

**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 B.C.A.S.A. (Softball B.C.) are incorporated under the “Society Act” and registered with the office of the Registrar of Companies in Victoria, B.C.

The 2017 Softball B.C. Special Operating Rules includes a specific article for Minor Softball, Senior Fastpitch Softball, Senior Slo-Pitch Softball and Umpires. This format will assist coaches in locating the specific Operating Rules that pertain to his or her 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 booklet was completed January 2017.

*2017 HANDBOOK COMMITTEE: Jeannie Connors, Katrina Bull, Dan Coates, and Dave Brewer.*

***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)).***

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**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**

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

**CONSTITUTION**

1. The name of the Society is:  
British Columbia Amateur Softball Association” (It shall also be known as Softball B.C.)
2. 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.

**BY-LAWS  
OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Part 1 – Interpretation**

1. (1) In these bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires,
  - a) “Directors” means the directors of the Society for the time being;
  - b) “Society Act” means the Society 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 his address as recorded in the register of members.
- (2) The definitions in the Society Act on the date these bylaws become effective apply to these bylaws.
2. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; and words importing a male person include a female person and corporation.

**Part 2 – Membership**

1. A person may apply to the Society for membership and unless such application shall be declined by the directors 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 Directors.
2. Membership in the Society shall be open to umpires, member of league(s), association(s) and their executives, coaches, managers and individual players registered on teams through recognized leagues and associations, and individuals approved by the Directors of the Society. There shall be an annual membership due which shall be determined by the Directors from time to time, set for each separate playing level or other activity category.
3. Every member shall uphold the constitution and comply with these bylaws.  
A member in good standing is defined as:
  - a) A Lifetime Member of the Society.
  - b) Has paid their annual membership dues in the current year.
4. A member in good standing shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting and any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society, but membership shall not confer a right to vote unless that member shall be an elected delegate. Only elected or appointed delegates shall have the right to speak on motions at an Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society.
5. Any member in good standing shall be recognized a voting delegate to an Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society, if he/she fulfils any one of the following three criteria:

- a) Currently holding an elected Annual General Meeting voting delegate position;
  - b) Appointed on an interim basis to an Annual General Meeting voting position based upon criteria and procedures detailed in Part 2 – Section 6 of the Softball B.C. By-Laws;
  - c) Appointed on an interim basis to an Annual General Meeting voting position by the appropriate Provincial Director based upon the historical/geographical relationship between the delegate and the District to be represented.
6. The Society is comprised of fifteen (15) provincial districts. Each district may have up to twelve (12) voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting and the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. Note: 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.
7. A person shall cease to be a member of the Society:
- a) On failure to pay before the fiscal year end of the Society as adopted by the Society from time to time, the prescribed annual dues and other assessments set from time to time by the Board of Directors including player registration fees and insurance;
  - b) On being expelled;
  - c) On delivering his/her written resignation to the Registered Office of the Society.
8. A member may be expelled by a resolution of the Directors passed at a Directors' meeting, provided that:
- a) 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.
  - b) The person who is the subject of the proposed resolution for expulsion shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the Directors' meeting before the resolution is put to a vote.
9. All appeals of the decisions of the Society shall be heard by an arbitration board consisting of a cross section of members of Softball B.C. in good standing and being appointed from time to time by or on behalf of the President.

### **Part 3 – Not-For-Profit Statement:**

1. “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 provision was previously unalterable.”

### **Part 4 – Dissolution:**

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 organizations, situated in British Columbia, and devoted to the advancement of similar or like objects to the Society. Such organization shall be

chosen by a majority vote of the members attending the first meeting called by the liquidators. This provision was previously unalterable.

## **Part 5 – Meeting of Members**

1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of October in each year at such time and place as shall be appointed by the Directors. Fourteen (14) days' notice shall be given in writing to the voting membership of all Annual General Meetings.
2. Every general meeting, other than an Annual General Meeting, is an Extra-Ordinary Meeting.
3. An Extra-Ordinary Meeting may be called at any time by the Directors, and shall be called when requested in writing by a majority of the voting members in good standing. Fourteen (14) days' notice in writing shall be given of each Extra-Ordinary Meeting. Costs are to be borne equally by those requesting same through the medium of their members.
4.
  - a) Notice of a General Meeting shall specify the place, the day and the hour of the meeting and in case of special business, the general nature of that business.
  - b) The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice by, any of the members entitled to receive notice does not invalidate proceedings at that meeting.
5. The President, or in his absence, the First Vice-President, or in the absence of both, some member of the Board of Directors, shall preside at all meetings of the Society.
6. No voting member shall be permitted to vote at the Annual General Meeting unless he/she shall have filed with the Registered Office of the Society a notice of his/her appointment, duly verified to the Executive Director. Such notice of appointment shall be in writing and received at the Registered Office of the Society no less than fourteen (14) days prior to said meeting.

## **Part 6 – Proceedings at General Meetings**

1. Special Business is:
  - a) All business at an Extra-Ordinary General meeting except:
    - i) The consideration of the financial statements;
    - ii) The report of the directors;
    - iii) The report of the auditors, if any;
    - iv) The election of Directors;
    - v) The appointment of the auditor, if required
    - vi) Such other business as, under these bylaws, 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.
2.
  - a) No business, other than the election of the chair, the adjournment or termination of the meeting, shall be conducted at a General meeting at a time when a quorum is not present.

- b) If at any time during a General Meeting 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. If at a General Meeting the President and all the other Directors are unable or unwilling to act as Chairman, the members present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman.
4. A General Meeting 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.
  - a) 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.
  - b) 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 General Meeting.
5. All Resolutions pertaining to By-Laws, to be brought to a vote before the voting members at an Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting, must be in writing and received at the Registered Office of the Society no less than thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.
6. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall not have a casting or second vote in addition to the vote which he may be entitled as a member and the proposed resolution shall not pass.
7.
  - a) A voting member in good standing present at a meeting of members is entitled to one (1) vote.
  - b) Voting is by a show of hands.
  - c) Voting by proxy is not permitted.
8. Any motion brought to the floor at an Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting, if passed by seventy-five (75%) percent majority concerning the expenditure of general funds, be then approved by the Finance Committee who will make recommendations to the Board of Directors for final ratification, in the best interest of the Society.
9. A quorum at any Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of the voting delegates. Each voting delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote at the Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. No proxy shall be allowed at the Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting.
10. The twelve (12) voting delegates per District will be as follows:

All elections for Coordinator, Umpire-in-Chief or Representative(s) to act as delegates to the Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary Meeting shall be held before the end of September, to be called by the current Coordinator, Umpire-in-Chief or Representative.

  - a) **Senior Fastpitch Coordinator:**

All senior fastpitch teams affiliated with the Society in their own District shall meet together and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to act as liaison between the senior teams and the Directors of the Society. This person hereafter shall be known as the Senior Fastpitch Coordinator and shall be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting or



any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held in the odd numbered years and shall be for a two year term.

b) **Minor Coordinator:**

All minor teams affiliated with the Society from their own District shall meet together and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to act as liaison between the minor teams and the Directors of the Society. This person hereafter shall be known as the Minor Coordinator and shall be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held in the even numbered years and shall be for a two-year period.

c) **Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinator:**

All senior slo-pitch teams affiliated with the Society from their own District shall meet together and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to act as liaison between the senior slo-pitch teams and the Directors of the Society. This person hereafter shall be known as the Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinator and shall be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held in the even numbered years and shall be for a two-year term.

d) **Umpire-in-Chief:**

All umpires affiliated with the Society holding a valid current year's ticket from their own District, shall meet together and each umpire shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to act as a liaison between the umpires and the Directors of the Society. This person, hereafter, shall be known as the Umpire-in-Chief and shall be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held in the odd numbered years and be for a two-year term.

e) **Senior Fastpitch Men's Representative:**

The affiliated senior men's fastpitch teams shall meet in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held yearly.

f) **Senior Fastpitch Women's Representative:**

The affiliated senior women's fastpitch teams shall meet in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held yearly.

g) **Senior Mixed Fastpitch Representative:**

The affiliated senior and minor mixed fastpitch (including orthodox) teams shall meet in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election shall be held yearly.

h) **Minor Boy's Representative or Mixed Team's Representative:**

The affiliated minor boy's or mixed teams shall call a meeting in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election is to be held yearly.

- i) **Minor Girl's Representative or Mixed Team's Representative:**  
The affiliated minor girl's or mixed teams shall call a meeting in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election is to be held yearly.
- j) **Senior Slo-Pitch Men's Representative:**  
The affiliated senior slo-pitch men's teams shall meet in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election is to be held yearly.
- k) **Senior Slo-Pitch Women's Representative:**  
The affiliated senior slo-pitch women's teams shall meet in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election is to be held yearly.
- l) **Senior Slo-Pitch Mixed Representative:**  
The affiliated senior slo-pitch mixed teams shall meet in their own District and each team shall have one (1) vote to elect a representative to carry their vote at the Annual General Meeting or any Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society. This election is to be held yearly.

NOTE: An individual does not have to live, or be registered in a particular District, in order to be elected to the above positions. He/she will not be entitled to a vote unless duly registered within the District in question.

Any member duly elected or appointed to the Board of Directors shall not at the same time, be any of the above Coordinator, Umpire-in-Chief or Representative. All elections for Coordinator, Umpire-in-Chief or Representative shall be held before the end of September, to be called by the current Coordinator, Umpire-in-Chief or Representative.

## Part 7 – Directors and Officers

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Immediate Past President or Member at Large, President, First Vice-President, Director of Coaching, Vice-President of Finance, Minor Director, Senior Director and Umpire-in-Chief.
  - a) The Board of Directors shall appoint on an annual basis an Independent Treasurer.
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, Senior 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, the Member at Large shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a two-year term.
3. Any member of the Board of Directors may, by notice in writing, resign at any time and on acceptance by the remaining members of the Board of Directors the office shall become vacant.

Note: Nominations will be taken from the floor for Board positions when a Director gives up a position before the end of the term.

4. a) The 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, accompanied by a resume, thirty (30) days in advance of published date of the Annual General Meeting. If no written nominations are received, nominations from the floor will be accepted.
  - d) Any election may be by acclamation; otherwise it shall be by secret ballot.
  - e) If no successor is elected, the person previously elected or appointed, continues to hold office.
  - f) If a Director wishes to let his name stand for another position on the Board of Directors before his term of office expires, he must resign his position before the election. His notice of intent to resign must be received by the Board of Directors sixty (60) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. However, if unsuccessful in election to the new position, he may let his name stand for election to his previous position, if his position has not already been filled.
  - g) All nominations to be circulated to the members with the notice of the Annual General Meeting.
5. The members may by special resolution remove a Director before the expiration of his term of office and may elect a successor to complete the term of office.
  6. Should a vacancy occur on the Board of Directors, the remaining members shall continue to act notwithstanding such vacancy and the acts of such remaining members shall be valid. The Board of Directors 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 Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Society, following the date of such appointment at which time a voting member of the Society shall be elected to fill the vacancy for the remaining period of that term of office.
  7. A Nominating Committee will consist of a chair and two additional members of his/her choice, and that committee shall announce the names of prospective candidates to the membership after the nomination deadline being 30 days in advance of the Annual General Meeting.
  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.
  9. A prerequisite for being nominated as a Director is that the individual is bondable.
  10. The three (3) voting delegates to the Canadian Amateur Softball Association Annual General Meeting shall be designated by the President of the Society.
  11. The Board of Directors shall have the power to control the affairs of the Society and may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as the Society may exercise and do, which are not by these By-Laws or by statute or otherwise lawfully directed or required to be exercised or done by the Society in general meeting, but subject, nevertheless, to the provisions of:
    - a) all laws affecting the Society;
    - b) these By-Laws; and

- c) rules, not being inconsistent with these By-Laws which are made from time to time by the Society in general meeting.
12. No rule, made by the Society at the general meeting, invalidates a prior act of the Directors that would have been valid if that rule had not been made.
13. The Board of Directors shall adopt and act upon the present rules, regulations and By-Laws of the Society unless and until the same shall have been duly altered or varied.
14. The Board of Directors may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body.
15. The Board of Directors shall have the power to make Rules and Regulations governing all affiliated members and covering players, zones, age limits, championships, trustees of trophies, umpires and all other relevant and incidental matters necessary to the operation of the Society.
16. The business of the Society shall be managed by the Board of Directors, who pay all expenses incurred in setting up and registering the Society, and may exercise all such powers of the Society as are not by the Society Act of any statutory modification thereof for the time being in force, or by these By-Laws required to be exercised by the Society in general meeting.
17. All acts done by the Board of Directors in meeting or by any person acting as a member of the Board of Directors shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any person so acting or that the person so acting was disqualified, be as valid as if the person had been duly appointed and qualified.
18. The Board of Directors shall be entitled to be reimbursed for transportation, hotel and additional necessary expenses out of funds of the Society as the Board of Directors may decide to be reasonable provided that the funds of the Society permit.
19. The Board of Directors shall use total discretion of decisions regarding that expenditure of funds, and consider the best interest of the Society, and have full power to do so.
20. Athlete/Coach/Umpire Representation:  
Coaches, players and umpires are represented at the Board level by the Director responsible for the appropriate programs. This is reinforced by the appeals process.

## **Part 8 – Proceedings of the Directors**

1. a) The Directors may meet together at such places as they see fit for the dispatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings and proceedings
- b) The Directors 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 Chairman of all meetings of the Directors; but if at any meeting the President is not present, the Directors present may choose another director to be Chairman of the meeting.
- d) A Director may at any time, on the request of a Director, convene a meeting of the Directors.

2. a) The Directors may delegate any, but not all, of their powers to committees consisting of such Director or Directors as they see fit.
- b) A committee so formed and the exercise of the powers so delegated shall conform to any rules that may from time to time be imposed on it by the Directors, and shall report every act or thing done in exercise of those powers to the earliest meeting of the Directors to be held after it has been done.
- c) A committee shall elect a Chairman of its meetings; but if no Chairman is elected, or if at any meeting the Chairman is not present, the Directors present who are members of the committee shall choose another director to be Chairman of the meeting.
- d) The members of a committee may meet and adjourn as they think proper.
3. For the first meeting of the Directors held immediately following the appointment or election of a Director or Directors at an Annual General Meeting or other General Meeting of members, or for a meeting of the Directors at which a Director is appointed to fill a vacancy in the Directors, 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 of the Directors is present.
4. a) Questions arising at any meeting of the Directors and/or committee of the Directors shall be decided by a majority vote.
- b) In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman does not have a second or deciding vote in addition to the vote which he may be entitled as the Chairman.
5. A resolution in writing, signed by all the Directors and placed with the minutes of the Directors is as valid and effective as if regularly passed at a meeting of Directors.
6. The Board of Directors shall keep proper minutes of their proceedings and all acts done in pursuance of anything appearing by such minutes to be resolved upon or authorized by the Board of Directors within the meaning of these rules.

## Part 9 – Duties of Officers

1. The **President** is the Chairperson of the Board and shall:
  - a) Preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Directors.
  - b) Supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.
  - c) Apply and enforce all By-Laws and Special Operating Rules of the Society.
  - d) Appoint a member of the Board of Directors to all committees.
  - e) 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 membership up to the amount of \$10,000.00.
  - f) Watch over the assets and records of the Society.
  - g) Perform such other acts and duties as may be incidental to his office and may properly be required of him by the Board of Directors.
  - h) Sign the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, and may delegate any of his duties that he deems expedient.

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 a member who shall be designated as a "Member-at-Large" and who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a two year term. Duties of the "Member-at-Large" will be designated by the President.

The Immediate Past President will:

- a) Be eligible to act on any committee.
  - b) Be a voting member of the Board of Directors.
  - c) Perform such other acts and duties as may be delegated him by the President.
  - d) Generally assist the President.
3. The **First Vice-President** shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties, and in the absence or disability of the President, shall act in his stead.
  4. The **Director of Coaching** shall assist the President and the Board of Directors in the discharge of their duties. He/she shall promote and direct the development of coaching for all levels of softball. A prerequisite to be nominated for this position is the individual is a Competition Introduction certified NCCP softball coach with a minimum of two years coaching experience.
  5. The **Vice President of Finance** shall be responsible for the supervision of the accounts and records of the Society as in these By-Laws are provided. A prerequisite for this position is that the individual holds a recognized accounting designation. The Vice President of Finance shall:
    - a) Keep such financial records, including books of accounts, as are necessary to comply with the Society Act.
    - b) Render financial statements to the Directors, members and others when required, in consultation with the Independent Treasurer.
    - c) Carry out policies formulated by the Board of Directors as required.
    - d) 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; such cheques **shall be signed by any two people designated by the Vice-President of Finance or the President, which will only include the Board of Directors or Staff.**
    - e) Be responsible, at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, for duly certifying the voting strength of the meeting from time to time.
    - f) Take direction generally from the President.
  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.
  7. The **Senior Director** shall promote and direct the game of softball in the senior divisions and shall oversee playoffs and tournaments in these divisions.
  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, B.C. Umpire's ticket.

## **Part 10 – Seal**

1. The Seal of the Society shall be in the custody of the Society's law firm.
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 11 – Borrowing Powers**

1. The Society shall exercise any borrowing powers conferred upon it by the Society Act with the approval of seventy-five (75) percent of the Board of Directors holding office at that time. However, debentures shall not be issued without the sanction of a special resolution.

## **Part 12 – Audit**

1. The Accounts of the Society shall be annually examined and the correctness of the balance sheet and account book shall be ascertained by a firm of auditors so appointed by the Board of Directors.
2. The auditor shall be remunerated for his services at such sum as he (the auditor) and the Board of Directors shall mutually agree.

## **Part 13 – Accounts**

1. The Board of Directors shall cause true accounts to be kept of all the receipts, credits, payments, assets, and liabilities of the Society and all other matters necessary for showing the true state and condition of the Society and the accounts shall be kept in such books and in such a manner as the Board of Directors shall deem fit and to the satisfaction of the auditors. The book of accounts shall be kept at such place or places as the Board of Directors shall appoint and shall be open to the inspection of members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting of the Society or by a special resolution of the voting members of the Society.

## **Part 14 – By-Laws**

1. Amendments shall be made by recommendation only by members or by Directors.
2. A Parliamentary and Rules Committee will be struck no less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting whose function will be to clarify motions prior to the distribution of motions to the voting delegates.
3. A Notice of Motion to amend By-Laws must be forwarded in writing to the Provincial Office thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting and the Provincial Office shall forward copies of all Notices of Motion to the members prior to the Annual General Meeting.
4. In order to be considered, all Motions submitted to the Annual General Meeting must be in the form prescribed and include the section, number and page number of the motion in the current handbook. A sample motion form will be included in the Handbook.

5. Resolutions pertaining to By-laws that have not been received at the registered offices of the Society within the thirty (30) day requirement may be debated and voted on at an Annual General Meeting or an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting if the introduction of the resolution receives 75% approval of the voting delegates then in attendance.

## **Part 15 – Rules of Order**

1. The Society shall own and have present at all meetings of the Society “Roberts Rules of Order” and all items not covered by these By-Laws shall be governed by these rules.

## **Part 16 – Permanent Employees**

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.
2. Employees of the Society shall not be granted a vote or hold office at Society meetings.

## **Part 17 – Logos, Trademarks and Publications**

1. No one is allowed to use the Softball B.C. name or logo, or conduct activities under the auspices of Softball B.C., or represent themselves or their endeavours or goods under the auspices of Softball B.C. Board of Directors. Violation of this rule will be dealt with by the Softball B.C. Board of Directors.

## **Part 18 – Documents and Records**

1. All documents of this Society, including Minutes and financial records shall be kept at the official address of the Society.



## KEY DATES for Members

**\*Disclaimer:** The chart below is offered as a guideline and is not meant to be a comprehensive list of all due dates or replace the contents of the Operating Rules.

Item:	Due Date / Deadline:	Submitted To / Comments:
Minor Team Registration	'A' Teams = April 1 <sup>st</sup> with payments due by April 15 <sup>th</sup>  All others = May 15 <sup>th</sup> with payments due by June 1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>April 1<sup>st</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> are the dates when team registration is due to be completed and approved to Softball BC.</i>  <i>Please check with your District Coordinator to confirm the date in which he/she would like registration to be uploaded by so they have time to Approve before Softball BC deadlines.</i>
Senior Women Team Registration	Senior A, B, C, D Women = June 15 <sup>th</sup>  U21 A, B, C Women = June 15 <sup>th</sup>  Masters (all categories) = June 15 <sup>th</sup>  Orthodox = July 15 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Contact your District Senior Coordinator for deadline to upload teams. This allows the coordinators to Approve teams before the registration deadlines.</i>
Senior Men – Team Registration	Senior B Men = June 15 <sup>th</sup>  U21 B & C Men = June 15 <sup>th</sup>  Masters (all categories) = June 15 <sup>th</sup> Senior A Men = July 1  U21 A Men = July 1  Senior C Men = July 15 <sup>th</sup>  Senior D Men = July 15 <sup>th</sup>  Orthodox = July 15 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Contact your District Senior Coordinator for deadline to upload teams. This allows the coordinators to Approve teams before the registration deadlines.</i>
Letter of Intents	Minor A & B Categories (where applicable) = May 1 <sup>st</sup>  Senior Categories (where applicable) = June 1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Submitted to Softball BC Office</i>
Provincial Entry Fees	Minors = 10 days prior to the start of the Championship  Seniors = due by June 15 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Minors = submitted to Softball BC (includes Regional Championships)</i>  <i>Seniors = submitted to the Softball BC office</i>
Motions for the Softball BC Annual General Meeting	45 days prior to the AGM	<i>Submitted to the Softball BC office</i>

# SOFTBALL B.C. SPECIAL OPERATING RULES

## ARTICLE 1 – DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Affiliated League – Minors:** Any league set up for participation for a specific category / classification of teams.

**Appeal Committee** – the Appeal Committee shall consist of any member of Softball B.C. in good standing. 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 general membership. It is recommended, but not compulsory, that each appointed committee have five members to deliberate any issue identified, but must have a minimum of three (3) members.

**All Star Team** – With the exception of teams formed pursuant to Article 12.3 (c) vii) any team(s) formed of outstanding players chosen from two or more teams playing in an association/league for the purpose of competing in a Provincial Championship, is NOT ALLOWED.

**Category** – i.e. U14, U18, U21, Senior, etc.

**Classification** – i.e. A, B, C, D, R, etc.

**District Representation** – an individual who carries a vote to the Softball B.C. A.G.M. or has been appointed to a position of authority.

**Documentation** – registration forms, scorebooks, game roster (if signed by game official).

**Game Officials** – umpires, protest committee, official scorekeeper, Softball B.C. representative, Tournament Director, League Executive member.

**Handbook** – Softball B.C. Constitution and Operating Rules Handbook.

**Method of Pitch** – Slo-Pitch, Fast Pitch, Orthodox.

**Minor Structure** – A Rep ‘A’ Team will be made up of the most talented players in a category; and a Rep ‘B’ Team will be made up of the next most talented players in that same category; and a Minor ‘C’ Team will be made up of novice or recreational players in a given category, and the Minor ‘C’ Provincial Championship will emphasize participation and fun, and will de-emphasize the competitive aspect of the event. No selected teams through the process of tryouts are allowed in the Minor ‘C’ classification.

**Pick-up** – a player used by another team, with the prior approval of the player’s coach.

**Pro Rata System** – If a Championship is not filled to 16 teams by District Representation, then each District, in the order of the highest registration in that category/classification, will be offered the opportunity of sending a second team, until 16 teams are established.

**Protest** – a dispute that must be dealt with at the game site, or by a league executive, tournament protest committee, or Softball B.C. Representative, prior to the game continuing.

**Provincial Championship Structure** – includes all games that are played to determine Provincial Championship Representation (i.e. play-offs).

**Rep Team** – is a representative team when a group of outstanding players within an Association/League are selected to play together on a team for the entire season.

**Replacement Player** – For U12C Girls Regional Championships only. A player picked up to replace a player not able to attend/participate with her team at the event.

**Roster Form** – the Softball B.C. Team Registration Certificate.

**Rule Changes** – All Softball B.C. Rule Changes resulting from a Softball Canada rule change be used for one year trial, subject to permanent approval of the A.G.M.

**Tournament Sanction** – where necessary, notification to Softball B.C. of the details of a tournament and acknowledgement that the conditions of sanction have been met.

## **ARTICLE 2 – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **Leading to Western Canadian or Canadian Championships**

2.1 All District Playdowns and Provincial Championships leading to further Canadian, Western Canadian or other Inter-Provincial play, the Special Operating Rules and playing rules of Softball B.C. shall apply and shall supersede the Special Operating Rules and Playing Rules of the Canadian Amateur Softball Association. The softball to be used in all Provincial Championships will be designated by Softball B.C.

2.2 Teams, players, coaches and where applicable, minor associations that have submitted a Letter of Intent to participate in a Western Canadian or a Canadian Championship, and have won the right to attend that Championship in which Softball B.C. has, on the team's behalf, committed to and/or paid for such an opportunity to attend, shall attend pursuant to the contractual arrangement detailed in the said Notice of Intent. Teams failing to attend upon their commitment to do so, shall immediately be subject to any costs associated to 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 B.C. 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.

a) Teams/coaches that have submitted a Letter of Intent to participate in a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, and have won the right to attend that Championship, in which Softball BC has, on the teams behalf, committed to and/or paid for such an opportunity to attend, shall attend pursuant to their contractual agreement detailed in the said Notice of Intent. Teams failing to attend upon their commitment to do so shall immediately be disqualified from attending Districts or Provincials for the following season. They will be ineligible for Western Canadian or Canadian Championships for the following season, having six (6) or more returning players to the team's.

2.3 Softball B.C. shall receive \$250 for each Senior FP and SP and \$100 for each Minor Western Canadian Championship hosted in the Province of British Columbia.

2.4 Notice of intent to participate in a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship shall require submission of a written Letter of Intent which shall be accompanied by a performance bond:

- a) All teams expecting to participate in a Provincial Championship with the intent of continuing to a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship must complete a “Letter of Intent” form and submit such form to the Softball B.C. office no later than June 1st, of the current playing year. MINOR ONLY: Deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- b) The “Letter of Intent” form shall be signed by at least two responsible parties associated to the team and association, and shall be accompanied with a performance bond equal to the fine assessment of the Western Canadian Softball Association or Softball Canada for defaulting or failing to attend the respective championship after Softball B.C. has committed such attendance.
- c) Only after Softball B.C. has received, on or before the published deadline, the appropriate “Letter of Intent” form, completed in every detail and accompanied by a cheque in the respective amount of the fine assessment currently in place, will the team become eligible to represent British Columbia at the Western Canadian or Canadian National Championship.
- d) Minor Only: All teams that have submitted a Letter of Intent and Performance Bond are obligated to fulfill the commitment made in the Letter of Intent. Any team defaulting or failing to attend the respective championship will forfeit their Performance Bond.
- e) When the number of letters of intent to attend a championship is equal to the number of spots that B.C. receives for a championship, [the] team(s) that are eligible to represent the Province be informed no later than June 15th that they will be representing the Province.
- f) The Senior Director upon receiving notification of a team’s intent to participate in a Western Canadian Championship will immediately notify the coordinator of that district. The coordinator will confirm the classification of the team. If the team is to be reclassified by the coordinator it must be done immediately to allow the appeal process to take place prior to June 15.

2.5 **REPRESENTATIVE TEAM:** The registered team to represent British Columbia at Canadian or Western Canadian Championships shall be as follows:

- a) Current years’ Provincial Championship team (except Slo-Pitch and Mixed Orthodox) provided they have completed the required “Letter of Intent”.
- b) If for any reason, a Provincial Championship team cannot compete in the Canadian or Western Canadian Championship, then the runner up or next highest eligible team in their respective Provincial Championship may be invited to compete. Defending Champions do not automatically return the next year. If two (2) teams are eligible to attend the Canadian or Western Canadian Championship, the top two (2) eligible finishing teams are to represent British Columbia. In the event that British Columbia is hosting the Canadian or Western Canadian Championship, please see article 2.7 to establish the Host team.

- c) Within forty-eight (48) hours of winning a Provincial Championship, the team must contact the Softball B.C. office for further information on the trip to further competitions (Softball B.C. 604-371-0302).
  - d) Any travel assistance received by Softball B.C. from the Government or any other source allotted to teams, will be in the form of a cheque at the discretion of the Softball B.C. Board of Directors.
  - e) Mixed Orthodox Only: The first place team from the B.C. Provincial Championship be offered the opportunity to attend the Canadian Championship in the following year as the B.C. 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 B.C. Representative (including travel funding if available). If a second spot in the Canadian Championship is offered to B.C. 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 B.C. Provincial Championship.
  - f) Prior year's Provincial Champion (Slo-Pitch and Mixed Orthodox only).
- 2.6 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 (8) 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 U18 'B'.

To be eligible to participate in any Minor Western or Canadian Championship all players must have participated in three (3) games in an affiliated league with the team on which they are registered.

- 2.7 **PROVINCIAL HOST TEAM:** Canadian and Western Canadian Championship. The host team in a Canadian or Western Canadian Championship will be established as follows: All eligible teams will participate in the Provincial Championship with the highest finishing team as the Provincial Representative. The host team will be determined as the highest finishing team from the:

- i) host association
- ii) city
- iii) District

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. Minor Only: If a host association does not compete in Provincials the host spot will be retained by the host association.

MINOR ONLY: The host team status will be granted to the team from the 1) host association; 2) city; 3) district;

- a) which finishes highest in the Provincial Championship but is not the Provincial Representative, or
- b) which the host association, city or district determines has earned the right to be host and has so declared prior to the Provincials.

## 2.8 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

In the instance where a British Columbia team has won a Western Canadian Championship or Canadian Championship and, in so doing, has the right to participate in the subsequent year's Western Canadian Championship or Canadian Championship, in accordance with the rules established by the Western Canadian Softball Association or the Canadian Softball Association, as appropriate:

- a) the British Columbia Softball Association will, by the dates set by the Western Canadian Softball Association or the Canadian Softball Association, complete all necessary correspondence and pay all necessary fees to ensure that the team that is eligible to participate in the Western Canadian Championship or the Canadian Championship as the returning champion, and who has declared their intention to participate as returning champion before or on the date of team registration set by the British Columbia Softball Association, may do so;
- b) in anticipation of the possibility that the returning champion team is not a current year's provincial champion, the British Columbia Softball Association will, by the dates set by the Western Canadian Softball Association or Canadian Softball Association, complete all necessary correspondence and pay all necessary fees to ensure that the current year's provincial champion team is eligible to participate in the Western Canadian Championship or the Canadian Championship as the provincial representative;
- c) in anticipation of the possibility that the returning champion is the current year's provincial champion, the British Columbia Softball Association will, by the dates set by the Western Canadian Softball Association or the Canadian Softball Association, complete all necessary correspondence and pay all necessary fees to ensure that the second place finisher in that provincial championship (or, another team, as deemed appropriate by the British Columbia Softball Association) is eligible to participate in the Western Canadian Championship or the Canadian Championship; and,
- d) should a defending champion, having declared its intent to attend the next year's Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, withdraw from the Western Canadian or Canadian Championship after the deadline for registration set by the Western Canadian Softball Association or the Canadian Softball Association, it will be required to remit the cost of the registration in that tournament to the British Columbia Softball Association.

## ARTICLE 3 – RESIDENCE RULE

- 3.1 a) Canadian Citizens
  - i) To be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship a player, coach and manager must be a citizen of Canada by the official residency date for the year of competition.
  - ii) Canadian citizens participating in American college softball competition or in a professional sport competition (other than softball or baseball) may be exempted from the May 1st

requirement providing they return to Canada immediately following the event.

- b) Landed Immigrant Status
  - i) All residence requirements for Canadian citizens represent minimum requirement for landed immigrants.
  - ii) In addition, landed immigrants must have obtained their landed immigrant status prior to May 1 of the year of participation.
- c) Non-Canadian Citizens
  - i) A non-Canadian must be a continuous resident of Canada for one calendar year prior to the dates of the Canadian Championship in which she/he wishes to participate.
- d) All players must meet Softball Canada By-Law registration requirements as per Part 2.
- e) All but three (3) players in the Senior Men's and Senior Women's categories, and only one of these will be allowed to be a pitcher, on any provincial/territorial representative team to a Canadian Championship must be a bona fide resident of that province/territory by the official residency date for the year of competition. The official residency date is May 1. Up to three (3) exemptions per team will be granted to players who meet either of the following conditions:
  - i) Canadian citizens living outside of Canada who return to Canada after May 1 and register for softball participation purposes only.
  - ii) Canadian citizens residing in Canada WHO DO NOT register with the province/territory association where they resided prior to that provincial/territorial registration date but choose to register with a different association of their choice.

## **ARTICLE 4 – DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR**

- 4.1 An amateur softball player is one who engages in softball solely for the pleasure and physical, mental or social benefits he/she derives.
- 4.2 An “AMATEUR” within the context of Softball Canada’s Constitution shall be recognized by Softball Canada and its Provincial and Territorial affiliates as a player who does not derive his/her livelihood by accepting monetary rewards in return for his/her SOFTBALL services. Notwithstanding, a player may, without jeopardy to their amateur status receive recompense for bona fide expenses actually incurred because of his/her 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 B.C. officers having deemed necessary by the officials concerned.)

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

## **ARTICLE 5 – REINSTATEMENT**

### **5.1 REINSTATEMENT TO AMATEUR STATUS**

- a) A professional softball/baseball player, regardless of age, may apply for reinstatement in the following year from the last game of the league schedule in which the professional was participating.
- b) A player must apply to the Softball B.C. office in writing for final approval.
- c) The amateur reinstatement request must be made by May 15th of the current year.
- d) 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 the current year of the following two (2) years, subsequent to the date of application.

## **ARTICLE 6 – DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

- 6.1 The basic objective of disciplinary action shall be to further the interests of the game of softball.
- 6.2 An authorized Association/League shall have the right to take disciplinary action when reasonably warranted against a member who participates in Association/League activities. Such action shall only affect a member's eligibility to participate in games against other teams belonging to the Association/League.
- 6.3 Suspensions issued by Association/Leagues shall not exceed one year in duration. A report and details of any suspension issued in excess of 30 days must be submitted in writing to the Softball B.C. office.
- 6.4 Disciplinary Action includes:
  - a) any appropriate action, including issuing of suspensions, taken against any member by:
    - i) an Authorized Association/League where the member participates in Association/League activities;
    - ii) the appropriate Director of Softball B.C. (Senior Fastpitch, Senior Slo-Pitch, Minor, Umpire-in-Chief);
    - iii) any member of the Board of Directors; when necessary in his or her judgment, after reasonable investigation of a written complaint received by the Association/League or Softball B.C. regarding a member's conduct;
  - b) Disciplinary action shall not be taken by an Authorized Association/league or any member of the Board of Directors unless an Investigation has been conducted in accordance with the principles of "Natural Justice" and specifically until the member has been notified of the nature of the complaint against him/her and has been given a fair opportunity to explain/defend him/herself;
  - c) Examples of conduct of a member that might reasonably lead to disciplinary action are as follows (the list is not exhaustive):
    - i) Verbally and/or physically abusing an umpire or other member;
    - ii) Knowingly playing with or against a coach, player or team that is under suspension by an Association and/or League, Softball B.C. or Softball Canada;



- iii) Knowingly playing an ineligible player;
  - iv) Misconduct in hotels, restaurants, and/or drinking establishments while attending exhibition, league, playoff, tournament, Provincial Championship and extra-Provincial Championship events;
  - v) Not returning uniforms or equipment to teams, Associations or leagues within a reasonable time after being requested to do so;
  - vi) Competing under an assumed name;
  - vii) Committing fraud involving the game of softball;
  - viii) Violating the Constitution, By-Laws and/or Operating Rules of an authorized Association, League or Softball B.C. ;
- d) Disciplinary action taken by the applicable Director/U.I.C. shall be issued in writing and shall be delivered to the member and copied to the member's team and Association/League.
- 6.5 Protem (interim) suspensions of less than 31 days may be issued, in writing by priority courier delivered 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):
- a) Upon agreement between the appropriate District Umpire-in-Chief and District Coordinator;
  - b) In the case of Provincial Championship, by the Board Member, or his/her designate in charge of the Championship.
- 6.6 Disciplinary actions, including Protem suspensions, shall be deemed to have expired 31 days after they have been issued, however further disciplinary action could be imposed in accordance with Article 6.4.
- 6.7 Disciplinary actions, including Protem suspensions, shall terminate at 2400 hours on the final day of the suspension.
- 6.8 Barring exceptional circumstances, a full investigation conducted in adherence with the principles of "Natural Justice" shall be undertaken before any disciplinary action is taken. In exceptional cases, where a Protem 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.
- 6.9 Disciplinary action, which may include action initiated and carried out by an Association/League, or any member of the Board of Directors of Softball B.C., may be subject to appeal pursuant to Article 7.
- 6.10 When a member is suspended according to Article 6, 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.
- 6.11 When a member is suspended according to Article 6, 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 other Provincial/Territorial associations.

## ARTICLE 7 – APPEALS

(NOTE: Definition of Appeals Committee, see Article #1.)

- 7.1 Any affiliated Association, League, Team, Player or Official may appeal any disciplinary action issued pursuant to Article 6.
- 7.2 All members of Softball B.C. have the right to appeal any non-disciplinary action where they feel an unjust decision was set down by their ruling executive, District Coordinator, or a member of the Board of Directors of Softball B.C.
- 7.3 Appeal of a Protem suspension shall be reviewed by the President of Softball B.C. to determine if the correct protocol has been followed in issuance of the protem suspension, who shall direct or conduct an investigation and shall issue a timely and reasonable ruling.
- 7.4 Non-disciplinary appeals that are to be considered at the District Coordinator/U.I.C. or Softball B.C. Director level pursuant to Article 8.2 must be initiated by written notice, postmarked or delivered to the appropriate appeal level within 30 days of notification of the applicable action.
- 7.5 All appeals to be considered at the Softball BC Appeal Committee Level, including disciplinary and non-disciplinary actions, must be initiated by verbal notice that must reach the Softball BC office within 72 hours of the suspension date, written notice of appeal, postmarked or delivered to Softball BC within 14 days of notification of the applicable action. In such case, a \$250.00 cash deposit or money order, payable to Softball BC, must accompany the written notice (Note: Game protest procedures are dealt with in the CASA Rulebook and for Provincial Championships, under Article 16.10). (Note: Start of the appeal period is the date when suspension is levied either through email or Xpresspost).
- 7.6 Where an appeal is successful in whole or in part, the \$250.00 deposit shall be returned to the appellant.
- 7.7 A Notice to Appeal must contain:
  - 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 from supporting persons.
- 7.8 Filing of an appeal shall not result in a stay of the particular action.
- 7.9 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 in favour of the appellant.
- 7.10 A written decision shall be rendered by the Appeal Committee, or in the case of a Protem 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.

- 7.11 Decisions of the Appeal Committee, or the President in the case of a Protem Suspension appeal, shall be conclusive and not subject to further appeal.
- 7.12 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.
- 7.13 Softball Canada may be requested to enforce any disciplinary action taken by the Association throughout Softball Canada’s jurisdiction.
- 7.14 Appeal Hearings, including those of a non-disciplinary action reviewed at the various levels of the process shall be conducted pursuant to Articles 9 and/or 10.
- 7.15 Any member who does not follow the procedures as outlined in Article 7, and contacts all members of the Board directly, shall forfeit their right to an appeal.

## **ARTICLE 8 – APPEAL – NON-DISCIPLINARY**

- 8.1 Pursuant to the conditions enumerated in Article 7, an appeal of a non-disciplinary action shall be made in writing to the initial Appeal level in accordance with Article 8.2. The appropriate Appeal level shall conduct an investigation in adherence with the principles of “Natural Justice” and issue an appropriate and reasonable ruling.
- 8.2 Before a Non-disciplinary Appeal will be considered by the Softball B.C. Appeal Committee pursuant to Article 7, an initial Appeal must first be submitted to the appropriate level as outlined below and dealt with at that level, and where necessary each subsequent level:
  - a) where the Association or League has rendered the decision, the Notice of Appeal must be made directly to the appropriate District Coordinator or District U.I.C.;
  - b) where the District Coordinator or District U.I.C has rendered the decision, the Notice of Appeal must be made directly to the appropriate Director or Provincial U.I.C.;
  - c) where the Softball B.C. Director or Provincial U.I.C. has rendered the decision, a Notice of Appeal must be made to the Softball B.C. Appeals Committee pursuant to Article 7;
  - d) where, in the opinion of the President of Softball B.C., there appears to be a conflict at one or more levels of this process, the President may direct the Appeal to the next appropriate level or may instruct the appellant to Appeal directly to Softball B.C. pursuant to Article 7.

## **ARTICLE 9 – APPEALS – INVESTIGATION PROCEDURE**

- 9.1 The procedure to be followed during or following an appeal investigation shall be determined by the President.
- 9.2 When an appeal has been received by Softball B.C., 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 B.C.
  - c) where a Notice of Appeal is approved for investigation and deliberation by the President, an investigation shall commence. The appeal process may involve:
    - i) An inquiry through a collaboration of witness statements, reports and other evidence, which may or may not include a personal or telephonic interview of the appellant by one or more of the appointed Appeal Committee members;
    - ii) an oral hearing pursuant to Article 10 where witnesses and/or the appellant shall appear in person before the Appeal Committee, or:
    - iii) by both an inquiry process and an oral hearing process.
  - d) Following completion of the inquiry or oral hearing process, the Appeal Committee shall deliberate the issue and render a decision in accordance with Article 7. After deliberation the Appeal Committee may:
    - i) Vacate the decision of the Director, or
    - ii) Uphold the decision of the Director, or
    - iii) Vary the decision of the Director.
- 9.3 No person shall sit on an Appeal Committee respecting a particular decision that has participated in the issuance of the initial decision or is a potential witness to the decision. When necessary, the President of Softball B.C. may designate a replacement of an Appeal Committee member to ensure that a fair and impartial appellate decision will be made. (i.e. cases of apparent bias, conflict of interest, etc.)

## **ARTICLE 10 – APPEALS – ORAL HEARING PROCEDURE**

- 10.1 Procedure to be followed at an Oral Hearing shall to be determined by the Chair of the Appeal Committee, or in the case of a Protem Suspension appeal, by the President.
- 10.2 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.
- 10.3 The Appeal Committee shall ensure that the appellant, respondent and witnesses are notified in writing of the date, time and place of the hearing. Normally two (2) clear days prior to the hearing will constitute sufficient notice.
- 10.4 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 shall have the right to speak at the hearing.
- 10.5 Any other interested person wishing to attend may be permitted to do so, bearing in mind that the hearing process may include a closed session pursuant to Article 10.2. Any person so attending may, at the discretion of the Chair, address the Appeal Committee.

- 10.6 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 in the absence of that party.

## **ARTICLE 11 – TRAVEL PERMITS**

- 11.1 Travel permits are required by affiliated players, and umpires to play or officiate softball outside of B.C., including outside of North America. These permits are obtained from the Softball B.C. office.
- 11.2 Travel permits are not necessary for Provincial Championships or to travel to events within B.C.

## **ARTICLE 12 – MINOR SOFTBALL**

### **12.1 INTERPROVINCIAL EVENTS**

- a) Canadian Championships: U18 'A' Boys & Girls  
U16 'A' Boys & Girls  
U14 'A' Boys & Girls
- b) Western Canadian Championships: U18 'B' Boys & Girls  
U16 A Boys & U16 'B' Girls  
U14 'A' Boys & 'B' Girls

NOTE: GIRLS ONLY: 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.

NOTE: BOYS ONLY: 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.

### **12.2 MINOR – DEFINITIONS**

- a) BATS – Use of official Little League bats will be allowed if they meet the requirements of Softball B.C. 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.
- b) 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 a dropped third strike, the defensive and offensive players may use either portion of the base when a live ball play is being made from foul ball territory.
- |   |
|---|
| c) FOOTWEAR - no metal cleats allowed. <b>EXCEPTION: U18A and U18B Girls.</b> |
|---|
- d) HELMETS BATTING – an approved helmet shall be one that is fully enclosed, with two ear flaps, a foam liner, and a peak. Also see Article 16.
- e) HELMETS & MASKS (CATCHER) – Minor catchers must wear a regulation helmet and mask and/or approved equipment.

- f) HOME PLATE – the distance from the plate to the backstop shall be a minimum of 17 feet to a maximum of 25 feet.
- g) ON DECK CIRCLE – the on deck batter has the right to go to either on deck batting circle as he/she chooses.
- h) BATTING POSITION - After entering the batter’s box the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot between pitches and while taking signals and practice swings. EXCEPTIONS: The batter can leave the box:
  1. If the ball is batted fair or foul.
  2. On the swing, slap or check swing.
  3. If forced out of the box by a pitch.
  4. On a wild pitch or passed ball.
  5. If there is an attempted play.
  6. If time is called.
  7. If the pitcher leaves the eight (8’) foot circle or the catcher leaves the catcher’s box. Effect: If the batter leave the batter’s box and delays play for any other reason, the umpire may warn the batter or call a strike. Any number of warnings and called strikes can be made with each batter. No pitch has to be thrown and the ball is dead.
- i) UNIFORMS – all District, Provincial and sanctioned events must meet uniform regulations detailed in Article 16.
- j) CHARGED CONFERENCE (DEFENSIVE AND OFFENSIVE) – the defensive conference rule with regard to pitchers and the offensive conference rule are both waived for the U12 and lower categories.
- k) DESIGNATED PLAYER – the designated player rule will apply for all classifications in the U14, U16 and U18 categories, and in the ‘A’ classification for U12.
- l) DROPPED THIRD STRIKE – in U12B & C and under categories the batter is out on the third strike, regardless if the ball is caught or not and the ball remains alive.
- m) INFIELD FLY – the Infield Fly rule shall not apply to U12 C and under categories.
- n) LEAGUE – three teams of the same classification (‘A’, ‘B’, or ‘C’).
- o) OVERTHROWS – applicable to Minor categories.
  - i) All runners will be awarded 2 bases on a first throw by an infielder and the 2 bases will be governed from the base the runner(s) occupied at the time of the pitch.
  - ii) On a second play, or a succeeding play by an infielder (i.e. double play), the 2 bases will be governed by the position of each runner at the time of the final throw.
  - iii) On throws by an outfielder, the 2 bases will be awarded by the position of the runners at the time of the throw. NOTE: The award is governed by the lead runner.
- p) PHONES: Activated cellular phones are not permitted on the field of play, dugouts and players benches and shall be removed immediately.

- q) **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.
- r) **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.
- s) **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.
  - i) 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.
- t) **BOYS PROGRAMS** – a minor female player may play in the boys program at all levels.

### 12.3 REGISTRATION

- a) Definitions:
  - i) **Recognized Minor Association:** Shall include an association that had teams registered with Softball B.C. 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.
  - ii) **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 B.C. 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.
  - iii) **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 Form on or before the Final Registration Deadline date to the District Minor Coordinator or representative of Softball BC. When received, the District Minor Coordinator or

Softball BC shall immediately forward the form to the Softball BC office. The form may list a maximum of fifteen (15) players and four (4) coaches; EXCEPTION: 17 players for U19C plus 4 coaches.

- iv) **Minor Final Registration Deadline:** Minor Final Registration be as follows.
  - (a) Online Deadline for 'A' team registration shall be April 1<sup>st</sup> if current year with all payments due by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - (b) Online Deadline for all other minor team registration shall be May 15<sup>th</sup> of current year with all payments due by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - (c) Any changes necessary after May 15th are to be sent to the Softball BC office to be approved by the Minor Director. Such changes shall be processed by the office only once a week.
- v) **Minors Playing with or against Senior Teams:** Shall include:
  - (a) a minor aged player registered as a senior player on a senior team;
  - (b) a team of minor players registered on a minor team playing against a senior team, or;
  - (c) a minor player registered on a minor team being picked up to play with a senior team.
- vi) **Transfer:** The movement of any minor player from one Softball B.C. Team Registration form to another at any time after a player has committed to an approved Softball B.C. Team Registration Form in the current year.
- vii) **Release:** The discharge of a player already approved to a Softball B.C. 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 B.C. Team Registration form, and;
  - (c) A coach from any other team in the District mutually agrees to accept the player's registration on his/her 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 B.C.
- viii) **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.



- ix) **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.
  - x) **At all boys 'C' categories** a minor female player may register on a female classified team or a male classified team. **A male classified team is not to have more than 4 female players and no fewer than 6 male players.**
- b) Player – to be eligible
- i) Minor players, managers, and coaches are to be registered on a Softball B.C. Team Registration Form;
  - ii) Pursuant to Article 3 (Canadian Residency), Minor players must be a resident in the Province of B.C., or when attending school out of Province, their parents(s) or legal guardian must be a resident in the Province of B.C. on **May 1st** in the year of registration;
  - iii) At the U12 category and under, female players may register on a male team.
  - iv) Minor players may register with two different teams in a 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.
  - v) Other than U18 B / A 2<sup>nd</sup> year and U19C 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year aged players who have met all Minor obligations for the season and are therefore eligible as a pick-up for Senior Provincial Championship play only, a Minor player registered on a Minor team will not be eligible to participate in Senior category events that lead to or include Senior Provincial Championships;
  - vi) With the exception of U18 aged players who have met all Minor obligations for the season, a Minor aged player who has not, or will not attain the age of 19 years in the current calendar year, is ineligible to play against a senior team or any team registered in a senior league unless:
    - (a) a written consent form from a parent or guardian is received by the District Coordinator not later than June 10th of the current playing year, and;
    - (b) the District's Minor and Senior Coordinator both agree, and;
    - (c) the Coordinator's decision is received in writing by Softball B.C. and the player, parent or guardian;
    - (d) Failure to do complete proper paperwork and submit on time, player and Senior coach will be suspended until they comply;
  - vii) Coaches and managers may be subject to disciplinary action including suspension if a player works out, practices or plays with or against a Senior team without first obtaining consent signed by

their District's Minor and Senior Coordinator. Where a minor aged player is registered on a senior team, the consent form must be presented at District playdowns and Provincial Championships.

- viii) A minor player who completes registration with more than one team in a current playing year, and whose name is listed on multiple Softball B.C. 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. **Exception granted if situation is covered in 12.3 b) iv);**
  - ix) Adult coaches or non-playing coaches may register on and participate with multiple Minor teams in a given year.
  - x) Following the completion of a team's registration with Softball B.C., 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 play downs.
  - xi) In addition to the penalties outlined in Article 16.1, any coach who allows participation of an ineligible player in District, Provincial or extra-Provincial events may be subject to disciplinary action.
  - xii) Any Minor player considered ineligible pursuant to these rules may be subject to disciplinary action.
- c) Team
- i) If a recognized league or association registers one team with Softball B.C., all other teams registered with or playing under the authority and supervision of that league or association must register with Softball B.C. Failure to do so may result in all teams in the league or association being ruled ineligible for District, or Provincial play.
  - ii) 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 the majority of home games are played;
    - (b) Where the majority of the players reside;
    - (c) Whether there is a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District.
  - iii) Each minor team shall be entitled to carry a minimum of nine (9), to a maximum seventeen (17) registered players;
  - iv) At the time Softball BC Team Registration Forms are submitted to the Minor Coordinator or Softball BC Representative, coaches or associations must indicate classification ('A', 'B', or 'C') of the team. 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. In the U12 boys division, there will be only U12 Boys. In the U14 there will be ‘Rep’ and ‘C’ classifications.

- v) Teams registered must have an appropriate NCCP level coach listed on the Softball B.C. Team Registration form at the time of registration with Softball B.C. 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 the U12 Regional Championship or a Provincial must have a minimum of two (2) coaches registered with the team. **Only one (1) needs to be certified.**
- vi) 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.
- vii) For competition in the U12 and U14 Boys “Rep” and “C” Provincial Championship classifications, an association shall be permitted to form a combined team(s) from “C” classification U12 and U14 boys 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

- viii) 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.
- ix) 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.

- x) 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 Senior 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.
- xi) The District Minor Coordinator has the obligation and responsibility to ensure that teams are properly classified within his or her District.
- xii) The District Minor Coordinator, after a proper investigation or review of any circumstances provided, has the authority to re-classify any team in his or her District at any time up to, but not including the date of the team's participation in a Provincial Championship.

**d) FEE STRUCTURE-MINOR**

Team Fee

Minor U10 (includes LTP) to U18	\$15.00
	Liability Insurance

Annual Dues (Includes players, coaches and managers)

Minor U12 to U18/U19	\$32.00**
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(\*\$2.00 to Special Minor Fund to be paid by separate cheque payable to Minor Development Fund )

Minor U10 and LTP	\$20.00
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Lifetime Membership (One time only)

Minor U12 to U18/U19	\$10.00
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Minor U10 and LTP	\$10.00
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League/Association Executive	\$10.00
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**12.4 MINOR-DISTRICT, PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS & PICK-UPS**

(To be read in conjunction with Articles 2 & 16) For eligibility of players to participate in District and Provincial play please refer to Annex 'G'.

- a) District & Provincials
  - i) District playoffs will be a modified Round Robin or Knockout Championship Draw as determined by the District Minor Coordinator.
  - ii) Pick-up players are not allowed or eligible to participate in District playoffs.

- iii) To be eligible to participate in any District play down 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 play down, or;
  - (b) where all associations in the District cannot come to agreement with an acceptable format, or agree otherwise, participate in the District play down.
- iv) To be eligible to participate in any District play down 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 B.C. 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.

- v) EXCEPT AT U19C and with the following exception, any team placing first, second or third in a Provincial Championship move up one classification if playing in the same category and having six (6) or more returning players to the team in the following year. Any boys 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.
- vi) EXCEPT AT U19C 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.
- vii) EXCEPT AT U19C, 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.

b) Pick-ups (Refer to Annex G)

- i) Pick-up players for girl's teams must be the same gender, but for boys teams can be either gender.
- ii) To be eligible, a pick-up player must be registered on an appropriately classified team within the District of the team picking them up.
- iii) A player is not eligible as a pick-up for any other team if that player intends to, but has not yet participated in the Provincial Championship with his/her registered team.  
EXCEPTION: in the boys program only, a player may be picked up by any other appropriate team prior to that player's provincial championship for his registered team, and then must fulfill their obligation with their registered teams.  
(NOTE: See Article 16.1 b) Ineligible Player.)
- iv) a) The winning team, host team and any pro-rated team of a District (A, B, C Classification), will be permitted the addition of three (3) pickups from their own district or replacement players to a full complement of 15 players of the same classification or

lower classification within the teams own category, or one classification lower when proceeding to a Provincial Championship.

- b) Teams from Districts that do not have teams in the same classification to pick up from, be allowed to pick up from any District in the Province. The choice of pick-up players will first be given to the winning team, then to the host team, SHOULD THAT DISTRICT BE HOSTING THE CHAMPIONSHIP IN THE CURRENT YEAR, and finally to the pro-rated teams participating in the Championship. Players asked by their district representative to join their teams for provincials and refuse, shall be ineligible to be picked up by out of district teams. Pick up order for out of district teams: If more than one team needs out of district pick-ups, the Minor Director will do a random draw to determine order of pick-ups. In 'C' classification Provincials, only one (1) pick-up may be used as a pitcher, and that pick-up must be designated at the commencement of the Championship and no other pick-up may be used as a pitcher during the Championship.
- v) A pick-up must have the written permission of their coach to be eligible to play with any other teams at a Provincial Championship. Written permission may be in the form of the team's Softball B.C. Team Registration Form, which is appropriately signed by the player's coach and the District Minor Coordinator at the time of registration with Softball B.C.
- vi) A player may elect to play for any team wishing to pick them up and is not obligated to follow the selection criteria as otherwise described. Teams requesting to pick-up players from outside their own district must get approval from the pick-up players District Coordinator. Players asked to be picked up by one of their own district teams and decline are ineligible to be picked up by any other district.
- vii) With the exception of a pick-up player who formally provides written notification to the pick-up team's coach and the Minor Director of Softball B.C. outlining circumstances why that pick-up player cannot, or will not, participate with the pick-up team at any extra-Provincial Championship, a player who has been officially added to a team as a pick-up in a Provincial Championship cannot be replaced. Where the Minor Director receives such notification, and where exceptional circumstances dictate, the Minor Director may authorize replacement of that particular pick-up player.
- viii) A coach added to a team roster to meet NCCP requirements will constitute one of the team's three pick-up choices.
- ix) Players, including pick-ups, **will** be allowed to participate in more than one Minor Provincial in the same year. Exception: Players registered on a Minor Mixed Orthodox team may also register on a team in a Minor Fastpitch category and are eligible to participate in each respective Provincial Championship. Pick-up players for

each method of pitch shall only be eligible if registered in the particular method of pitch. NO CROSSOVER PICK-UPS.

EXCEPTION: in the boys program only, a pitcher may pitch in more than one Provincial provided they are picked up from the appropriate division and/or category as designated in the Softball BC pick-up annex.

- x) Registered adult coaches or non-playing coaches may participate as a coach in more than one Minor Provincial Championship in the same year.
- xi) A minor registered on a senior team cannot be picked up by a minor team to play in Provincials, Westerns and/or Canadians. Exception: Where no opportunities to play on a minor team exist.

## 12.5 COACHING REQUIREMENTS (see Article 1 – N.C.C.P.)

- a) U12 ‘A’, ‘B’, U14 ‘B’ & ‘C’, U16 ‘C’ and U18 ‘C’ –minimum NCCP Community – Sport On-Going Participation with completion of Making Ethical Decisions.

U18 ‘A & B’, U16 ‘A & B’, U14 ‘A’ – minimum NCCP Introduction to Competition training (i.e. attended clinic 1 & 2) with completion of Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation.

National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) –

Initiation/U10 Clinic - 6 hours

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

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

Make Ethical Decisions - on-line

- b) 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. (See Article 16.8 A & C). EXCEPTION: Medical Emergencies or any unforeseen circumstances deemed so by the Softball B.C. 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.

## 12.6 ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS TO COMPETE IN A PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

- a) 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.
- b) The Softball B.C. Minor Director shall provide the District Minor Coordinators with a set of standard tournament draws and rules for all District playoffs.
- c) 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.



- d) A form will be provided for all District Coordinators to notify the Softball B.C. office of his / her District's intent to participate in each of the categories of Provincial Championships. Failure to make prior notification with Softball B.C. office will result in disqualification of that District in further Provincial play.
- e) Any team intending to participate in a Provincial Championship must notify the Softball B.C. office and the appropriate Tournament Director 15 days prior to the Provincial Championship.
- f) 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 B.C. office 10 days prior to the tournament. (NOTE: See Article 16.2)
- g) Each team participating in a Provincial Championship shall submit a copy of their roster form including any player(s) picked up to the Softball B.C. Board Representative or designate assigned to any given Championship. (A release form is not necessary.)

12.7 **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** – (to be read in conjunction with Article 2 and Article 16.)

- a) All play leading to Provincial Championships including District Playoffs, must be played according to Softball B.C. rules.
- b) All Minor Provincial Championship draws will be conducted on Thursday night at the pre-Provincial Championship coaches meeting. Exception: The host team or association will be given the choice of being automatically the highest number in the draw in advance of the coaches meeting or can be part of the draw.
- c) In Minor categories, any Provincial 'A' Championship having 8 or more participating teams shall be a three day event.
- d) 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.

12.8 **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT** (Exception: U12C, U12B & U14C) Minor Provincial Championships will include a Modified Round Robin, a **Knockout Championship Draw** (Elimination Round) with a single knockout final.

- a) **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.

- i) All U18A, U16A, U18B, U16B games to have no time limits.
- ii) U12 'A', U14 'A', 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. U12A and U12B 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

- iii) 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: U14
- iv) Minor 'C': All Minor 'C' Championship games are to have a limit of 1 ½ hours, regardless of the inning, with no new inning to start after 1 ½ hours has expired. 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. No time limit will be in effect for the final game.
- v) With no exceptions: When the home team is leading after 4½, 5½ or 6½ innings after the time limit has expired the score reverts back to the last completed inning. If the time limit has not been reached after 4½ or 5½ innings all runs and bases touched will count in the scoring until the time limit is reached, (i.e. home team leading 2-1 in the bottom of the 6th inning with 5 minutes left on the time limit. 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 all bases touched including the runners left on base would be counted).
- vi) 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.)
- vii) For all categories and all classifications, if the home team is leading after completion of 6½ innings, whether the time limit, if one applies, has been reached or not, the game will end and the score will revert back to the last completed inning.
- viii) (a) The fifteen (15) run rule will be in effect in both the round robin and Knockout Championship Draw finals after 2 ½, 3, 3 ½ or 4 complete innings of play if there is a run difference of fifteen (15) or more runs; EXCEPTION: The run rule at U12A and U12B levels for Provincial Championships – A ten (10) run rule will be in effect in both the Round Robin and Championship Draw Finals after 2 ½, 3, 3 ½, or 4 complete innings of play, if there is a run difference of ten (10) or more runs.  
(b) The seven (7) run rule will be in effect in both the round robin and Knockout Championship Draw finals after 4 ½, 5,

5 ½ or 6 innings if there is a run difference of seven (7) or more runs.

- ix) All ties 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 games except the final game.

- x) Modifications – U12C (boys and girls), U14C (boys and girls), U12A girls, U12B girls, U14C (boys and girls), U16C (girls only) and U19C (girls only).

- (a) All teams player's 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.

- (i) 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 and 12.9 x) a) (i) will apply.
- (ii) 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;
- (iii) 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;
- (iv) 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.

- (b) unlimited and multiple defensive substitutions may be made at any time during the game and need not be announced to the umpire;
- (c) the Minor “C” time limit shall apply;
  - (i) BOYS AND GIRLS: a five (5) run maximum rule shall apply in half innings in and including the 3rd inning. All new innings after 3 complete innings will have the five run rule suspended;
  - (ii) BOYS AND GIRLS: in the 4th inning, or when tied in all subsequent innings, the five run maximum rule is suspended and the game shall continue with no maximum run limit. EXCEPTION: U12 Boys, the (5<sup>th</sup>) inning or when tied in all subsequent innings, the five run maximum rule is suspended and the game shall continue with no maximum run limit.

**d) In the U12C and U14C categories (both boys and girls), 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 8<sup>th</sup> inning.****

- b) KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW (exception: U12B Girls)
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
- c) KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL (exception: U12B Girls) – 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:

- i) Win/loss/tied record: (2 points for win, 1 for a tie, 0 for a loss), if still tied then,
- ii) When only 2 teams are tied and those teams have played each other, winner of the game between the tied teams. When more than 2 teams are tied and have played each other and one such team has defeated all the others who in that case are tied, that team shall advance. If need be, this process shall continue until it is no longer workable. If two or more teams are tied but have not played each other equally, or where a team has not defeated all other remaining tied teams, only criteria (iii), (iv) and (v) will be applied.
- iii) Total runs scored for or against (score differential limit or +7 runs or -7 per game).  
i.e. Team A = 10 Team B = 6 Results (10-6)  
Team A credited with +4  
Team B credited with -4  
If still tied, then,
- iv) Total bases touched for or against (score differential limit of +30 or -30 per game)  
i.e. Team A = 30 Team B = 20 Results (30-20)  
Team A credited with +10  
Team B credited with -10  
If still tied, then,

Play a tie breaking game only if a spot in seeding for the Championship final shall result in one team being eliminated. Otherwise ties will be broken by a coin toss.

NOTE: In case of forfeited game, winning team is credited with maximums of 7 runs and 30 bases touched and losing team is credited with maximum of -7 runs and -30 bases touched.

- d) U12B, U14B and U14C Girls Format:
  - i) Teams will be seeded after round robin as per 12.9 c). 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. See Annex 'B'. Silver Division playoffs shall be single knockout, See Annex 'J'. Each division will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place medals. Four diamonds will be needed to complete championship playoffs.
  - ii) All games including finals will have a limit of no new inning after 1 ½ hours.
- e) AWARDS: When hosting Minor Provincial Championships the Host Association may only present awards to the top pitcher, top batter and most sportsmanlike team. No other awards or all-star team awards are to be presented.
- f) COMBINED CLASSIFICATION FOR U12, U14 AND U16
  - i) where there are 4 or less teams attending a Provincial, those teams will be combined with the next classification to form a combined Provincial.

- ii) 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.
- iii) 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.
- iv) in a combined Provincial Championship, the teams will be seeded by the Softball B.C. Minor Director.
- v) the top 6 teams in the modified round robin will advance to the Knockout Championship Draw in the higher classification
- vi) 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.
- vii) 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.
- viii) the difference in provincial fees between A and B classification will be paid to the Softball B.C. office by August 1st.

### 12.9 U12 Regional Championship Format

The U12 Regional Championship is meant to be all-inclusive, fun, and meet the competition requirements for Long Term Player Development. The requirements for hosting are the same as a Provincial Championship and the bid process is as outlined in article 17.1.

**a) Eligibility:**

All teams registered in the U12C Category as per Article 12.3 iii)

Regions:

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

Entry Fee: \$250.00 per team (payable to Softball BC)
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**b) Modified Playing Rules:**

1. Pitching: limit of four (4) innings per game.
2. 5 run limit per inning (same as current) first 3 innings. Starting in the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, the run rule is suspended.
3. Replacement players allowed from U12C and U10.
4. Defense: All Players must play at least two innings on defense per game.
5. Batting: All players on roster to be in batting line-up.
6. Teams must start games with 9 players, but may play with 8 due to injury.
7. No protests allowed.

8. One (1) umpire per game will be paid by Softball BC from entry fees.
9. All other Softball BC rules will apply.
10. All games are to have a time limit of 1 ½ hours, with no new innings to start after 1 ½ hours has expired.

**c) Tournament Format:**

- a) Round Robin: Three (3) games, all teams seeded into single knockout playoffs in groups of 8.

Playoffs: Blue Pool – Top 8 teams.

Red Pool – Next 8 teams.

White Pool – Next 8 teams

Yellow Pool – Next 8 teams.

- b) Skills and Team Building component.

Participation in all components of the tournament is mandatory and will be recognized by Softball BC.

12.10	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.
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## ARTICLE 13 – B.C. SUMMER GAMES

The following article has been changed to reflect the changes made to the BC Summer Games for 2014.

- 13.1 Except where otherwise stated, the Special Operating Rules of Softball B.C. shall apply to the B.C. Summer Games. See also, B.C. Summer Games Rules.

- a) Coaches/Managers of the Zone team in the year of and the year following the BC Summer Games will not accept any players that were registered and played with the Zone BC Summer Games team. Penalty to the Zone coaches/managers will suspension from Softball BC.
- b) Exception to any players that were registered and played with the Zone coaches/managers in the year prior and year of the BC Summer Games.

- 13.2 **SUMMER GAMES - DEFINITIONS**

- a) **COMPETITION:** The B.C. Summer Games are held every second year on even years and is open to one male and one female team from each of the eight Provincial Zones.
- b) **ZONE HOST TEAM:** Where it is confirmed by the Minor Director of Softball B.C. that a particular ZONE cannot present a team for competition at the B.C. Summer Games, the hosting Zone will have an opportunity of filling only one such vacancy in each gender with a team selected by a coach appointed by the Zone Representative and the Minor Director. Preference shall be extended to players living in or near the hosting community but eligibility may include players from anywhere within the zone.

The composition of such a team shall not conflict with, or take priority over, player selection of the legitimately formed Zone team.

- c) ZONE REPRESENTATIVE: A B.C. Summer Games representative shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of Softball B.C. for each of the eight competing Zones.

- d) ZONE HEAD COACH: In the year preceding the B.C. Summer Games, a B.C. Summer Games Zone head coach shall be selected by the Zone Representatives, in consultation with the Board of Directors of Softball B.C. At the time of selection, the coach shall have, or demonstrate the potential of gaining, an NCCP Level II (old) or Competition Introduction Certified with MED (new) status.

- e) PLAYER PARTICIPANTS: In the year of the B.C. Summer Games, the Zone Head coach shall select athletes from eligible Softball B.C. registered teams who have been appropriately scouted and/or given an opportunity to try out for the Zone team.

- f) MINIMUM AGE: Players who turn 13 years of age in the year of the B.C. Summer Games (U14).

- g) MAXIMUM AGE: Players who turn 16 years of age in the year of the B.C. Summer Games (2nd year U16).

ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS: Respecting the age restriction, only players currently registered with Softball B.C. at the U14 or U16 categories, as selected by the Zone coach, are eligible to compete in the B.C. Summer Games. Athletes and coaches must reside within the geographical boundaries of the Zone, and under no circumstance will cross-association participation be permitted

NOTE: Athletes are only allowed to participate in one BC Summer Games Softball event in a lifetime. ZONE TEAM COMPOSITION: Only one (1) girls' team and one (1) boys' team from each of the eight (8) Zones in the Province. There must be a minimum of 9 players to a maximum of 16 players, and a maximum of three (3) coaches and one (1) manager on each team. **Two (2) of the coaches/managers must be the same gender of the team to fill the role of chaperone.** No other persons such as bat boys/girls will be permitted to use Summer Games transportation or accommodation and may not receive meals or awards.

- h) B.C. GAMES ENTRY DEADLINE: B.C. Games Registration Forms must be received by the B.C. Games Office no later than the date posted from year to year in the Summer Games rules.

- i) PARTICIPANT FEE: Each athlete will be charged a fee, to be determined by the Finance Committee in consultation with the Director in charge of the BC Summer Games, which shall be billed and collected from participants by the Zone Head Coach or the Zone Representative and submitted to Softball B.C. by June 1st.

- 13.3 In the year preceding the B.C. Summer Games, a Zone Head Coach shall be selected and, where possible, shall be available, or have scouting representatives available at the appropriate U14 and U16 District Playdowns and/or Provincial Championships in order to identify potential athletes for selection to the Zone team the following year.



- 13.4 The Zone Head Coach and his/her coaching contingent shall afford all eligible aged athletes in the Zone the opportunity of trying out for the Zone team.
- 13.5 Where no championship date conflict is evident, players selected to participate in the B.C. Summer Games on a Zone team, are entitled to participate with their club/association team in District playoffs, Provincial Championships and extra Provincial Championships in the same year.
- 13.6 The B.C. Summer Games shall be played according to the U16 “A” category rules with the exception that:
- a) the time limit of 1 ½ hours shall apply to all games including the final;
  - b) The 12” ball shall be used.
  - c) All ties are to be broken in extra innings. The Tie Breaking Rule shall be applied in all games including the final championship game. The Tie Breaking Rule shall start at the top of the 8<sup>th</sup> inning or when time has expired.
- 13.7 The playoff rules at the B.C. Summer Games shall incorporate a qualifying round robin based on a rotational draw drafted from year to year by the Board Representative of Summer Games. The elimination round shall have the first place finalist team competing against the fourth place team, and second against third. The winners of the first round shall advance to the gold medal final game and the losers shall compete for the bronze medal. Finalists for the elimination round shall be determined in the following order:
- a) Firstly, win/loss record;
  - b) When only two teams are tied and have played each other, winner of the game between the tied teams;
  - c) When more than 2 teams are tied and have played each other, and one such team has defeated all the others who in that case are tied, that team shall advance. If need be, this process shall continue until it is no longer workable.
  - d) If two or more teams are tied but have not played each other equally, or where a team has not defeated all other teams who in that case are tied, then:
    - e) Total runs scored for or against (maximum +7 –7);
    - f) Next, total bases touched for and against (maximum +30 –30);
    - g) Next. Total runs scored based on all innings except where the game ended and the score reverted back to the last complete inning (use reverted tally);
    - h) Next, the least number of runs scored based on all innings except where the game ended and the score reverted back to the last complete inning (use reverted tally);
    - i) Next, by flip of a coin. (There shall be no tie breaking game.)

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| 13.8 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. |
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## ARTICLE 14 – SENIOR FASTPITCH

### 14.1 SENIOR FASTPITCH CATEGORIES:

Senior 'A'	- 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> place provincial finishers leads to a Canadian Championship. - 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> place provincial finishers leads to a Western Canadian Championship** EXCEPTION: Senior Men
Senior 'B'	- Provincial Championship only EXCEPTION: Senior Men
Senior 'C'	- Provincial Championship only
Senior 'D'	- Provincial Championship only
All U21 women's teams are eligible to compete in a Canadian Championship (see i)	
U21 A Men & Women	Leads to a Canadian
U21 B Men & Women	Leads to a Western
U21 C Men & Women	Provincial Championship only
Masters Women	Leads to a Western
Masters Men 'A'	Leads to a Western
Masters Men 'B'	Provincial Championship only
Senior Master Men	Leads to a Western
Mixed Orthodox 'A'	Provincial Championship only
Mixed Orthodox 'B'	Provincial Championship only
Mixed Fastpitch 'A'	Provincial Championship only
Mixed Fastpitch 'B'	Provincial Championship only

- a) Have sufficient quality fields and umpires to host.
- b) Masters Men's Provincial Championships be held on the same weekend and at the same location.
- c) Championships that have not received an acceptable bid by the A.G.M. will be open to any bid.
- d) Teams cannot compete in a lower category of Provincial Championship.
- e) If a team attends a Western Canadian Softball Association Championship they may not attend a Canadian Championship in the same year.  
EXCEPTION: Masters FP
- f) Mixed Orthodox A & B Provincial Championships is held on the same weekend.
- g) All U21 Women teams wishing to attend a Canadian Championship must submit a Letter of Intent and if necessary a qualifying tournament will be held.
- h) A U21 Women's team winning a Western Canadian Championship may not return as defending champion, but must move up one classification to U21A Women.

- i) The highest finishing team in the Senior A Women's category eligible to attend the Western OR Canadian Championship shall be given an automatic berth into the next year's Western OR Canadian Championship. The team must have 7 returning players. A Letter of Intent and accompanying fees must be filed as per Article 2.4. EXCEPTION: Senior A Women.

EXCEPTION: When the U21 Provincial Champion ages out, the next year's spot will be given to the highest finishing team with 7 returning players that meet the age requirement. Note: the previous year winner will be given the BC2 spot, when 2 or more teams attend.

14.2 **FOOTWEAR** – Senior Fastpitch only – metal cleats allowed.

14.3 **PICK – UPS** (To be read in conjunction with Articles 2 & 16) for eligibility of players to participate in Provincial play please refer to Annex 'H'.

- a) Not allowed in District Playoffs
- b) As per pick up chart
- c) A player may only play in one Provincial Championship except:
  - i) If they are on a team roster that has registered in any other competitive category they may or their team may play in the "Senior A" Provincial Championship.
    - (a) Pick-ups may be released without penalty.
    - (b) Teams competing in the "Senior A" Championship may pick-up outside their District.
  - ii) If they are registered on a Masters team, a Women's or Men's team, and / or a Mixed team, they may play in any Provincial that their team attends.
  - iii) If they are a U21 aged player registered on a U21, Senior 'C' or Senior 'D' team, they may be picked up by a U21 'A' team to participate in the Provincial, and may play with their own team if it participates in a B.C. Championship. This player will be considered to be one of the U21 'A's pick-ups if the team qualifies for the Canadian Tournament.
  - iv) If they are a U21 aged player on any B.C. team (exception 'R' players are ineligible), they may be picked up by a B.C. U21 'A' team that is attending the Canadian or a U21 'B' team that is attending a Western Canadian and may return to play with their own team if it is attending a Provincial tournament.
  - v) In accordance with the pick-up chart, if they are a U21 A, B or C player they may be picked up by a Senior team from any District to attend a Senior Provincial Championship and may also play with their own team if it is attending a Provincial Tournament.
  - vi) In accordance with the pick-up chart, if they are a U21 aged player playing on a Senior team they may be picked up by any U21 team from any district to attend a U21 Provincial Championship and may also play with their own team if it's attending a Provincial Tournament.

- vii) If they are a Masters aged player, they may be picked up by a Masters team travelling to a Provincial, Western or Canadian Championship and may return to play with their own team if it is attending a Provincial Tournament.
- viii) Only U18 2nd year aged players having met all Minor obligations for the season, may be picked up by any Senior team in their District for Provincial or Interprovincial Championships. (See Pick-up Chart Annex H)
- ix) A Senior Fastpitch player can be picked up by a higher classified team with their coaches' consent.
- d) Registered Fastpitch teams can only pick up from their own Division of Fastpitch for Provincial Championships (NOTE: Divisions are: Men's and Women's Fastpitch, Mixed Orthodox and Mixed Fastpitch). Pick-ups are male players from male teams, female players from female teams, Orthodox only from Orthodox, Mixed Fastpitch only from Mixed Fastpitch. Mixed Players (Male/Female) not be allowed as pick-ups in the Senior "A" category, from an all Men's or Ladies team.
- e) Pick-ups must have written permission from their Coach in the form of a copy of the Softball B.C. roster form, which must be signed by the Coach and Senior Fastpitch Coordinator. Any team using a pick-up who is already ineligible, will be subject to forfeiture at any time during a championship upon receipt of a formal protest (exception – see 'd').

NOTE: A player may not be picked up if their team is attending a Provincial tournament unless they fall into the "Exceptions Category".

#### TRAVELLING TO A WESTERN CANADIAN OR CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

U21 'A' – May pick-up any U21 aged player

Masters – May pick-up any Masters aged player

#### 14.4 **COACH** (see Article 1, NCCP)

- a) NCCP – Coach Qualifications
  - i) Provincial Championships leading to a Canadian Championship: NCCP Softball Competition Introduction CERTIFIED (i.e. attended Clinic 1 & 2, with completion of Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation) or Full Level 11 certification in Softball, (Theory, Technical and Practical) is required.
  - ii) Provincial Championships leading to a Western Canadian Championship: NCCP Softball Competition Introduction CERTIFIED (i.e. attended Clinic 1) or Full Level 1 certification in Softball, (Theory, Technical and Practical) is required.
- b) Senior member may coach/manage in any category/classification and play in their Provincial Championship as well.
- c) The certified coach must be in attendance at the Championship with the team that they are registered with.
- d) Masters Fastpitch teams and Senior 'B' teams are exempt from NCCP Coaching requirements when attending Provincial Championships, but must have an Introduction to Competition in Training (i.e. attended

Clinic 1) or Level 1 Coach when attending the Western Canadian Championship.

NOTE: Exemptions may be considered from teams that are reclassified by their Coordinator.

#### 14.5 **TEAM ROSTER & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- a) Roster – Maximum seventeen (17), minimum eleven (11). Exception: Masters and Recreational teams maximum 20. Mixed teams are allowed to sign up to 17 players and pick-up no more than three (3) players to a maximum of 20 to attend Provincial Championships.
- b) Mixed Orthodox players will be required to provide documentation that they played eight (8) games in league or tournament play on the team they are registered with upon receipt of a formal protest from participating teams. Score sheets signed by game officials must be provided if there is a protest made. There will be a protest fee of \$25.00 made payable to Softball B.C. that is refundable if the protest is upheld.
- c) Managers/Coaches shall not be eligible to play UNLESS currently registered as an active player in the proper manner, on the team's Softball B.C. Roster Form.
- d) For the purpose of registration, Mixed Fastpitch and Mixed Orthodox shall not be considered different methods of pitch and players may only sign in one category and compete in one Provincial.
- e) Any women's team and any Senior D Men's 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.
- f) When players from teams 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 Championships.
- g) A team may return to a lower classification after competing for at least one (1) year at the higher classification Provincial Championship due to the rulings of Article 14.5 e) and/or f).
- h) When women's teams graduate to the next age category, the following chart will be used based on previous year's registration and/or participation at the Provincial Championship:
  - U18 A to U21 A and U21 A to Senior A
  - U18 B to U21 B and U21 B to Senior B
  - U19 C to U21 C and U21 C to Senior C
- i) Each individual U21 and Senior (A,B,C,D) player must have played a minimum of four (4) games with one team in order to participate at the Provincial with that team. Proof of participation will be required at the Pre-Provincial Coaches' meeting if requested. An exception may be made, should a regular member of any given team sustain, or be

recovering from an injury that prevented them from playing the games.  
The Senior Director shall have sole authority in this decision.

#### 14.6 **ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION OF TEAMS:**

In order for a team to be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship, their team and player registration forms must be received by the District Coordinator post-marked by the Registration deadline, without exception.

Senior A, B, C, D Women	June 15
Senior B Men	June 15
U21 A, B, C Women	June 15
U21 B & C Men	June 15
Masters (all categories)	June 15
Senior A Men	July 1
U21 A Men	July 1
Senior C Men	July 15
Senior D Men	July 15
Orthodox	July 15

- a) Each Senior Fastpitch Coordinator must notify the Softball B.C. office of his/her District's intent to participate in Senior Fastpitch Provincial Championships, by June 15th of the current playing year.
- b) A form will be provided for all District Coordinators to notify the Softball B.C. office of his/her District's intent to participate in each of the categories of Provincial Championships. Failure to make prior notification with Softball B.C. office will result in that District being disqualified from provincial play.

c) All teams must submit an entrance fee to be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship. Senior Fastpitch teams must submit their provincial entry fee to the Softball BC office by June 15th. The fees will be held until July 1<sup>st</sup>, or until confirmation of the pro-rata has been received. Teams who do not submit their entrance fee may be excluded from the Provincial Championship regardless of the number of teams entered in that championship.

- d) Any team continuing on to a Provincial Championship must notify the Softball B.C. office and the Tournament Director 15 days prior to the Provincial Championship. Mixed Orthodox and Mixed Fastpitch only: The Senior Fastpitch Director shall offer vacant spots to other Districts on a pro-rata basis, 14 days in advance of the Championship and deny eligibility to Districts and/or teams who do not comply with the notification process.
- e) Every team participating in a Provincial Championship shall submit a copy of the Softball B.C. roster form, duly authorized by their Coach and Senior Fastpitch Coordinator, and the same for any other player(s) pick-up, to the Board Member or designate assigned to any Provincial Championship. (Release form not necessary.)

- f) Minor players, U18 and under will not be allowed to participate in Senior District Playdowns.
- g) U21 and Senior Women's (A,B,C,D) teams must play together for minimum of eight (8) games 14 days prior to the Provincial Championship in order to qualify for participation in a Provincial. Proof of participation will be required at the Pre-Provincial coaches' meeting if requested.

**14.7 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW**

- a) All Senior Women's Fastpitch Provincial Championship Draws will be done 14 days prior to the Provincial Tournament.
- b) Mixed Orthodox Provincial Championships are a double knockout final. International Tie Breaker rule will be used in District Playdowns and Provincial Championships for games tied after 7 complete innings.
- c) Provincial championship format for all Senior and U21 Ladies categories.

All teams will play a 2 game round robin. These games will be played under all present Softball BC rules. At the completion of all round robin games, the teams will be seeded from 1 – (max numbers of teams entered in provincials). All teams will then enter the Knockout Championship Draw. This format will follow as laid out in the Softball BC Handbook, with a single knockout final. Hosts must guarantee that games will start no earlier than Friday a.m. and that all championship games will be scheduled for no later than 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

- i) Senior C & D Men Provincial Championships will be a 3 game round robin with all teams advancing into a single knockout championship round. The round robin will be divided into 2, 3 and 4 pools depending on number of teams entered. When there are eight (8) or more teams registered in a classification the C & D, Men teams will play the round robin against their own classification and will proceed into their own single knockout championship round. When there are less than eight (8) teams in each classification they will play a combined round robin. The top half winners of each pool will compete for the 'C' Championships and the bottom half of each pool will compete for the 'D' Championship. All draws will be done by the Senior Director and depending on teams entered will advise the number of teams to advance to the appropriate single knockout championship.
- ii) The Master A & B and Senior Master Men will play a round robin and the Top 4 teams will go into a championship round with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams having a double life and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> teams receiving a single life.

iii) To apply to Senior Women's A&B teams as a combined group, and to Senior Women's C&D as a combined group. At the completion of all round robin games; the top half of the seeded A/B teams will advance to the 'A' Single knockout championship draw. The bottom half of the seeded A/B teams will advance to the 'B' single knockout championship draw. The top half of the

seeded C/D teams will advance to the 'C' single knockout championship draw. The bottom half of the seeded C/D teams will advance to the 'D' single knockout championship draw.

- d) All Senior Fastpitch Championships are open to every team that wishes to enter the championship.
- e) Senior Fastpitch: For scheduling purposes only, the scheduled time between games during B.C. playoff and Provincial Championships is 2 hours.
- f) Run Difference: In all Senior Fastpitch categories, the game will end after
  - i) 2 ½, 3, 3 ½ or 4 complete innings of play if there is a difference of fifteen (15) or more runs.
  - ii) 4 ½, 5, 5 ½ or 6 complete innings of play if there is a difference of seven (7) or more runs. EXCEPTION: Mixed Orthodox, if there is a difference of ten (10) or more runs.
- g) MEN'S Knockout Championship draw games have no time limit.
- h) When initially drawing tourney, 1st team drawn is designated Team #1, and 16th team drawn is designated Team #16. Should Team #9, for example, withdraw from tourney 72 hours before scheduled first game, teams #10 through #16 move up one slot, thus Team #16 is now slotted as Team #15, in a 15 team draw.
- i) QUALIFYING ROUND
  - i) Home team will be decided by a toss of a coin.
  - ii) The time limit shall be one hour and thirty minutes, or 7 innings, with no new inning to start after one hour and thirty minutes has expired. (Exception: A game is constituted by 4½ or 5 innings. This means that all games must be played out regardless of the time limit to 4½ or 5 complete innings. The sixth or seventh inning is not to commence after 1 hour and thirty minutes has expired.)
  - iii) With no exceptions, if the Home team is leading after 4 1/2 , 5 ½, or 6 ½ innings after the time has expired, any runs scored by the visiting team will not count as the score reverts back to the last complete inning. If the time limit has not been reached after 4 ½ or 5 ½ innings, all runs will count in the scoring until the time limit is reached.
  - iv) In the event the Home team is losing after 4½, 5½ or 6½ innings and after the time limit has expired, the game will end either with the final out of the inning or the play which results in the Home team scoring the winning run.
  - v) If the Home team is leading after completion of 6½ innings whether the time limit has run out or not, **the game will end with the score as it is at the end of 6 ½ innings.**
  - vi) (a) The fifteen (15) run rule will be in effect in the qualifying round after 2 ½, 3, 3 ½ or 4 complete innings of play if there is a run difference of fifteen (15) or more runs;



- (b) The seven (7) run rule will be in effect in the qualifying round after 4 ½, 5, 5 ½ or 6 innings if there is a run difference of seven (7) or more runs.
  - vii) In the event the game is tied at the end of seven (7) innings or after 4 ½-5 completed innings and time is up, the tie shall be broken by extra innings. (International Tie Breaker is to be used.)
- j) **ELIMINATION ROUND FORMAT**
  - i) A time limit of one hour and forty minutes will be in effect in all games of the Elimination Round with the exception of the final game, which will have no time limit.
  - ii) All ties are to be broken by extra innings with no exception. **NOTE: THE INTERNATIONAL TIE-BREAKER RULE IS NOT TO BE USED.**
  - iii) (a) The fifteen (15) run rule will be in effect in the elimination round after 2 ½, 3, 3 ½ or 4 complete innings of play if there is a run difference of fifteen (15) or more run.
    - (b) The seven (7) run rule will be in effect in the elimination round after 4 ½, 5, 5 ½, 6 innings if there is a run difference of seven (7) or more runs.
  - iv) In all senior provincials using a double knockout or modified double knockout format, the undefeated team in the final is given the option of home or away.
- k) **ELIMINATION ROUND QUALIFICATIONS:** The top finishers advancing to the Elimination Round will be determined as follows:
  - i) Won-Loss record. If still tied, then:
  - ii) When only two 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 not played each other in the Qualifying Round, only criteria (iii), (iv), (v), and (vi), in that order, will apply;
  - iii) Total runs for or against. (Score differential limit is +7 or -7 runs per game.)
    - e.g., Team A = 10, Team B = 6. Result (10-6)
    - Team A credited with +4
    - Team B credited with -4
    - If still tied then:
  - iv) Least runs scored against during the entire Qualifying Round.
    - NOTE:** When using these criteria, full team records of the Qualifying Round which are used to arrive at the total runs against shall be used. If still tied, then:
  - v) Most runs scored for during the entire Qualifying Round.
    - NOTE:** When using these criteria, full team records of the Qualifying Round which are used to arrive at the total runs for shall be used. If still tied, then:
  - vi) If time and facilities permit, play a tie breaking game. If time and facilities do not permit, the finalists will be decided by a toss of the coin by the B.C. Representative or designate.

## 14.8 TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

- a) Players, managers and coaches in membership are to be registered on forms provided by the Softball B.C. representatives; such forms may be obtained from your league President or Senior Fastpitch Coordinator.
  - i) Each team shall be entitled to carry a maximum seventeen (17) properly registered players. Exception: Masters categories (20) and Recreational. Any names entered on the form and designated for insurance only shall occupy one of the designated numbers of players allowed. Under no circumstance will more than the aforementioned maximum of players be allowed.
  - ii) Females are not allowed to register on a male team or vice versa.  
Exception: Mixed Categories.
- b) District Coordinators must submit Softball B.C. player roster forms to the Softball B.C. office immediately upon receiving them.
- c) Teams registering with Softball B.C. for insurance purposes only must submit a Softball B.C. roster for these players to receive insurance benefits.
- d) A team that plays in two leagues or has two home parks will establish their District of registration by considering the following criteria:
  - i) Where do they play a majority of their home games?
  - ii) Where do a majority of the players reside?
  - iii) Is there a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District?

### e) **FEE STRUCTURE – SENIOR FASTPITCH**

Team Fee	\$15.00
	Liability Insurance
Annual Dues (Includes players, coaches and managers)	\$30.00
Lifetime Membership (One time only)	\$10.00
League/Association Executive	\$10.00

#### NOTE:

- i) All players, coaches, managers, etc. who register on a Slo-Pitch and Fastpitch roster form will pay the annual due for each roster form they sign.
- f) Orthodox, Mixed Fastpitch and U21 teams will register under the Senior Fastpitch procedure and dates, and shall follow all the Senior Fastpitch Operating Rules and Guidelines, except as otherwise noted in these Special Operating Rules.
- g) The Team registration date for Senior Fastpitch is June 15th. Teams not meeting this deadline will not be eligible for Provincial Championship play. The Softball B.C. PLAYER ROSTER must be submitted and approved by the Softball B.C. District Coordinator by June 15th of the current playing year. The Addition/Deletion form shall be in effect up to and including date of Provincial. Only additions for documented medical reasons or moved out of the province will be considered for approval by the Senior Coordinator up to June 30th. After July 1st, approval to come

from the Senior Director. **EXCEPTION: Senior C and Senior D Men July 15<sup>th</sup>.**

- h) From 7 days prior to the final roster deadline, no Coach or Manager may release a player. However, during that seven day period, players may be transferred to another team. Any Minor player who has approval to play on a Senior team cannot be released from that team after May 31st.
- i) All Senior Fastpitch teams must declare their exact category by the roster deadline date – June 15th of the current year. **EXCEPTION: Senior C and Senior D Men July 15<sup>th</sup>.**
- j) All Senior Fastpitch District Playoffs shall be completed at least three (3) weeks prior to the Provincial date.
- k) The Senior Fastpitch Coordinator may reclassify teams to a higher category as they deem necessary and they must notify the affected teams in writing within seven (7) days of their reclassification. Teams may appeal this reclassification within seven (7) days in writing. Appeals will not be considered after July 7. Notwithstanding Article 7.
- l) Players are allowed to play in Men's or Women's Provincial Championships as well as a Mixed category in the same year. You may register in more than one district as long as you are not playing the same method of pitch. Pick-ups in Provincial Championships are as per section 14.4.
- m) Minor Aged Players: Any minor aged (under 19 years) player or team, shall not sign or play with a Senior team until a written consent form from a parent(s), or guardian(s) is received by the District Minor Coordinator, who with the District Senior Coordinator shall forward their decision in writing to the Softball B.C. office by June 1st of the playing year and a copy sent to the parent or guardian. Coaches and managers will be subject to suspension if a player who requires the consent form works out, practices or plays with their team without first obtaining a consent form signed by their District Minor Coordinator and Senior Coordinator. The consent forms must be presented at the District and Provincial playdowns.
- n) Minor aged pick-ups for Senior Provincials must have signed parental consent form along with a copy of the B.C. team player registration form.

#### 14.9 **U21 FASTPITCH**

All Senior Fastpitch Operating Rules apply to the U21 category with the following exceptions:

- a)
  - i) U21 Fastpitch Age: Under 21 years of age as of 12 midnight, December 31st of the previous year.
  - ii) U21 C Women's pitching distance will be forty feet (40').
- b) **ROSTER**  
Maximum seventeen (17), minimum (11)
  - i) Each team **MUST** carry proof of age for all Provincial Championships.
  - ii) U21 aged male players can sign with a senior team and a U21 team, with priority commitment to the U21 team.

#### 14.10 MASTERS FASTPITCH

- a) Players of MASTERS FASTPITCH age are allowed to play and sign on both a team, playing another category of Senior Fastpitch, and a Masters Fastpitch team. Each team may play in a league with the category team taking priority in the event of both Provincial Championships being played on the same weekend.
  - i) NCCP – COACH QUALIFICATIONS – Not needed at Provincial Championships. Provincial Championships leading to a Western Canadian Championship:  
Fully certified NCCP Level 1 or Clinic 1 with MED (New)
- b) Masters Fastpitch Age:  
Men: Celebrate their 40th Birthday by or in the current playing year.  
Women: Celebrate their 35th Birthday by or in the current playing year.  
Senior Masters Fastpitch Age:  
Men 50 +  
Women over 45  
Note: Each team MUST present to the Softball BC Representative proof of age for all participants at the Provincial Championship.
- c) The representative Masters team from B.C. participating in a Western Canadian Championship will comply with the Canadian roster size rule (maximum 20 players).
- d) Masters Fastpitch players may coach in any other category.
- e) The winner of the Provincial Championships shall earn the right to represent the Province of British Columbia at the Canadian tournament.
- f) That any team travel funding described in Article 2 of the Special Operating Rules which will be allocated to the Masters category in Fastpitch will be only for the team traveling to the Western Canadian Championships as the Provincial Representative.
- g) DESIGNATED RUNNER Master's Fastpitch Only  
The team may designate one player as a runner. The player will be called the Designated Runner (DR). The following rules apply to the DR.
  - i) The decision to use the DR must be made on the starting line-up card.
  - ii) If used, the DR must be listed on the last offensive spot on the line-up card (10th if not using a DP or 11th if using the DP).
  - iii) The DR may run for one (1) player per inning and may do so each time that player becomes a runner in the inning.
  - iv) Each inning the DR may run for a different position.
  - v) The DR may not bat.
  - vi) The DR may not enter the game on defence.
  - vii) The DR may be substituted for by a player who has not been in the game.
  - viii) The DR may not re-enter.

- ix) A team is not obliged to use the DR every inning.
- x) If you start the game with a DR, you do not have to finish the game with the DR.

#### 14.11 NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER

Any team which has a player not available for a Provincial Championship due to that player's commitment to a Canadian or Provincial Softball team shall be permitted, upon written approval by Softball B.C., a substitute on their roster for that Provincial Championship on the following basis:

- i) Pitcher for Pitcher
- ii) Non-Pitcher for Non-Pitcher
- iii) Coach for Coach

#### 14.12 ORTHODOX PITCH SOFTBALL PLAYING RULES

All Fastpitch rules shall apply with the following exceptions:

##### a) PITCHING RULES

Sec. 1 PRELIMINARIES. The pitcher shall take a position with both feet on the ground and in contact with, but not off the side of the pitcher's plate.

- i) The pitcher, while standing on the pitcher's plate must take the signal from the catcher or look at the catcher. If a signal is taken, it must be taken while the pitcher has both feet in contact with the pitcher's plate. The ball must be held in one hand (either bare hand or glove) and the hands must be separated.
- ii) Prior to starting the delivery, the pitcher must bring his whole body to a full and complete stop facing the batter, with his shoulders in line with first and third base and with the ball held in both hands. This full and complete stop position must be maintained for a minimum of one second and not more than ten seconds before starting the pitch.
- iii) The pitcher shall not be considered in the pitching position unless that catcher is in position to receive the pitch.
- iv) The pitcher may not take the pitching position on or near the pitcher's plate without having the ball in his possession.

NOTE: To indicate to the pitcher that they may start the pitch, the umpire should raise one hand with the palm facing the pitcher. "NO PITCH" shall be declared if the pitcher pitches while the umpire has his hand in the said position.

Sec. 2 THE PITCH starts when one hand is taken off the ball or the pitcher makes any motion that is part of his windup.

- i) In the act of delivering the ball, the pitcher shall not take more than one step, which must be forward, toward the batter, and simultaneous with the delivery of the ball to the batter. ("Towards the batter" is interpreted as being within the 24-inch (61 cm) length of the pitcher's plate).
- ii) Pushing off the non-pivot foot from a place other than the pitcher's plate is illegal.

NOTE: It is not considered a step if the pitcher slides his foot across the pitcher's plate, as long as contact is maintained with the

plate. Raising the foot off the plate and returning it creates a rocking motion and this is considered an illegal act.

**Sec. 3 A LEGAL DELIVERY SHALL BE A BALL WHICH IS DELIVERED TO THE BATTER WITH AN UNDERHANDED MOTION.**

- i) The release of the ball must be on the first swing of the pitching arm past the hip. The release must have a complete smooth follow-through with no abrupt stop of the arm near the hip.
- ii) The ball must not be outside the pitcher's wrist at the top of the backswing and during the complete forward delivery.
- iii) On the forward swing of the pitching arm, the elbow must be locked at the point of release, and the driving hip must be squared to home plate when the ball is released.

NOTE: The locked elbow does not apply to the Figure 8 style of pitch.

- iv) The pitcher may take the ball behind the back on the backswing.
- v) The pitcher's palm may be pointing downward upon delivery.
- vi) The pitch is completed with a step toward the batter.
- vii) The catcher must remain within the lines of the catcher's box until the pitch is released.
- viii) The catcher shall return the ball directly to the pitcher after each pitch, except after a strikeout or a put out made by the catcher.

EXCEPTION: Sec 3 (viii) does not apply when (a) a batter becomes a batter-runner, (b) there are runners on base; or (c) a foul ball is fielded close to the foul line by the catcher who throws to any base for a possible out, or (d) on a checked swing in the dropped third strike situation, the catcher throws to first base to retire the batter-runner.

- ix) The pitcher has twenty (20) seconds to release the next pitch after receiving the ball, or after the umpire indicates "play ball".

**Sec. 4 THE PITCHER MAY USE ANY WINDUP DESIRED, PROVIDED:**

- i) The pitcher does not make any motion to pitch without immediately delivering the ball to the batter.
- ii) The pitcher does not use a rocker action in which, after having the ball in both hands in the pitching position, he removes one hand from the ball, takes a backward and forward swing, and returns the ball to both hands from the front of the body.
- iii) The pitcher does not use a windup in which there is a stop or reversal of the forward motion.
- iv) The pitcher does not use a windmill or slingshot type pitch, or make a complete revolution in the delivery.

NOTE: A slingshot type pitch is defined as "turning the body toward the first or third base and bending the elbow during the backswing." Exception: Figure 8 style of pitch.

- v) The pitcher does not continue to wind up after taking the forward step, which is simultaneous with the release of the ball.

Sec. 5 WHILE IN THE PITCHING POSITION, THE PITCHER SHALL NOT DELIBERATELY DROP, ROLL OR BOUNCE THE BALL IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE BATTER FROM STRIKING IT. A pitchout for the purpose of intentionally walking a batter is not considered an illegal pitch. (Refer to SOFTBALL CANADA Rule 8, Sec. 2d.).

Sec. 6 THE PITCHER SHALL NOT, AT ANY TIME DURING THE GAME, BE ALLOWED TO USE TAPE OR ANY OTHER FOREIGN SUBSTANCE(S) UPON THE BALL, THE PITCHING HAND, OR THE FINGERS; NOR SHALL ANY OTHER PLAYER APPLY FOREIGN SUBSTANCES(S) TO THE BALL. Under the supervision and control of the umpire, powdered resin may be used to dry the hands. The pitcher shall not wear a sweatband, bracelet or similar-type item on the wrist or forearm of the pitching arm.

EXCEPTION: Medical alert bracelet.

Sec. 7 THE PITCHER SHALL NOT DELIVER A PITCH unless all defensive players, except the catcher who must be in the catcher's box, are positioned in fair territory.

NOTE: It is an illegal pitch if a fielder takes a position in the batter's line of vision or, with deliberate unsportsmanlike intent, acts in a manner to distract the batter. A pitch does not have to be released.

PENALTY: The offending player shall be ejected from the game and an illegal pitch shall be declared.

EFFECT: - Sec. 1-7: Any infraction of Sec. 1-7 is an illegal pitch, with the exception of Sec. 3 (viii) and (ix) which is covered separately. The ball is declared on the batter. Runners are entitled to advance one base without liability to put out. NOTE: If an illegal pitch hits the batter, the batter is awarded first base and all runners are awarded one base.

EXCEPTION: If the pitcher completes the delivery of the ball on the batter, and if the batter hits the ball and reaches first base safely; and if all runners advance at least one base on the action resulting from the batted ball; the play stands, and the illegal pitch is nullified.

NOTE: An illegal pitch shall be called immediately, when it becomes illegal. If called by the plate umpire, it shall be called in a voice so that the catcher and the batter will hear it. The plate umpire will also give the delayed dead ball signal. If called by the base umpire, it shall be called so that the nearest fielder shall hear it. The base umpire shall also give the delayed dead ball signal. Failure of players to hear the call shall not nullify the illegal pitch.

Sec. 8 AT THE BEGINNING EACH HALF INNING, OR WHEN A PITCHER RELIEVES ANOTHER, NOT MORE THAN 1 MINUTE MAY BE USED TO DELIVER NOT MORE THAN 5 PITCHES TO THE CATCHER OR OTHER TEAMMATE. Play shall be suspended during this time. For excessive warm-up pitches, a pitcher shall be penalized by awarding a ball to the batter for each pitch in excess of 5.

Sec. 9 THE PITCHER SHALL NOT THROW TO A BASE DURING A LIVE BALL WHILE HIS FOOT IS IN CONTACT WITH THE

PITCHER'S PLATE AFTER HE HAS TAKEN THE PITCHING POSITION.

EFFECT –Sec. 9: Illegal pitch, the ball is dead, a ball is called on the batter, and all runners are awarded one base. If the throw from the pitcher's plate occurs during a live ball appeal, the appeal is cancelled.

NOTE: The pitcher may remove himself from the pitching position by stepping backwards off the pitcher's plate. Stepping forward or sideways constitutes an illegal pitch.

Sec. 10 NO PITCH SHALL BE DECLARED WHEN:

- i) The pitcher pitches during the suspension of play.
- ii) The pitcher attempts a quick return of the ball before the batter has taken his position or is off balance as a result of the previous pitch.
- iii) A runner is called out for leaving a base prior to the pitcher releasing the pitch.
- iv) The pitcher pitches before a runner has retouched his base after a foul ball has been declared and the ball is dead.

EFFECT – Sec. 10(i) – (iv): The ball is dead, and all subsequent action on the pitch is cancelled.

- v) NO PLAYER, MANAGER, OR COACH SHALL CALL TIME, EMPLOY ANY OTHER WORD OR PHRASE, OR COMMIT ANY ACT WHILE THE BALL IS ALIVE AND IN PLAY FOR THE OBVIOUS PURPOSE OF TRYING TO MAKE THE PITCHER COMMIT AN ILLEGAL PITCH.

EFFECT –Sec. 10(iii): “NO PITCH” shall be declared. The ball is dead, and all subsequent action on that pitch is cancelled. A warning shall be issued to the offending team, and repeat of this type act by any member of the team warned shall result in the offender being ejected from the game.

Sec. 11 THERE SHALL BE ONLY ONE CHARGED CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE MANAGER OR OTHER TEAM REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DUGOUT WITH EACH PITCHER IN AN INNING. The second charged conference shall result in the removal of the pitcher from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

Sec. 12 IF THE BALL SLIPS FROM THE PITCHER'S HAND DURING HIS WINDUP OR DURING THE BACKSWING, A BALL IS DECLARED ON THE BATTER, THE BALL WILL REMAIN IN PLAY, AND RUNNERS MAY ADVANCE AT THEIR OWN RISK.

- b) 9 players, minimum 3 females or 3 males, to a maximum of 6 females or 6 males. If using a designated player there shall only be one allowed and the DP and the DFO shall be of the same sex. Substitutions must be male for male and female for female unless substituting a player for another when the team is playing one gender in excess of the minimum.
- c) Metal cleats are not allowed.



- d) Uniforms must be identical in style and colors. A combination of pants and shorts may be worn as long as they are consistent with the team's colour themes and there is only one style of each  
NOTE: Shorts can be a different colour than pants but be consistent with team colour themes.
- e) Hats, visors or headbands are optional for all players, and may be mixed but must be alike in colour.
- f) Double ear flap batting helmets are mandatory.
- g) Mixed Orthodox pitching distance is 43'.
- h) Mixed Orthodox – The B.C. representative teams designated to travel to Canadian Championships (when introduced) and Western Canadian Championships be determined from the previous year's Provincial Championship provided that any eligible team retain at least eight returning players from one year to the next.
- i) Softball bats made with cryogenic plus enhanced exterior shell technology will not be permitted to be used for play in the Orthodox game.

#### 14.13 MIXED FASTPITCH PLAYING RULES

- a) Line-Up
  - i) There must be a minimum of 3 females and 3 males in the game at all times.
  - ii) A team must start and finish the game with the minimum 3 males and females. Failure to do so will result in a forfeited game.
  - iii) A female player must be substituted by a female player while at bat or when coming to bat.  
NOTE: This avoids the manipulation of the line-up when only 3 females are in the game.
- b) Equipment
  - i) Metal cleats are not allowed.
  - ii) Uniforms must be identical – if shorts are worn they must be worn by all players.  
NOTE: Players may revert to long pants while on offense as long as all players on offense wear long pants.
  - iii) Hats are optional for women. If worn they may wear caps, visors or headbands but the colour must be the same as the men's'.
  - iv) Batting helmets are mandatory.
- c) Pitching
  - i) The pitching distance is 46 feet.
  - ii) Mixed Fastpitch adopt the Men's pitching rules (Exception: No windmill.)
  - iii) The pitching hand must not pass the vertical plane of the shoulder on the backswing.
  - iv) The wrist can be no further from the body than the elbow. This eliminates the submarine pitch and the side arm pitch.

- d) There shall be two categories of Mixed Fastpitch:
  - i) Category 'A' registration shall be open.
  - ii) Category 'B' registration shall be open with the exception of players registered on a Male Fastpitch roster.

14.14 **SENIOR MEN'S FASTPITCH** – Pitchers will be allowed to start with the front foot (Pivot Foot) only on the pitcher's plate.

## **ARTICLE 15 – SENIOR SLO-PITCH**

### **15.1 SENIOR SLO-PITCH CATEGORIES**

#### **Canadian Championships**

Senior Men's Open  
 Senior Women's Open  
 Senior Co-ed Open  
 Master Men's Open

#### **Western Canadian Championships**

Senior 'B' Men & Women  
 Co-ed 'B'  
 Master Men's 40+  
 Master Women's 30+  
 Senior 55+  
 Senior 60+

### **15.2 CANADIAN SENIOR MEN AND SENIOR WOMEN'S OPEN**

Teams wishing to participate in the Softball Canada Men's or Women's Open Canadian Championship must express their intent to participate in writing, with a \$250.00 non-refundable deposit to Softball B.C. by September 15th in the year previous to the year of the tournament. A remaining \$250.00, along with the formal letter of intent form and Softball B.C. team registration form with appropriate registration fees will be due by February 1st of the tournament year. Teams that do not comply with these dates will be considered for participation on a space available basis only.

In the event that the tournament is hosted in B.C. by Softball City, each team will be required to assist with the financing of the event.

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

- a) Order of finish at the most recent Softball Canada Championship
- b) If there are two teams to be ranked, a two out of three playoff will be arranged at Softball City in the spring of the championship year
- c) If there are more than two teams to be ranked, a ranking tournament between the teams involved will be arranged at Softball City in the spring of the championship year
- d) Any teams that participate in a ranking tournament that do not qualify to attend the Canadian Championship will have their Canadian Championship entrance fee returned

15.3 **FOOTWEAR** – No metal cleats allowed in all categories of Slo-Pitch.

### **15.4 ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS – CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP AND WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- a) In order for a team to be eligible to compete in a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship, the team registration form must be sent to the District Coordinator post marked

by the registration deadline without exception. Note: Slo-Pitch registration deadline – May 1st.

- b) Each Senior Slo-pitch Coordinator must notify the Softball B.C. office of team(s) from their District which intend to participate in a Canadian Championship by February 1st of the current year and for Western Canadian Championships by June 1st of the current year;
- c) 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 their District Coordinator who will then forward it to Softball B.C. All entry fees are non-refundable unless the championship has been cancelled;
- d) Any team continuing on to a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship must notify the Softball B.C. office. Where vacancies occur, the Senior Director shall offer available spots to other teams.
- e) Every team competing in a Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship must submit a roster form under the full membership plan.

#### 15.5 CANADIAN AND WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

- a) Slo-Pitch B.C. Championships will be modified round robin using the following criteria:
  - i) Flip of coin for Home/Visitors.
  - ii) At the end of seven innings if the teams are tied, each team will receive one point (win-2; tie-1; loss-0).
  - iii) Run rule will be in effect in both the round robin and elimination rounds. A team winning by 15 runs or more will be declared the winner after 5 or more completed innings or the home team after 4½ or more innings.
  - iv) In the event the home team is losing after 4½, 5½ or 6½ innings, the winning run constitutes game over. (Exception when there are runners on base, all runs and bases touched will count in the scoring until the play is completed, i.e. bases loaded, home team losing by 1 run and the batter hits an out of the park home run, you would count four runs and the 16 bases touched.
  - v) For all categories and classifications, if the home team is leading after completion of 6½ innings, whether the time limit, if one applies, has been reached or not, the game will end and the score will revert back to the last completed inning.
  - vi) All innings are open (no five run rule).
  - vii) If the fences are less than 300', a limitation of seven shall be applied to the number of over the fence home runs that may be credited to each team in a game. The rule shall be applied as follows:
    - (a) A batter hitting an over the fence home run in excess of the limit shall be ruled out. The ball is dead, no runs will be scored and all runners must return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.

- (b) If an over the fence home run is hit but the batter-runner misses a base or fails to score, the home run will be counted in the team total.
- (c) Any ball that goes over the fence in fair territory after being touched by a defensive player shall be a four base award and not considered a home run.

b) ELIMINATION ROUND FORMAT

- i) At the end of the qualifying round the top teams will advance as follows:
  - (a) 9 – 24 teams, 8 go to elimination Annex C
  - (b) 7 – 8 teams, 6 go to elimination Annex B
  - (c) 6 or less, 4 go to elimination Annex A

c) ELIMINATION ROUND QUALIFICATION: Teams advance as follows:

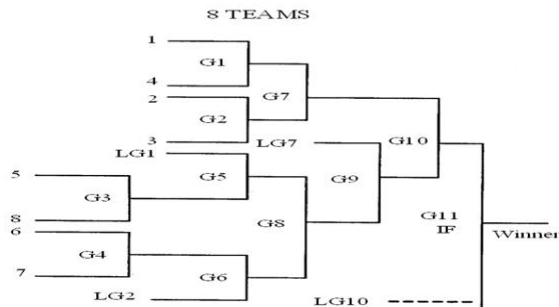
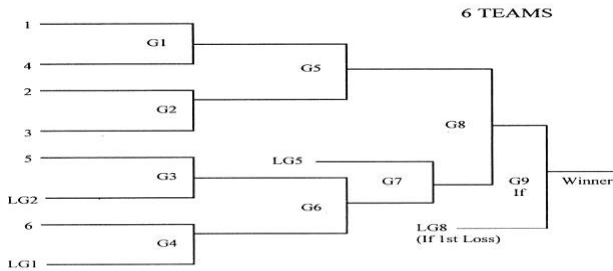
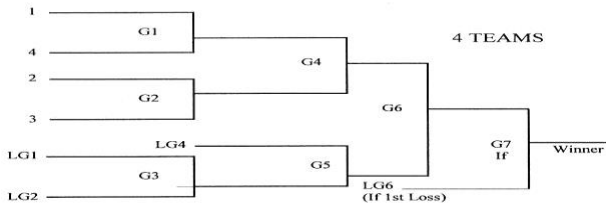
- i) Won-loss record if still tied then,
- ii) When only 2 teams are tied, winner of the game between the tied teams. When 3 or more teams are tied, only criteria (iii), (iv) and (v) will be applied.
- iii) Total runs scored for or against (score differential limit of +10 runs or –10 per game), i.e. Team A=10, Team B=6, Results (10-6) Team A credited with +4  
Team B credited with –4.
- iv) Least total runs scored against.
- v) Most total runs scored.  
If still tied, then,
- vi) If time and facilities permit, play an extra game. If time and facilities do not permit, a toss of the coin by Softball B.C. Rep. or his/her designate.

NOTE: When using criteria (iii) and (iv) full team records of the entire qualifying round, and only 4, 5, 6 innings, etc. Full innings in 4½, 5½, 6½, etc. inning games to be used.

d) ELIMINATION ROUND

- i) Flip of coin for Home/Visitors.
- ii) No time limit
- iii) All ties will be broken. (No International Tie Breaker)
- iv) Ten run rule will apply in all games

### SLO-PITCH ELIMINATION ROUND



## 15.6 REGISTRATION

- a) Players, managers and coaches in membership are to be registered on forms provided by the Softball B.C. representatives; such forms may be obtained from your league President or Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinator.
  - i) Each team shall be entitled to carry a maximum of seventeen (17) properly registered players. Exception: Masters and Mixed categories (20).
  - ii) Females may register on a male team but males are not allowed to register on female teams except as manager or coach.
- b) District Coordinators must submit Softball B.C. player roster forms to the Softball B.C. office immediately upon receiving them.
- c) Teams registering with Softball B.C. for insurance purposes only (including 'R' Registration Slo-Pitch) must submit a Softball B.C. roster for these players to receive insurance benefits.

Late registration (after June 1st) in the 'R' category will be accepted to allow teams to play in sanctioned tournaments and receive insurance benefits.

- d) A team that plays in two leagues or has two home parks will establish their District of registration by considering the following criteria:
  - i) Where do they play a majority of their home games?
  - ii) Where do a majority of the players reside?
  - iii) Is there a historical precedent to associate the team with a particular District?

e) **FEE STRUCTURE – SENIOR SLO-PITCH**

Team Fee	\$12.00
	Liability Insurance
Annual Dues	\$23.00
(Includes players, coaches and managers)	
Lifetime Membership (One time only)	\$10.00
League/Association Executive	\$ 8.00
	(Plus Lifetime Membership)

NOTE:

- i) Team registration fees include an accident and liability insurance program.
- f) The registration date for Slo-Pitch is June 1st. The Softball B.C. Team and Player Roster Forms must be submitted to the Softball B.C. District Coordinator by June 1st of the current year. Teams not meeting this deadline will not be eligible for Canadian Championship or Western Canadian Championship qualifier play.
- g) For Senior Slo-Pitch teams, from 7 days prior to the final roster deadline, no Coach (or Manager) may release a player. However, during that seven day period, players may be transferred to another team.
- h) All Senior Slo-Pitch teams must declare their exact category by the roster deadline date – June 1st of the current year.
- i) **MINOR AGED PLAYERS:**  
Any minor aged (under 19 years) player or team, shall not sign or play with a Senior team until a written consent form from a parent(s) or guardian(s), is received by the District Minor Coordinator, who with the District Senior Coordinator shall forward their decision in writing to the Softball B.C. office by May 15 of that playing year and a copy sent to the parent or guardian.

15.7 **MASTERS SLO-PITCH**

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

c) Masters Slo-Pitch player may coach in any other category.

d) Mixed Masters age:

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

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

## ARTICLE 16 – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 16.1 ELIGIBILITY

a) All team rosters for Provincial Championships are available, upon written request, to teams competing in the same event. Teams/organizations must pay a fee of \$25.00 to receive copies of team rosters to check for player eligibility.

b) **INELIGIBLE PLAYER:** Upon the discovery of the use of an ineligible player or players in any Softball B.C. 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.

### 16.2 ALL PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEES: Effective for the 2017 playing season:

SENIOR WOMEN FP	\$420.00	<b>MINOR</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
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SENIOR MEN FP	\$270.00	MIXED ORTHO	\$370.00
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a) All Provincial Championship Entry Fees are non-refundable.

**EXCEPTION:** Senior 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.

b) In the years that the Travel Fund is suspended, provincial entry fees for Senior Fastpitch will be the same as those for a “Provincial Championship Only.”

c) At all Senior Women 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.

d) Orthodox Entry Fees: \$50.00 per entry fee is allocated to the host association to offset costs relating to the Championship.

e) Provincial entry fees for Senior Fastpitch will have **\$200.00** per team allocated to the host association to cover the cost of officials.

i) Tournament UIC’s of Senior 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.

ii) Tournament UIC’s of Senior Fastpitch Provincials, at the end of the Provincial tournament, are to return all unused funds to the Host Association.

- f) Minor Entry Fees: \$50.00 per game will be allocated to the Minor Championship District or Tournament U.I.C. to cover all Round Robin and up to two 6 team Knockout Championship Draw rounds in the case of a Minor Combined Provincial Championship.
  - i) Tournament UIC's of Minor Provincial Championships, at the end of the tournament, are to provide the Softball BC Board Representative an accounting of all monies given to them by the Host Association (or Softball BC) to cover the cost of officials.
  - ii) Tournament UIC's of Minor Fastpitch Provincial Championships, at the end of the Provincial tournament, are to return unused funds to the Softball B.C. Board Representative.
- g) All teams must submit an entry fee to be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship. All entry fees for Minor categories are to be submitted to the Softball B.C. office 10 days prior to the championship, failure to do so will result in a \$25.00 late fee. With the exception of the Senior "A" category, all entry fees for Senior Fastpitch must be submitted to the Softball B.C. office in accordance with Article 14.6 (d). ENTRY FEES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE PROVINCIALS COACHES MEETING.
- h) Provincial entry fees to participate in the Senior "A" Provincial must be received at the Softball B.C. office by July 1 of the playing year. Teams who enter the Senior "A" Championship and subsequent to July 1 qualify to attend either a National or Western Championship in another category will be disqualified from participating in the Senior "A" Provincial.
  - i) All entry fees are to be in the form of cash, certified cheque or money order made payable to Softball B.C. Entry Fees not received on time, as stated, will automatically eliminate the team from the Provincial Championship.
  - j) When submitting the entry fee to the Softball B.C. office please include the following information: team name, category, male or female, coach's name and phone number and the appropriate cheque.

16.3 **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW – General**

- a) There will not be a Provincial Championship if there is only one team registered in that category.
- b) If there are two teams, they will play a best of 3 series.
- c) 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.
- d) 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 B.C. 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.



- e) Minor Only: All round robin games will determine home team by way of a coin toss at the coaches meeting, and all Knockout Championship Draw games the 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.

f) **MINOR ONLY** – Provincial Championship draw will follow Annex 'A', flipping games on Day 2 working from the highest game slot down.

16.4 **INCOMPLETE CHAMPIONSHIP PROCEDURE**

- a) 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 B.C. Representative (or designate) unless an agreement is reached unanimously by the participating teams 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.
- b) All games are scheduled for seven innings except where outlined in another article, i.e. Senior FP, Article 14.7 (f); Senior SP, Article 15.6(a); Minors Article 12.9.
- c) Games that are discontinued because of extenuating circumstances 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:

	<b>Less than 4½ or 5 Innings Played</b>	<b>Winner after 4½ or 5 Innings</b>	<b>Tied After 5</b>
<b>FP</b>	resume at break-off point	legal game	resume at break-off point
<b>SP</b>	resume at break-off point	legal game	resume at break-off point
<b>MINOR</b>	resume at break-off point	legal game	resume at break-off point

- d) If no games are played until the last day, the tournament format shall revert to a single knock-out using as many parks as possible. If only 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 who would now apply their original draw order to a single knockout format.
- e) If, after the tournament has started, rain, or other unforeseen circumstances, delays the championships to the point that the Softball BC Representative determines that insufficient time is available for the knockout championship draw or for a modified round robin, the tournament shall revert to a single knockout tournament, with the same number of teams as originally slated for the Knockout Championship Draw as per Article 12.9 b). The draw shall be as per the criteria in Article 12.9 (c). In the case of a modified round robin format, revert

back to the last point at which all teams had played an equal number of games.

f) **TOURNAMENTS USING ONLY ELIMINATION FORMAT**

If you are unable to work (d) or (e) above, and there is time and place available, subject to the conditions in (a) above, then the undefeated teams shall try to come to mutual agreement to resume the championship at a later date (at their own expense), and declare a winner. If unable to reach agreement the undefeated teams' names shall be put in a lottery and a winner drawn and declared. There will be no second or third place awards.

g) **TOURNAMENTS USING MODIFIED ROUND ROBIN FORMAT**

If you are unable to work (d) or (e) above, and there is time and place available, subject to the conditions in (a) above, then there shall be an attempt to come to a mutual agreement 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 you 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 Articles 12.9(c). Those elimination round qualifiers would be the teams eligible to come to a mutual agreement regarding moving 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.

- h) 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 B.C. Representative or their appointed designate. Once a game has started, the Umpires, in consultation with the Softball B.C. Representative, shall decide if it shall continue.
- i) 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 mutually agree upon a resumption of play at another time and place (at their own expense) and subject to the conditions in (a) above.
- j) The Softball B.C. Representative shall be required to wait until the final schedule day of the tournament at 12:00 p.m. (for Minor only) or 2:00

p.m. (on an unlit park) or 4:00 p.m. (on a lit park) (for 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.

- k) In any event where the champions was declared by lottery, and where these are championships that lead to a Western Canadian or Canadian, the Softball B.C. Representative shall continue the draw to determine the order of finish as a contingency against the first place winner choosing not to compete further.
- l) 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 B.C., the Softball B.C. Representative shall have the sole authority to rule on those situations.

#### 16.5 **HOST TEAM (Provincial Championship)**

- a) Senior Fast Pitch and Slo-Pitch: The Provincial Championship representation from the Host District be established as follows: All teams participate in the District Playdowns with the highest finishing team as the District Rep and then the highest finishing team from the host association and/or city is the host team. If more than one team from the host association and/or city participates in the District Playoff, and one of these teams wins the playoff, then the next highest finishing team from the host association and/or city will be the host team in the Provincial Championship.

If there is only one team from the host association and/or city participating in the District Playoff, and that team wins the District Playoff, then the second place team from the District Playoff, from elsewhere in the District, would also go to the Provincial Championship.

- b) Minor: The Host Team status at any Minor Provincial Championship may be granted to a team from the host association and shall be designated as:
  - i) a team the Host Association determines has earned the right to be the host team, and has so declared prior to commencement of the District play down, or;
  - ii) the team originating from the Host Association that has placed highest in the District play down;

A host team may, but is not obligated to, enter in to the District play down. Where the designated host team places first in the District play down, the team placing second would earn the right to attend the Provincial Championship as the District representative. In the event an Association hosting a Provincial Championship 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 District play down.

#### 16.6 **UNIFORMS ON THE FIELD OF PLAY**

All players on a team shall wear uniforms alike in colour, trim and style. Uniforms, team names, logos and mascots cannot be of a discriminatory or harassing nature.

- a) All players on a team shall wear uniforms and caps identical in colour, trim and style with the exceptions noted below:
  - i) Caps, visors, and headbands are optional for female players.
  - ii) Mixed Slo-Pitch and Fast Pitch: Females have the option to wear hats or visors, but if they choose to wear a hat, it must be the same colour as the males' hats.
- b) Players have the option of wearing a uniform solid coloured undershirt with sleeves exposed (it may be white). No player may wear ragged, frayed or slit sleeves. All shirts must be tucked in.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) A number of contrasting colour, at least 6 inches (15.24 cm.) high must be worn on the back of all uniform shirts. No players on the same team may wear identical numbers. The sleeves of the shirts may not be ragged, frayed or slit.
- f) In all play, helmets are mandatory for batters, base-runners, and catchers. NOTE: Softball B.C. will enforce the CASA rule regarding catchers wearing helmets in all Provincial Championships. (Minor, Senior Fast Pitch and B.C. Summer Games). Catchers in Senior Slo-Pitch need not wear a helmet while catching.
- g) 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.
- h) Male or female (non-playing) coaches of a female team may wear jackets, slacks, shorts, shirts or tracksuits, provided the colour is identical or nearly identical to the team colours. Socks are required. Caps, visors and headbands are optional, but if worn should be identical or nearly identical to the team colours.
- i) If, in the judgement of the Softball B.C. Board Representative, the coach, manager or player(s) uniform(s) is not to the Representative's satisfaction and/or does not meet the requirements of a suitable uniform as outlined in Article 16.6, the coach, manager and/or player(s) shall not be permitted on the field of play.
- j) 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.
- k) Metal cleats are not allowed in the game of Slo-Pitch, Orthodox, Mixed Fast Pitch or any Minor category.
- l) At all District and Provincial Championships coaches may not wear jeans of any colour.

**16.7 APPROVED HELMETS (BATTING AND RUNNING) FAST PITCH AND SLO-PITCH**

- a) In all Provincial Championship play, a batter must wear an approved batting helmet (no wrap-arounds allowed), while batting and while

running the bases. This rule also applies to any player becoming a base-runner. Exception: Slo-Pitch.

- b) In Minor categories only, an approved helmet shall be one that is fully enclosed, with two (2) ear flaps, a foam liner and a peak.
- c) Penalty: 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 or 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.

- d) Batting helmets are optional for all Slo-Pitch Provincial Championships.

#### 16.8 **FORFEIT**

- a) Any team which loses a game as a result 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 shall be disqualified from the Tournament.
- b) In the case of a forfeit because of injury, the Softball B.C. Rep will allow that team to compete in any further games, and retain their points from any previous games.
- c) In case of a forfeited game, the winning team is credited with the maximum of 10 runs in Slo-Pitch and 7 runs in Fastpitch.

#### 16.9 **UMPIRES (Provincial Championships)**

- a) Umpires shall not be permitted to umpire in any District or Provincial playoffs without a current Softball B.C. ticket, which must be obtained on or before June 15th of the current year.
- b) In Provincial Championships, the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief or his appointed representative shall oversee all officiating.
- c) The allocation of game officials will be the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief's responsibility and his/her decision is final.
- d) If a District Umpire-in-Chief is unable to supervise a Provincial Championship in his District, then his designate must be appointed by the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief.
- e)
  - i) Senior 'A' (Fastpitch) men and women will use three (3) umpires, subject to availability, per game in all Semi-Final and Final Provincial Championship games.
  - ii) 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.)
  - iii) All Minor categories shall use 2 umpires per game (Host, Umpire-in-Chief has the option of using 3 umpires per game.)

- iv) All Provincial Championships that lead to a National Championship shall use the three-umpire system for the Championship round where sufficient umpires are available.
- f) Provincial Championship Umpire Fees:
  - i) Senior 'A' Fast Pitch \$35.00 per game per umpire.
  - ii) Senior Fast Pitch – other \$35.00 per game per umpire; 3 umpires used for final game.
  - iii) Senior Slo-Pitch \$35.00 per game per umpire; minimum 2 umpires used for all Elimination games.
  - iv) MINORS: Softball B.C. 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 B.C., at the conclusion of the Championship to be reimbursed for all extra games played at \$50.00 per game.
- g) Umpires not adhering to and following the approved B.C.A.S.A. dress code will be removed from the game immediately by the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief.

#### 16.10 **PROTESTS – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

(See Article 19 – Game Protests (non-Provincial Championship))

- a) The Protest Committee will be made up of the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief, Tournament Director and the Softball B.C. Board of Director in charge, or their assigned designate.
- b) Softball B.C. Board of Director (or his/her appointee) shall make the final decision on an eligibility protest of a player in a Provincial Championship.
- c) 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.
- d) 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 B.C.
- e) The Protest Committee must have in its possession, a copy of the current Softball B.C. Handbook and a current C.A.S.A. rule book.
- f) The Softball B.C. Board Representative shall have the power to act and be in complete charge of all Provincial Championship games.
- g) 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.
- h) 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.

#### 16.11 TOURNAMENT OBLIGATIONS - PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) Leagues or Associations having been awarded the Provincial Championship Tournament must fulfil all obligations as specified in the bid and in the signed legal agreement between Softball B.C. and the organizing League(s) or Association(s).
- b) Softball B.C. shall not be liable for any claims or indebtedness incurred in the conduct of any Provincial Championship play.
- c) Softballs to be used at all Minor, Senior Fast Pitch and Senior Slo-Pitch (male and female) Provincial Championships are as follows:

##### **Senior Fastpitch**

Jr./Senior/Master Women	Cor 47 12”	Optic Raised Seam
Jr./Senior/Master Men	Cor 47 12”	Optic Rolled Seam
Orthodox	Cor 47 12”	Optic Rolled Seam
Mixed Fastpitch	Cor 47 12”	Optic Rolled Seam

##### **Minor Fastpitch Boys**

U18 ‘A’, ‘B’ & C Boys	12”	Optic Rolled Seam
U16 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Boys	12”	Optic Rolled Seam
U14 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Boys	12”	Optic Rolled Seam
U12 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Boys	11”	Optic Rolled Seam

##### **Minor Fastpitch Girls**

U18 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Girls	12”	Optic Raised Seam
U16 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Girls	12”	Optic Raised Seam
U14 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Girls	12”	Optic Raised Seam
U12 ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ Girls	11”	Optic Raised Seam

##### **Slo-Pitch**

###### **(all categories – Open/C/D)**

Senior Women’s Slo-Pitch	ZN 1147SP 11”
Senior Men’s Slo-Pitch	ZN 1247SP 12”
Mixed Slo-Pitch – Men	ZN 1247SP 12”
Mixed Slo-Pitch – Women	ZN 1147SP 11”

- d) All teams competing in a Provincial Championship will be entitled to no more than five (5) passes for all games, over and above the official player’s roster submitted.
- e) Leagues or Associations hosting Provincial Championships will advise participating teams upon their registration with the Championship Director of the motels, hotels or other accommodations closest to the ball park being used in the Championships.
- f) Host Associations are required to have a Coaches and Managers meeting prior to the start of the Provincial Championship. The Softball B.C. Board Representative and the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief must be in attendance.
- g) The Official Double Base is mandatory in all District, Zone and Provincial Playoffs for all categories.

- i) **DOUBLE BASE - Minors 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 a dropped third strike, the defensive and offensive players may use either portion of the base when a live ball play is being made from foul ball territory.
- ii) All other required categories to follow the Softball Canada rule.

#### 16.12 **AWARDS**

Softball B.C. medallions will be awarded to the three final teams: Gold to the winning team, Silver to the second place team and Bronze to the third place team.

16.13 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.

## **ARTICLE 17 – PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP BIDS**

17.1 All bids for Softball B.C. Provincial Championships must be dated, typed, copied and follow the Provincial requirements. The deadline for submitting bids is the Saturday of the Annual General Meeting in October (5:00 p.m.). A schedule of proposed dates for all B.C. Provincial Championships 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).

NOTE: Further information on preparing a bid in relation to host requirements can be obtained from the Softball B.C. office.

- 17.2 Bids must include a description of the available facilities and a proposed budget for the event.
- 17.3 Only leagues or associations will be accepted as bidders for Provincial Championships.
- 17.4 A performance bond of \$200.00 must accompany the bid and be received by the bid deadline (Saturday of the Annual General Meeting in October). Unsuccessful bidders will have the bond returned by December 31 of the current year.
- 17.5
  - a) Minor category Provincial 'A' Tournaments will begin on the third weekend after the long weekend in July.
  - b) Minor category Provincial 'B' Tournaments will be held on the second weekend after the long weekend in July.
  - c) Minor category Provincial 'C' Tournaments will be held on the first weekend after the long weekend in July.
- 17.6 All Provincial Championships leading to a Canadian or Western Canadian be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the inter-Provincial Championship.
- 17.7 Softball B.C. has the right to withdraw, reassign or reschedule any Provincial Championship for reasons as follows: (the list is not exhaustive)
  - a) The hosting fee has not been received



- b) The Provincial Championship Host Agreement has not been returned to the Softball B.C. office duly signed by the Coordinator and District Umpire-in-Chief
- c) Playing conditions are not acceptable
- d) Planning is not acceptable.

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.

- 17.8 Softball B.C. shall conduct and control Provincial Championships. They shall scrutinize the bids to confirm the best possible site for Championships.
- 17.9 The Board of Directors of Softball B.C. 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.
- 17.10 U12 Rep' Boys and U14 Rep' Boys provincials will be played on the "B" weekend at the same venue. This will be in effect until the year following a combined registration of 25 teams is achieved.
- 17.11 Softball BC will pay for incremental field user fees charged by municipalities, cities or regional districts up to \$62.50 per team or \$1,000.00, whichever is less, upon receipt of proof of payment. MINOR ONLY.

## **ARTICLE 18 – WESTERN/CANADIAN BIDS**

- 18.1 Where there are two or more organizations bidding for the same Western Canadian or Canadian Championships, bids must be presented to the Extra-Ordinary Meeting and be voted on by the voting delegates. Exemption: Minors.
- 18.2 The host association for W.C.S.C. submits their \$250 for Senior FP and SP and \$100 for Minor tournament fees when they submit the W.C.S.A. contract.
- 18.3 Softball BC will, upon receipt of a financial statement from the host, supply a maximum of \$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.
- 18.4 Each Province/Territory is required to 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.
- 18.5 When a Province or Territory withdraws a team after June 15<sup>th</sup> 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 19 – GAME PROTESTS (Non-Provincial Championship)**

- 19.1 Game protests shall not be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgement on the part of an umpire. Examples of protests which will not be considered are:
  - a) Whether a batted ball was fair or foul.

- b) Whether a baserunner was safe or out.
- c) Whether a pitched ball was a strike or a ball.
- d) Whether a pitch was legal or illegal.
- e) Whether a baserunner did or did not touch a base.
- f) Whether a baserunner left his base too soon on a caught fly ball.
- g) Whether a fly ball was or was not caught legally.
- h) Whether it was or was not caught legally.
- i) Whether it was or was not interference.
- j) Whether the field is fit to continue or resume play.
- k) Whether there is sufficient light to continue play.
- l) Any other matter involving only the accuracy of the umpire's judgement.

19.2 Protests that shall be received and considered, concern matters of the following types:

- a) Misinterpretation of a playing rule.
- b) Failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule to a given situation.
- c) Failure to impose the correct penalty for a given violation.

19.3 The notification of intent to protest a game must be made immediately before the next pitch.

- a) The manager or acting manager of the protesting team shall immediately notify the Plate Umpire that the game is being continued under protest. The Plate Umpire shall in turn notify the opposing manager and official scorekeeper.
- b) All interested parties shall take notice of the conditions surrounding the making of the decision that will aid in the correct determination of the issue.

NOTE: On appeal plays, the appeal must be made before the next pitch (legal or illegal) or before the defensive team has left the field. For the purpose of this rule, the defensive team has "left the field" when the pitcher, and all the infielders have left fair territory on the way to the bench or dugout area.

19.4 In league play, the league executive has the power to handle all protests; similarly for tournament play, the tournament organizers have the power to handle all protests.

19.5 A written appeal of a District or Regional play-down game directed to the Softball B.C. Director in charge, must be filed within 48 hours after the scheduled time of the contest and shall contain the following information:

- a) The date, time and place of the game.
- b) The names of the umpires and scorer.
- c) The rule and section of the Official Rules or local rules under which the protest is made.
- d) The decision and conditions surrounding the making of the decision.
- e) All essential facts involved in the matter protested.

19.6 The decision made on a protested game must result in one of the following:

- a) The protest is found invalid and the game score stands as played.

- b) When a protest is allowed for misrepresentation for a playing rule, the game is replayed from the point at which the incorrect decision was made with the decision corrected.
- c) When a protest for ineligibility is allowed, the game shall be forfeited to the opposing team.

## **ARTICLE 20 – INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

- 20.1 All invitational softball tournaments hosted by Softball B.C. teams and held within the Province of B.C., must be sanctioned by Softball B.C.
- 20.2 The results of all minor tournaments, together with any recommendations as to team classification, shall be forwarded by the tournament hosts to the Softball B.C. 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.
- 20.3 **How to Obtain Sanction**
  - a) All tournaments hosted by members in good standing of Softball B.C. shall receive automatic sanction from Softball B.C. without requiring a formal request. Those sanctions shall remain in place until such time as officially removed in writing by the Director.
  - b) If the tournament involves only teams and players from the District in B.C., the sanction is obtained from the District Senior Fast Pitch, Minor or Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinator involved.
  - c) If the tournament involves players and teams from several Districts of B.C., you must obtain sanction from the Provincial Senior Fast Pitch, Minor or Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinator involved. If the tournament involves teams from outside the Province for B.C., sanction must be obtained from the Provincial Director.
  - d) All entry forms and publicity used must bear the statement “sanctioned by Softball B.C.” or “sanctioned by the C.A.S.A.”, whichever is applicable.
  - e) Associations/Teams wishing to advertise their tournaments on Softball BC’s website must submit a \$25.00 fee per category and classification prior to having tournament(s) posted.

### **CONDITIONS OF SANCTION**

- f) No team or player who is a member of Softball B.C. is permitted to play with or against a non-member of Softball B.C. without permission from Softball B.C.
- g) All trophies, medals or awards promised are to be given to teams or players to whom they are entitled.
- h) All rules and regulations of Softball B.C. are to be adhered to.
- i) All expense allowances to teams are to be distributed on a fair and equitable basis.
- j) All other conditions agreed upon that may be inherent to the particular tournament desiring sanction, are to be carried out.
- k) Accredited Softball B.C. representative is permitted to examine records and tournaments procedures to ascertain above conditions.

## ARTICLE 21 – GENERAL

21.1 All Zones and Districts affiliated with Softball B.C. must declare a winner by the dates set by Softball B.C.

- a) No team shall be allowed to make additions (pick-up) to their roster in District level playoffs.
- b) All play leading to Provincial Championships, including District playoffs, must be played according to Softball B.C. rules.
- c) All registered teams (except 'R') have the right to compete in playoffs leading to Provincial finals and/or Canadian or Western Canadian finals.
- d) Leagues that do not abide by Softball B.C. eligibility rules cannot use league play to establish representation at Provincial Championships and therefore must compete in a play down tournament, using the Softball B.C. eligibility rules and participants.

21.2 **DISTRICT ELECTIONS:**(To be read in conjunction with By-Laws, Part 4)

- a) The terms of office of the District Coordinators and District Umpire-in-Chief shall be over a two year period. Elections, if held, are to take place before September 15th, with the term of office for the new District Coordinator or District Umpire-in-Chief taking effect following completion of the current year's Annual General Meeting in October. Any candidate expressing an interest to run for the position of District Coordinator or District Umpire-in-Chief shall provide Softball B.C. with an endorsed Volunteer Agreement confirming that the candidate is a bona fide member of Softball B.C. by providing proof of Lifetime Membership, and confirming that the current annual dues have been fully paid, and the candidate has reviewed and has a basic understanding of the Special Operating Rules of Softball B.C. and/or applicable Coordinator Manual. The term of responsibility of the District Representative(s) voting position shall be over a one year period. Elections, if held, are to take place before September 15th each year, with the term of responsibility commencing immediately upon election of the new District Representative. Any candidate expressing an interest to run for the position of District Representative shall provide the current District Coordinator assurance confirming that the candidate is a bona fide member of Softball B.C. as a Lifetime Member, and confirming that the current annual dues have been fully paid.
- b) The Umpire-in-Chief and Senior Fastpitch Coordinator elections are to be held on odd numbered years, and the Minor Fastpitch Coordinator and Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinator on even numbered years;
- c) The new Softball B.C. District Representative names shall be reported in writing to Softball B.C. within thirty (30) days of the election;
- d) As an induction, the incoming Softball B.C. District Representative may, without holding the power of a vote, accompany the outgoing Softball B.C. District Representative to the Softball B.C. Annual General Meeting, at the expense of the incoming Softball B.C. District Representative or District. In the case of the Minor Coordinator, Senior

Fastpitch Coordinator or Senior Slo-pitch Coordinator, the new representative could fill a voting delegate's position of Female or Male Representative.

- e) After each term, the District Umpire-in-Chief position shall become vacant and all interested parties, including the incumbent, must notify Softball B.C. in writing by September 1st of their intention to run for the vacant position.
- f) If more than one eligible person challenges the position of District Umpire-in-Chief, elections will be held under the following criteria:
  - i) All eligible voters will be mailed ballot;
  - ii) Each person in the election may include up to a two page endorsement with the mailed ballot;
  - iii) The deadline for return of the ballots must allow for twenty days from the date of the mailing.
  - iv) The incumbent would hold the position until after the Annual General Meeting.

### **COORDINATORS**

- a) Any person wishing to challenge for a District Coordinator position in an election year must submit a letter of intent postmarked on or before September 1st to Softball B.C. and the Coordinator who is currently in the position.
- b) Where the District Coordinator's position is contested, the applicable director or his/her appointee shall arrange for an election to be held before September 30th of the current year and shall:
  - i) Provide written notice to the President or Executive of each Club or Association, and the coach or manager of every independent team in the District outlining a list of the nominees and the date, time and place of the intended election. Such notice shall be postmarked or hand delivered to the aforementioned Club, Association or team representative at least 14 days before the election. (NOTE: Notification of a Club or Association executive shall be considered sufficient notification to each and every team registered through that Club or Association);
  - ii) Arrange an election by secret ballot and have it monitored by at least 3 scrutineers who are non-voting delegates;
  - iii) Provide a reasonable opportunity for each nominee to address the delegates before the election;
- c) Each registered team shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- d) 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 current team roster form. Each voting delegate should carry a copy of the current team roster form, duly approved by the District Coordinator, and may, on demand of the election scrutineers, be required to produce the form in order to receive an election ballot.

- e) All items not covered by this special operating rule, shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.
- 21.3 In the event of International play, with teams from B.C. involved, and a franchise fee or a league entry fee is paid or if there is a league constitution Softball B.C. shall recognize such play as league play.
- 21.4 District Coordinators are to have insurance claim forms on hand rather than just the Softball B.C. office. The distribution of Softball B.C. Handbooks will be handled by all Coordinators or Presidents of Associations.
- 21.5 Minor, Senior Fastpitch or Senior Slo-Pitch Coordinators are responsible for organizing and conducting District Playoffs in their various categories.
- 21.6 Wheelchair Coaches  
Criteria for on field (coach's box) participation
- a) The wheelchair must be manually propelled. Motorized wheelchairs are not acceptable.
- b) Hazardous areas or protrusions of the wheelchair, as determined by the Softball B.C. Representative, in consultation with the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief and the Tournament Director, will be removed or padded.
- c) In reference to C.A.S.A 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 B.C. Board Representative, the Tournament Director and the Tournament Umpire-in-Chief before any action is taken.
- 21.7 Senior Fastpitch and Senior Slo-Pitch registered teams, while playing in the Province of B.C., playing in those categories leading to a Western Canadian and/or a Canadian Championship must use officials that are registered and in good standing with Softball B.C.
- 21.8 All resolutions pertaining to the Special Operating Rules must be forwarded in writing in the prescribed format and include the section, number and page number of the current handbook to the provincial office thirty days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 21.9 Resolutions pertaining to the Special Operating Rules that have not been received at the Provincial office within the thirty (30) day requirement, may be considered and debated at the Annual General Meeting if;
- a) received as a Notice of Motion in writing in the proper format by the parliamentary committee at any time before commencement of the formal portion of the A.G.M. in which special operating rule resolutions are being considered; and the parliamentary committee considers the motion to be in order; and sufficient copies are made available to the voting membership by the presenter of the motion; and introduction of the resolution receives 75% approval of the voting delegates then in attendance, or;
- b) received as a verbal Notice of Motion from the floor during the formal portion of the A.G.M. in which special operating rule resolutions are being considered, and where introduction of the resolution receives 75% approval of the voting delegates then in attendance, the motion shall be tabled until all such other motions are then received. The motion as presented shall thereafter be made in writing in the proper format and

given to the parliamentary committee, and if the committee considers the motion to be in order, it shall come before the assembly.

#### **21.10 TEAM TRAVEL FUND**

- a) Invitational tournaments in different categories and divisions will be created at Softball City for Softball B.C. teams to directly affect a travel fund. The formula to establish a team travel fund will be as follows:
  - i) 10% of new lifetime membership
  - ii) 5% of annual dues
  - iii) 10% of Extra Innings net income from those invitational tournaments
  - iv) 5% of provincial entry feesAll funds collected during the previous year shall be expended or allocated by Softball B.C. in the following year.
- b) The recipients of the team travel fund will be as follows:
  - i) teams must participate in a Provincial Championship providing a championship is held to qualify.
  - ii) Softball B.C. will determine the funding allocated to teams travelling to Western Canadian and Canadian Championships
  - iii) the amount of pay out to teams is based on how far they travel and other travel funding available
  - iv) 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 22 – UMPIRES**

### **22.1 GENERAL INFORMATION**

- a) Only umpires currently registered and in good standing with Softball B.C., shall be entitled to vote on their respective District Umpire-in-Chief position.
- b) The designated Umpire-in-Chief of all Minor 'A' Provincial Championships shall not umpire in the said Tournament.
- c) The designated B.C. Board representative shall not umpire in the said Provincial tournament.
- d) The designated Tournament Umpire-in-Chief of all Senior Men's and Women's, Fastpitch and Slo-Pitch Provincial Championships, shall not umpire in said Tournament, except under extenuating circumstances.
- e) Umpire procedures and duties shall be the same as stated in Rule 10 of the C.A.S.A. Rulebook.
- f) In all Softball B.C. Championships, Western Canadian Championships (hosted in B.C.), international tournaments or international tours hosted in B.C., requiring Softball B.C. and / or Softball Canada sanction, the Softball B.C. 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 B.C. will be administered by the Softball Canada National Director of Umpires (NDU). The Softball Canada NDU may appoint the Softball B.C. UIC or his designate to UIC these events.

- g) Softball B.C. shall recognize only one (1) Amateur Umpire Association in B.C., that to be the Association that is presently affiliated with B.C.A.S.A.
- h) No District Umpire-in-Chief and/or designate shall receive remuneration for allocating District or B.C. Championship umpires.
- i) All District Umpires-in-Chief must make the Provincial Championship(s) in their District, their first priority over invitational tournaments.

## 22.2 UMPIRE REGISTRATION AND CLINIC FEES

- a) **Level 1 (Cost \$100.00)** – *This clinic is designed for the umpire who has never taken a certification clinic. The clinic will give you the basic positioning for the one and two umpires system as well as some basic rule information. You will receive the Level 1 Certification Manual and the current Softball Canada Rule Book. This clinic will allow you to officiate local minor and adult recreational softball.*
- b) **Level 1R (Cost \$85.00)** – *This is the new designation for the Minor Refresher and will be presented in conjunction with the Level 1 clinic. The clinic is a review of all the materials presented at the Level 1 clinic with emphasis on drills. You will receive the current Softball Canada Rule Book.*
- c) **Level 2 (Cost: \$115.00)** – *This clinic is the next step in the certification program and builds on the skills learned at the Level 1 clinic, with further rules discussion and on-field drills. You will receive the Level 2 Certification Manual and the current Softball Canada Rule Book. This clinic will allow you to officiate local and provincial/territorial minor level and/or local adult softball and consideration for selection as a secondary selection to a U14 or U16 Canadian Championship.*
- d) **Level 2R (Cost: \$100.00)** – *This is the new designation for the Minor Refresher and will be presented in conjunction with the Level 2 clinic. The clinic is a review of all the materials presented at the Level 2 clinic with emphasis on drills. You will receive the current Softball Canada Rule Book.*
- e) **Level 3 (Cost: \$140.00)** – *For this clinic you need the recommendation of your DUIC or PODC and is by invitation only. The clinic builds on the previous clinics and introduces the umpire to the three and four umpire systems. It also discusses philosophy of officiating and handling of coaches in more detail. You will receive the Level 3 Certification Manual and the current Softball Canada Rule Book. This clinic allows you to Officiate provincial/territorial minor and adult softball and qualifies you to officiate U18, U21, Women FP, and Masters.*



- f) **Level 3R (Cost: \$115.00)** — *This is the Senior Refresher for all fully certified Level 3 and 3T umpires who do not conduct or assist at a clinic.*
- g) **Level 4 (Cost \$100.00)** — *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.*
- h) **Level 4R (Cost: \$130.00)**— *The Senior Refresher for all fully certified Level 4 and 4T umpires who do not conduct or assist at a clinic.*
- i) **Level 5 — Cost \$110**
- j) **Level 5R (Cost: \$140.00)** — *The Senior Refresher for all fully certified Level 5 umpires who do not conduct or assist at a clinic.*
- k) **Emeritus (Cost: \$25.00)** — *For the umpire who has retired from on field-work and is working in an administrative role such instructing clinics or evaluating.*

Lifetime Membership Fee

(One time only)

\$10.00

It will be mandatory for any umpire registering with Softball B.C./Softball Canada to attend a recognized Softball B.C. umpire's clinic.

**All umpire clinic and membership registration applications are now processed online only.**

Softball B.C. registration includes mandatory insurance coverage and mandatory Softball Canada registration.

- l) One dollar from the sale of each Softball B.C. Umpire registration fee will be donated to the Gordon McDonald/Margo and Doreen Thoms Bursary Funds.
- m) REGISTRATION: Softball BC umpire registration must be completed online by April 30<sup>th</sup> of the current year.
- n) The Provincial U.I.C. may refuse application as a Softball B.C. umpire for reasons deemed to be characteristic of a member not in good standing. This refusal must then go before the full Board of Directors of Softball B.C. for ratification.
- o) Umpire membership/registration shall be granted by the District U.I.C. and approved by the Provincial U.I.C.
- p) The term of membership shall begin upon affiliation and payment of set fees, and exist until the next affiliation date of January 1st.
- q) Softball B.C. umpires registration / membership shall be granted after January 1st for the current season.
- r) Softball BC umpires are required each year to write, submit for grading, and pass the Softball Canada National Umpire Exam for the certification level they hold as of January 1. Softball Canada umpires taking a Certification Clinic must write and pass the exam contained in the Certification Manual as well. Newly certified Level 1 umpires are not

required to write the National Umpire Exam in their first year of certification.

- s) 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 B.C. website and schedule instructors for each clinic.

22.3 C.A.S.A. printed materials may be available from the Softball B.C. office. Some of this material may be subject to applicable related costs.

#### 22.4 **DRESS AND EQUIPMENT**

- a) Softball B.C. registered umpires must comply with the required Softball B.C. 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 C.A.S.A. dress code. Umpires traveling out of province will be required to follow the C.A.S.A. dress code. Failure to comply with the above dress code requirements may result in disciplinary action.
- b) A registered umpire will be expected to comply with all the required protective safety equipment as spelled out in the C.A.S.A. Umpires Certification Manuals.

#### 22.5 **EXPENSES – UMPIRES**

All umpires expenditures must be submitted in writing, complete with receipts, directly to the Softball B.C. 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.

#### 22.6 **UMPIRE TRAVEL PERMITS**

- a) Any official/umpire travelling anywhere outside of B.C. must obtain a travel permit from the B.C. Provincial U.I.C. There shall be no charge, but failure to obtain same may lead to suspension.
- b) Umpires must advise their home Allocator, Association UIC and/or District UIC of their intent to travel inter-district to umpire, where invitations have been extended.
- c) Any registered umpire working an unsanctioned tournament without prior approval from the District U.I.C. may be subject to suspension, if the matter is referred to the Provincial U.I.C.
- d) All umpires working sanctioned tournaments must be registered with the local District or have obtained inter-District approval to officiate.
- e) All umpires who are requested to officiate out-of-province must have permission from the Provincial U.I.C.; actions contrary to this may result in immediate suspension.

#### 22.7 **EVALUATIONS AND INTER-PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL TRANSFERS**

- a) The Softball BC Evaluation Form shall be the only form used for B.C. Umpires.
- b) An incoming umpire shall hold his former C.A.S.A. graded level in B.C., until such a time he/she is graded by the Provincial U.I.C. or his appointed representative.

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 22.8 | All umpires, age 18 and older, shall obtain a certified criminal record check and a vulnerable sector check, prior to umpiring any game, from the RCMP or a municipal police force and shall submit these record checks to the Board of Directors of Softball BC. The criminal record check and vulnerable sector check will be valid for duration of 3 years.   |
| 22.9 | 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. |

## **ARTICLE 23 – SOFTBALL B.C. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS AND HALL OF FAME**

23.1 **PURPOSE** – To establish an honour roll of:

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

23.2 **CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATION**

### **B.C. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

- i) Has served as a Director in B.C. and/or Coordinator, U.I.C. of Softball B.C. for a period of five (5) years, not necessarily consecutive.
- ii) Not returned to Softball as a Director or Coordinator / U.I.C. if Honorary Life Membership is given.
- iii) Consideration for honorary life membership is to be based on exceptional service.

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA ATHLETE OF DISTINCTION**

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

### **SOFTBALL B.C. HALL OF FAME**

- a) ATHLETE
  - i) Has represented Softball BC with distinction in Softball competition, in B.C., Canada and internationally and, whose example has brought great credit to Softball and high respect for the individual.

- ii) Has represented Canada in International Championship, Pan-American Games, Olympic Games or World Championship.
  - iii) Has compiled an outstanding record which extends over a period of years in Softball and,
  - iv) During the years for which outstanding performances are claimed, the athlete has been registered amateur as defined in the Operating Rules of Softball B.C. and,
  - v) Has been a B.C. resident during the period for which outstanding performances are claimed.
- b) **OFFICIALS**
- i) Both male and female, who has umpired with distinction in B.C., Canada, or outside of Canada; or whose example has brought great credit to Softball and high respect for the individual or,
  - ii) Has compiled an outstanding umpiring record which extends over a period of years.
  - iii) During the years for which outstanding performance is claimed, has been a registered umpire as defined in the Operating Rules of Softball B.C.
  - iv) Has been a B.C. resident during the period for which outstanding performance is claimed.
- c) **SPORTSPERSON/BUILDER**
- i) Has served meritoriously in more than one capacity for a period of at least 10 years, not necessarily consecutive, as a volunteer, and/or;
  - ii) Has served at the Association, District or Provincial capacity for a minimum of 2 years;
  - iii) Has been a B.C. resident for the period during which exceptional service is claimed.
- d) **TEAMS**
- i) Has represented Softball B.C. as a team with distinction in Softball competition and whose example has brought great credit to Softball and,
  - ii) Has won a Gold Medal in a Canadian/Western Championship.
- e) **SPONSORS**
- i) Who has contributed to the growth of B.C. Softball for a period of five (5) years or longer.
- f) **COACH**
- i) Has been a Canadian citizen and a resident of B.C. during the period for which outstanding performance is claimed; and
  - ii) Have coached at least 5 years at Western and/or a Canadian Championships or 3 years at Canadian Championship; or
  - iii) Have coached at least 1 year at Pan Am or World Championships;
  - iv) Represented B.C. with distinction at those competitions.

### 23.3 **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Softball B.C. will recognize individuals for meritorious service to the sport of softball, from time to time.

- i) Coordinators/U.I.C.'s – 5/10/15 year pins issued at Annual General Meeting in year of service.
- ii) Local Association person – plaques issued recognizing contribution for display at local level.
- iii) Must have served 5 years or more with local association.
- iv) Must have worked to the betterment of Softball B.C. within his/her organizations.

#### 23.4 **NOMINATIONS**

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Must be in the hands of the Softball B.C. Hall of Fame Membership Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual General Meeting of Softball B.C., for consideration in that year.
- e) All applications approved by the Softball B.C. Hall of Fame Committee shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors of Softball B.C. with a recommendation for enrolment in the Hall.

#### 23.5 **SOFTBALL B.C. HALL OF FAME CENTRE**

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

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

23.7 **RECOGNITION:** Suitably engraved framed certifications shall accompany each appointment to the Softball B.C. Hall of Fame.

23.8 **SUPERVISION AND CONTROL:** The supervision and control of the Softball B.C. Hall of Fame shall be a responsibility of the Board of Directors, and administered by the committee herein called "The Softball B.C. Hall of Fame Committee" appointed by the Board of Directors every two years. The cost of operating this shall be borne by Softball B.C. The Softball B.C Hall of Fame Committee shall consist of three (3) members as appointed by the Board of Directors of Softball B.C. A Softball B.C. Hall of Fame register shall be kept by the Softball B.C. Executive Director for the purpose of recording

names, citations, photographs (negatives) or other materials considered of value for records of all persons.

### 23.9 **AMENDMENTS:**

- a) Any amendments to this Article 23 may be made at any annual or special general meeting of Softball B.C. provided two-thirds of the votes cast are favourable to any proposed amendment.
- b) Notice of Motion of any propose amendment shall be sent to the Office of Softball B.C. 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.

## **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 B.C. The sealed envelopes will be sent to the Softball B.C. 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 B.C. 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 B.C. 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 B.C. office for the inspection of any Softball B.C. member.
5. Signing authority for this fund will rest with the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief, Mark Thoms, Callum McDonald and Brian Van Os.

## **MINOR DEVELOPMENT FUND GUIDELINES**

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 B.C. Board of Directors must ratify all Fund expenditures.
3. The signing officers of the Fund shall include the Minor Director AND any one of the following:

- a) One of two Minor Coordinators appointed by the Minor Director, or;
  - b) The President of Softball B.C. 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) District 9, 10 & 11, hereinafter referred to as Area D;
    - e) District 12 & 13, hereinafter referred to as Area E;
  5. The initial Committee shall be appointed by the Minor Director and thereafter Committee representatives shall be elected for a two year term at the Softball B.C. A.G.M. Minor Meeting. Elections for representatives in Areas A, C, & E shall take place in even numbered years commencing at the 2002 A.G.M; and elections for representative in Areas B & D shall take place in odd numbered years commencing at the 2003 Softball B.C. A.G.M.
  6. The Minor membership shall submit nominations to the Minor Director for the Committee representative from their respective area, sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Softball B.C. A.G.M. in order that the list of nominees can be published in the Minor Development Fund section of the Pre-A.G.M document.
  7. 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 B.C. A.G.M., 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 for that area.
  8. On an annual basis, following the election of Committee representatives in a given year, the Committee shall meet at the respective Softball B.C. A.G.M. and shall select a chairperson from their peers.
  9. 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 B.C. Such motions and budgets shall be submitted to the Committee chairperson sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Softball B.C. A.G.M. in order that the motions can be published in the Minor Only section of the Pre-A.G.M. document.
  10. All funds collected during a particular year shall be expended or allocated by the Committee by May 31st of the following year.
  11. All monies distributed by the Fund to the various Districts in the Province shall be deposited to a separate Minor account established in each District.
  12. 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.
  13. The Committee Chairperson shall submit quarterly reports to the Softball B.C. Board of Directors, the Minor Director of Softball B.C. and all District Minor Coordinators.

14. The Committee, through the Chairperson, shall submit an annual report to the membership at the Minor Only Meeting at the Softball B.C. A.G.M.