in effect for the Gold Pool, Gold Medal Game only.

- 8.7.5. Ties are permitted in round robin play. No ties permitted in the playoff games. TIE BREAKING in the playoff games shall start at the top of the 8th inning or when time has expired. The Tie Break Rule will apply in all playoff games.

8.7.6. GAMES WILL END and scores will be:

- a. If the time limit has not been reached after  $4\frac{1}{2}$  or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  innings, runs and bases touched will count until the time limit is reached, (e.g., home team leading 2-1 in the bottom of the 6th inning with 5 minutes remaining. During those 5 minutes the home team scores 5 runs and leave runners on base when the time limit expires. The final score would be 7-1 and bases touched including the runners left on base would be counted).
- b. If the home team is losing after  $4\frac{1}{2}$  or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  innings after time has expired, or  $6\frac{1}{2}$  innings whether time has expired or not, all runs scored and bases touched in the play which results in the winning run will be counted in the scoring (e.g., Tie game with only one runner on base at third, the batter hits a ground ball to the outfield and makes it to second base safely as the ball is returned to the infield preventing any further advance beyond that base. The runner on third base will be credited with a base touched and the winning run after crossing home plate on the play. The batter will be credited with two bases touched.)

8.7.7. A Run Ahead Rule shall result in the conclusion of the game when:

- a. After  $2\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 complete innings of play there is a difference of 15 runs or more. EXCEPTION: after  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , 3,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , or 4 complete innings of play for U13A and U13B a 10 run mercy rule will be in effect.
- b. After  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or 4 complete innings of play there is a difference of 10 runs or more runs.
- c. After  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , 5,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , or 6 complete innings of play there is a difference of 7 or more runs.

8.7.8. A seven run mercy rule will apply in both the round robin and Knockout Championship Draw finals after  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , 5,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  or 6 innings.

## 8.7.9. MODIFICATIONS FOR U13A, U13B, U15C, U17C and U20C.

- 8.7.9.1. All players listed on the entry roster shall be on the games rotational batting order unless ill, injured or absent. INTENT: All available players to participate in the game.
- 8.7.9.2. No penalty applies where a player listed on the rotational batting order becomes ill or injured after the batting order is submitted and cannot play. The next player listed shall take the batting position and that new rotation shall carry on throughout the game. A player who is injured while running the bases and is unable to continue in the game can be replaced by last out player preceding them in the batting order.
- 8.7.9.3. An out will be recorded each time a rotational player scheduled to bat is missing for any other reason;
- 8.7.9.4. Once a player has missed one turn at bat, they may not re-enter the game.
- 8.7.9.5. Where a player has permanent medical issues or disabilities, which may cause intermittent inability to participate in their regular rotation, there will be no penalty, and that player may be skipped in the batting lineup. Unlimited substitutions may be made if the player bats and requires a substitute runner. If the player is removed from the batting lineup the player may not return to the batting lineup; notification of the possibility of this must be made at the Coaches meeting and at the plate meeting. Medical Certificate is required to outline permanent medical condition.
- 8.7.9.6. Ties are allowed during round robin play.
- 8.7.9.7. Unlimited and multiple defensive substitutions may be made at any time and need not be announced to the umpire; EXCEPTION for U13 categories changes to the pitcher should be announced to the umpire;
- 8.7.9.8. A five run maximum rule shall apply in half innings up to and including the 5th inning. Subsequent innings shall be open.
- 8.7.9.9. In the U13A, U13B and U15C categories, pitchers may pitch a maximum of 4 innings per game (one pitch is considered an inning). The pitching limit rule is suspended in extra-inning games when the time limit has been reached or in the top of the 8th inning. Disciplinary actions/suspensions will be applied to coaches who do not follow the above rule at the discretion of the Softball BC Board Representative.

**8.7.10. KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL QUALIFICATION:**

Teams advancing to the Knockout Championship Draw will be determined and seeded as follows:

- a. Seven teams or less, the top four teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 & 2 should be completed Saturday night.
- b. Eight to 11 teams, the top six teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw Final as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 & 2 should be completed Saturday night.
- c. 12 or more teams, the top eight teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw Final as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 to 4 must be completed Saturday night. If these four games cannot be completed, the format will be a single knockout starting Sunday morning.

**8.7.11. SEEDING will be based on win/tie/loss record**  
(2 points for a win, 0 for a loss, 1 point for a tie)

- a. To break a tie: Winner of head-to-head against all teams they are tied with;
  - In order to use this criterion, all subject tied teams must have played each other and one team must have defeated all the remaining teams they are tied with to be ranked higher.
  - If more than two teams are tied for any seeding position based on win/loss/tie record the head to head criteria (a) shall be applied repeatedly before proceeding to b)
- b. If still tied: Run differential totals (score differential limit up to +7 runs or -7 per game).
- c. If still tie: use total bases touched for or against (score differential limit up to +30 or -30)
- d. If still tied: Least runs scored against during round robin.
- e. If still tied: use total bases touched of all games played.
- f. If still tied, a tie breaking game will apply if a spot in seeding for the knockout shall result in one team being eliminated. Otherwise broken by coin toss.

- 8.7.12. U13A, U13B, U15B, U15C, U17B, U17C, U19B and U20C: Teams will be seeded after round robin as per 8.7.11 Top 8 will play in the Gold Division, with the bottom 8 (or less if less than 16 teams), playing in the Silver Division. Gold Division playoffs shall be double knockout (Annex 'B'). Silver Division playoffs shall be single knockout (Annex 'J'). Each division will be awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals. Four diamonds will be needed to complete championship playoffs
- 8.7.13. If two teams who have put in their Letters of Intent for a Western or Canadian Championship are knocked out at a provincial at the same point in the championship (for example, tied for 6th or tied for 8th) and one or the other team will attend the Championship in the last available spot, the two teams will have a playoff game to determine which team will attend the Championship.



- 8.8. **U13 CHAMPIONSHIP** The U13 Regional Championship is meant to be all-inclusive, fun, and meet the competition requirements for Long Term Player Development.

8.8.1. REGIONS:

- #1 District 1, 2, 3
- #2 District 4, 5 6, and 15
- #3 Districts 7, 8, and 14
- #4 Districts 9, 10 and 11
- #5 Districts 12 and 13

In the years where Region #5 does not host its own Regional Championship, Region 5 teams may register for and attend the Region 4 event.

- 8.8.2. FEES Entry Fee: \$350 +GST per team (payable to Softball BC)

8.8.3. MODIFIED PLAYING RULES:

- 8.8.3.1. Pitching limit of four innings per game.
- 8.8.3.2. A five run maximum rule shall apply in all half innings.
- 8.8.3.3. No new inning after 90 minutes. Time will start at the first warm up pitch and a new inning is deemed to start on the umpire's "out" call for the third out on the home team.
- 8.8.3.4. Replacement players are allowed from U13C and U11C.
- 8.8.3.5. Players must play at least two innings on defense per game.
- 8.8.3.6. All players on roster to be in batting line-up.
- 8.8.3.7. Teams must start games with nine players, but may play with eight due to injury.
- 8.8.3.8. No protests.
- 8.8.3.9. Two umpires per game will be paid by Softball BC.
- 8.8.3.10. All other Softball BC rules will apply.

## 8.8.4. FORMAT:

8.8.4.1. Round Robin: Three games, all teams seeded into single knockout playoffs in groups of eight seeded per 8.7.11.

Playoffs: Blue Pool – Top 8 teams.  
Red Pool – Next 8 teams.  
White Pool – Next 8 teams  
Yellow Pool – Next 8 teams.

8.8.4.2. Skills and Team Building component.  
Participation in all components of the tournament is mandatory.

8.9. **U11C CELEBRATION OF SOFTBALL**

The intent is to create a fun, year-end participation event for U11C players and teams that will engage both parents and players to continue playing softball. Events are recommended to be mid to late June (prior to the end of the school year). Fun activities such as face painting, dragon races, balloon toss, etc. are encouraged.

8.9.1. Celebration events will include neighbouring districts. Suggested groupings of districts are Districts 1,2,3, Districts 4, 5, 6, 15 Districts 7, 8, 14, Districts 9, 10, 11 and Districts 12, 13.

8.9.2. Format will be 3 game round robin and single knock out playoffs. Teams seeded into groups of 8 for playoffs based on round robin results.

8.9.3. Registration fee \$325 plus tax per team

## 8.9.4. Modified Playing Rules

- a. Pitching limit of 2 innings per game
- b. All players must play at least 2 innings on defense
- c. All players on roster are to be in batting line-up
- d. Maximum 4 runs per inning
- e. Teams must start with 9 players
- f. Teams without 9 players may pick up or combine with another U11C team to a maximum of 12 players from their own district
- g. One umpire per game will be paid by Softball BC
- h. Medals for top 3 teams in each group of 8 will be paid for by Softball BC.
- i. No protests
- j. All other Softball BC rules apply

## 8.10. **COACH & PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES**

8.10.1. ALCOHOL/TOBACCO: minor players and coaches are forbidden to smoke, chew tobacco or have alcoholic products in dugouts, on player's benches or any part of the playing field. EFFECT: ejection.

8.10.2. The head coach, or in their absence, another coach shall be responsible for the conduct of the team's attendees. If after a warning from an umpire, Softball BC Board Representative, or Tournament UIC, concerning the behaviour of the team's attendees, they may choose to eject the coach from the game and the game will be forfeited. Note the coach is responsible for the conduct of the attendees before and post-game.

## 8.11. **INTERPROVINCIAL EVENTS**

CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS:	U19A Female
	U17A
	U15A

WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS:	U19B Female
	U17B
	U15B
	U13B

NOTE: To be eligible, all 'B' teams must be made up of no fewer than eleven (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 8.2.2.d. shall be considered 'B' players.

## ARTICLE 9 – MINOR BOYS FASTPITCH

### 9.1. DEFINITIONS

9.1.1. **BATS** – Use of official Little League bats will be allowed if they meet the requirements of Softball BC Devices including attachments to otherwise official bats, as commercially manufactured and marketed specifically for use by amputee or physically challenged players, and which do not impose an impractical or unreasonable hazard to any participant engaged in the game, will be allowed.

9.1.2. **DOUBLE BASE** – Minor Only: The offensive player must use the orange portion of the bag if a play is made at first base, and the defensive player must use the white portion. Exception: On any live ball play from first base side foul territory the defensive and offensive players may use either portion of the base.

9.1.3. **FOOTWEAR** – players may choose to wear metal cleats beginning in the U15A, U15B, U17A, U17B, U19A, U19B age categories and classifications. Not C players, U13A or U13B.

9.1.4. **MALE PLAYER** – A minor male player may play in the girls program up to and including U13C. Two male players may play at U15C on a girl's team.

9.1.5. **HELMETS BATTING** – an approved helmet shall be one that is fully enclosed, with two ear flaps, a foam liner, and a peak.

9.1.6. **HELMETS & MASKS (CATCHER)** – Minor catchers must wear a regulation helmet and mask and/or approved equipment.

9.1.7. **HOME PLATE** – the distance from the plate to the backstop shall be a minimum of 17 feet to a maximum of 25 feet.

9.1.8. **ON DECK CIRCLE** – the on deck batter has the right to go to either on deck batting circle as he/she chooses.

9.1.9. **BATTING POSITION** – A player may touch the lines of the batter's box, but no part of the feet may be outside of the lines prior to the pitch.

9.1.10. **UNIFORMS** – all District, Provincial and sanctioned events must meet uniform regulations detailed in Article 13.

9.1.11. **CHARGED CONFERENCE (DEFENSIVE AND OFFENSIVE)** – the defensive conference rule with regard to pitchers and the offensive conference rule are both waived for the U13C and below categories.

9.1.12. **DESIGNATED PLAYER** – the designated player rule is in effect for U15 and above categories.

- 9.1.13. **DROPPED THIRD STRIKE** – in U13 Rep & U13C and below categories the batter is out on the third strike, whether or not and the ball is caught. The ball remains alive.
- 9.1.14. **INFIELD FLY** – the Infield Fly rule shall not apply to U9 and U11. Does apply to U13 and older.
- 9.1.15. **LEAGUE** – three teams of the same classification ('A', 'B', or 'C').
- 9.1.16. **OVERTHROWS** – applicable to Minor categories: A play in which a ball is thrown from one fielder to another, resulting in the ball going beyond the boundary lines of the playing field or becoming blocked.

- 9.1.17. **PHONES: and ELECTRONIC DEVICES** –including mobile phones, tablets, earpieces, smart watches and cameras may not be used on the field of play except in the following circumstances:
  - a. By or under the supervision of a coach for purposes of stats, scorekeeping, and music.
  - b. By a coach for purposes of tracking time.
  - c. In no circumstances may electronic devices be used for purposes of communication amongst participants or between participants and spectators or others outside the game.

- 9.1.18. **PROHIBITION** – in all minor categories, players and coaches are forbidden to smoke, chew tobacco or have alcoholic products in dugouts, on player's benches or any part of the playing field. Violators will be ejected from the game.
  - 9.1.19. **RE-ENTRY** – when all substitutions have been entered by a team in a game, the Re-Entry rule is waived in the event of injury in all Provincial Championship play. The injured player may not return to the game.
  - 9.1.20. **REPLACEMENT RUNNER:** A replacement runner is a player who may run for the catcher of record from the previous defensive inning and who is now on base with two out.
    - 9.1.20.1. The replacement runner must be:
      - a. currently in the batting order;
      - b. the person in the batting order who is furthest from coming to bat and who is not on base.
  - 9.1.21. **FEMALE PLAYERS** – a minor female player may play in the boys program at all levels.
  - 9.1.22. **ALL STAR TEAM:** Team(s) formed of outstanding players chosen from two or more teams playing in an association/ league, to compete in a Provincial Championship, is not allowed.
- EXCEPTIONS:** Article 9.2.2.3

9.1.23. **RETURNING PLAYER:** players registered on a team in the previous year and pick-ups used by the team in Provincial, Western Canadian Championships and Canadian Championships in the prior year.

9.1.24. **START TIME** – time will start after the first warm up pitch and a new inning is deemed to start on the umpire's "out" call of the third out on the home team.

- a. U19A, U17A, U19B, U17B: none
- b. U20C, U17C, U15A, U15B: no new inning after 90 minutes. No time limit will be in effect for all medal games.
- c. All other classifications/categories: no new inning after 90 minutes. No time limit will be in effect for the Gold Pool, Gold Medal Game only.

## 9.2. **REGISTRATION**

9.2.1. Definitions:

9.2.1.1. **Recognized Minor Association:** Shall include an association that had teams registered with Softball BC in the immediate previous year. To receive consideration for becoming a Recognized Minor Association, a new association shall submit an application to the respective Minor Coordinator outlining the new association structure, the number of teams the new association anticipates registering and the long range plans of the new association. The Minor Coordinator shall assemble the ruling executives of all Recognized Associations in the District who shall deliberate the application. A simple majority of those Recognized Association representatives in attendance at such a meeting is required to approve the application of the new association. The District Minor Coordinator shall not cast a vote unless required to decide the outcome. Any new association clearly demonstrating an intended registration of over 100 players shall make application to the District Minor Coordinator, who alone will be responsible for the approval of that new association.

9.2.1.2. **Minor Player Registration:** Minor player registration is complete once a player has committed to the team, has had their name placed as a player on the Softball BC Team Registration Form, no earlier than January 1st of the current playing year. Such commitment is concluded when the team and teams in their category/classification have completed competition at the Provincial, Western Canadian or Canadian Championship level.

- 9.2.1.3. Release/Abandon: No player shall be released from a team or abandon a team within an Association once the player has registered with the Association, paid their registration fees to the Association and has been placed on a team for that current season by the Association. The player must play for this Association for the current season and is not permitted to switch associations and teams during the season. A release from an Association's team shall only be considered if:
- A written release request is received by the Association from the player explaining the reasons for the release request.
  - The players team will not be jeopardized or put into a position of collapse due to the loss of the player.
  - The District Minor Coordinator and Minor Director mutually agree that under exceptional circumstances a release and/or transfer is in the best interest of the player and the programs of Softball BC.
- 9.2.1.4. Minor Team Registration: Minor team registration is complete on the date when the coach or a representative of a Recognized Association has submitted a completed Softball BC Team Registration is uploaded to the registration site on or before the Final Registration Deadline. Registration is fifteen (15) players and five (5) coaches except for U20 teams which is 17 players). Plus, one Approved Minor Apprentice Coach paired with the rostered Mentor Coach. Apprentice Coach is a minor rostered player that will help to Coach in ages below their own and in classifications lateral to or below their own. Apprentice Coaches are approved prior to the start of the season through an application process so they may fully participate in the processes of the team for the season's entirety.
- 9.2.1.5. A team that plays in two affiliated leagues or has two home parks will establish their District of registration by considering:
- Where most home games are played;
  - Where most of the players reside;
  - Whether there is a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District.

- 9.2.1.6. MINOR REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
- a. 'A' team Rosters must be uploaded and marked confirmed by the registrar by May 1st of the current year. Additions/deletions under the extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 1st of the current year. After June 1st, only the Minor Director may authorize additions/deletions to an approved roster.
  - b. All "B" classification team rosters and Executive rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed May 15th of the current year. All "C" classification team rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed by May 31st of the current year. Additions/deletions under extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 5th of the current year. After June 5th, only the Minor Director may authorize additions/deletions to an approved roster.
  - c. Changes after the deadline must be approved by the Minor Director. Such changes shall be processed by the Softball BC office once per week. Changes will be considered for extreme circumstances only.
- 9.2.1.7. Minors Playing with or against Men's and Women's Teams shall include:
- a. a minor aged player registered on a Men's or Women's team;
  - b. a team of minor players registered on a minor team playing against an Men's or Women's team; or
  - c. a minor player registered on a minor team being picked up to play with an Men's or Women's team.
- 9.2.1.8. Transfer: The movement of any minor player from one Softball BC Team Registration form to another at any time after a player has committed to an approved Softball BC Team Registration Form in the current year.



- 9.2.1.9. Release: The discharge of a player already approved to a Softball BC Team Registration Form in the current year. A release shall only be considered if:
- A written request is received from a player, as confirmed by the player's coach, by the District Minor Coordinator seven (7) clear days prior to any District playdown affecting the team in which a player wishes to be released from, and from the team the player wishes to transfer to, and;
  - The coach mutually agrees to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form, and;
  - A coach from any other team in the District mutually agrees to accept the player's registration on their team without affecting the registration of any other player already signed with the team and;
  - The District Minor Coordinator and Minor Director mutually agree that under exceptional circumstances a release and/or transfer is in the best interest of the player and the programs of Softball BC
- 9.2.1.10. Returning players: shall include any players registered on a team in the previous year and any pick-ups used by the team in Provincial, Western Canadian Championships and National Championships in the previous year.
- 9.2.1.11. Registration Forms & Applicable Fees: Teams that are registered 'A' are required to submit Provincial entry fees along with their Registration Forms on or before the Minor Final Registration Deadline.
- 9.2.1.12. Female players. A male classified team is not to have more than 4 female players and no fewer than 6 male players.

9.2.2. PLAYER – to be eligible:

- Minor players, managers, and coaches are to be registered on a Softball BC Team Registration Form;
- Pursuant to Article 2 Residence Rule, Minor players must be a resident in the Province of BC, or when attending school out of Province, their parents(s) or legal guardian must be a resident in the Province of BC on May 1st in the year of registration.

- 9.2.3. Minor players may register with two different teams in the current playing year. A team may be formed in a higher classification (example: players from 'C' teams combine to form a 'B' team) if there is not a team registered in that classification already in the District. This team must be made up of players from at least 3 teams of a lower classification. Regular Softball BC Registration Fees will apply.
- 9.2.4. Coaches and managers may be subject to disciplinary action including suspension if a player works out, practices or plays with or against a Men's or Women's team without first obtaining consent signed by their District's Minor and Men's and Women's Coordinator. Where a minor aged player is registered on a Men's or Women's team, the consent form must be presented at District playdowns and Provincial Championships.
- 9.2.5. A minor player who completes registration with more than one team in a current playing year, and whose name is listed on multiple Softball BC Minor Registration forms confirmed by the Minor Coordinator, is considered ineligible for either team, and is ineligible to participate on any team in District, Provincial or extra-Provincial events.
- 9.2.6. Adult coaches or non-playing coaches may register on and participate with multiple Minor teams in a given year.
- 9.2.7. Following the completion of a team's registration with Softball BC, but prior to that team's participation in District playoffs, a Minor player may, under exceptional circumstances apply to the District Minor Coordinator and Minor Director for a release from the team he/she is initially registered with and a transfer to another team within the District. Application must be made seven (7) clear days before either team is scheduled to compete in District playdowns.
- 9.2.8. In addition to the penalties outlined in Article 10.1, any coach who allows participation of an ineligible player in District, Provincial or extra-Provincial events may be subject to disciplinary action.
- 9.2.9. Any Minor player considered ineligible pursuant to these rules may be subject to disciplinary action.

## 9.2.10. TEAM

- 9.2.10.1. Maximum Players:  
For teams U17 and under, maximum of 15 players.  
For U19/U20 teams, maximum of 17 players.  
Exceptions may be granted under extraordinary circumstances with the approval of the District Minor Coordinator and the Minor Director.
- 9.2.10.2. Coaches:  
Five (5) coaches plus one Approved Minor Apprentice Coach paired with the rostered Mentor Coach.
- 9.2.10.3. Minimum nine players in U13 or above.
- 9.2.10.4. If a recognized league or association registers one team with Softball BC, all other teams registered with or playing under the authority and supervision of that league or association must register with Softball BC. Failure to do so may result in all teams in the league or association being ruled ineligible for District, or Provincial play.
- 9.2.10.5. A team that plays in two leagues or has two home parks will establish their District of registration by considering the following criteria:
- Where the majority of home games are played;
  - Where the majority of the players reside;
  - Whether there is a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District.
- 9.2.10.6. At the time Softball BC Team Registrations are submitted to the registration platform, coaches or association must indicate classification (A', 'B', or 'C') of the team except U13, where there are no classifications, and U15, where there will be 'Rep' and 'C' classifications. A team that has established its category and classification cannot move to a higher or lower category unless reclassified by the District Minor Coordinator. Teams that lose their district playoff are ineligible to be reclassified.
- 9.2.10.7. Teams registered must have an appropriate NCCP level coach listed on the Softball BC Team Registration form at the time of registration with Softball BC unless an exemption is granted due to reclassification. Failure to do so will make the team ineligible for participation in any Softball BC Provincial Championship. Teams that are eligible to participate in District Playoffs or a Provincial must have a minimum of two (2) coaches registered with the team. Only one (1) needs to be certified.

- 9.2.10.8. Any District having sixty (60) or fewer players registered in an age category shall be allowed to form a combined 'C' classification team to compete at District and Provincial Championships with the requirement that such a combined team will not be allowed to select any pick-up players from other registered teams.
- 9.2.10.9. For competition in the U15 "Rep" and "C" Provincial Championship classifications, an association shall be permitted to form a combined team(s) from "C" classification U13 and U15 teams registered with the particular association in the current playing year. Combined teams from within an association shall be pursuant to the following chart. Once a combined team has been formed, any pickup player must come from within the appropriate association.

Number of players Registered in the category	Number of "A" and/or "B" classification teams that must be formed before combining players to form a combined "C" classification team	Number of combined "C" classification teams that may be formed.
9 – 24	0 "A" teams &/or 0 "B" teams	1 "C" team
25 – 54	1 "A" team &/or 1 "B" team	1 "C" team
54+	1 "A" team and 1 "B" team	1 "C" team

- 9.2.10.10. Any team choosing to advance beyond league activities must enter the District and Provincial Championship at the category and classification in which it is registered in the current year with a properly NCCP certified coach.
- 9.2.10.11. Where a league or the appropriate category and classification exists in the geographical area in which any minor team is registered, and that team elects to participate in a league of a higher category and classification, and such team participates in four (4) or more league games in that higher category or classification, that team will not be eligible to participate in a District or Provincial Championship in the initial lower classification and may be subject to re-classification by the District Minor Coordinator. Where two teams or less exist, the District Minor Coordinator may rule an exception, or in any association where there are insufficient number of teams to form an 'A', 'B' or 'C' classification league, that association may form a combined classification league, without prejudice against any teams registered in that league.

- 9.2.10.12. Where there is a Minor league available with three or more teams in a particular category and classification, and a team elects to participate in a Men's or Women's league, whether or not they participate in a Minor league within the appropriate category or not, such a team shall not be eligible to register in the 'C' classification.
- 9.2.10.13. The District Minor Coordinator has the obligation and responsibility to ensure that teams are properly classified within his or her District.
- 9.2.10.14. The District Minor Coordinator after conducting their own investigation or review of any circumstances provided shall inform the Minor Director who will conduct a thorough investigation of the team and make a decision to reclassify or not reclassify the team in question. The Minor Director shall inform the team and the District Minor Coordinator of their decision. Reclassification can be done any time up to but not including the date of the team's participation in a Provincial Championship.

#### 9.2.11. MINOR PLAY IN ADULT

- 9.2.12.1. A minor player other than a second or third year U20 player, may only play with or against Men's or Women's teams as a pickup or registered player with the written consent of the player's parents and the District's Minor Coordinator.
- 9.2.12.2. In making their decision about whether to permit a Minor player to play with or against Men's or Women's teams, the Minor Coordinator will consider the best interests of the player, the Minor team/association which that player is or would otherwise be registered with, and the Men's or Women's team/association with which they wish to play or register. In undertaking this consideration, the Minor Coordinator will consult with the District's Men's and Women's Coordinator as appropriate.
- 9.2.12.3. A second or third year U20 player may register on a minor team, or on a men's or women's team without needing approval from their District's Minor Coordinator or otherwise.
- 9.2.12.4. Teams of minor players wishing to play league or exhibition games against Men's or Women's teams must have written consent from the Minor Director and the Men's and Women's Director.

- 9.2.12.5. Any coach, player, team or association permitting a Minor player to participate in practices or games with a Men's or Women's team without having obtained written consent as required by to this section may be subject to discipline.

9.3. **MINOR-DISTRICT, PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS & PICK-UPS**

*(To be read in conjunction with Article 2) For eligibility of players to participate in District and Provincial play please refer to Annex 'E'.*

9.3.1. District & Provincials

- 9.3.1.1. District playoffs will be a modified Round Robin or Knockout Championship Draw as determined by the District Minor Coordinator.
- 9.3.1.2. Pick-up players are not allowed or eligible to participate in District playoffs.
- 9.3.1.3. To be eligible to participate in any District playdown to identify a District team for participation in a Provincial Championship, all teams registered in the particular category/classification in the District may:
  - a. where all associations in the District are in agreement with a mutually acceptable format and the District Minor Coordinator agrees, participate in association or inter association qualifier competitions to identify teams for competition in the District playdown; or
  - b. where all associations in the District cannot come to agreement with an acceptable format, or agree otherwise, participate in the District playdown.
- 9.3.1.4. To be eligible to participate in any District playdown and/or Provincial Championship, teams will be required to:
  - a. Provide a copy of the Softball BC Team Registration Form, signed by the District Minor Coordinator, to the Softball BC Representative. For Provincial Championships, a copy of the Softball BC Team Registration Form for each pick-up must be provided. Provincial Pick-up Approval form is to be submitted to the District Coordinator to verify player eligibility. This form is to be submitted with the team roster at the pre-provincial coaches meeting. Failure to do so will make the player ineligible.

- b. Carry proof of age in the form of a birth certificate, baptismal certificate or other recognized government identification. Photocopies of proof of age documents are sufficient to meet this requirement. For Provincial Championships, proof of age must also be presented for each pick-up player in order for them to participate. Failure to do so will deem the player ineligible, until such time as proof of age is supplied.
  - c. Prove participation in a minimum of three (3) games with the team on which they are registered. Participation shall include league, exhibition and tournament games. Players will be required to provide documentation demonstrating a history of playing together throughout the season. Such documentation shall include game score sheets. For Provincial Championships game sheets may also be required for each pick-up. Failure to provide such documentation at District or Provincial Championships upon request of a Softball BC representative may result in the disqualification of a player or team from further participation in the applicable event following a review by the appointed protest committee. Players unable to fulfill the 3 game minimum requirement due to their commitment to the National Team program will be exempt from participating in the 3 game minimum with the team on which they are registered.
  - d. Teams attending districts, and place 1st or are prorated for Provincials, and do not attend Provincials will be disqualified from attending districts or provincials for the next season, having six (6) or more returning players to the team in the following year. Coach or team name change will not be cause for an exemption.
- 9.3.1.5. Any team placing 1st in a provincial championship moves up one classification, if playing in the same category and having 6 or more returning players to the team in the following year. As well, this move in classification must be approved by the District Coordinator.

- 9.3.1.6. EXCEPT AT U20C any combined teams that finish first, second or third in the 'A' pool and have 6 or more players returning to the association, in the same division, from those teams, must have an 'A' team the following year regardless of the number of players in the division. This applies even if the association returns to a non-combined team program, for the next year only.
- 9.3.1.7. EXCEPT AT U20C and when players from teams placing first, second or third in a Provincial Championship in the previous year, amalgamate into one team the following year, that team must move up one classification if playing in the same category and having a combination of six (6) or more players returning from the former teams that placed first, second or third in the previous Provincial.
- 9.3.1.8. EXCEPT AT U20C, any team placing first or second in a Provincial Championship will remain in the same or higher classification if playing in the next higher category when having six (6) or more players returning to the team, or when amalgamated into one team and having a combination of six (6) or more players from the former teams that placed first or second in the previous Provincial.
- 9.3.2. PICK-UPS (REFER TO ANNEX 'E')
- 9.3.2.1. Teams may use up to three pickups for Provincial Championships, one or more of which may be coaches, provided that total number of registered players and coaches on the team together with pickups may not exceed the maximum number permitted in these Special Operating Rules.
- 9.3.2.2. "A" teams may pick up from any District, no priority is given to teams within a given District.
- 9.3.2.3. The following apply to "B" and "C" teams picking up players for Provincial Championships:
- a. Within a given District, teams will be permitted to pick up in the following order:
    - i. The team that places first at District Championships;
    - ii. The team that is hosting the Provincial Championships;
    - iii. Teams that earned pro rata spots in the Provincial Championships, in the order in which they earned those spots.

Each team will be given 48 hours to select their pickups before the next team is given their turn.



- b. In-District pickups must be approved in writing by the District Minor Coordinator.
  - c. Teams must pick up from within their District where there are players available in the same category and classification or one lower category or classification (but not both).
  - d. A player that declines an invitation to be a pickup for a team within her or his District may subsequently accept an offer to be a pickup for another team within her or his District but may not be a pickup for any team outside her or his District for any Provincial Championship that season.
  - e. Pickup players are not position specific. If a team needs to pick up a player, they must ask everyone who is eligible in their own district first if they are willing to be pick up (this means that all players must be asked to be a pick up and not just a specific position before a team can go out of district. The Minor Director may authorize out of district pickups under extreme and unusual circumstances.
  - f. A player who is requested to be a pickup and whose team is participating in a Western or Canadian Championship after the Provincial Championship for which they are being picked up must have written permission of their coach before they may be picked up. Permission may be indicated by providing a copy of the team's approved Softball BC roster to the coach of the team picking the player up.
- 9.3.2.4. In 'C' Provincial Championships only, one of a team's pickups may be a pitcher, and such pickup will be declared at the commencement of the Championship. No other pickup may be used as a pitcher once this declaration is made.
- 9.3.2.5. Out of District pickups, where permitted by this section, must be approved in writing by the Minor Coordinators of both the home District of the team picking up the player and the home District of the player.

#### 9.4. **COACHING REQUIREMENTS** (see Article 1 – NCCP)

- 9.4.1. U13C and Rep,U15C, U17C AND U20C – minimum NCCP Community – Sport On-Going Participation with completion of Making Ethical Decisions.

New Coaches only – FOCS Part 1

U19A & B, U17 A&B, U15 A&B – minimum NCCP Introduction to Competition training (i.e. attended clinic 1 & 2) with completion of Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation.

New Coaches Only – FOCS Part 1 and Part 2

National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) –

Initiation/U11 Clinic: 6 hours

Community Coach Clinic: 16 hours

Competition – Introduction – Clinic #1 (In Training): 16 hours

Competition – Introduction – Clinic #2 (In Training): 16 hours

Make Ethical Decisions: online

- 9.4.2. An NCCP softball certified coach must be on the field of play at the Championship with the team that they are registered with. Failure to have such a coach will make the team ineligible, and the game would be forfeited. EXCEPTION: Medical Emergencies or any unforeseen circumstances deemed so by the Softball BC Board Rep)

The Director of Coaching may provide an exemption to any coach who, for any unusual or exigent circumstance, may not have achieved the appropriate level prior to competition at a Provincial Championship.

#### 9.5. **ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS TO COMPETE IN A PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 9.5.1. In order for a team to compete in a Provincial Championship, the Softball BC Team Registration form must be uploaded and approved by the District Coordinator by the registration date.
- 9.5.2. The Softball BC Minor Director shall provide the District Minor Coordinators with a set of standard tournament draws and rules for all District playoffs.
- 9.5.3. Minor teams not intending to participate in a particular Provincial Championship will not be permitted to participate in the District playoff leading to the Championship.
- 9.5.4. A form will be provided for all District Coordinators to notify the Softball BC office of his / her District's intent to participate in each of the categories of Provincial Championships. Failure to make prior notification with Softball BC office will result in disqualification of that District in further Provincial play.

- 9.5.5. Any team intending to participate in a Provincial Championship must notify the Softball BC office and the appropriate Tournament Director 15 days prior to the Provincial Championship.
- 9.5.6. All teams must submit an entrance fee to be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship. All entry fees are to be submitted to the Softball BC office 10 days prior to the tournament.
- 9.5.7. Each team participating in a Provincial Championship shall submit a copy of their roster form including any player(s) picked up to the Softball BC Board Representative or designate assigned to any given Championship. (A release form is not necessary.)

#### 9.6. **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*(to be read in conjunction with Article 13.)*

- 9.6.1. All play leading to Provincial Championships including District Playoffs, must be played according to Softball BC rules.

9.6.2. **DRAW DATE** All Minor Provincial Championship Draws may be conducted up to one week in advance of the start of championship and may be virtual or in person at the pre-Provincial Championship coaches meeting as preferred by the host and the Softball BC Representative. The Host Team may choose to be the highest number in the draw in or can be part of the draw.

- 9.6.3. In Minor categories, any Provincial 'A' Championship having 8 or more participating teams shall be a three day event.
- 9.6.4. All Minor 'A' Provincial Championships shall be open to all teams registered in that classification. All Minor 'B' and 'C' Championships shall be open to a maximum of sixteen (16) teams. If each District is not represented, the pro-rata system will be implemented.

## 9.7. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

(Exception: U13C, U13 REP, U15C) Minor Provincial Championships will include a Modified Round Robin, a Knockout Championship Draw (Elimination Round) with a single knockout final.

- 9.7.1. ROUND ROBIN FORMAT AND Knockout Championship Draw WITH A SINGLE KNOCKOUT FINAL – the following criteria shall be followed.

Definition – the final game will be game 6 in a 4 team double knockout, game 10 in a 6-team double knockout, game 12 in a 7-team double knockout, and game 14 in an eight-team double knockout.

- 9.7.1.1. U13 REP, U15A, and all 'B' category games are to have a limit of 1 ½ hours, with no new inning to start after 1 ½ hours has expired. U13 REP to have a five (5) run limit per inning for the first three (3) innings. The 5 run rule limit shall be suspended in the 4th inning. Exception U15C, U17C and U20C. A five run maximum rule shall apply in half innings up to and including the 5th inning. Time will start on the first pitch, and a new inning is deemed to start on the umpire's "out" call of the third out on the home team. In these categories, no time limit will be in effect for the final game.
- 9.7.1.2. Games in the Knockout Championship Draw round (or special playoff games that may be necessary) that determine which of the two teams will advance to a Canadian or Western Canadian Championship will have no time limit. (Note: The time limit is waived when only one team of the two will advance to either a Canadian or Western.) Exception: U15.
- 9.7.1.3. In the event the home team is losing after 4½ or 5½ innings after time has expired, or 6½ innings whether time has expired or not, all runs scored and bases touched in the play which results in the winning run will be counted in the scoring (i.e. Tie game with only one runner on base at third, the batter hits a ground ball to the outfield and makes it to second base safely as the ball is returned to the infield preventing any further advance beyond that base. The runner on third base will be credited with a base touched and the winning run after crossing home plate on the play. The batter will be credited with two bases touched.)

- 9.7.1.4. A Run Ahead Rule shall result in the conclusion of the game when:
- After 2 ½ or 3 complete innings of play there is a difference of 15 runs or more. EXCEPTION: after 2 ½, 3, 3 ½ or 4 complete innings of play for U13 REP and C Boys a 10 run mercy rule will be in effect.
  - After 3 ½ or 4 complete innings of play there is a difference of 10 or more runs.
  - After 4 ½, 5, 5 ½, or 6 complete innings of play there is a difference of 7 or more runs.

- 9.7.1.5. Ties are permitted in round robin play. No ties in playoff rounds. Ties in playoff games are to be broken by extra innings. The Tie Breaking Rule shall start at the top of the 8th inning or when time has expired. The Tie Break Rule shall be applied in all. The Tie Break Rule shall be applied in all playoff games.

- 9.7.1.6. Modifications – U13C, U15C:
- All teams players names handed in at the coaches meeting on the Minor Provincial Championship Roster form, to a minimum of nine (9), shall be listed on the lineup card and shall bat accordingly to the lineup on a rotational basis throughout the game. Lineup cards to be handed in 30 minutes before game may or may not contain all of the players on the official players list handed in at the coaches meetings and the sequence may vary per coach's discretion;
  - where due to illness or injury a player listed on the rotational batting order is removed from the game, no penalty shall apply, and the next player listed shall take the batting position and that new rotation shall carry on throughout the game; the player who proceeds them in the batting order and not already on base shall replace a player, who is injured while running the bases and is unable to continue in the game. The player who has left the game due to injury may not return to the lineup;
  - if for any other reason a listed rotational player fails to show up for a game, leaves the game, or is removed by the coach from the game, an out will be recorded each time that rotational player is scheduled to bat;

- d. in either case, when a listed rotation player fails to show, leaves, or is removed from the game, under no circumstances shall the player be allowed to re-enter or participate during the remainder of the game;
  - e. where a player has permanent medical issues or disabilities, which may cause intermittent inability to participate in their regular rotation, there will be no penalty, and that player may be skipped in the batting lineup. Unlimited substitutions may be made if the player bats and requires a substitute runner. If the player is removed from the batting lineup the player may not return to the batting lineup; notification of the possibility of this must be made at the Coaches meeting and at the plate meeting. Medical Certificate is required to outline permanent medical condition;
  - f. unlimited and multiple defensive substitutions may be made at any time during the game and need not be announced to the umpire EXCEPTION for U13 categories changes to the pitcher should be announced to the umpire;
  - g. the Minor "C" time limit shall apply in the 6th inning, or when tied in all subsequent innings, the five run maximum rule is suspended and the game shall rule is suspended with no maximum run limit;
- 9.7.2. In the U13 REP, U13C and U15C categories, pitchers will be limited to a maximum of 4 innings per game (one pitch is considered an inning). The pitching limit rule is suspended in extra-inning games when the time limit has been reached or in the top of the 8th inning.
- 9.7.3. KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW
- 9.7.3.1. If the Championship started with 7 teams or less, the top four teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 & 2 should be completed Saturday night.
  - 9.7.3.2. If the Championship started with 8 to 11 teams, the top 6 teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw Final as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 & 2 should be completed Saturday night.
  - 9.7.3.3. If the Championship started with 12 or more the top 8 teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw Final as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 to 4 must be completed Saturday night. If these 4 games cannot be completed the format will be a single knockout starting Sunday morning.

- 9.7.3.4. If 2 or more rounds (the same number of games for each team) is complete the top 8 teams will then play a single round robin based upon their standings. If teams are tied in points, run differential and bases touched if a head to head game was played, it will determine standings or if no head to head game played a coin flip will break the tie.
- 9.7.3.5. And any teams that have a record equal to or better than a 3 wins & 1 loss will advance to the Knockout Championship Draw final as per Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw. Games 1 to 4 must be completed Saturday night. If these games cannot be completed, the format will be a single knockout starting Sunday morning.
- 9.7.3.6. Ties are permitted in round robin play. No ties permitted in the playoff games. TIE BREAKING in the playoff games shall start at the top of the 8th inning or when time has expired, except the final game.

9.7.4. KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL - At the end of the qualifying round the top four or six teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw final and will be determined as follows:

- a. Win/loss/tied record: (2 points for win, 0 for a loss, 1 point for tie), if still tied then,
- b. Winner of head-to-head against all teams they are tied with. In order to use this criterion, all subject tied teams must have played each other, and one team must have defeated all the remaining teams they are tied with to be ranked higher. If more than two teams are tied for any seeding position based on win/loss/tie record the head-to-head criteria (a) shall be applied repeatedly before proceeding to b)
- c. If still tied: Run differential totals (score differential limit up to +7 runs or -7 per game).
- d. If still tied: use total bases touched for or against (score differential limit up to +30 or -30)
- e. If still tied: Least runs scored against during round robin.
- f. If still tied: use total bases touched of all games played.
- g. If still tied, a tie breaking game will apply if a spot in seeding for the knockout shall result in one team being eliminated. Otherwise broken by a coin toss.

- 9.7.5. If two teams who have put in their Letters of Intent for a Western or Canadian Championship are knocked out at a provincial at the same point in the championship (for example, tied for 6th or tied for 8th) and one or the other team will attend the Championship in the last available spot, the two teams will have a playoff game to determine which team will attend the Championship.
- 9.7.6. COMBINED CLASSIFICATION FOR U13, U15 AND U17:
  - 9.7.6.1. where there are 4 or less teams attending a Provincial, those teams will be combined with the next classification to form a combined Provincial.
  - 9.7.6.2. if the classification with 4 or less teams is 'A' those classifications will be combined to form a combined Provincial Championship on the 'B' weekend.
  - 9.7.6.3. if the classification with 4 or less teams is 'B' or 'C', those classifications will be combined to form a combined Provincial Championship on the 'B' weekend.
  - 9.7.6.4. in a combined Provincial Championship, the teams will be seeded by the Softball BC Minor Director.
  - 9.7.6.5. the top 6 teams in the modified round robin will advance to the Knockout Championship Draw in the higher classification.
  - 9.7.6.6. the next highest playing teams (to a maximum of 6 teams) in the modified round robin will advance to the Knockout Championship Draw final in the lower classification.
  - 9.7.6.7. in a combined championship of 11 or less teams the Minor Director will determine by the coaches meeting the number of teams placed in the higher classification.
  - 9.7.6.8. the difference in provincial fees between A and B classification will be paid to the Softball BC office by August 1st.



## 9.8. COACH & PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

- 9.8.1. ALCOHOL/TOBACCO: Minor players and coaches are forbidden to smoke, chew tobacco or have alcoholic products in the dugouts, on player's benches or any part of the playing field. EFFECT: ejection.
- 9.8.2. The head coach, or in their absence, another coach shall be responsible for the conduct of the team's attendees. If after a warning from an umpire, Softball BC Board Representative, or Tournament UIC, concerning the behaviour of the team's attendees, they may choose to eject the coach from the game and the game will be forfeited. Note the coach is responsible for the conduct of the attendees before and post-game.

## 9.9. INTERPROVINCIAL EVENTS

- |    |                                 |          |
|----|---------------------------------|----------|
| a. | Canadian Championships:         | U20A     |
|    |                                 | U17A     |
|    |                                 | U15A     |
| b. | Western Canadian Championships: | U20 Male |
|    |                                 | U13 Boys |
|    |                                 | U15 Boys |
|    |                                 | U17 Boys |

NOTE: To be eligible, all "B" teams must be made up of no fewer than seven (7) players who have not participated on any "A" classification team in the two preceding years.

## ARTICLE 10 – WOMEN’S FASTPITCH

### 10.1. WOMEN’S FASTPITCH CATEGORIES & POST SEASON:

Women’s A	Leads to a Canadian Championship
Intermediate A	Leads to a Canadian Championship
Women’s B	Leads to a Western Championship
Women’s C	Provincial Championship only
Women’s D	Provincial Championship only
U23 Women	Leads to a Western or a Canadian Championship

### 10.2. DEFINITIONS

- 10.2.1. FOOTWEAR – metal cleats are permitted.
- 10.2.2. HELMETS BATTING – an approved helmet shall be one that is fully enclosed, with two ear flaps, a foam liner and a peak.
- 10.2.3. HELMETS & MASKS (CATCHER) – Catcher must wear a regulation helmet and mask and/or approved equipment.
- 10.2.4. PITCHING – Softball Canada Rule 4.3 Legal Pitch Requirements for all divisions.
- 10.2.5. ON DECK CIRCLE – the on-deck batter has the right to go to either on-deck batting circle as they choose.
- 10.2.6. UNIFORMS – reference Softball Canada rule 2.5
- 10.2.7. ELECTRONIC DEVICES – electronic devices (e.g. smartphone, tablet) are not permitted on the field of play.
- 10.2.8. PROHIBITION – players and coaches are forbidden to smoke, chew tobacco, and have alcoholic or legal recreational drugs in the dugout or on any part of the playing field. Consequence – violators will be ejected from the game.

### 10.3. TEAM AND PLAYER CLASSIFICATION

- 10.3.1. Players, managers and coaches are to be registered through Softball BC electronic registration
- 10.3.2. Each team shall be entitled to carry a maximum of twenty (20) players and five (5) coaches/managers.
- 10.3.3. A player identifying as male shall not be permitted to register on a female team.
- 10.3.4. A player identifying as a female may be permitted to register with either a male team or a female team.
- 10.3.5. Team registration shall be considered final when the team roster has been confirmed and approved by the Men's and Women's Coordinator, or the Men's and Women's Director.
- 10.3.6. A team that plays in multiple leagues, or has multiple home parks will establish their district of registration by considering the following criteria:
  - 10.3.7. Where they play a majority of their games
  - 10.3.8. Where the majority of the players reside
  - 10.3.9. Team registration to Softball BC through the online process is to be complete and confirmed for women's teams by June 15th.
  - 10.3.10. The Softball BC team roster is to be approved by the Men's and Women's Coordinator or Director by June 30th of the current playing year.
  - 10.3.11. The addition/deletion form shall be in effect up to and including the day of the Provincial coaches' meeting. Only additions for documented medical reasons, or moved out of the province will be considered for approval by the Men's and Women's Coordinator. After July 1st, approval is to come from the Men's and Women's Director.
  - 10.3.12. The Men's and Women's Coordinator may reclassify teams to a higher or lower category as they deem necessary. The coordinator must notify the affected team in writing within seven (7) days of their reclassification. Teams may appeal this reclassification within seven (7) days by notifying their coordinator in writing. Appeals will not be considered after July 7th of the current playing season.

**10.4. TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION**

- 10.4.1. Manager/coach shall not be eligible to play unless currently registered as an active player, in the proper manner, on the team's Softball BC roster form.
- 10.4.2. Any team placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a Provincial Championship in the previous year, and having eight (8) or more players returning to the team, will move up one (1) classification. The definition of eight (8) or more returning players shall include all players registered on the team, and any pick-ups used by the team at the previous Provincial Championship. \*\*Exception-Intermediate A will move up one classification after placing 1st at their Provincial Championship with at least 8 (eight) returning players including pick-ups and roster players.
- 10.4.3. A team may return to a lower classification after competing for at least two (2) years at the higher classification with their Men's & Women's Coordinator approval.
- 10.4.4. Teams graduating from minor categories shall use the following chart based on their previous year's registration and/or participation at their Provincial Championship.
  - U19A to Women's Intermediate A or Women's A
  - U19B to Women's B
  - U20C to Women's C
- 10.4.5. Each player must have played a minimum of four (4) games with one team in order to participate at the Provincial Championship as a rostered player with that team. Proof of participation will be required at the Pre-Provincial coaches meeting if requested. Exceptions may be made should a regular member of a given team sustain, or be recovering from an injury which prevented them from playing the minimum number of games. The Men's or Women's Director shall have sole authority in this decision.

**10.5. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION OF TEAMS FOR PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- 10.5.1. Teams must submit their provincial entry fee to the Softball BC office no later than 1 month before the championship unless there is the ability of the host to accommodate a late registration.
- 10.5.2. Every team participating in a Provincial Championship shall submit a copy of their Softball BC roster form, duly authorized by the Men's and Women's Coordinator, and the same for any player or coach pick-up, to the Board Member or designate assigned to that Provincial Championship.

- 10.5.3. Teams intending to participate in their Provincial Championship are required to notify their Men's and Women's Coordinator of their intent no later than one month before the Provincial Championship. Failure to do so could result in the team not being eligible to attend the championship if space is not available due to venue restrictions.

## 10.6. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

### 10.6.1. DRAW

- 10.6.1.1. Teams must register for their provincial championships no later than 1 month before the championship begins.
- 10.6.1.2. Draw will take place fourteen (14) days before the Championship is to begin.
- 10.6.1.3. When drawing for the tournament, first team drawn will be marked as Team #1 and so on until all team names have been drawn.

### 10.6.2. FORMAT

- 10.6.2.1. All teams will play a two (2) game seeding round, with all teams advancing into a modified double knockout elimination round (championship game will be a single knockout final). Host will try to have games start no earlier than 4:00 PM on the Friday of the event and the final game will be scheduled for no later than 4:00 PM on the Sunday of the event.
- 10.6.2.2. Games are to be scheduled a minimum of two (2) hour time slots.
- 10.6.2.3. Run difference: In all men's and women's fastpitch categories, the game will end after:
- 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, complete innings of play if there is a difference of fifteen (15) or more runs
  - 3  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 4, 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  complete innings of play there is a difference of ten (10) or more runs
  - 5, 5  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 6 complete innings of play if there is a difference of seven (7) or more runs

### 10.6.3. QUALIFYING ROUND

- 10.6.3.1. Home team decided by coin toss at the coaches meeting.
- 10.6.3.2. Game time starts with the first warm up pitch.
- 10.6.3.3. Time limit of one hour forty minutes, or seven (7) innings, with no new inning to start after time has expired. (Exception: A game is constituted by 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 5 innings. Games must be played out regardless of the time limit to 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 5 innings unless the Run Ahead Rule is in effect.) The home team will not bat if they are leading after 6  $\frac{1}{2}$  innings.

- 10.6.3.4. A tied game shall be broken by extra innings regardless of the time limit.
- 10.6.3.5. When there is a stoppage in play due to an injury, the blood rule, or concussion protocol, the game clock shall be stopped.
- 10.6.3.6. In the event the Home team is losing after 4 ½ or 5 ½ innings, and after time has expired, the game will end with either the final out of the inning, or the play which results in the Home team scoring the winning run.
- 10.6.3.7. In the event the game is tied at the end of seven (7) innings, or after 4 ½ -6 completed innings, and the time has expired, the tie shall be broken by extra innings. (Tie Breaker rule is to be used)

#### 10.6.4. ELIMINATION ROUND

- 10.6.4.1. Higher seeded team from qualifying round shall have the option of home or visitor \*\*Exception – If Article 10.6.4.6 comes into effect, which takes priority.
- 10.6.4.2. Game time starts with the first pitch to the first batter of the game
- 10.6.4.3. A time limit of one hour forty minutes will be in effect for all games in the Elimination round, with the exception of the final game, which shall have no time limit.
- 10.6.4.4. When there is a stoppage in play due to an injury, the blood rule, or concussion protocol, the game clock shall be stopped.
- 10.6.4.5. All ties are to be broken by extra innings All ties are to be broken by extra innings (Note: with the exception of the final game, Tie Breaker rule is to be used in Elimination round)
- 10.6.4.6. In Women's provincials using the modified double knockout format, the undefeated team in the final is given the choice of Home or Visitor
- 10.6.4.7. Tie Breaker- The final seeding shall be determined as follows:
  - a. Won-Loss record. If still tied, then repeat
  - b. When only two (2) teams are tied, the winner of the game between the tied teams. When three or more teams are tied, or when two teams are tied, but have not played each other in the qualifying round, only criteria (c), (d), (e) and (f) in that order will apply
  - c. Combined Run Differential (Total runs for minus total runs against). Note: Run differential limit is +7 or -7 runs per game.

- d. Least runs scored against during entire qualifying round. (Note: full team records from the qualifying round shall be used) If still tied, then:
- e. Most runs scored for during entire qualifying round (Note full team records from the qualifying round shall be used) If still tied then:
- f. If time and facilities permit, play a tie breaker game. If time and facilities do not permit, the final seeding will be determined by a coin toss by the Softball BC representative or designate.

#### 10.7. **DESIGNATED RUNNER**

- 10.7.1. The team may designate one player as a runner. The player shall be called the Designated Runner (DR) and the following shall apply:
- a. The DR must be listed in the starting line up.
  - b. The DR must be listed in the last spot of the starting line up (10th with no DP or 11th with a DP).
  - c. The DR may run for only one player per inning and may do so each time that player becomes a runner in the inning.
  - d. The DR may run for a different player each inning.
  - e. The DR may not bat or play defence.
  - f. An eligible player not in the game may substitute for DR.
  - g. The DR may not re- enter the game. Exception for 2024 women's only: In the event where an injury would result in a forfeit, the DR may enter the game.
  - h. A team is not obligated to use the DR the entire game.

#### 10.8. **MASTERS FASTPITCH**

- 10.8.1. Players of Masters Fastpitch age are allowed to register and play on both a Masters and a Women's Fastpitch team roster. Each team may play in a league with the Women's team roster taking priority in the event both Provincial Championships are being played on the same weekend.
- 10.8.2. Masters Fastpitch Age: Celebrate their 35th birthday by or in the current playing year.
- 10.8.3. Legends Masters Fastpitch Age: Celebrate their 45th birthday by or in the current playing year.  
NOTE: Each team MUST present to the Softball BC representative, proof of age for all participants at the Provincial Championship.
- 10.8.4. The representative Masters team from BC participating in a Western Canadian Championship will be allowed to roster up to a maximum of twenty (20) players.

**10.9. COACHING NCCP QUALIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATION**

- 10.9.1. Women's C and D – recommended minimum OGP or Competition Introduction In Training and MED.
- 10.9.2. Women's A and B – recommended minimum Competition Introduction Trained and MED.
- 10.9.3. Western Canadian Championship – required minimum OGP and MED.
- 10.9.4. Canadian Championship – required minimum Competition Introduction Certified and MED.

**10.10. NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER**

Any team which has a player or coach not available for a Provincial Championship due to that player's commitment to a Canadian National or a Provincial team, shall be permitted, with written approval of the Men's and Women's Director, a substitute on their roster for that Provincial Championship on the following basis: (this will not count as a pick-up player).

- a. Pitcher for Pitcher
- b. Non-Pitcher for Non-Pitcher
- c. Coach for Coach

**10.11. PICK-UPS**

- 10.11.1. To be read in conjunction with Articles 13 (Provincial Championships) for eligibility of players to participate in Provincial play, please refer to Annex "F" Men's and Women's Pick-up chart. (Women's teams may pick up from outside their home district)
- 10.11.2. Teams attending Provincial Championships may pick up a maximum of 3 players
- 10.11.3. A player may play in more than one Men's and Women's Provincial Championship, as long as they:
  - a. Have fulfilled all obligations to their registered team, and
  - b. Have the permission of their team's head coach. This is granted by providing a signed approval on the Softball BC approved roster
- 10.11.4. Any team using a pick-up player who is ruled ineligible will be subject to forfeiture at any time during a Championship upon receipt of a formal protest.



## ARTICLE 11 – MEN’S FASTPITCH

### 11.1. MEN’S FASTPITCH CATEGORIES & POST SEASON:

Men’s A	Leads to a Canadian Championship
Men’s B	Leads to a Western Championship
Men’s Intermediate A	Provincial Championship only
Men’s Intermediate B	Provincial Championship only
U23 Men	Leads to a Western or a Canadian Championship

### 11.2. DEFINITIONS

- 11.2.1. FOOTWEAR – metal cleats are permitted.
- 11.2.2. HELMETS BATTING – an approved helmet shall be one that is fully enclosed, with two ear flaps, a foam liner and a peak.
- 11.2.3. HELMETS & MASKS (CATCHER) – Catcher must wear a regulation helmet and mask and/or approved equipment.
- 11.2.4. PITCHING – Softball Canada Rule 4.3 Legal Pitch Requirements for all divisions.
- 11.2.5. ON DECK CIRCLE – the on-deck batter has the right to go to either on-deck batting circle as they choose.
- 11.2.6. UNIFORMS – reference Softball Canada rule 2.5.
- 11.2.7. ELECTRONIC DEVICES – electronic devices (e.g. smartphone, tablet) are not permitted on the field of play.
- 11.2.8. PROHIBITION – players and coaches are forbidden to smoke, chew tobacco, and have alcoholic or legal recreational drugs in the dugout or on any part of the playing field. Consequence – violators will be ejected from the game.

### 11.3. TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

- 11.3.1. Players, managers and coaches are to be registered through Softball BC electronic registration
- 11.3.2. Each team shall be entitled to carry a maximum of twenty (20) players and five (5) coaches/managers.
- 11.3.3. A player identifying as male shall not be permitted to register on a female team.
- 11.3.4. A player identifying as a female may be permitted to register with either a male team or a female team.

- 11.3.5. Team registration shall be considered final when the team roster has been confirmed and approved by the Men's and Women's Coordinator, or the Men's and Women's Director.
- 11.3.6. A team that plays in multiple leagues, or has multiple home parks will establish their district of registration by considering the following criteria:
  - a. Where they play a majority of their games
  - b. Where the majority of the players reside
- 11.3.7. Team registration to Softball BC through the online process is to be complete and confirmed by men's teams by June 30th.
- 11.3.8. The Softball BC team roster is to be approved by the Men's and Women's Coordinator or Director by July 15th of the current playing year.
- 11.3.9. Team rosters are to be submitted for approval through the Softball BC registration process no later than June 30th of the current playing year.
- 11.3.10. The addition/deletion form shall be in effect up to and including the day of the Provincials coaches' meeting. Only additions for documented medical reasons, or moved out of the province will be considered for approval by the Men's and Women's Coordinator. After July 1st, approval is to come from the Men's and Women's Director.
- 11.3.11. The Men's and Women's Coordinator may reclassify teams to a higher or lower category as they deem necessary. The coordinator must notify the affected team in writing within seven (7) days of their reclassification. Teams may appeal this reclassification within seven (7) days by notifying their coordinator and Softball BC in writing. Appeals will not be considered after July 7th of the current playing season.
- 11.3.12. U23 Male team registration – turning 23 the year of the current playing season.

#### 11.4. **TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION**

- 11.4.1. Manager/coach shall not be eligible to play unless currently registered as an active player, in the proper manner, on the team's Softball BC registration form.
- 11.4.2. Any team placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a Provincial Championship in the previous year, and having eight (8) or more players returning to the team, will move up one (1) classification. The definition of eight (8) or more returning players shall include all players registered on the team, and any pick-ups used by the team at the previous Provincial Championship. \*\*Exception-Intermediate A will move up one classification after placing 1st at their Provincial Championship with at least 8 (eight) returning players including pick-ups and roster players.

- 11.4.3. A team may return to a lower classification after competing for at least two (2) years at the higher classification with their Men's & Women's Coordinator approval.
- 11.4.4. Teams graduating from minor categories shall use the following chart based on their previous year's registration and/or participation at their Provincial Championship.
  - U19A to Men's B or Intermediate A (Men's U20A to Men's U23A)
  - U19B to Men's Intermediate B (Men's U20B to Men's U23B)
- 11.4.5. Each player must have played a minimum of four (4) games with one team in order to participate at the Provincial Championship as a rostered player with that team. Proof of participation will be required at the Pre-Provincial coach's meeting if requested. Exceptions may be made should a regular member of a given team sustain, or be recovering from an injury which prevented them from playing the minimum number of games. The Men's or Women's Director shall have sole authority in this decision.

#### 11.5. **ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION OF TEAMS FOR PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- 11.5.1. Men's teams must submit their provincial entry fee to the Softball BC office no later than 1 month before the championship unless there is the ability of the host to accommodate a late registration.
- 11.5.2. Every team participating in a Provincial Championship shall submit a copy of their Softball BC roster form, duly authorized by the Men's and Women's Coordinator, and the same for any player or coach pick-up, to the Board Member or designate assigned to that Provincial Championship.
- 11.5.3. Teams intending to participate in their Provincial Championship are required to notify their Men's and Women's Coordinator of their intent no later than one month before the Provincial Championship start date. Failure to do so could result in the team not being eligible to attend the championship if space is not available due to venue restrictions.

## 11.6. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

### 11.6.1. DRAW

- 11.6.1.1. Teams must register for their Provincial Championships one month prior to the Provincial Championship start date.
- 11.6.1.2. Draw will take place fourteen (14) days before the Championship is to begin.
- 11.6.1.3. When drawing for the tournament, first team drawn will be marked as Team #1 and so on until all team names have been drawn.

### 11.6.2. FORMAT

- 11.6.2.1. Four game guarantee with format dependent on the number of teams registered in the Championship.
- 11.6.2.2. Games are to be scheduled a minimum of two (2) hour time slots.
- 11.6.2.3. Run difference: In all men's fastpitch categories, the game will end after:
  - a. 2 ½, 3, complete innings of play if there is a difference of fifteen (15) or more runs
  - b. 3 ½, 4, 4 ½ complete innings of play there is a difference of ten (10) or more runs
  - c. 5, 5 ½ or 6 complete innings of play if there is a difference of seven (7) or more runs
- 11.6.2.4. **MEN'S MASTER PROVINCIAL FORMAT**  
Four game guarantee with format dependent on the number of teams registered in the Championship.

### 11.6.3. QUALIFYING ROUND

- 11.6.3.1. Home team decided by coin toss at the coaches meeting.
- 11.6.3.2. Game time starts with the first pitch to the first batter.
- 11.6.3.3. Time limit of one hour thirty minutes, or seven (7) innings, with no new inning to start after time has expired. (Exception: A game is constituted by 4 ½ or 5 innings. Games must be played out regardless of the time limit to 4 ½ or 5 innings unless the Run Ahead Rule is in effect. With NO EXCEPTION will the home team bat if they are leading after 6 ½ innings.
- 11.6.3.4. A tied game shall be broken by extra innings regardless of the time limit.
- 11.6.3.5. When there is a stoppage in play due to an injury, the blood rule, or concussion protocol, the game clock shall be stopped.
- 11.6.3.6. In the event the Home team is losing after 4 ½ or 5 ½ innings, and after time has expired, the game will end with either the final out of the inning, or the play which results in the Home team scoring the winning run.

- 11.6.3.7. In the event the game is tied at the end of seven (7) innings, or after 4 ½ -6 completed innings, and the time has expired, the tie shall be broken by extra innings. (Tie Breaker rule is to be used)

#### 11.6.4. ELIMINATION ROUND

- 11.6.4.1. Higher seeded team from qualifying round shall have the option of home or visitor \*\*Exception – If Article 11.6.4.6 comes into effect, which takes priority
- 11.6.4.2. Game time starts with the first pitch to the first batter of the game
- 11.6.4.3. A time limit of one hour forty minutes will be in effect for all games in the Elimination round, with the exception of the final game, which shall have no time limit.
- 11.6.4.4. When there is a stoppage in play due to an injury, the blood rule, or concussion protocol, the game clock shall be stopped.
- 11.6.4.5. All ties are to be broken by extra innings with no exception. (Note: with the exception of the final game, International Tie Breaker rule is to be used in Elimination round)
- 11.6.4.6. In all Men's and Women's provincials using the modified double knockout format, the undefeated team in the final is given the choice of Home or Visitor.
- 11.6.4.7. Tie Breaker- The final seeding shall be determined as follows:
- Won-Loss record. If still tied, then
  - When only two (2) teams are tied, the winner of the game between the tied teams. When three or more teams are tied, or when two teams are tied, but have not played each other in the qualifying round, only criteria (c), (d), (e) and (f) in that order will apply
  - Combined Run Differential (Total runs for minus total runs against). Note: Run differential limit is +7 or -7 runs per game.
  - Least runs scored against during entire qualifying round. (Note: full team records from the qualifying round shall be used) If still tied, then:
  - Most runs scored for during entire qualifying round (Note full team records from the qualifying round shall be used) If still tied then:
  - If time and facilities permit, play a tie breaker game. If time and facilities do not permit, the final seeding will be determined by a coin toss by the Softball BC representative or designate.

**11.7. DESIGNATED RUNNER**

For Men's Master's categories only.

- 11.7.1. The team may designate one player as a runner. The player shall be called the Designated Runner (DR) and the following shall apply:
  - a. The DR must be listed in the last spot of the starting line up (10th with no DP or 11th with a DP).
  - b. The DR may run for only one player per inning and may do so each time that player becomes a runner in the inning.
  - c. The DR may run for a different player each inning.
  - d. The DR may not bat or play defence.
  - e. An eligible player not in the game may substitute for DR.
  - f. The DR may not re- enter the game.
  - g. A team is not obligated to use the DR the entire game.

**11.8. MASTERS FASTPITCH**

- 11.8.1. Players of Masters Fastpitch age are allowed to register and play on both a Masters and a Men's or Fastpitch team roster. Each team may play in a league with the Men's team roster taking priority in the event both Provincial Championships are being played on the same weekend.
- 11.8.2. Masters Fastpitch Age: Celebrate their 40th birthday by or in the current playing year.
- 11.8.3. Legends Masters Fastpitch Age: Celebrate their 55th birthday by or in the current playing year  
NOTE: Each team MUST present to the Softball BC representative, proof of age for all participants at the Provincial Championship.
- 11.8.4. The representative Masters team from BC participating in a Western Canadian Championship will be allowed to roster up to a maximum of twenty (20) players.

**11.9. COACHING NCCP QUALIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATION**

- 11.9.1. Men's Intermediate A, B and C – recommended minimum OGP or Competition Introduction In Training and MED.
- 11.9.2. Men's A and B – recommended minimum Competition Introduction Trained and MED.
- 11.9.3. Western Canadian Championship – required minimum OGP and MED.
- 11.9.4. Canadian Championship – required minimum Competition Introduction Certified and MED.

**11.10. NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER**

Any team which has a player or coach not available for a Provincial Championship due to that player's commitment to a Canadian National or a Provincial team, shall be permitted, with written approval of the Men's and Women's Director, a substitute on their roster for that Provincial Championship on the following basis: (this will not count as a pick-up player).

- a. Pitcher for Pitcher
- b. Non-Pitcher for Non-Pitcher
- c. Coach for Coach

**11.11. PICK-UPS**

11.11.1. To be read in conjunction with Articles 13 (Provincial Championships). For eligibility of players to participate in Provincial play, please refer to Annex "F" Men's and Women's Pick-up chart. (Men's and teams may pick up from outside their home district)

11.11.2. Men's teams attending Provincial Championships do not have a limit for pick-ups

11.11.3. A player may play in more than one Men's Provincial Championship, as long as they have fulfilled all obligations to their registered team, and have the permission of their team's head coach. This is granted by providing a signed approval on the Softball BC approved roster

11.11.4. Pick-ups must have written permission from their Head coach in the form of a copy of the Softball BC approved roster form, which must also be signed by the head coach or a designate. Any team using a pick-up player who is ruled ineligible will be subject to forfeiture at any time during a Championship upon receipt of a formal protest.

## 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:

- 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.
- Host team as determined by Softball Canada Article 1.2 a) team representation Slo Pitch
- If there are two teams to be ranked, a two out of three playoff will be arranged in the championship year
- 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

- 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.



#### 12.1.4. EQUIPMENT

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

12.1.4.2. Helmets:

i. Helmets are mandatory for:

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

Effect: Players shall be called out immediately when ordered by the umpire to wear a helmet and fail to do so.

#### 12.1.5. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS – CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP AND WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

12.1.5.1 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.

12.1.5.2 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;

12.1.5.3 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;

12.1.5.4 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.

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

## 12.1.6. REGISTRATION

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

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.

## 12.1.1. 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.

- e. If the temporary runner is on base and due to bat, they shall be replaced by another eligible player without penalty.
- f. 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:

- a. 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.
- b. 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 – 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 – BAT SPECIFICATIONS**

### OFFICIAL BAT

For open divisions only use 240 compression stem/thumb print on bats. Intermediate divisions same as above plus bats manufactured with 220 compression. These grandfathered bats need to pass a 240 compression test.

## **APPENDIX – 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.

## ARTICLE 13 – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 13.1. ELIGIBILITY

- 13.1.1. **INELIGIBLE PLAYER:** Upon the discovery of the use of an ineligible player or players in any Softball BC District Zone, Regional or Provincial Championship play, the game shall be forfeited either to the team being played, or the last defeated team, and the team so forfeiting the game shall immediately be reviewed by the Protest Committee to determine whether the team shall be disqualified from the Tournament.

### 13.2. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEES:

ALL MINOR CATEGORIES	\$600.00 plus GST
A WOMEN	\$600.00 plus GST
INTERMEDIATE A WOMEN	\$600.00 plus GST
B/C/D WOMEN FP	\$600.00 plus GST
MEN FP	\$600.00 plus GST
MIXED ORTHO	\$600.00 plus GST
SLO PITCH	\$600.00 plus GST

- 13.2.1. **NON-REFUNDABLE** All Provincial Championship Entry Fees are non-refundable.

**EXCEPTION:** Men's and Women's Fastpitch. A team unable to participate 21 days before the tournament may apply for a refund of their entry fee less the umpire fees and the expense money.

- 13.2.2. **ALLOCATION OF FEES** At all Women's Fastpitch Provincial Championships, \$50.00 per team from entry fees is allocated to the host association to offset costs relating to the championship. No expense money is disbursed to teams.

- 13.2.3. **COST OF OFFICIALS** Provincial entry fees for Men's and Women's Fastpitch will have \$200.00 per team allocated to the host association to cover the cost of officials.

13.2.3.1. Tournament UIC's of Men's and Women's Fastpitch Provincials, at the end of the Provincial Tournament, are to provide the Host Association an accounting of all monies given to them by the Host Association (or Softball BC) to cover the officiating fees of officials.

13.2.3.2. Tournament UIC's of Men's and Women's Fastpitch Provincials, at the end of the Provincial tournament, are to return all unused funds to the Host Association.

- 13.2.4. MINOR ENTRY FEES: \$60.00 per game will be allocated to the Minor Championship District or Tournament UIC to cover all Round Robin and up to two 6-team Knockout Championship Draw rounds in the case of a Minor Combined Provincial Championship.
- 13.2.5. Tournament UIC's of Minor Provincial Championships, at the end of the tournament, are to provide the Softball BC Board Representative an accounting of monies from the Host Association (or Softball BC) to cover the cost of officials.
- 13.2.6. Tournament UIC's of Minor Fastpitch Provincial Championships, at the end of the Provincial tournament, are to return unused funds to the Softball BC Board Representative.
- 13.2.7. DEADLINES Entry fees for Minor categories are to be submitted to the Softball BC office 10 days prior to the championship. Failure to do so will result in a \$25 late fee. Entry fees for Men & Women's categories are to be submitted to the Softball BC office by June 30th. Failure to do so and your team will be ineligible to participate.
- 13.2.8. FORM OF FEES All entry fees are to be paid by credit card. Entry Fees not received on time, as stated, will automatically eliminate the team from the Provincial Championship.
- 13.2.9. REQUIRED INFORMATION The entry fee be accompanied by the following information: team name, category, male or female, coach's name and phone number and the appropriate cheque.

### 13.3. **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW – General**

- 13.3.1. NO CHAMPIONSHIP if there is only one team registered in that category.
- 13.3.2. TWO TEAMS Two teams will play a best of three series.
- 13.3.3. DRAW The tournament draw format and actual draw shall be conducted by the Board of Director (or his or her designate) assigned to that tournament. Once the draw and schedule of game times has been made known to the teams and the host association, any changes to the game times shall only be made after consultation with the host association.
- 13.3.4. APPROVAL BY BOARD REP The starting times for the draw of all games, time, use of park(s) and all items in the Tournament Kit deemed necessary for the success of all parties connected to the tournament must be approved by the Softball BC Board Member in charge of the Provincial Tournament. This must be done prior to any announcements, publications, or phone calls to anyone associated with the tournament.

### 13.4. INCOMPLETE CHAMPIONSHIP PROCEDURE

- 13.4.1. **MUST PLAY ONE GAME** All teams must play at least one game. If this is not possible, all team names will be put into a lottery and a winner (only) will be drawn by the Softball BC Representative (or designate) unless the participating teams unanimously agree to play the tournament at a later date at their own expense. Championships leading to a Western Canadian or a Canadian would have to be rescheduled so as to be able to declare a winner at least 7 days prior to the scheduled departure date to those competitions.
- 13.4.2. **INCOMPLETE GAMES** that are discontinued shall be resumed at the break-off point that same day or night. If games cannot be completed on the same day or night the following shall apply the next day before the scheduled games:
  - a. Less than 4½ or 5 Innings Played: resume at breakoff point
  - b. Winner after 4½ or 5 Innings: legal game
  - c. After 5 Tied: resume at breakoff point
- 13.4.3. **REVERT TO SINGLE KNOCKOUT** If no games are played until the last day or is otherwise delayed to the point that insufficient time is available for a modified round robin or double knockout, the tournament format shall revert to a single knock-out using as many parks as possible. If 6 or fewer teams are entered, the Knockout Championship Draw shall be played on one day if there are 2 parks available; or single knockout if only one park available. The order of the draw shall remain the same except for modified round robin formats would now apply their original draw order to a single knockout format. The same number of teams originally slated for the Knockout Championship Draw will use that draw. In the case of a modified round robin format, they will revert back to the last point at which all teams had played an equal number of games
- 13.4.4. **UNDEFEATED RESUME OR LOTTERY** If board rep and Host are unable to work 13.4.3, and there is time and place available, subject to the conditions in 13.4.1 above, the undefeated teams shall try to agree to resume the championship at a later date at their own expense and declare a winner. Otherwise, winner shall be determined by lottery of undefeated teams. There will be no second or third place awards

- 13.4.5. **TOURNAMENTS USING MODIFIED ROUND ROBIN FORMAT** If the board rep and Host are unable to work 13.4.3 or 13.4.4 above, and there is time and place available, subject to the conditions in (a) above, then the teams can agree to resume the championship at a later date (at their own expense), and declare a winner. If the tournament has not progressed past the round robin portion then play would revert back to the point where all teams played an equal number of games and then determine the elimination round qualifiers based on the criteria outlined in Article 8.7.11 Minor Female and 9.7.4. Minor Male. Those elimination round qualifiers would be the teams eligible to agree to move the tournament. If the agreement is not forthcoming then a winner (and second and third) will be declared based on the round robin record. If the tournament has passed the round robin portion and has progressed so that all of the elimination round qualifiers have played at least one game then you would revert back to the last point in the elimination round where the teams have played an equal number of games and select the undefeated teams (in the elimination round) and attempt to reach a mutual agreement regarding moving the tournament. Teams entering the elimination round with only "one life" shall be considered to have one loss in their record. If agreement is not forthcoming then those undefeated teams' names shall be entered in a lottery and a winner drawn and declared. There will be no drawing of second and third.
- 13.4.6. **PLAYING CONDITIONS** Prior to the start of the tournament and prior to the start of any game the decision as to the suitability of play (weather conditions or otherwise) shall be made by the Softball BC Representative or their appointed designate. Once a game has started, the Umpires, in consultation with the Softball BC Representative, shall decide if it shall continue.
- 13.4.7. **UNDEFEATED TEAM** If the Championship game has an undefeated elimination round team and a one loss elimination round team, and is unable to continue, the undefeated team shall be declared champion if the game has not progressed 4½ or 5 complete innings. If it has progressed past 4½ or 5 complete innings and the game has been declared legal, but a necessary final (if game) is unable to be played, then the two teams' names will be put in a lottery and drawn for the winner unless those two teams agree upon a resumption of play at another time and place (at their own expense) and subject to the conditions in (a) above.
- 13.4.8. **DEADLINE** The Softball BC Representative shall be required to wait until the final schedule day of the tournament at 12p.m. (for Minor only) or 2p.m. (on an unlit park) or 4p.m. (on a lit park) (Fast Pitch) before cancelling the tournament and resorting to drawing for or declaring champions or to moving the championship time and place as per other provisions of this article.



13.4.9. **POST PROVINCIAL PLAY** In any event where the champion was declared by lottery, and where these are championships that lead to a Western Canadian or Canadian, the Softball BC Representative shall continue the draw to determine the order of finish as a contingency against the first place winner choosing not to compete further.

13.4.10. **BOARD REP DISCRETION** If there are situations that arise that are not covered by this Incomplete Championship Procedure or by other Articles under the Special Operating Rules or Constitution of Softball BC, the Softball BC Representative shall have the sole authority to rule on those situations.

### 13.5. **UNIFORMS ON THE FIELD OF PLAY**

13.5.1. **Uniforms**, team names, logos and mascots cannot be of a discriminatory or harassing nature.

13.5.2. **SHORTS AND PANTS** Women have the option of wearing a combination of shorts and pants as long as the shorts and pants are identical in style and colour.

13.5.3. **NOT EXPOSED** An acceptable softball uniform for females shall be of such design that the bra areas not be exposed, and the top must be long enough to be tucked in at the waist.

13.5.4. **JEWELLERY** Casts, exposed jewellery, such as wrist watches, bracelets, earrings, and neck chains, or any other item judged dangerous by the umpire may not be worn during the game.

13.5.5. **MINOR C** In Minor 'C' Championships full team uniforms are encouraged but proper dress may be shirts which have 6-inch numbers on the back, and caps for boys are mandatory.

13.5.6. **METAL CLEATS** Metal cleats are not allowed in the game of Slo Pitch, Orthodox, Mixed Fast Pitch or any Minor category unless there is a specific exception.

13.5.7. **NO JEANS** At District and Provincial Championships coaches may not wear jeans of any colour.

13.5.8. **LOST HELMET** When a batter receives a walk or delivers a hit, he/she must proceed directly to first base and may not enter the team area or dugout. If a batter or runner loses the helmet while proceeding to first base or running the bases and the act is unintentional, there is no penalty if there is interference.

If a batter or runner deliberately removes the helmet and causes interference, then this is an act of interference by the offensive player and the appropriate interference rule applies. If a player bats or runs bases without wearing a helmet and the act is not detected by the umpire, there is no penalty; the player is simply made to wear a helmet.

**13.6. FORFEIT**

- 13.6.1. **PROTEST COMMITTEE** Any team which loses a game because of forfeit, default or failure to complete a scheduled game during a District, Zone or Provincial Championship, shall immediately be reviewed by the Protest Committee to determine whether that team will be disqualified from the Tournament.
- 13.6.2. **INJURY** In the case of a forfeit because of injury, the Softball BC Rep will allow that team to compete in any further games and retain their points from any previous games. In women's, for the 2024 season as a trial, the Designated Runner may be subbed in if a team is going to otherwise forfeit the game due to injury causing fewer than 9 players. That player is no longer a DR.
- 13.6.3. **RUNS CREDITED** In case of a forfeited game, the winning team is credited with the maximum of ten runs in Slo Pitch and seven runs in Fastpitch.

**13.7. UMPIRES (PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS)**

- 13.7.1. **CURRENT TICKET** Umpires shall not be permitted to umpire in any District or Provincial playoffs without a current Softball BC ticket, which must be obtained on or before June 15th of the current year.
- 13.7.2. **UIC** In Provincial Championships, the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief or his appointed representative shall oversee all officiating.
- 13.7.3. **ALLOCATION** of game officials will be the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief's responsibility and their decision is final.
- 13.7.4. **DESIGNATE** If a District Umpire-in-Chief is unable to supervise a Provincial Championship in his/ her District, then his/ her designate must be appointed by the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief.
- 13.7.5. **NUMBER OF UMPIRES:**
  - 13.7.5.1. 'A' (Fastpitch) men and women will use three umpires, subject to availability, per game in all Semi-Final and Final Provincial Championship games.
  - 13.7.5.2. All Slo Pitch categories shall use 1 umpire per game in the Round Robin games and 2 umpires per game in the Elimination games. (Note: Host has the option to supply 2 or 3 umpires.)
  - 13.7.5.3. All Minor categories shall use 2 umpires per game (Host, Umpire-in-Chief has the option of using 3 umpires per game.)

13.7.5.4. All Provincial Championships that lead to a National Championship shall use the three-umpire system for the Championship round where sufficient umpires are available.

13.7.6. FEES Provincial Championship Umpire Fees:

- a. Men's and Women's A Fast Pitch \$35.00 per game per umpire.
- b. Men's and Women's Fast Pitch – other \$35.00 per game per umpire; 3 umpires used for final game.
- c. Men's and Women's Slo Pitch \$35.00 per game per umpire; minimum 2 umpires used for all Elimination games.
- d. MINORS: Softball BC is to allocate enough funds, as per the present chart, to cover all games played at a Provincial Championship, minimum 2 umpires for all games. In the event any extra games are required due to a 7 or 8 team Knockout Championship Draw, the Tournament Director will submit a request to Softball BC, at the conclusion of the Championship to be reimbursed for all extra games played at \$60.00 per game.

**13.8. PROTESTS – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- 13.8.1. **PROTEST COMMITTEE** will be made up of the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief, Tournament Director and the Softball BC Board of Director in charge, or their assigned designate.
- 13.8.2. **ELIGIBILITY** Softball BC Board of Director (or their appointee) shall make the final decision on an eligibility protest of a player in a Provincial Championship.
- 13.8.3. **CASH FEE** In Provincial Championships, before the Protest Committee hears the protest, the protesting manager/head coach must put forward a protest fee of \$50.00 cash. Should the protest be upheld the fee will be returned. Should the protest be denied, the fee will be retained by Softball BC.
- 13.8.4. **SCHEDULE NOT APPEALABLE** There can be no protest on the rescheduling of any games at a Provincial Championship. Failure of a team to appear in any Provincial Championship game shall immediately be reviewed by the Protest Committee to determine whether that team shall be disqualified from the Championship and disciplinary action will be considered by the Board of Directors of Softball BC
- 13.8.5. **RULEBOOKS** The Protest Committee must have a copy of the current Softball BC Handbook and a current Softball Canada Rule Book.
- 13.8.6. **BOARD REP ROLE** The Softball BC Board Representative shall have the power to act and be in complete charge of all Provincial Championship games.
- 13.8.7. **PAUSE TIME** In the event of a protest during a game where a time limit is used the game clock will be paused until the protest has been resolved.
- 13.8.8. **DISCIPLINE** Any player or team official that has been ejected from a game before, during or after a Provincial Tournament may be subject to further disciplinary action, to be decided by the Protest Committee or submitted to Softball BC for further investigation.

**13.9. TOURNAMENT OBLIGATIONS – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- 13.9.1. **LEGAL AGREEMENT** Leagues or Associations having been awarded the Provincial Championship Tournament must fulfill all obligations as specified in the bid and in the signed legal agreement between Softball BC and the organizing League(s) or Association(s).
- 13.9.2. **NO LIABILITY FOR DEBT** Softball BC shall not be liable for any claims or indebtedness incurred in the conduct of any Provincial Championship.

- 13.9.3. **BALLS** Softballs to be used at Minor, Men's and Women's Fast Pitch and Slo Pitch (male and female) Provincial Championships are as follows:

<b>Men and Women Fastpitch</b>	
Jr. /Women/Master Women	Cor 47 12" Optic Raised Seam
Jr./Men's and Women's/Master Men	Cor 47 12" Optic Rolled Seam Orthodox
	Cor 47 12" Optic Rolled Seam
Mixed Fastpitch	Cor 47 12" Optic Rolled Seam
<b>Minor Fastpitch Boys</b>	
U20 'A', 'B' & C boys	12" Optic Rolled Seam
U17 'A', 'B' & 'C' boys	12" Optic Rolled Seam
U15 'A', 'B' & 'C' boys	12" Optic Rolled Seam
U13 'A', 'B' & 'C' boys	11" Optic Rolled Seam
<b>Minor Fastpitch Girls</b>	
U19A, U19B and U20C Girls	12" Optic Rolled Seam
U17 'A', 'B' & 'C' Girls	12" Optic Rolled Seam
U15 'A', 'B' & 'C' Girls	12" Optic Rolled Seam
U13 'A', 'B' & 'C' Girls	11" Optic Rolled Seam
<b>Slo Pitch (all categories – Open/C/D)</b>	
Women's Slo Pitch	ZN 1147SP 11"
Men's Slo Pitch	ZN 1247SP 12"
Mixed Slo Pitch – Men	ZN 1247SP 12"
Mixed Slo Pitch – Women	ZN 1147SP 11"

- 13.9.4. **PASS ALLOCATION** All teams competing in a Provincial Championship will be entitled to no more than five passes for all games, over and above the official player's roster submitted.
- 13.9.5. **ACCOMMODATION** Leagues or Associations hosting Provincial Championships will advise participating teams upon registration with the Championship Director of the accommodations closest to the ballpark being used in the Championships.

13.9.6. **COACH MEETING** Host Associations are required to have a Coaches and Managers meeting prior to the start of the Provincial Championship. The Softball BC Board Representative and the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief must be in attendance.

13.9.7. **DOUBLE BASE** The Official Double Base is mandatory in all District, Zone and Provincial Playoffs for all categories.

#### 13.10. **AWARDS**

Softball BC medals will be awarded: Gold to the winning team, Silver to the second place team and Bronze to the third place team.

#### 13.11. **COACH RESPONSIBILITY FOR ATTENDEES**

The head coach, or in their absence, another coach shall be responsible for the conduct of the team's attendees. If after a warning from an umpire, Softball BC Board Representative, or Tournament UIC, concerning the behaviour of the team's attendees, they may choose to eject the coach from the game and the game will be forfeited. Note the coach is responsible for the conduct of the attendees before and post-game.

13.12. Softball BC Board Representative can and may stop the game if grossly mismatched and consent is given by coaches from both teams. The game will scored as +7 runs and +30 bases touched for the winning team.

## ARTICLE 14 – REGIONAL & PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP BIDS

- 14.1. **BIDS:** All bids for Softball U11 Celebrations, U13C Regional & Provincial Championships must follow Provincial requirements:
  - 14.1.1. **DEADLINE** Bid deadline is the Saturday of the Annual General Meeting in October (5:00 p.m.). A schedule will be set prior to the bid period. Championships that have not been bid on by March 1st will be cancelled for the current season. (Exception: Minor).
  - 14.1.2. **NOTE:** Application forms to submit bids for Championships can be found on the Softball BC website.
  - 14.1.3. **CONTENT** Bids must include a description of the available facilities and a proposed budget for the event.
  - 14.1.4. **ELIGIBILITY** Only recognized leagues or associations will be accepted as bidders for Provincial Championships.
  - 14.1.5. **BOND** A performance bond of \$200.00 will be billed to the successful applicants upon notification of acceptance. The bond is non-refundable.
  - 14.1.6. **TIMING**
    - 14.1.6.1. Minor category Provincial 'A' Tournaments will begin on the third weekend after the long weekend in July. **EXCEPTION:** U15 in Summer Games years.
    - 14.1.6.2. Minor category Provincial 'B' Tournaments will be held on the second weekend after the long weekend in July.
    - 14.1.6.3. Minor category Provincial 'C' Tournaments will be held on the first weekend after the long weekend in July.
    - 14.1.6.4. All Provincial Championships leading to a Canadian or Western Canadian be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the inter-Provincial Championship.
  - 14.1.7. **RIGHT TO CHANGE** Softball BC has the right to withdraw, reassign or reschedule any Provincial Championship for reasons including but not limited to:
    - a. The hosting fee has not been received.
    - b. The Provincial Championship Host Agreement has not been returned to the Softball BC office duly signed by the Coordinator and District Umpire-in-Chief.
    - c. Playing conditions are not acceptable
    - d. Planning is not acceptable.
    - e. In taking such action the tournament dates will be varied only after every possible effort has been exhausted to find a suitable location for the Championship on the originally scheduled date.

- 14.1.8. **SOFTBALL BC ROLE** Softball BC shall conduct and control Provincial Championships. They shall scrutinize the bids to confirm the best possible site for the Championships.
- 14.1.9. **MAY COMBINE** The Board of Directors of Softball BC has the authority to combine two or more Provincial Championships into one site with the approval of the host association(s), providing that the number of teams does not exceed 20 teams.



## 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.
- 15.4. **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).
- 15.5. **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.

- 15.6. **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.
- 15.7. **PRIOR YEAR CHAMPION** Prior year's Provincial Champion (Slo Pitch and Mixed Orthodox only).
- 15.8. **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 Articles 8.2.2 d) and 8.6.13 shall be considered 'B' players.
- 15.9. **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.
- 15.10. **PROVINCIAL HOST TEAM:**
- 15.10.1. The host team will be determined as the highest finishing eligible team from the host:
- Association
  - District
  - City
- 15.10.2. 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.
- 15.10.3. 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.

- 15.11. **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.
- 15.12. **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.

## ARTICLE 16 - WESTERN/CANADIAN BIDS

- 16.1. **VOTING** Where two or more organizations bid for the same Western Canadian or Canadian Championships, bids must be presented to General Meeting and be voted on by the voting delegates. EXCEPTION: Minors.
- 16.2. **FEE** The host association for W.C.S.C. submits their \$250 for Men's and Women's FP and SP and \$100 for Minor tournament fees when they submit the W.C.S.A. contract.
- 16.3. **LOSS** Softball BC will, upon receipt of a financial statement from the host, supply up to \$2,500.00 should the host report a loss. The grant will be prorated based on the amount of loss, as determined by the Softball BC Director.
- 16.4. **UMPIRE PENALTY** Each Province/Territory must send an umpire to each Western Canadian Championship they send a team to and when a P/T does not send an umpire they are assessed a \$500.00 penalty. The full \$500.00 penalty will be sent to the host association to cover costs associated with officials.
- 16.5. **FINE** When a Province or Territory withdraws a team after June 15th of the current year they are assessed a \$1000.00 fine. The full penalty received by Softball BC from the Western Canadian Softball Association will be forwarded to the host association to cover costs.

## ARTICLE 17 – INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

- 17.1. **MUST BE SANCTIONED** All invitational softball tournaments hosted by Softball BC teams and held within the Province of BC, must be sanctioned by Softball BC
- 17.2. **RESULTS** The results of all minor tournaments, together with any recommendations as to team classification, shall be forwarded by the tournament hosts to the Softball BC office immediately upon conclusion of the tournament for the use by Association administrators and Minor Coordinators to properly assess and classify teams in their respective Association/District.
- 17.3. **AUTOMATIC SANCTION**
  - 17.3.1. All tournaments hosted by members in good standing of Softball BC are automatically sanctioned. Those sanctions shall remain in place until such time as officially removed in writing or electronic form by the Director.
- 17.4. **CONDITIONS OF SANCTION**
  - 17.4.1. **PERMISSION FOR NON-MEMBERS** No team or player who is a member of Softball BC is permitted to play with or against a non-member of Softball BC without permission from Softball BC
  - 17.4.2. **AWARDS** All trophies, medals or awards promised are to be given to teams or players to whom they are entitled.
  - 17.4.3. **RULES** All rules and regulations of Softball BC are to be adhered to.
  - 17.4.4. **FAIR EXPENSES** All expense allowances to teams are to be distributed on a fair and equitable basis.
  - 17.4.5. **FOLLOW THROUGH** All conditions agreed upon that may be inherent to the particular tournament desiring sanction, are to be carried out.
  - 17.4.6. **REVIEW** Accredited Softball BC representative is permitted to examine records and tournaments procedures to ascertain above conditions.

## ARTICLE 18 - GENERAL

- 18.1. **DISTRICT ELECTIONS:** (To be read in conjunction with By-Laws, Part 4)
- 18.1.1. **COORDINATOR/UIC:** Elections, if held, are to take place before September 15th, with the terms of office commencing at the election year's Annual General Meeting in October. Candidates shall:
- endorse a Volunteer Agreement confirming that the candidate is a bona fide member of Softball BC,
  - confirm that the current annual dues have been fully paid, and
  - demonstrate a basic understanding of the Special Operating Rules of Softball BC and/or applicable Coordinator Manual.
- 18.1.2. **REPRESENTATIVES:** Elections, if held, are to take place before September 15th each year, with the term commencing immediately upon election. The District Coordinator shall satisfy themselves that the candidate is a bona fide member of Softball BC, and that the current annual dues have been fully paid.
- 18.1.3. **ELECTION YEARS:** The Umpire-in-Chief and Men's and Women's Fastpitch Coordinator elections are to be held on odd numbered years, and the Minor Fastpitch Coordinator and Men's and Women's Slo Pitch Coordinator on even numbered years;
- 18.1.4. **ELECTION RESULTS:** The new Softball BC District Representative names shall be reported in writing or electronic form to Softball BC within 30 days of the election;
- 18.1.5. **INCOMING AT AGM:** The incoming Softball BC District Representative may, without holding the power of a vote, accompany the outgoing Softball BC District Representative to the Softball BC Annual General Meeting, at the expense of the incoming Softball BC District Representative or District. In the case of the Minor Coordinator, Men's and Women's Fastpitch Coordinator or Men's and Women's Slo-pitch Coordinator, the new representative could fill a voting delegate's position of Female or Male Representative.

- 18.1.6. **DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY DISTRICT UIC** After each term, the District Umpire-in-Chief position shall become vacant and all interested parties, including the incumbent, must notify Softball BC in writing or electronic form by September 1st of their candidacy. If more than one person challenges for the position of District Umpire-in-Chief, elections will be held under the following criteria:
- 18.1.7. **UIC ELECTION:**
- 18.1.7.1. Voting shall be done electronically and supervised by the Softball BC office.
  - 18.1.7.2. All eligible voters shall be provided a link to the voting site.
  - 18.1.7.3. Each person in the election may include an endorsement of up to 1000 words to be included in the voting site beside the candidate's name.
  - 18.1.7.4. Each eligible voter shall be allowed to only vote once, and must be identified through the voting site.
  - 18.1.7.5. Elections shall be open for a period of not less than 48 hours and not more than 96 hours from the time of the notification to all eligible voters.
- 18.1.8. **CANDIDACY FOR COORDINATOR:** Candidates must submit an email, or letter of intent postmarked on or before September 1st to Softball BC and the incumbent Coordinator.
- 18.1.9. **COORDINATOR ELECTION:** the applicable director or their appointee shall arrange an election to be held before September 30th of the current year and shall:
- a. Provide a list of nominees and the date, time and in writing or electronic form at least 14 days before the election to:
    - i. the President or Executive of each Club or Association, and
    - ii. the coach or manager of every independent team in the District
  - b. Arrange an election by secret ballot and have it monitored by at least 3 scrutineers who are non-voting delegates;
  - c. Provide a reasonable opportunity for each nominee to address the delegates before the election;
- 18.1.10. **VOTES:** Each registered team shall be entitled to one vote. A voting delegate at a District Coordinator election shall, where represented by, or registered with, an Association, Club or League, be identified in advance by the President or a Director of such Association, Club or League, and may include any person who is listed as a player who is of the age of majority (19 years), coach or manager of a registered team on the approved roster. Each voting delegate should carry a copy of the approved team roster form, and may, on demand of the election scrutineers, be required to produce it to receive a ballot

- 18.2. **HANDBOOK COPIES:** Softball BC Handbooks will be distributed by Coordinators to Presidents of Associations.

18.3. **WHEELCHAIR COACHES**

Criteria for on field (coach's box) participation

- 18.3.1. The wheelchair must be manually propelled. Motorized wheelchairs are not acceptable.
- 18.3.2. Hazardous areas or protrusions of the wheelchair, as determined by the Softball BC Representative, in consultation with the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief and the Tournament Director, will be removed or padded.
- 18.3.3. In reference to Softball Canada Rule 10.1 should a question pertaining to the safety of any participants, due to the mobility of the wheelchair coach, the plate umpire must consult with the Softball BC Board Representative, the Tournament Director and the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief before any action is taken.

18.4. **TEAM TRAVEL FUND**

- 18.4.1. **RECIPIENTS** The recipients of the team travel fund will be as follows:
- a. teams must participate in a Provincial Championship providing a championship is held to qualify.
  - b. Softball BC will determine the funding allocated to teams travelling to Western Canadian and Canadian Championships
  - c. the amount of pay out to teams is based on how far they travel and other travel funding available
  - d. The highest finishing team from the Provincial Championship travelling to a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship is eligible to receive the travel funding. The amount of travel one way must be equal to or greater than 400 kilometres to be eligible. (Ferry travel to and from Vancouver Island is considered to be applied as a 400 km trip).



## ARTICLE 19 – UMPIRES

### 19.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 19.1.1. Only umpires currently registered and in good standing with Softball BC, may vote on their respective District Umpire-in-Chief position.
- 19.1.2. The designated Umpire-in-Chief of all Minor 'A' Provincial Championships shall not umpire in the Tournament.
- 19.1.3. The designated BC Board representative shall not umpire in the Provincial tournament.
- 19.1.4. The designated Tournament Umpire-in-Chief of all Men's and Women's, Fastpitch and Slo Pitch Provincial Championships, shall not umpire in the Tournament, except under unusual circumstances.
- 19.1.5. Umpire procedures and duties shall confirm to Appendix 5 of the Softball Canada Rulebook.
- 19.1.6. In all Softball BC Championships, Western Canadian Championships (hosted in BC), international tournaments or international tours hosted in BC, requiring Softball BC and / or Softball Canada sanction, the Softball BC Provincial Umpire-in-Chief or his appointed representative, shall select and oversee the assignment of all game officials. International tournaments or international tours shall be defined as "A tournament or tour which has teams from outside North America or national teams from North American countries." All World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) sanctioned events held in BC will be administered by the Softball Canada National Director of Umpires (NDU). The Softball Canada NDU may appoint the Softball BC UIC or his designate to UIC these events.
- 19.1.7. Softball BC shall recognize only one Amateur Umpire Association in BC, that to be the Association that is presently affiliated with BCA.S.A.
- 19.1.8. No District Umpire-in-Chief and/or designate shall receive remuneration for allocating District or BC Championship umpires.
- 19.1.9. All District Umpires-in-Chief must make the Provincial Championship(s) in their District their first priority over invitational tournaments.

19.2. **UMPIRE CERTIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATION**

Level 4 (Cost \$110.00) -- Only offered by Softball Canada and requires the permission of the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief. The registration fee is for all fully certified Level 4 and 4T umpires.

Level 1	This certification is for a new umpire and allows you to officiate local Minor and Men's and Women's recreational softball.
Level 2	This certification is for an umpire who has been a Level 1 for at least two years. This certification allows you to officiate local and provincial/territorial Minor level and/or local Men's and Women's softball and consideration for selection as a secondary selection to a U15 or U17 Canadian Championship.
Level 3	This certification allows you to Officiate provincial/territorial Minor and Men's and Women's softball and qualifies you to officiate U19, U23, Women's, and Masters national tournaments. Individuals must be at least 18 years old. To obtain this certification you must be invited to a Level 3 clinic and be evaluated at a U19A or Women's tournament.
Level 4	To obtain this certification you must complete a Level 4 national clinic and have recommendations from the U19 Women's or U20 Men's national tournament.
Level 5	To obtain this certification you must attend 2 Canadian Championships with positive evaluations and get a recommendation from the Women's or Men's National Championship.
Emeritus	For the umpire who has retired from on field-work and is working in an administrative role such instructing clinics or evaluating.

19.3. **SOFTBALL BC UMPIRE REGISTRATION** must be completed online by May 31st of the current year.

19.4. **UMPIRE MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION** shall be granted by the District U.I.C. and approved by the Provincial U.I.C.

19.5. **THE PROVINCIAL U.I.C.** may refuse a Softball BC umpire registration for reasons deemed to be characteristic of a member not in good standing. This refusal must be ratified by the full Board of Directors of Softball BC

19.6. **THE TERM OF MEMBERSHIP** shall begin upon affiliation and payment of set fees, and exist until the next affiliation date of January 1st.

- 19.7. **SOFTBALL BC UMPIRES REGISTRATION / MEMBERSHIP** shall be granted after January 1st for the current season.
- 19.8. **SOFTBALL BC UMPIRES** are required each year to complete the Softball Canada National Umpires Exam on-line for the certification level they hold as of January 1st of that year.
- 19.9. **EACH DISTRICT UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF** will be responsible to schedule all appropriate clinics to be held in their district, notify the office of the dates to be publicized on the Softball BC website and schedule instructors for each clinic.
- 19.10. **DRESS AND EQUIPMENT**
- 19.10.1. Softball BC registered umpires must comply with the required Softball BC approved dress code for umpires when umpiring in the province. There will be no exceptions. Umpires assigned to Western and Canadian Championships must comply with the Softball Canada dress code. Umpires traveling out of province will be required to follow the Softball Canada dress code. Failure to comply with the above dress code requirements may result in disciplinary action.
- 19.10.2. A registered umpire will be expected to comply with all the required protective safety equipment as spelled out in the Softball Canada Umpires Certification Manuals.
- 19.11. **EXPENSES – UMPIRES**
- All umpires expenditures must be submitted in writing, complete with receipts, directly to the Softball BC office. All expenditures will be subject to the approval of the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief. If the expense claim is approved, the expenditure will be submitted for payment.
- 19.12. **UMPIRE TRAVEL PERMITS**
- 19.12.1. All umpires who are invited (or wish) to umpire out-of-district must have permission from their home District UIC (or designate)
- 19.12.2. All umpires who are requested to officiate out-of-province must have permission from the Provincial UIC; actions contrary to this may lead to immediate suspension.
- 19.13. **EVALUATIONS AND INTER-PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL TRANSFERS**
- 19.13.1. The Softball BC Evaluation Form shall be the only form used for BC Umpires.
- 19.13.2. An incoming umpire shall hold their former Softball Canada graded level in BC, until such a time they are graded by the Provincial U.I.C or their appointed representative.

**19.14. EJECTION OF COACH FOR BEHAVIOUR OF TEAM**

- 19.14.1. The head coach, or in their absence another coach, shall be responsible for the conduct of their team's attendees. If, after a warning regarding the behaviour of a team's attendees from an umpire, the Softball BC Representative, or a Tournament UIC, the umpire may choose to eject the coach from the game and the game will be forfeited.
- 19.14.2 The responsibilities of a coach relative to the team's attendees is in effect prior to the game, during the game, and post-game.

## ARTICLE 20 – SOFTBALL BC HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS AND HALL OF FAME

20.1. **PURPOSE** – To establish an honour roll of:

- a. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS of Softball BC
- b. BRITISH COLUMBIA ATHLETE OF DISTINCTION of Softball BC
- c. HALL OF FAME of Softball BC

### 20.2. **CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATION**

20.2.1. BC HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP. To be eligible a person must have:

- a. Must have served as a Director in BC and/or Coordinator, U.I.C. of Softball BC for a period of five (5) years, not necessarily consecutive.
- b. May not return to Softball as a Director or Coordinator / U.I.C. if Honorary Life Membership is given.

20.2.2. Consideration for honorary life membership is to be based on exceptional service.

### 20.2.3. BRITISH COLUMBIA ATHLETE OF DISTINCTION

- a. Has represented Softball BC with distinction in Softball competition, in BC and/or Canada and whose career has brought great credit to Softball and high respect for the individual.
- b. Has compiled an outstanding record which extends over a period of years in Softball and,
- c. During the years for which outstanding performances are claimed, the athlete has been registered amateur as defined in the Operating Rules of Softball BC and,
- d. Has been a BC resident during the period for which outstanding performances are claimed.

### 20.2.4. SOFTBALL BC HALL OF FAME

#### 20.2.4.1. ATHLETE

- a. Has represented Softball BC with distinction in Softball competition, in BC, Canada and internationally and, whose example has brought great credit to Softball and high respect for the individual.
- b. Has represented Canada in International Championship, Pan-American Games, Olympic Games or World Championship.
- c. Has compiled an outstanding record which extends over a period of years in Softball and,

- d. During the years for which outstanding performances are claimed, the athlete has been registered amateur as defined in the Operating Rules of Softball BC and,
- e. Has been a BC resident during the period for which outstanding performances are claimed.

#### 20.2.4.2. OFFICIALS

- a. Both male and female, who has umpired with distinction in BC, Canada, or outside of Canada; or whose example has brought great credit to Softball and high respect for the individual or,
- b. Has compiled an outstanding umpiring record which extends over a period of years.
- c. During the years for which outstanding performance is claimed, has been a registered umpire as defined in the Operating Rules of Softball BC
- d. Has been a BC resident during the period for which outstanding performance is claimed.

#### 20.2.4.3. SPORTSPERSON/BUILDER

- a. Has served meritoriously in more than one capacity for a period of at least 10 years, not necessarily consecutive, as a volunteer, and/or;
- b. Has served at the Association, District or Provincial capacity for a minimum of 2 years;
- c. Has been a BC resident for the period during which exceptional service is claimed.

#### 20.2.4.4. TEAMS

- a. Has represented Softball BC as a team with distinction in Softball competition & whose example has brought great credit to Softball and,
- b. Has won a Gold Medal in a Canadian/Western Championship.

#### 20.2.4.5. SPONSORS

- a. Who has contributed to the growth of BC Softball for a period of five (5) years or longer.

#### 20.2.4.6. COACH

- a. Has been a resident of BC during the period for which outstanding performance is claimed; and
- b. Have coached at least 5 years at Western and/or a Canadian Championships or 3 years at Canadian Championship; or

- c. Have coached at least 1 year at Pan Am or World Championships;
- d. Represented BC with distinction at those competitions.

20.2.5. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION** Softball BC will recognize individuals for meritorious service to the sport of softball, from time to time.

- 20.2.5.1. Coordinators/U.I.C.'s – 5/10/15 year pins issued at Annual General Meeting in year of service.
- 20.2.5.2. Local Association person – plaques issued recognizing contribution for display at local level.
- 20.2.5.3. Must have served 5 years or more with local association.
- 20.2.5.4. Must have worked to the betterment of Softball BC within their organizations.

### 20.3. **NOMINATIONS**

- 20.3.1. **ORIGATION** Nominations may originate with a Club or an Association: in all cases, nominations must be approved by the appropriate District Coordinator, or Umpire-in-Chief.
- 20.3.2. **CITATION** Nominations must be accompanied by citations covering in as great detail as possible, the athletic accomplishments or the service record or both, of each person nominated. The claimed accomplishments or service record shall be supported by documentary evidence where there is any possibility of doubt.
- 20.3.3. **PHOTOGRAPHS** Should be accompanied by one or more photographs of the nominee(s), preferably 8 inches by 10 inches (20.3cm by 25.3cm). In the case of an athlete, it shall be an action picture from the athlete's competing days. In the case of sportsman or sportswomen, it shall be a suitable pose from their active service days.
- 20.3.4. **DEADLINE** Must be in the hands of the Softball BC Hall of Fame Membership Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual General Meeting of Softball BC, for consideration in that year.
- 20.3.5. **REVIEW BY BOARD** All applications approved by the Softball BC Hall of Fame Committee shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors of Softball BC with a recommendation for enrolment in the Hall.

#### 20.4. **SOFTBALL BC HALL OF FAME CENTRE**

- 20.4.1. **LOCATION** Shall be located at a suitable site as determined by Softball BC
- 20.4.2. **PERMANENT DISPLAY** Each Honorary Life Member / Athlete / Sportsperson / Team shall be permanently displayed at the Softball BC Hall of Fame, in the form of photographs and/or resume.
- 20.4.3. **50 YEAR CLUB:** Softball BC will provide recognition to eligible members who have been involved with Softball BC and the sport of softball for 50 years.

20.5. **ENROLMENT:** At no time shall the total enrolment of Sports person exceed the total enrolment of Athletes.

20.6. **RECOGNITION:** Suitably engraved framed certifications shall accompany each appointment to the Softball BC Hall of Fame.

20.7. **SUPERVISION AND CONTROL:** The supervision and control of the Softball BC Hall of Fame shall be a responsibility of the Board of Directors, and administered by the committee herein called "The Softball BC Hall of Fame Committee" appointed by the Board of Directors every two years. The cost of operating this shall be borne by Softball BC The Softball B.C Hall of Fame Committee shall consist of three (3) members as appointed by the Board of Directors of Softball BC A Softball BC Hall of Fame register shall be kept by the Softball BC Executive Director for the purpose of recording names, citations, photographs (negatives) or other materials considered of value for records of all persons.

#### 20.8. **AMENDMENTS:**

- 20.8.1. **PLURALITY** Any amendments to this Article may be made at any annual or general meeting of Softball BC provided two-thirds of the votes cast are favourable to any proposed amendment.
- 20.8.2. **NOTICE** of Motion of any proposed amendment shall be sent to the Office of Softball BC at least thirty (30) days before the annual or special general meeting and shall at once (upon receipt of said Notices of Motion) be forwarded by the Executive Director to all members of the Board of Directors and all members of the Hall of Fame Committee.



## ARTICLE 21 – FEES AND FINANCIAL ITEMS

### 21.1. MINOR REGISTRATION FEES

Annual dues coaches and managers U7 to U9	\$23.00
Annual dues players U7 to U9	\$33.00
Annual dues players, coaches and managers U11	\$23.00
Annual dues players, coaches and managers U13-U20	\$25.00**
Team Fee for U7 to U9	No Team Fee
Team Fee for U11	\$150.00
Team Fee for U13 A & B	\$250.00
Team Fee for U13 C to U20 C	\$235.00
Team Fee for U15 B to U19 B	\$475.00
Team Fee for U15 A to U19 A	\$550.00
League/Association Executive	\$23.00

\*\*\$2.00 to Special Minor Fund to be paid by separate cheque payable to Minor Development Fund

### 21.2. ADULT REGISTRATION FEES

Team Fee	\$300.00
----------	----------

### 21.3. LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP FEES - (One time only) \$10.00

### 21.4. CHAMPIONSHIP FEES

U11 CELEBRATION OF SOFTBALL ENTRY FEE - \$335 plus GST

U13 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEE - \$350 plus GST

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEE - \$600 plus GST

### 21.5. UMPIRE REGISTRATION FEES

Level 1 & 2	Certification	\$110.00*
	Certification	\$120.00**
	Refresher	\$105.00
Level 3	No Clinic	\$95.00
Level 4	No Clinic	\$110.00
Level 5	No Clinic	\$120.00
Emeritus		\$30.00

\*price includes clinic, but no rulebook \*\*price includes clinic and rulebook

Note: \$3 from each umpire registration fee is a donation to the Gordon McDonald/Margo & Dorene Thoms Bursary

21.6. **GORDON MCDONALD/MARGO AND DORENE THOMS  
BURSARY GUIDELINES**

1. All monies at present in the McDonald/Thoms Memorial Fund, and monies donated in future, to be administered by the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief, Mark Thoms and Callum McDonald. Monies to be expended will be voted upon each fall prior to October 1 of each year by the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief, Mark Thoms, Callum McDonald, Brian Van Os and the District Umpires-in-Chief (19 votes). The vote will be done by a mailed in ballot. All votes will be in sealed envelopes and mailed to Softball BC. The sealed envelopes will be sent to the Softball BC office and at the time the votes will be tabulated. The counting of the ballots should include 2 people. The results of the ballot count will be sent to all U.I.C.'s and the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief.
2. A complete financial report, including all revenues and its source, all expenses including all bursary recipients, opening balance and closing balance, be submitted to the Softball BC office by October 1 of each year by the McDonald/Thoms committee.
3. The voting members will establish one year in advance, the number of Bursaries and the amount of the Bursaries and these will be advertised in the last Softball BC Magazine of the year. (Application deadline August 1st or following the October 1st vote.)
4. The voting members will establish the guidelines for the application form and the distribution of these Bursaries. The voting members will be authorized to adjust by vote, changes to the guidelines as required. A signed copy of these guidelines will be available at the Softball BC office for the inspection of any Softball BC member.

## 21.7. MINOR DEVELOPMENT FUND GUIDELINES

(established 1991 – updated November 2023)

The Minor Development Fund was established by the minor representatives to carry out the following Mission and Vision Statements:

### **Mission Statement**

To financially assist districts and associations and ultimately players and coaches throughout the province of BC in the development of the sport of softball/fastpitch.

### **Vision Statement**

To develop minor players and coaches that are registered members of Softball BC.

1. The Minor Development Fund shall hereafter be referred to as the "Fund" and the Minor Development Fund Committee shall hereafter be referred to as the "Committee".
2. The Softball BC Board of Directors must ratify all Fund expenditures.
3. The signing officers of the Fund shall include the Minor Director AND any one the following:
  - a. One of two Minor Coordinators appointed by the Minor Director, or;
  - b. The President of Softball BC in the event that either of the appointed Minor Coordinators is not available.
4. The Committee shall consist of the Minor Director and one elected representative from each of the following areas of the province
  - a. Districts 1, 2 & 3 hereinafter referred to as Area A
  - b. Districts 4, 5, 6 & 15 hereinafter referred to as Area B
  - c. Districts 7, 8 & 14 hereinafter referred to as Area C
  - d. Districts 9, 10 & 11 hereinafter referred to as Area D
  - e. Districts 12 & 13 hereinafter referred to as Area E
5. Elections for representatives in Areas A, C & E shall take place in even numbered years and elections for representative in Areas B & D shall take place in odd numbered years.

6. Any elected Committee representative who is unable or unwilling to perform the duties expected of them, may be replaced by the Minor Director. Where in any area a nominee for election cannot be found, the Minor Director shall appoint one of the Minor Coordinators from that area. In either case such appointment shall expire at the date of the next Softball BC AGM and an election for a representative from the affected area shall, whether it is the appropriate election year for that area or not, be carried out as if it was an appropriate election year from that area.
7. On an annual basis following the election of Committee representatives in a given year, the Committee shall meet at the respective Softball BC AGM and shall select a chairperson from their peers.
8. Motions, including budgets, relating to the allocation of monies collected by the Fund, may be made by any Committee representative and/or any Minor member or representative in good standing with Softball BC. Such motions and budgets shall be submitted to the Committee chairperson thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Softball BC AGM.
9. All funds collected during a particular year shall be expended or allocated by the Committee by May 31st of the following year or funds not allocated will be carried over to the following year.
10. All Committee expenses shall be submitted to the Committee chairperson for review and recommendation, which shall then be forwarded to the Minor Director for ratification and approval.
11. The Committee chairperson shall submit a written annual report to the Softball BC Board of Directors, the Minor Director of Softball BC, all District Minor Coordinators and the membership at the Minor Meeting of the Softball BC AGM.



# Annexes and Links



# Annexes

---

*Available for download on [softball.bc.ca](https://softball.bc.ca)*

## **ANNEX 'A'**

Minor Provincial Championship Draws – Round Robin – online and in handbook

## **ANNEX 'B'**

Knockout Championship Draw – online and in handbook

## **ANNEX 'C'**

Women C – Modified Round Robin – online

## **ANNEX 'D'**

Women D – Championship Draw – online

## **ANNEX 'E'**

Minor Pickup Chart – online and in book

## **ANNEX 'F'**

Men's & Women's Pickup Chart – online and in book

## **ANNEX 'G'**

Coaching Matrix – online and in book

## **ANNEX 'H'**

U13B Championship Round – Single Knockout – online

## **Also Available Online:**

### **Tournament Brackets - (Double Knockout)**

5-16 Team DKO

# Annex 'A' Minor Provincial Championship Draws - Round Robin

3 Teams
---------

G1	1-2
G2	2-3
G3	3-1

4 Teams
---------

G1	1-2
G2	3-4

G3	1-3
G4	2-4

G5	2-3
G6	1-4

5 Teams
---------

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	1-5
G4	2-3

G5	4-5
G6	1-3
G7	2-4
G8	3-5

G9	1-4
G10	2-5

6 Teams
---------

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	1-3

G5	4-6
G6	2-5
G7	1-4
G8	2-6

G9	3-5
G10	1-6
G11	3-2
G12	4-5

7 Teams
---------

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-2
G5	1-3

G6	4-6
G7	2-5
G8	6-7
G9	1-4
G10	5-7

G11	2-3
G12	1-6
G13	5-3
G14	4-7



## 8 Teams

(2 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	1-4
G6	2-3
G7	5-7
G8	6-8

### DAY 2

G9	3-8
G10	4-7
G11	2-5
G12	1-6
G13	4-8
G14	3-7
G15	2-6
G16	1-5

## 9 Teams

(2 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-2
G6	1-3
G7	4-5
G8	6-7
G9	8-9

### DAY 2

G10	7-9
G11	6-8
G12	3-5
G13	2-4
G14	8-1
G15	6-9
G16	5-7
G17	2-3
G18	1-4

## 10 Teams

(2 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-5
G3	4-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	1-3
G7	2-4
G8	5-6
G9	7-9
G10	8-10

### DAY 2

G11	7-10
G12	8-9
G13	4-5
G14	3-6
G15	10-2
G16	9-1
G17	6-8
G18	5-7
G19	2-3
G20	1-4

## 11 Teams

(3 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	11-1
G7	2-3
G8	4-5
G9	6-7
G10	8-9
G11	10-11

### DAY 2

G12	8-11
G13	7-10
G14	3-9
G15	4-6
G16	2-5
G17	10-1
G18	9-11
G19	6-8
G20	5-7
G21	2-4
G22	1-3

## 12 Teams

(3 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	11-12
G7	1-3
G8	2-5
G9	4-6
G10	7-10
G11	8-12
G12	9-11

### DAY 2

G13	10-12
G14	8-9
G15	5-11
G16	3-6
G17	2-4
G18	1-7
G19	10-11
G20	9-12
G21	5-8
G22	6-7
G23	2-3
G24	1-4

## 13 Teams

(3 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	11-12
G7	13-1
G8	2-3
G9	4-5
G10	6-7
G11	8-9
G12	10-11
G13	12-13

### DAY 2

G14	11-13
G15	8-10
G16	7-12
G17	6-9
G18	3-5
G19	1-4
G20	13-2
G21	9-11
G22	10-12
G23	6-8
G24	5-7
G25	2-4
G26	1-3

## 14 Teams

(3 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	11-12
G7	13-14
G8	1-3
G9	2-5
G10	4-6
G11	7-9
G12	8-10
G13	11-13
G14	12-14

### DAY 2

G15	10-14
G16	12-13
G17	8-9
G18	7-11
G19	3-5
G20	2-4
G21	1-6
G22	10-13
G23	11-14
G24	9-12
G25	5-7
G26	6-8
G27	2-3
G28	1-4

## 15 Teams

(3 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	11-12
G7	13-14
G8	15-1
G9	2-3
G10	4-5
G11	6-7
G12	8-9
G13	10-11
G14	12-13
G15	14-15

### DAY 2

G16	13-15
G17	12-14
G18	9-11
G19	8-10
G20	4-7
G21	3-6
G22	2-5
G23	14-1
G24	13-11
G25	10-15
G26	9-12
G27	6-8
G28	5-7
G29	2-4
G30	1-3

## 16 Teams

(4 Diamonds required)

### DAY 1

G1	1-2
G2	3-4
G3	5-6
G4	7-8
G5	9-10
G6	11-12
G7	13-14
G8	15-16
G9	1-3
G10	2-5
G11	4-6
G12	7-9
G13	8-10
G14	11-13
G15	12-15
G16	14-16

### DAY 2

G17	13-15
G18	12-16
G19	10-14
G20	8-11
G21	6-9
G22	3-7
G23	2-4
G24	1-5
G25	14-15
G26	13-16
G27	10-11
G28	9-12
G29	5-8
G30	6-7
G31	2-3
G32	1-4

All Knockout Championship finals to start at 7:00 pm on second day.

# Annex 'B' Knockout Championship Draw

MINOR – CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS (3-8 TEAMS)  
3 TEAM FORMAT





# Annex 'B' Provincial Championship Draws

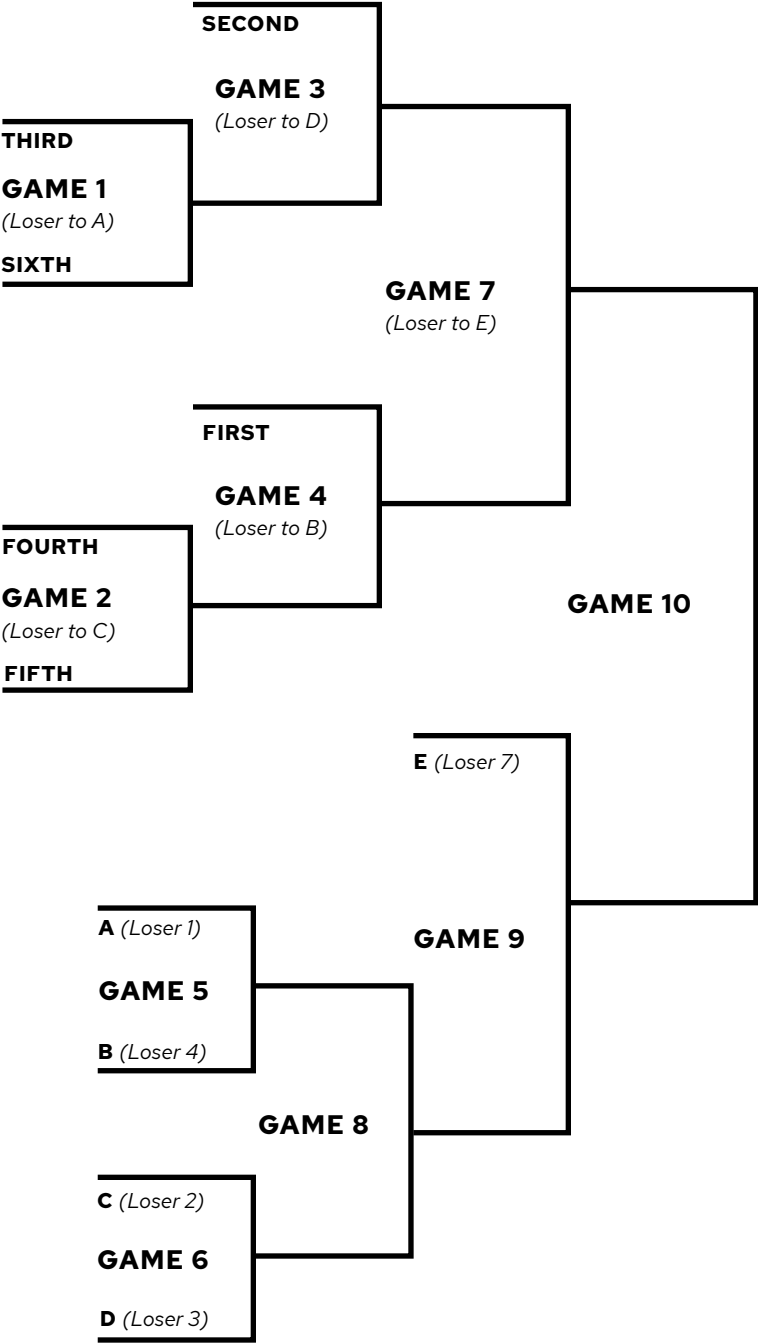
## 4 TEAM FORMAT



5 TEAM FORMAT



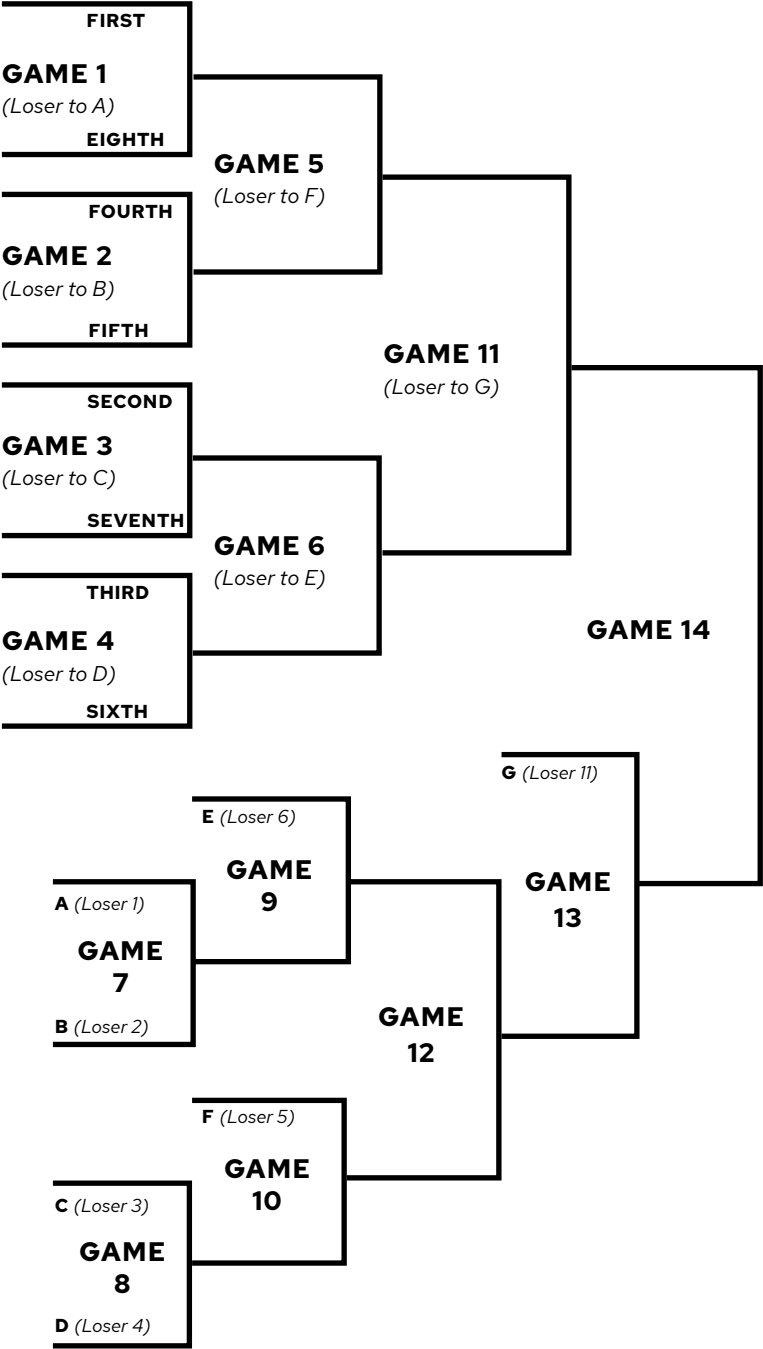
6 TEAM FORMAT



7 TEAM FORMAT



8 TEAM FORMAT



# Annex 'E' Minor Pickup Chart

To be read top to bottom, not right to left.

YOUR TEAM			U19			U20			U17			U15			U13					
			A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C			
			MAY PICK UP FROM			U19			U20			U17			U15			U13		
			A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
			✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
			✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		



**Yes**, you may pick up from that category/classification



**No**, you may not pick up from that category/classification

# Annex 'F' Men & Women Pickup Chart

YOUR TEAM	M/W A	INTERMEDIATE A	M/W B	M/W C	M/W D	U23A	U23B	U23C	U23D	MASTER
	M/W A	INTERMEDIATE A	MASTER	M/W B	M/W C	M/W D	U23A	U23B	U23C	U23D
MAY PICK UP FROM										
M/W A	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
INTERMEDIATE A	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
MASTER	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
M/W B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
M/W C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
M/W D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23A	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
U23B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
U23C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
U23D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
U19A	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
U19B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
U20C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

- M/F = Men and Women
- ✓ Yes, you may pick up from that category/classification
- ✗ No, you may not pick up from that category/classification

# Annex 'F' Men & Women Pickup Chart

YOUR TEAM	M/W A	INTERMEDIATE A	M/W B	M/W C	M/W D	U23A	U23B	U23C	U23D	MASTER
	M/W A	INTERMEDIATE A	MASTER	M/W B	M/W C	M/W D	U23A	U23B	U23C	U23D
MAY PICK UP FROM										
M/W A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
INTERMEDIATE A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MASTER	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
M/W B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
M/W C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
M/W D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U19A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U19B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U20C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**M/F** = Men and Women



**Yes**, you may pick up from that category/classification



**No**, you may not pick up from that category/classification



# Annex 'G' Coaching Matrix

---

## LEGEND:

- **LTC:** Community Sport - Learn to Coach Clinic (great for Learn to Play instructors/coaches)
- **Community Coach:** Community Sport - Ongoing Participation
- **Weekend #1:** Competition Introduction Weekend #1 Clinic
- **Weekend #2:** Competition Introduction Weekend #2 Clinic
- **MED:** Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation

*Please refer to [www.softball.bc.ca](http://www.softball.bc.ca) for more information.*

