



SOFTBALL CANADA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

November 8, 2025
Halifax, NS

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

Saturday, November 8 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of the 2024 Annual General Meeting minutes
4. President's Report
5. May 31, 2025 Auditor's Report and Financial Statements
6. Appointment of auditors for May 31, 2026 year end
7. Constitution and Bylaws
8. Special Operating Rules
 - a. SOR Notice of Motions
9. New Business
 - a. Rule Changes
 - b. Hall of Fame Inductees
 - c. 2026 Softball Canada Congress
10. Elections – 3 directors
11. Adjournment

President Neiles welcomed all members and acknowledged the land on which this meeting was taking place.

President Neiles called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. He appointed Guy Jacobson (SK) and Don Farr (NWT) as official scrutineers for the voting process.

Rules of Procedure

President Scott Neiles was the Chair of the meeting.

The Softball Canada Rules of General Assembly can be found in page 120 of the AGM book and our parliamentary authority for this meeting is Robert's Rules of Order, Edition 12. I will remind all participants of the following:

- Please do not interrupt others
- Please raise your hand or wait for a microphone if you wish to be recognized by the chair
- Please direct your comments through the Chair, and if necessary they will be directed to the appropriate person to respond
- Please keep all comments respectful and polite
- For voting purposes, members will vote using their voting paddles and if necessary, I will call upon the voting scrutineers to provide a count

The credentials report of votes is as follows:

Provincial/Territorial Associations	33 votes
Board of Directors	8 votes
Total	41 votes
President (in case of tie and elections only)	1 vote

Section 7.1.d. of the Softball Canada Bylaws states, "Quorum for a meeting of members shall be those delegates and Director members representing a majority of votes eligible to be cast at the Meeting". It was declared that there is a quorum and that the Meeting of the Softball Canada members was in session.

Motion Instructions

All would have received the Notices of Motion in your AGM package. As done in previous member meetings and to make this meeting as efficient as possible, we aimed to do the following:

- For Notices of Motion #1 (Agenda), #2 (Previous Minutes), #3 (President's Report), #4 (Auditor's Report & Financial Statements), and #5 (Appointment of Auditors, we had approved these motions via Consent Agenda. For a few other motions such as the Hall of Fame and 2026 Congress, we had approved these motions **by unanimous consent**.
- There are no proposed revisions to the Bylaws.
- For the revisions to the Fast Pitch and Slo-Pitch Rules, we addressed these motions where possible in a Consent Agenda. We also entertained any amendment(s) as discussed in our Motions Workshop.
- For the revisions to the Special Operating Rules, we addressed these motions where possible in a Consent Agenda. We also entertained any amendment(s) as discussed in our Motions Workshop.

Consent Agenda (Agenda Items #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5)

Motion #1, #2, #3 #4, and #5, were done via *Consent Agenda*. Should any of the members wish to independently debate and vote any one of these items, they had the right to request that separation.

These motions are referred to in pages 123 and 124 of the AGM package.

MOTIONS – AS MOVED FROM THE FLOOR

Consent Agenda

Moved by: Gary MacDonald (SK)	Seconded by: Dennis Marchiori (NWT)
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NOTICE OF MOTION #1
As moved from the floor
That the 2025 Softball Canada Congress agenda be adopted with the powers to add
NOTICE OF MOTION #2
As moved from the floor
That the Minutes of the 2024 Softball Canada Congress in Saskatoon, SK be accepted
NOTICE OF MOTION #3
As moved from the floor
To accept the President’s Report on behalf of Softball Canada’s Board of Directors
NOTICE OF MOTION #4
As moved from the floor
That the Auditor’s Report and Financial Statements for the year ended May 31, 2025 be accepted as presented
NOTICE OF MOTION #5
As moved from the floor
That Ouseley Hanvey Clipsham Deep LLP be appointed as auditors for the year ending May 31, 2026
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried

Constitution and Bylaws

There are no proposed Bylaw revisions this year.

Motions – Special Operating Rules

There are nine (9) proposed Special Operating Rules that have been submitted to the members.

In accordance with Part Seven, Article 1 of the Special Operating Rules, these motions require a majority vote of the Members present. If adopted, these motions will become effective immediately following the conclusion of this meeting.

We aimed to approve most SOR proposals through a single formal motion and vote. Based on the Workshop the proposed format is as follows:

- Motions withdrawn: #5 & #6
- Motions via Consent Agenda: #1, #2, #3, #4, #7, #8, #9

Move to approve SOR Motions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9 via Consent Agenda

Moved by: Brooks Penrod (SK)	Seconded by: Jackie Dugger (BC)
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MOTION #1

Submitted by: Softball Québec P/T Affiliation: Québec

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

SPECIAL OPERATING RULES – **PAGE 212**

PART ONE — ORGANIZATION OF A CHAMPIONSHIP

ARTICLE 1 –BIDDING AND HOSTING

1.1 Bid procedure (Excluding Orthodox FP and Masters FP)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

f) Provinces/Territories who have communities bidding on a Championship must have had at least one (1) team from the Province or Territory participate in the Championship they are bidding on the year before the Championship. If there are no other bids, except from a P/T who hadn't participated as stated above, then these bids can be considered after October 1st the year prior to the Championship.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

f) Provinces/Territories who have communities bidding on a Championship must have had at least one (1) team from the Province or Territory participate in the Championship they are bidding on the year before the Championship. If there are no other bids, except from a P/T who hadn't participated as stated above, then these bids can be considered after October 1st the year prior to the Championship.

Exception: In the year the Canada Games are presented, the absence of a province/territory at the Canadian Championships in the Games' age category won't hinder the opportunity for that province/territory to host a Canadian Championship the following year in the Games' age category.

RATIONALE

In certain provinces/territories with a limited player pool, only one team can represent the province at the Canadian Championships. The year the Canada Games are held, it sometimes becomes impossible for these provinces/territories to participate in both competitions if the dates for the Canadian Championships and the Canada Games are close to each other, since the same athletes would be playing in both tournaments. The priority is then given to the Canada Games, which would keep that team from playing at the Canadian Championships on the same year.

When the time comes to submit a bid to host the Canadian Championships, the exact date of that tournament (in the Canada Games year) is not always known. Therefore, it is justifiable to add an exception clause to enable a province or a territory to host a Canadian Championship in that age category even if it did not attend that tournament the year prior. This modification aims to maintain equity and promote the organization of championships in every Canadian province.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

MOTION #2

Submitted by: Board fo Directors P/T Affiliation: Softball Canada

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part One, Article 2.1 a)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

iii) A contract between Softball Canada and the Host Committee outlining all obligations of both parties shall be signed and guidelines as published by Softball Canada shall be followed. The host will have to send Softball Canada a deposit of \$1,500.00 at the same time as the Host Agreement Fees (2 weeks prior to the championship start date) to guarantee Softball Canada Quality Assurance on the championship to be held. This deposit will not be cashed by Softball Canada unless the host does not meet its contractual obligations.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

iii) A contract between Softball Canada and the Host Committee outlining all obligations of both parties shall be signed and guidelines as published by Softball Canada shall be followed. **If the host does not meet its contractual obligations and/or ensure Quality Assurance for the championship, Softball Canada will not return the original Bid deposit.**

RATIONALE

The \$1,500 Quality Assurance cheque has been in place for well over a decade and has no history of being cashed for any Canadian Championship in the past. The new wording would keep the Quality Assurance clause, but instead of asking for a separate cheque, Softball Canada would have the option of not returning the Bid deposit.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

MOTION #3

Submitted by: Board of Directors P/T Affiliation: Softball Canada

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Two, Article 2.4 (p. 217)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

Non-Canadian Citizens - Players, Coaches and Managers that are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents may participate in a Canadian Championship provided that they have been continuous residents of Canada for one calendar year prior to the dates of the championship in which they wish to participate and meet all other residency requirements.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

ADDITION

2.4 For Women's, U23 Men's, Men's and Master Men's only. Any Non-Canadian Citizen who has participated with another country in an International sanctioned event (WBSC World Cup, Pan American Championship, World Games, Olympic Games, Pan Am Games, any WBSC sanctioned event) within the last 5 years are ineligible for Canadian Championship play.

RATIONALE

The Canadian Championships are restricted to athletes living in Canada who are Canadian Citizens/landed immigrants or who are Non resident Canadian Citizens living abroad. The athletes that participate should be athletes that support or who have supported our National Program from the minor level through to the adult stages and not represent a different National Federation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

MOTION #4

Submitted by: Softball BC Board of Directors P/T Affiliation: BC

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part two, Section 2.4, Page 217

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

2.4 Non–Canadian Citizens

Players, Coaches and Managers that are not Canadian citizens or landed immigrants may participate in a Canadian Championship provided they have been continuous residents of Canada for one calendar year prior to the dates of the championship in which they wish to participate and meet all other residency requirements.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

ADDITION

a) Players, Coaches and Managers with a student visa may participate in a Canadian Championship provided they arrived in Canada prior to September 1st of the previous year and meet all other residency requirements.

RATIONALE

Since most international students arrive in Canada in August, prior to the start of the school year begins, the current SOR could unintentionally prevent players attending school in Canada from participating in a Canadian Championship simply because they fall a few days or weeks short of the one calendar year requirement.

Example: Arriving August 25th, 2026 allows the student to participate in the 2027 season but not the 2026 season.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

MOTION #5

Submitted by: Softball Alberta P/T Affiliation: Alberta

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part two Section 2.6 Page 217

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

2.6 Provincial Non-Residents (Fast Pitch only)

- a) In U20 Men's, U19 Women's, U23 Men's/Women's Championships, all but six (6) players, and only two of these will be allowed to be pitchers, on any territorial representative team to a Canadian Championship must be a bona fide resident of that territory by the official residency date for the year of competition, with the release of the Province/Territory that the player is registered with.
- b) In U23 Men's, U23 Women's, Men's, Master Men's and Women's Canadian Championships, all but two (2) players, 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.
- c) These exemptions will be granted to players who meet either of the following conditions:
 - i. Canadian citizens living outside of Canada who return to their home province after May 1 and register for softball participation purposes only; or
 - ii. Canadian citizens residing in Canada WHO DO NOT register with the provincial/territorial association where they resided prior to that provincial/territorial date but choose to register with a different association of their choice. This registration must be complete by the registration date and the individual must obtain consent from the province/territory they reside in even if not registered in their province/ territory of residence; or
 - iii. Any player who has completed their playing commitments within their registered province/territory can be picked up by another provincial/ territorial representative team with the consent of both provinces/territories. These players will be considered imports and treated as such under Article 2.6 a-b.
 - iv. Any player registered in Slo-Pitch in any province/territory is eligible to be used as an import in Senior Canadian Fast Pitch Championships. NOTE: Players residing outside of Canada who declare their intent to play for their home province prior to May 1st as per the guidelines set out in Article 2.3 are not considered imports and there is no limit on the number of returning players.
- d) No player of U20 category age, or under, may exercise Provincial Non-Resident ("import") status.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

Deletion: (Fastpitch Only)

Addition: c) In Men's and Women's Slo Pitch Canadian Championships all but (2) players, on any provincial/territorial representative team to a Canadian Championship must be a bona fide resident of the territory/province by the official residency date for the year of competition.

Revise all other letters and denotions as per the addition of this SOR

le: now c becomes d and d becomes e

RATIONALE

The rule exist for Fastpitch and we're asking for Slo-pitch to have the same eligibility.

Justification is that some players who are living in regions that don't have competitive Slo-pitch, don't have an opportunity to participate.

Shane Baker in Fort St John had no connections to the BC teams, so they would not pick him up. He played with a coed with a team out of Grande Prairie, so an exception was made to allow him to play in AB with Men's Slo Pitch Team.

Manitoba - Devren Dear and Paige Churchill, who have been deemed as both National Team level athletes, but they cannot participate in Canadians, because MB does not have any competitive teams and the SK teams who are eligible to pick them up, have chosen not to.

For the past three years, Devren has been trying to join Men's teams in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia, but weren't able to add him due to the SOR's does not allow for imports in slo pitch specific. Manitoba was happy to give the release to give him the opportunity, but the other Provinces would not accept him due to the rule.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

Increased registration fees in under represented provinces in Slo Pitch.

Final Recommendations: **Withdrawn**

MOTION #6

Submitted by: Softball NB, Softball NL & Softball NS P/T Affiliation: NB, NL & NS

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part three, Section 1.2.c.iv.e, Page 222

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

Part 3 - Canadian Slo-Pitch Championships Article 1 - Organization and Participation

1.2.c.iv.e Any team from the Atlantic provinces attending the Canadian Slo-Pitch Championship can pick up to five (5) players from any of the Atlantic provinces with the release of the player's home province. All releases must be handled as per Softball Canada guidelines.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

Part 3 - Canadian Slo-Pitch Championships Article 1 - Organization and Participation

1.2.c.iv.e Any team from the Atlantic provinces attending the Canadian Slo-Pitch Championship can pick up to **two (2)** players from any of the Atlantic provinces with the release of the player's home province. All releases must be handled as per Softball Canada guidelines.

RATIONALE

The Softball P/T's within the Atlantic Provinces, are actively working to grow their relationships with the Slo Pitch communities and send teams from each province to the Canadian Championships. By reducing the number of players able to be released to (2), this will help the provinces send teams to represent each province, while still allowing for one off situations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Withdrawn**

MOTION #7

Submitted by: Slo-Pitch Committee P/T Affiliation: Softball Canada

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part three 2.7 c) Bats (see page 226/227)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

NOTE – the following applies only if bats are not supplied by Softball Canada:

i) In addition to meeting the criteria as set out in SP-Rule 3 Equipment, section 1, all bats shall be subject to inspection and approval prior to their use in the Canadian Championship tournament.

a) Any bat entering the field of play area, which includes the dugout/ bench areas, any warm-up areas inside and outside the field, shall be subject to inspection and approval. If a bat is within the above identified area and has not been submitted for inspection, the Coach of the team will be ejected for that game.

b) If a bat initially passes the compression test prior to the start of the championship then fails later during the championship, the bat's user/owner will be asked to allow it to be sent to the manufacturer for further testing. The player may either agree to the testing or refuse to submit the selected bat. If they refuse to allow the bat to be submitted for further testing or does not present the bat for testing, they are immediately suspended for two (2) years of play with Softball Canada and provincial/territorial play. If the bat is found to be tampered with, that player is immediately suspended for two (2) years of play with Softball Canada and provincial/ territorial play. If the bat is not tampered with but just became too broken in, every effort will be made to have the manufacturer replace the confiscated bat with the current model available.

ii) Inspection and approval procedures, as well as the means that will be used to identify bats that have passed inspection, to be used at a Canadian Championship tournament will be at the discretion of the Softball Canada representative and the tournament Umpire-in Chief.

iii) Inspection methods may include any visual inspection and/or inspection by any mechanical means that would not risk damage to the bat.

iv) Inspection and approval procedures, if they are to be used at a Canadian Championship, will be made known to all coaches of participating teams no later than 72 hours prior to the commencement of the tournament.

v) Any bat not presented for inspection/approval will be considered to be illegal equipment for the purposes of the Canadian Championship tournament.

vi) Any player using a bat that was not inspected or has failed inspection and/or approval will be ejected for the remainder of the tournament.

vii) Teams shall have the right to have one (1) team representative present at the time of inspection of the bats submitted for inspection/approval.

viii) There will be no appeal available for any bat that has failed inspection.

ix) Teams will be allowed to have up to 34 bats tested free of charge. Any additional bat beyond 34 will have a charge of \$5 per bat levied on the team. All other rules pertaining to illegal equipment shall apply

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISE / DELETION

NOTE – the following applies only if bats are not supplied by Softball Canada:

i) to read "All bats must meet the 240lb compression standard and display the new (2021) USSSA NTS Tested stamp. All bats shall be subject to inspection and approval prior their use in the Canadian Championship tournament.

ii) Inspection and approval procedures, as well as the means that will be used to identify bats that have passed inspection, to be used at a Canadian Championship tournament will be at the discretion of the Softball Canada representative and the tournament Umpire-in Chief.

iii) Inspection methods may include any visual inspection and/or inspection by any mechanical means that would not risk damage to the bat.

iv) Inspection and approval procedures, if they are to be used at a Canadian Championship, will be made known to all coaches of participating teams no later than 72 hours prior to the commencement of the tournament.

- v) Any bat not presented for inspection/approval will be considered to be illegal equipment for the purposes of the Canadian Championship tournament.
- vi) Any player using a bat that was not inspected or has failed inspection and/or approval will be ejected for the remainder of the tournament.
- vii) Teams shall have the right to have one (1) team representative present at the time of inspection of the bats submitted for inspection/approval.
- viii) There will be no appeal available for any bat that has failed inspection.
- ix) Teams will be allowed to have up to 34 bats tested free of charge. Any additional bat beyond 34 will have a charge of \$10 per bat levied on the team. All other rules pertaining to illegal equipment shall apply.

RATIONALE

The new 240lb compression standard has become the norm in higher level slo-pitch competition. By adding to this SOR it leaves the existing equipment rule 2.3.1 intact for use in more recreational leagues and events.

Concerns around modified bats has decreased significantly due to current bat standards and manufacturing practices allowing us to remove a & b from point i), and eliminate that additional responsibility from umpires and supervisors.

Point iv) allows us the flexibility to implement additional bat testing procedures annually (ex: random testing, additional scheduled testing, etc). Penalty for use of an untested/unapproved bat is covered later the same section, point vi).

Increasing cost per additional bat is a deterrent to teams testing well broken-in and questionable bats “hoping” they may pass.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

Maintenance and shipping costs of existing bat testers. Potential future bat tester purchase(s). Increased cost per team to cover testing of additional bats.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

MOTION #8

Submitted by: Board of Directors P/T Affiliation: Softball Canada

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Four (Fast Pitch), Article 2.1 c)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

c) Ranking in the Qualifying Round

Final standings in the qualifying round shall be established using the following criteria and will revert back to i) after each criterion if the tie is broken.

i) Won/Lost records. If still tied, then:

ii) Winners of games between tied teams NOTE: In order to use this criteria, all subject tied teams must have played each other and one team must have defeated all the teams they are tied with to be ranked higher. If still tied, then:

iii) Difference PLUS or MINUS of total runs scored, with a limit of 7 PLUS or MINUS per game allowed.

a) If teams are still tied within iii) the least (fewest) amount of runs scored against in all games will be used. If still tied, then:

b) The total runs scored in all games will be used. If still tied then:

c) Positions will be settled by a coin toss.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

c) Ranking in the Qualifying Round

Final standings in the qualifying round shall be established using the following criteria and will revert back to i) after each criterion if the tie is broken.

i) Won/Lost records; ~~if still tied, then:~~

ii) Winners of games between tied teams. NOTE: In order to use this criteria, all subject tied teams must have played each other and one team must have defeated all the teams they are tied with to be ranked higher; ~~if still tied, then:~~

iii) Difference PLUS or MINUS of total runs scored, with a limit of 7 PLUS or MINUS per game allowed;

~~iv) If teams are still tied within iii) the least (fewest) amount of runs scored against in all games; will be used. If still tied, then:~~

~~v) The Total runs scored in all games will be used; If still tied then:~~

vi) Positions will be settled by a coin toss.

RATIONALE

Housekeeping to fix list format and unnecessary wording.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

MOTION #9

Submitted by: Board fo Directors P/T Affiliation: Softball Canada

REFERENCE (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

Part Four (Fast Pitch), Article 2.1 d)

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

d) Tie Breaking

The above criteria ranking establishes the standing in the qualifying round.

However, if a tie exists for the last playoff position or where it represents the difference between 1 or 2 “lives”, the tie will be broken as follows:

- a) If tied for 2 “lives” they will be ranked using the criteria in 2.1 c)
- b) If tied for last playoff position, tiebreaker game(s) will be played.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

REVISION

d) **Tiebreaker Games - revision**

The above criteria ranking establishes the standing in the qualifying round. If there are multiple divisions or one division where all teams have played each other within their bracket, no tiebreaker games will be played. Criteria will determine placement.

In single division modified round robin formats where all teams within the division have not played each other, tiebreaker game(s) will be played if teams are tied for the last playoff position only.

RATIONALE

Tiebreaker games should not be played in Championships where every team has already played each other especially within their own division. These ties can be settled fairly based on the results of the games played. The intent of tiebreaker games should be to ensure fairness between teams who did not play against each other or the same opponents and are tied for the last playoff spot.

Tiebreaker games have become increasingly difficult for Canadian Championship supervisors, hosts and UICs to plan for in the schedule due to timing, weather implications, field availability, and volunteer/staffing capacity.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Softball Canada, Provincial/Territorial, Individual)

None.

Final Recommendations: **Carried**

Rule Change Proposals

Rule Change Proposal 4, 5, 6 and 7 were withdrawn. Rule Change Proposal 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, and 15 will be moved via Consent Agenda. Rule Change Proposal 13 will be voted on separately.

**Move to approve Rule Change Proposals 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10,11,12,14, and 15 via
Consent Agenda**

Moved by: Scott Willis (NB)	Seconded by: Todd Neuman (AB)
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PROPOSAL 1									
PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:		<u>2026-2027</u>				(year)			
Submitted by: Softball Alberta									
TYPE:	FAST PITCH	x	SLO-PITCH		ORTHODOX		ALL		
Rule:	3	Section:	2.7	Letter:		Number:		Letter:	
CHANGE IS:	Deletion / Revision								
CHANGE:	<p>Delete</p> <p>3.2.7 if an incorrect player is used as a temporary runner the error will be corrected without penalty when notice</p> <p>Add at the end of 3.2.7</p> <p>This would be treated as an appeal play</p> <p><i>At any time, an incorrect runner is on base in a tiebreaker inning or as a temporary runner for the catcher or pitcher of record</i></p>								
RATIONALE:	Make it clear in the rule book that there is an appeal play(penalty) for having the incorrect player on base as the temporary runner or tiebreaker								
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried									

PROPOSAL 2

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball Alberta

TYPE:	FAST PITCH		x	SLO-PITCH			ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	3	Section:	2	Letter:		Number:	7	Letter:		

CHANGE IS: Revision

CHANGE: The Team may designate one player as a runner. The player shall be called Designated Runner (DR)

- a) The DR must be listed in the starting line-up; and PITCH RULES
- b) The DR must be listed in the last spot in the starting line up (10th with no DP or 11th with the DP)
- c) The DR may run for only one player per inning and may do so each time that player becomes a runner in the inning
- d) The DR may run for a different player each inning.
- e) The DR may not bat or play defense. **If the DR becomes an offensive or defensive player, they forfeit their option for a DR for the rest of the game**
- f) An Eligible player in in the game may substitute for the DR
- ~~g) The DR may not re-enter the game~~
- h) A Team is not obligated to use the DR the entire game.

RATIONALE: It opens a lot more options for teams and players to participate. There are multiple governing bodies (Examples NAFA, USA Softball) who have the above concept in their rules.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried

PROPOSAL 3

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball Alberta

TYPE:	FAST PITCH		x	SLO-PITCH			ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	3	Section:	2.7	Letter:		Number:	7	Letter:		

CHANGE IS: Addition

CHANGE: Add after

A catcher :

A temporary runner is legal for a catcher *or pitcher* of record from the previous half inning who is on base with two (2) outs. The following provisions apply:

RATIONALE: To coincide with appeal plays and players allowed to have temporary runners

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried

PROPOSAL 4

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball BC Board of Directors

TYPE:	FAST PITCH		x	SLO-PITCH		ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	2	Section:	5.1	Letter:	d)	Number:		Letter:	

CHANGE IS: Revision

CHANGE: 2.5.1 d – NUMBERS:

An Arabic number of contrasting color at least 15.2 cm (6 in) high must be worn on the back of all uniform shirts. No manager, coach or player on the same team may wear identical numbers (numbers 1 and 01 are examples of identical numbers.) **Only whole numbers 00 to 99 must be used.** Players without numbers will not be permitted to play.

RATIONALE: We have attended many Canadian Championships and Softball Canada allowed the use of 00 and 0. If we are going to allow for this, then change the rule to reflect that 00 and 0 are recognizable numbers as they do identify the player from another player.

As well, if you are a parent without a Softball Canada Rulebook and you google jersey numbers for Softball Canada what shows up is about Rule 3 – which says 00-99 are jersey numbers.
<https://softball.ca/resources/rulebook/fast-pitch-rules/official-fast-pitch-rules-of-softball/rule-3-equipment>

As we are only to follow the actual Softball Canada Rulebook we should ensure information available is consistent.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Withdrawn

PROPOSAL 5

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball Québec

TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	x	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	5	Section:	9	Letter:	A	Number:		Letter:	

CHANGE IS: Addition

CHANGE:

5.9 TOUCHING BASES IN THE RIGHT ORDER

a) The batter-runner and all the other runners must touch bases in the right order (meaning, first base, second base, third base and home plate), unless they are victims of obstruction on a base by keeping them from touching that base or that they are placed on second base due to the application of the rule of play when a tiebreaker in extra innings.

EXCEPTION / SC: The pitcher who gets a walk on their at-bat will be replaced by the temporary runner immediately, without the pitcher being required to touch first base. The temporary runner will take their place at first base.

RATIONALE: To accelerate the course of the game.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Withdrawn

PROPOSAL 6

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball Québec

TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	x	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	4	Section:	3.1	Letter:	A	Number:		Letter:	

CHANGE IS: Revision

CHANGE:

4.3 CONDITIONS FOR A LEGAL PITCH

4.3.1 PRELIMINARY ACTION BEFORE A PITCH

a) At the beginning of each half inning or when a pitcher comes to relieve another pitcher, a maximum of one (1) minute can be used to complete three (3) warm-up pitches to the catcher or to another member of the defensive team.

At the beginning of the game, or when a pitcher comes to relieve another pitcher, a maximum of one (1) minute can be used to complete three (3) warm-up pitches to the catcher or to another member of the defensive team. No pitch is authorized between half innings unless a new pitcher comes in the game.

EXCEPTION: This does not apply if the umpire delays the beginning or the resuming of play due to a substitution, a conference, an injury or any other reason given by the umpire.

SC: The umpire can allow five (5) pitches instead of three (3) if weather conditions require it.

RATIONALE: To accelerate the course of the game.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Withdrawn

PROPOSAL 7

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball Québec

TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	x	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	5	Section:	4.3	Letter:	a	Number:	ix	Letter:	

CHANGE IS: New

CHANGE:

5.4.3 BALLS AND STRIKES

Each legal pitch that is not hit by the batter is called ball or strike by the home plate umpire.

a) A ball is called and becomes a dead ball:
...

IX. After each out when there are no runners on base, defensive players can't throw the ball to each other.

Consequence: a ball is added to the count of the following batter for each ball thrown between players.

RATIONALE: To accelerate the course of the game.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Withdrawn

PROPOSAL 8

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Slo-Pitch Committee / BOD

TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	X	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	4	Section:	3	Letter:		Number:	5	Letter:	b

CHANGE IS: Revision

CHANGE: Remove: "or SC: inside the pitching chute"

RATIONALE: Removes the "Pitching Chute" and return to a single pitching plate in Slo-Pitch. This provides a more consistent delivery point and improves the umpire's ability to manage pitching arch.

This REVISION is also reflected in:

- APPENDIX 1. F "Pitcher's Plate/(SC) Chute"

- 4.1.4

- 4.3.7 f)

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried

PROPOSAL 9

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Slo-Pitch Committee / BOD

TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	X	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	4	Section:	1	Letter:		Number:	4	Letter:	

CHANGE IS: Revision

CHANGE: Remove: "SC: on the point they start their delivery within the pitching chute"

RATIONALE: Removes the "Pitching Chute" and return to a single pitching plate in Slo-Pitch. This provides a more consistent delivery point and improves the umpire's ability to manage pitching arch.

This REVISION is also reflected in:

- APPENDIX 1. F "Pitcher's Plate/(SC) Chute"

- 4.3.5 b)

- 4.3.7 f)

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried

PROPOSAL 10

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: <u>2026-2027</u> (year)								
Submitted by: Slo-Pitch Committee / BOD								
TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	X	ORTHODOX		ALL
Rule:	Appendix	Section:		Letter:	F	Number:		Letter:
CHANGE IS:	Revision							
CHANGE:	Remove: “(SC) CHUTE” from the title as well as “SC: The Pitcher’s Chute is that area directly behind the pitcher’s plate within the same 61cm length of the Pitcher’s Plate and 3.05m (10ft) in depth”							
RATIONALE:	<p>Removes the “Pitching Chute” and return to a single pitching plate in Slo-Pitch. This provides a more consistent delivery point and improves the umpire's ability to manage pitching arch.</p> <p>This REVISION is also reflected in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4.1.4 - 4.3.5 b) - 4.3.7 f) 							
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried								

PROPOSAL 11

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: <u>2026-2027</u> (year)								
Submitted by: Slo-Pitch Committee / BOD								
TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH	X	ORTHODOX		ALL
Rule:	4	Section:	3	Letter:		Number:	7	Letter: f
CHANGE IS:	Revision							
CHANGE:	Remove: “or SC: on the ground where the pitcher established their start in the pitching chute”							
RATIONALE:	<p>Removes the “Pitching Chute” and return to a single pitching plate in Slo-Pitch. This provides a more consistent delivery point and improves the umpire's ability to manage pitching arch.</p> <p>This REVISION is also reflected in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APPENDIX 1. F “Pitcher’s Plate/(SC) Chute” - 4.1.4 - 4.3.5 b) 							
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried								

PROPOSAL 12

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2026-2027 (year)

Submitted by: Softball NL

TYPE:	FAST PITCH		SLO-PITCH	X	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:		Section:		Letter:		Number:		Letter:

CHANGE IS: Revision

CHANGE:

The current Official Softball Canada Rulebook (2024 – 2025), page 22 outlines the ages for Minor Slo-pitch to have not changed to coincide with the Fastpitch minor ages,

The ages for Minor Slo-pitch change to coincide and be consistent with the Minor Fastpitch ages

RATIONALE: While the Minor Fastpitch ages changed in 2021, the Minor Slo-pitch ages did not. As Softball NL has a large Minor Slo-pitch membership, including many Associations who have both Minor Slo-pitch and Fastpitch, we are requesting that the ages for both to be consistent. We are requesting the changes to be reflected in the next edition of the Softball Canada Rulebook beginning 2026.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried

Move to approve the amendment of Rule Change Proposal 13 as presented

Moved by: Shelley Rudd (AB)	Seconded by: Diego La Manna (QC)
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Move to approve the Rule Change Proposal 13 (as amended)

Moved by: Shelley Rudd (AB)	Seconded by: Todd Neuman (AB)
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PROPOSAL 13

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: <u>2026-2027</u> (year)								
Submitted by: Softball Alberta								
TYPE:	FAST PITCH		SLO-PITCH	x	ORTHODOX		ALL	
Rule:	3	Section:	2.7	Letter:		Number:		Letter:
CHANGE IS:	New / Addition							
CHANGE:	<p>Remove 3.2.6 g), and renumber h) as g)</p> <p>Add 3.2.7 Temporary runner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Optional before two outs – mandatory after two outs ii. May be any player on the line-up card who is not on base at the time of application (even if they have previously been in the game and cannot legally re-enter the game) but cannot be a player who has been ejected or removed from the game for violation of the rules iii. The player who finishes the previous inning in the pitching position (or is designated as the pitcher in the line-up card for the Visiting Team's first inning at bat) is the only person eligible to have a temporary runner. iv. Re-entry and substitution rules are waived for the temporary runner v. If the temporary runner is on base and due to bat, they shall be replaced by another eligible player without penalty. vi. Co-ed only – Temporary Runner will be gender for gender <p>Effect 3.2.7. c) This would be an appeal play if a temporary runner is used for any player other than the pitcher of record</p> <p><i>*Note: (not to be included in written motion) penalty is addressed on Pg.38 1.2.6 Appeal Play</i></p>							

RATIONALE	Make it clear in the rule book that there is an appeal play(penalty) for having the incorrect player on base as the temporary runner or tiebreaker. Don't have this in the entering the game (substitutions). Make it consistent with Slo-Pitch and fastpitch
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried as amended	

PROPOSAL 14										
PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:		2026-2027			(year)					
Submitted by: Softball Alberta										
TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH		x	ORTHODOX			ALL
Rule:	1	Section:	2.6	Letter:	a)	Number:	iv)	Letter:		
CHANGE IS:	Deletion									
CHANGE:	Remove for the catcher Should read at any time, an incorrect player is on base in a tiebreaker inning or as a temporary runner for the pitcher of record									
RATIONALE:	There is no temporary runner for the catcher in Slo-Pitch									
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried										

PROPOSAL 15										
PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:		2026-2027			(year)					
Submitted by: Softball Alberta										
TYPE:	FAST PITCH			SLO-PITCH		x	ORTHODOX			ALL
Rule:	1	Section:	2.6	Letter:	d)	Number:	x)	Letter:		
CHANGE IS:	Revision									
CHANGE:	Remove "the use of an incorrect runner on second base" and "the catcher or" Should read "at any time, an incorrect player is on base in a tiebreaker inning or as a temporary runner for the pitcher of record"									
RATIONALE:	There is no temporary runner for the catcher in Slo-Pitch									
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried										

Hall of Fame Inductees

NEW BUSINESS NOTICE OF MOTION #1	
New Business	
As moved from the floor	
To accept the names of the following individuals inducted into the Softball Canada Hall of Fame at the 2025 Softball Canada Congress in Halifax, NS	
ATHLETE – Jeff Ellsworth, PEI	
BUILDER – Bev Adams, NB	
COACH – John "Les" Howey, NL	
OFFICIAL – Lou Davis, NS	
TEAM - The 2015 Women's Pan Am Games Gold Medal Team	
TEAM - The 2015 Men's World Cup & Pan Am Games Gold Medal Teams	
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Carried	

After hearing no objections, the motion was adopted.

2026 Softball Canada Congress

There is currently no host for the 2026 Softball Canada Congress.

Election of Directors (3)

Since President Neiles is not up for election this year, he will continue as chair.

The following positions were available for election at this year's AGM:

- 3 Directors-at-Large (3 year terms)

We received 3 valid nominations for these 3 positions:

- Larissa Franklin (athlete) (F)
- Vanessa Kosteroski (F)
- Lisa Parkes (F)

There were three candidates for three available positions, and as such all three candidates were presented via one ballot.

After voting ballots were counted Larissa Franklin, Vanessa Kosteroski, and Lisa Parkes were elected as Directors and will each serve a three (3) year term.

Adjournment

A few remarks were made at the end of the AGM to recognize certain people in attendance.

- **Softball Nova Scotia** was thanked and presented with a plaque for all the work they put into hosting this year's AGM.
- **Larissa Franklin** accepted her *Female Fast-Pitch Athlete of the Year* award.
- **Guy Jacobson** was recognized for his outstanding years of service to Softball Saskatchewan and Softball Canada. We wish him all the best in his retirement.
- Two members, **Don Klym** and **Dave Feener**, will also be retiring but were not in attendance. We wish them both all the best in their retirement as well.
- **Jackie Dugger** is stepping down from the Board after many years of service. Her hard work on the Board and in all her other involvements will not go unrecognized, and everyone wishes her the very best.

The 2025 Softball Canada Congress was officially adjourned at 2:50 PM AST. Thank you to all members for participating.