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NOTE: Updated versions of the Special Operating Rules are available on the Softball Canada website

UPDATES are BOLD and ITALICIZED

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SPECIAL OPERATING RULES

NOTE: ***Changes made for UPDATES are BOLD and ITALICIZED***

PART ONE – CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTATION

ARTICLE 1 – BIDDING AND HOSTING

1.1 Bid Procedures

a) More than one (1) bid may be made by an affiliated association, organization, club or province/territory. Each bid must be approved by the respective provincial/territorial softball association.

b) Bids must be written or submitted electronically. Please refer to Article 1.2.

c) Bids for the Canadian Championships will be accepted in the Softball Canada office beginning October 1, two (2) years prior to the year of the event.

d) Bids must be accompanied by a payment of $1000.00 for each Championship being sought. Note – Exception: The Men's Championship will within 30 days submit an additional payment of $1,500.00 (total to be $2,500.00). The deposits will be returned subject to the following:

i) If the bid was not successful.

ii) If the bid is successful and the host organization has met all its financial and contractual obligations to Softball Canada. Any financial obligations not met will be deducted from the deposit.

e) Canadian Championship week will be in consultation with the Host, Provincial/Territorial Offices and Softball Canada targeting the month of August. All Championships will be open Championships with the number of teams determined by the Host and Softball Canada with consideration given to facility and diamond availability.

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.

1.2 Bid Selection

a) Where bids are submitted to Softball Canada for a Canadian Championship, an evaluation process will be conducted by the Canadian Championship Committee.

b) The evaluation process will include an assessment of the host committee's ability to host a Canadian Championship. Criteria evaluated should include: facility, volunteer staffing and qualifications, accommodations, airport location, transportation, special events and promotional opportunities, promotion/communications program and fundraising activities.

c) The Canadian Championship Committee will tentatively approve and award the bid for the Championship 30 days after receiving the first satisfactorily completed bid.

d) A bid will only be considered finalized and awarded when the signed contract and additional deposit (if required) has been received by Softball Canada. This must be completed within 30 days of the host being notified of the bid approval.

1.3 Bid Requirements

Bidders for Canadian Championships must guarantee the following facilities:

i) The main tournament facility must have a minimum of two (2) diamonds, at least one of which is lighted.

ii) All events require a third and fourth diamond close to the main facility.

iii) All ball parks must comply with Softball Canada Rule Book dimensions.

ARTICLE 2 – HOSTING OBLIGATIONS

2.1 Contractual

a) Responsibilities

i) The successful bidder shall hereinafter be referred to as the Host Committee.

ii) A Canadian Championship shall be awarded to the provincial/territorial association which will, in conjunction with the Host Committee, be responsible for the Championship.

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.

iv) Softball Canada shall not be liable for any claim or indebtedness incurred in the execution of any Canadian Championship.

b) Accommodations

i) The Host Committee will designate a host hotel(s) for the Championship which all teams are strongly encouraged to support.

c) Financial

i) A flat hosting fee for each Canadian Championship will be paid to Softball Canada by the respective Host Committees.

a) A $1,000.00 rebate will be given to a host committee that hosts two championships concurrently.

b) A $1,000.00 rebate will be given to a host committee that hosts a championship in the same division for 2 consecutive years.

ii) The hosting fee schedule is as follows:

Fast Pitch	
Men's	$ 25,000.00
Women's	$ 6,000.00
U23 Men's	$10,000.00
U20 Men's	$6,000.00
U19 Women's	$10,000.00
U17 Men's	$6,000.00
U17 Women's	$10,000.00
U15 Men's	$6,000.00
U15 Women's	$10,000.00
Slo-Pitch	
Men's/Women's	$8,000.00

The Host agreement fee will be paid to the Softball Canada National Office no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of the particular Championship. The payment can be post-dated to the last day of respective Championship. If the hosting fee is not received at this time, a fine of $100.00/day will be charged for every day the fee is late. This will be taken out of the Host's Bid Deposit.

iii) The draft financial statements and the final report must be filed within 60 days of the conclusion of the championship and the final financial statements must be filed within 120 days of the conclusion of the championship to the Softball Canada office.

d) Passes

i) Participant passes will be issued up to the following maximums according to the Official Player List:

Players	17 (20 for Women's Slo-Pitch & Master Men's)
Coaches and managers	5
Bat boy/girl	1

e) Miscellaneous

Softball Canada must approve all arrangements for OPENING and CLOSING ceremonies and other similar major events, such as banquets or get–togethers, connected with the Canadian Championships.

f) First Aid Access

It is mandatory to provide a designated first aid area with a stocked medical kit as outlined in the Host Contract. This area must be attended to at all times during the event by either first aid personnel or a designate of the Host. This individual would be responsible to activate an established Emergency Plan that the Host must have in place.

2.2 Sponsor's Participation

Participation of any or all sponsor(s) at a Canadian Championship is left to the discretion of the Host Committee in cooperation with the National Office of Softball Canada. It is, however, understood that, under no circumstances can a sponsor be involved (in any capacity) that is in competition with any of Softball Canada's major national sponsors. In all Canadian Championships, Softball Canada reserves the rights to advertise its programs in any way, shape or form, and at all times during the staging of the Canadian Championship(s).

PART TWO – PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY AND RESIDENCY

ARTICLE 1 – ELIGIBILITY AND PENALTIES

1.1 Eligibility

a) Players will be eligible to participate in Canadian Championships provided they:
   i) Meet existing Softball Canada residency rules.
   ii) Represent the province/territory in which they were registered by the official registration date.
   iii) Are at least fifteen (15) years of age as of January 1 of the current year in order to be eligible to participate in a Men's or Women's Canadian Championship.

b) Players need not have participated in a provincial/territorial elimination tournament as long as they were eligible to do so.

c) Players will be eligible to participate in elimination tournaments leading to Canadian Championships only in the province/territory in which they are registered as of the official registration date.

d) Players will be allowed to participate in more than one fast pitch championship and more than one slo–pitch championship provided they are not held concurrently, with their province/territory's approval.

e) Softball Canada and the Canadian Championship committee shall have the authority, with the release of the Province/Territory, to deem players eligible to participate in the Canadian Championships for the betterment of the event and National body. Each circumstance will be treated separately and a decision will be made based on the situation at hand. The outcome of this decision cannot be protested or appealed.

f) No import player will be allowed to play in two (2) separate Canadian Championships in the same year with two (2) different provinces and/or territories.

g) Players must have played in a minimum of 1 game in the Round Robin of the Championship in order to be eligible to play in the Championship Round.

1.2 Penalties

a) Use of an ineligible player shall result in the following penalties:
   i) All games the ineligible player has participated in shall be forfeited.
   ii) The team using the ineligible player shall be disqualified from the Canadian Championship.

b) Any forfeiture or default by a team shall lead to disqualification from the Canadian Championship.

Exception: Forfeiture of a game due to not enough eligible players because of substitutions, injuries, or ejections shall not result in the disqualification from a championship.

ARTICLE 2 – RESIDENCY

2.1 Resident Canadian Citizens

a) To be eligible to compete as a player, coach or manager in a Canadian Championship, a Canadian citizen must be a bona fide resident of the province/territory that they will represent by the official residency date of the year of competition.

b) The Softball Canada official residency date is May 1st.

c) Canadian citizens enrolled in full-time study at a post-secondary educational institution will be exempt from the official residency date requirement provided they establish residence (in the province/territory that they will represent) immediately following completion of commitments at that institution.

d) Canadian citizens participating in professional sport competitions (other than softball or baseball) will be exempt from the official residency date requirement provided they establish residence (in the province/territory which they will represent) immediately following the event.

2.2 Permanent Resident Status

a) All residence requirements for Canadian citizens represent minimum requirements for Canadian permanent residents.

b) In addition, permanent residents must have obtained their permanent resident status prior to the official residency of the year of participation.

2.3 Non–Resident Canadian Citizens

a) Canadian citizens who do not reside in Canada may play in the Canadian Championships, provided they have the official approval of the province/territory they will represent, subject to the following considerations:
   i) The non-resident Canadian citizen shall play for their home province/territory. In the event that they play in a province/territory other than their home province/territory, the non-resident Canadian citizen shall have import status.
   ii) The player shall make Softball Canada aware of the province/territory that they intend to play for by the official residency date of the year they will play. The player will indicate their intention by filling in a Non-Resident Canadian Eligibility Form and submitting a copy to Softball Canada and to the province/territory in which they intend to play.

iii) In the case that there shall be a dispute between two or more Provincial/Territorial Associations regarding the player's province/territory of eligibility, Softball Canada shall make this determination by July 2nd of the year of competition.

2.4 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.

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.

b) 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.

2.5 Bylaw Registration Requirements

All players must meet Softball Canada Bylaw registration requirements as per Article 1.3 c) ii).

2.6 Provincial Non-Residents (Fast Pitch only)

a) In all Canadian 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.

2.7 Definition of Residency

a) Residency requirements exist to provide an orderly registration of participants in Softball Canada's Canadian Championships. In simplest terms, the participant must be a legal resident of the province/territory that they will represent at the championship.

b) Legal residency for Softball Canada purposes shall require the participant to reside in their province of participation on the official residency date. In determining residency, Softball Canada must be satisfied that the participant has shown a substantial connection to the Province or Territory. Establishment of residential status may be demonstrated by, but is not limited to, the following factors:

i) Proof of employment in the Province/Territory;

ii) Proof of medical insurance coverage in the Province/Territory, issued by said Province/Territory, in the form of a health care card. An application for a health card will not suffice;

iii) Proof of a domicile, mailing address and telephone listing in the Province/Territory of the player or legal guardian;

iv) In the case of participants 16 years of age or over, proof of possession of a driver's license from the Province/Territory;

v) In the case of participants 18 years of age or over, proof of registration as a voter in the Province/Territory; and/or

vi) Proof of other factors that convincingly demonstrate a strong social or economic connection to the Province/Territory as requested by Softball Canada.

vii) Proof of full time attendance at an elementary school, high school or related work/study program in the Province/Territory.

c) One of the major intents of Article 2.7 b) vii) is to ensure that Minor softball players play in the Province/Territory where they are bona-fide residents and attend elementary school, high school, a related work/study program or work full-time.

d) Softball Canada shall make the determination as to legal residency.

ARTICLE 3 – PROTESTS

a) Protests regarding eligibility for Championships except Men's Fast Pitch will be acted upon by the Association representative provided they are lodged in writing and signed by the coach or manager before midnight of day one of the tournament. Eligibility protests made after that time will be dealt with after the championship.

b) Protests regarding eligibility for Men's Fast Pitch Championships will be acted upon by the Association providing they are lodged in writing and signed by a Provincial/Territorial office official. Protests must be lodged by midnight of the seventh day preceding the first day of the championship. Eligibility protests received or made after that time will be dealt with after the championship.

PART THREE – CANADIAN SLO-PITCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARTICLE 1 – ORGANIZATION AND PARTICIPATION

1.1 Introduction

a) Softball Canada will organize and supervise Canadian Championships in categories determined by the Annual General Meeting provided that a host organization can be found to execute the championship tournament.

b) Provincial/territorial associations in good standing with dues paid are eligible to send teams to a Canadian Championship.

c) Provincial/territorial associations must confirm their participation in the Canadian Championships by May 1 of the year of the event and must submit the registration fee for each registered team no later than June 30th.

d) The start date for the Men's and Women's Championship would be Sunday concluding on Saturday for a 7 day event.

1.2 Participants

a) Team Representation

i) All Canadian Championships will be filled to a maximum of twenty-four (24) teams, subject to hosting capacity. In the event that more than twenty four (24) teams, or greater than the host's capacity, indicate their intent to participate, then entry will be awarded as follows:

a) Initially to each province/territory in good standing, a host team and the previous year's champion.

b) On a pro–rata system based upon provincial/territorial registrations in the respective categories.

c) No province/territory be allowed more than 4 teams including the Host Team.

d) The defending champion does not count as one of the 4 provincial/territorial teams.

ii) A host city team is eligible providing the team originates in the city or town in which the championship is held. Said team must have participated (as a team) in the provincial/territorial competition played to determine the provincial/territorial representative to the Canadian Championship.

iii) If there is more than one team eligible to represent the host committee, the applicable provincial/territorial softball association shall determine the manner in which the host committee team is to be decided.

iv) In all Canadian Championship categories, the previous year's champions are eligible to attend their respective Canadian Championship, subject to the following considerations:

a) They are responsible for all of their own expenses.

b) At least seven (7) players from the championship roster are still on the current roster and in attendance. If the previous champion does not have seven (7) returning players, the provincial/territorial body can declare their Provincial Champion (or top seeded team) as a Defending Champion.

c) They follow Softball Canada's team and player registration procedures.

d) They must compete in the Provincial/Territorial Competition which determines representation to the Canadian Championships for the current year. Applicable to Provincial/Territorial Associations without All–Star status.

b) Managers and Coaches

Managers and coaches are eligible to participate in Canadian Championships under the following provisions:

i) They are signed to the current Softball Canada or Provincial/Territorial Team Registration Certificate of their team.

ii) Managers and coaches may not participate as players unless they are so registered.

c) Playing Rosters

i) Roster Size

Team roster sizes will be as follows:

Players	Minimum	Maximum
Master Men & Co–Ed	12	20
Men's	12	17
Women's	12	20
Coaches and Managers	1	5

ii) Provinces/Territories will have their own criteria to qualify for the Canadian Championships.

iii) Affiliated Team Representatives

When no designation occurs, representatives must use their affiliated rosters.

iv) Player Additions

A provincial/territorial team representative may add up to three (3) players providing that:

a) Players have signed a Softball Canada Team Registration Form by the registration date with the province/territory seeking to pick them up.

b) Approval to pick up these players is received from their provincial/territorial association.

c) The players are eligible for Canadian Championship play.

d) The pick–ups are made by the end of the coaches/managers meeting at the Canadian Championship and have Provincial/Territorial written approval.

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.

f) Any team from Manitoba or Saskatchewan attending the Canadian Slo-Pitch Championships can pick up to five (5) players from each other's Province with the release of the player's home province. All releases must be handled as per the Softball Canada Guidelines.

g) The above additions are to include any current border agreements that provinces share.

v) Coaches Additions

A provincial/territorial representative may add a coach or manager providing that:

a) Coaches/managers must have signed a Softball Canada Team Registration Form by the official registration date within the province/territory seeking to pick them up.

b) Approval to pick up these coaches is received from their provincial/territorial associations.

c) The coaches are eligible for Canadian Championship play.

d) The pick–ups are made by the end of the coaches/managers meeting at the Canadian Championship and have Provincial/Territorial written approval.

e) The total number of signed coaches and managers does not exceed five (5).

1.3 Penalties for Non–Participation and Late Entry

a) A province/territory withdrawing a team(s) from a Canadian Championship before May 1st will forfeit their registration fee to Softball Canada.

b) A province/territory withdrawing a team(s) after the May 1st deadline will forfeit their registration fee and will be fined an amount equal to $1000.00. Any withdrawal after July 15th will result in a fine of $2000.00. This penalty will be equally divided between Softball Canada and the Host.

c) A province/territory registering a team after the May 1st deadline will be assessed a late fee of $500.00 to be paid immediately upon notification.

d) Failure of a team to appear in any Canadian Championship game shall result in that team being suspended for the remainder of the championship and will be assessed a $1,000.00 fine and disciplinary action reviewed by the Directors of Softball Canada.

ARTICLE 2 – TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

2.1 Tournament Format

a) Qualifying Round

i) If 6 or less teams are entered, a double round robin format will be used; or if a single round robin format is used, the starting date will be Wednesday.

ii) If 11 or less teams are entered, a single round robin will be played involving all teams.

iii) If 12 or more teams are entered, then teams will play a modified round robin of ten (10) games per team.

iv) If 18 or more teams are entered, teams will be split into 2 pools and each will play teams within their pool. The top 2 teams from each pool will advance to the Championship Round with double life and the next 2 will have single life.

b) Championship Round

In championships with 7, 8 or 9 teams, 6 teams will play in the championship round. The top 2 teams will have 2 "lives" and the next 4 teams will have a single "life". In championships with 10 or more teams, 8 teams will play in the championship round. The top 4 teams will have 2 "lives" and the next 4 teams will have a single "life".

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 15 PLUS or MINUS per game allowed.

iv) 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.

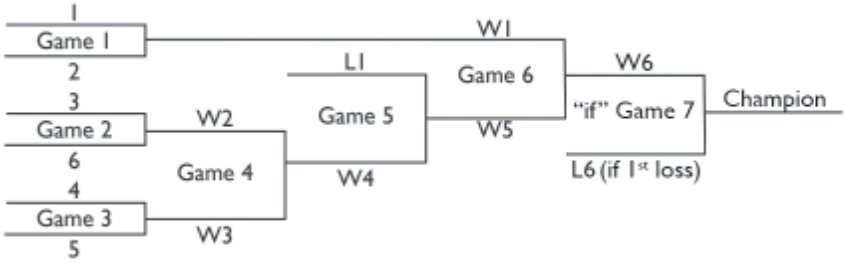
d) Tie Breaking

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", tiebreaker game(s) will be played.

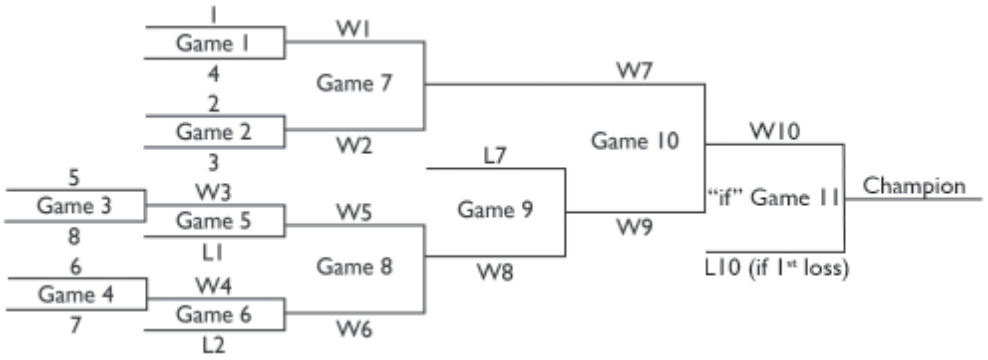
2.2 Model Draws

a) Championship Round.

Six Team Playoff



Eight Team Playoff



2.3 Scheduling

a) In the qualifying round, the host and provincial team shall be allowed a daily prime time game.

b) A minimum of one and a half hours will be scheduled between game starts.

c) Softball Canada is responsible for rescheduling games if necessary.

d) No protests may be made on the rescheduling of games.

2.4 Unfinished Championships

If for any reason, any Canadian Championship cannot be finished, the following formula shall be applied to determine final standings and medal awards:

NOTE: the team that is awarded the gold medal will be eligible to compete next year as the Defending Champion providing all criteria of a defending champion is met.

a) If the qualifying round cannot be completed, medals will be awarded on the basis of the standings at that time.

b) If the qualifying round is completed and no games played in the double life section of the championship round, the qualifying round standings shall be used to award medals.

c) If games 1 and 2 of the championship round have been played, the "A" side finalists shall receive the gold and silver medals, with the gold going to the team finishing higher in the qualifying round. The bronze medal shall go to whichever of the remaining "B" side teams finished highest in the qualifying round.

d) If after game 7 (game 5 in six team playoff), the "A" side final, and before game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff), the winner of game 7 (game 5 in six team playoff) shall receive the gold medal and the loser the silver medal. The bronze medal shall go to whichever of the remaining "B" side teams finished higher in the qualifying round.

e) If after game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff), the gold medal will go to the winner of game 7 (game 5 in six team playoff), the silver medal to the winner of game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff), and the bronze medal to the loser of game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff).

2.5 Awards

a) A team trophy will be awarded to the winning team of any Canadian Championship tournament.

b) A team trophy will be awarded to the runner–up in all Canadian Championships.

c) When medals are awarded (for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners), no more than 22 will be provided.

d) Except for the "Top Player of the Championship Round", all individual awards are based on the qualifying round(s).

   i) Recipients of these awards can be announced prior to the start of the championship round.

   ii) These awards should be presented between games C1 and C2 of the Championship Round as time permits.

e) In order for players to qualify for individual awards, the following will apply:

   At bat: A player must have at least 2.5 plate appearances times the number of games the team has played, rounded to the highest whole number.

2.6 Official Softball

a) The official softball to be used at all Canadian Championships shall be determined by the Directors of Softball Canada.

b) The official and exclusive softball for the Men's, Master Men's 40+ and Co–Ed Canadian Championships will be the Hot Dot SBC12HDSY (COR .52).

c) The official and exclusive softball for the Women's Canadian Championship will be the Rawlings 11" Hot Dot SBC11HDSY ***or*** Rawlings Super Green Dot YSX11RSC3.

2.7 Dress and Equipment

a) Uniforms

i) All players participating in a Canadian Championship must play in identical uniforms.

The Softball Canada representative, in consultation with the tournament Umpire–in–Chief, shall judge the acceptability of uniforms. Players unacceptably uniformed will be dealt with as follows:

a) If possible, a player will be warned before a game appearance.

b) A player participating in a game will be instructed to immediately correct the uniform deficiency.

c) A player failing to correct the deficiency will be ejected from the game.

ii) ***A coach must be neatly attired, including the wearing of suitable footwear, or be dressed in team uniform in accordance with the colour code of the team. While coaches should be similarly attired, it is not necessary that they dress the same.***

If, in the judgement of the Softball Canada official representative, the coach or manager's uniform is not to the representative's satisfaction, this coach or manager shall not be permitted to coach.

iii) All players appearing on a game sheet must wear a uniform number on the back of their uniform shirt/sweater. NO number may be repeated.

iv) At all Slo-Pitch Canadian Championships, each team must have at least two sets of uniform tops (one dark coloured and one light coloured). The home team will wear their dark coloured uniform. The away team will wear their light coloured uniform. If a team fails to wear the proper uniform colour, they will lose the game.

v) In Women's, Co–Ed and Masters Slo–Pitch categories, players may mix long and short pants in their uniforms provided that they are the team colour.

b) Double Base

The Double Base (Safe–base TM system) will be used at first base for all Canadian Championships.

c) Bats

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

i) 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.

d) Facemasks and head protection

Facemasks and head protection must be worn by all pitchers.

ARTICLE 3 – GAME PROCEDURES

3.1 The Game

a) Home Team

In the Qualifying Round, home team will be determined by a coin toss at the Coaches/Managers meeting prior to the start of the championship or one hour prior to the start of each game. In the Championship Round, home team will be determined by the round robin standing, the higher placing team will have a choice of inning. If two divisions, the highest placed team from either division will have choice of inning. If teams are ranked equal, a coin toss will determine the higher placing team.

NOTE: Teams not represented at the Coaches/Managers meeting will not have choice of inning.

EXCEPTION: In the Championship Game, the undefeated team in the Championship Round will have choice of inning (i.e., home or away). If there is an "if" game, home team will be determined by a coin toss.

b) Game Length

In all Canadian Championship games, 7 innings will constitute a legal game, except if tied after 7 innings, it must be continued until a winner is declared.

EXCEPTION: Softball Canada Canadian Championship Supervisors can shorten games in the qualifying and championship round to 5 innings where weather threatens the completion of the Championship. The Championship game will be 7 innings except in the case where Playing Rule 1.2.1 c) applies.

c) Game Interruptions

If for any reason a Canadian Championship game is interrupted prior to the completion of an official game, the game shall resume at the exact point in which it left off. (Includes number of outs, count on batter, etc.)

d) Run Ahead Rule

i) In all categories, games will end after 2½ innings of play if the home team is winning by 25 or more runs or 3 complete innings of play if the visiting team is winning by 25 or more runs.

ii) In all categories, games will end after 3½ innings of play if the home team is winning by 20 or more runs or 4 complete innings of play if the visiting team is winning by 20 or more runs.

iii) In all categories, games will end after 4½ innings of play if the home team is winning by 15 or more runs or 5 complete innings of play if the visiting team is winning by 15 or more runs.

e) Tie Breaking

i) The tie breaking procedure used in extra inning games will be applied in all Canadian Championship games except the final championship game(s) (i.e., Games 10 and 11). See Slo-Pitch Rule 1.2.4 of the Softball Canada Official Rule Book.

ii) The procedure will come into effect after 7 innings have been played.

f) Walk-off Home Run

On any fair-batted ball hit over the fence (touched or untouched) for a home run, the batter and all runners are credited with a score. The batter and any runners do not run the bases but go directly to their team area.

g) The batter begins their at bat with a count of 1 ball, 1 strike.

h) Any legal pitch not swung at and lands on the strike mat (2 feet (0.61 m) x 3 feet (0.91 m)) shall be a strike. The strike mat shall be a 2'(0.61m) x 3'(0.91m) rubber mat with a"v" shaped cutout 17" across the top and 12" on the other two sides centered 3½" from the edges of the mat. This mat shall be placed behind the plate so the "v" cutout fits around the back point of the plate.

3.2 Home Run Rule Limit

A limitation 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.

d) The per team per game home run limit shall be:

i) Men, Master Men and Women — 7

ii) Co-Ed — 5

3.3 Protests

a) The Protest Committee for all Canadian Championships shall consist of three (3) people selected by the Softball Canada Supervisor as outlined below:
   i) the Softball Canada Supervisor or Assistant Supervisor.
   ii) the Umpire-In-Chief or Deputy Umpire-In-Chief.
   iii) an individual appointed by the Softball Canada Supervisor.

b) All game play protests must be made at the time of the play in question (i.e., before the next pitch). The home plate umpire must announce the outcome of the protest.

c) There shall be no protests on:
   i) the rescheduling of games
   ii) the contents of a line–up card

d) Upon arrival of the Protest Committee, the protesting team will supply the committee with the protest fee of $250.00 (cash or certified cheque). Failure to do this will nullify the protest and the game shall continue immediately. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned after the game.

3.4 Smoking and/or Liquor Prohibitions

a) No smoking, vaping, liquor and/or other recreational impairment inducing substances shall be allowed within 100 feet of the benches or on the playing field area.

b) The offending person(s) will be given one warning and the team manager shall be advised that the warning has been given. A second incident will lead to the ejection from the game.

3.5 Discipline

If there is an incident on the field of play including foul territory that causes the players on the bench to join into the altercation, then all involved players will be ejected immediately from the game and also be given a minimum of 3 games suspension. The Disciplinary Committee can also add to the suspension if the incident is deemed as a major infraction. If a second offence occurs, it will result in the removal of that player or Coach from the balance of the Championship.

PART FOUR – CANADIAN FAST PITCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARTICLE 1 – ORGANIZATION AND PARTICIPATION

1.1 Introduction

a) Softball Canada will organize and supervise Canadian Championships in categories determined by the Annual Meeting provided that a host organization is found to execute the championship.

b) Provincial/territorial associations in good standing with dues paid are eligible to send teams to a Canadian Championship.

c) Provincial/territorial associations must confirm their participation in the Canadian Championships by June 7th of the year of the event and must submit the registration fee for each registered team no later than June 30th.

1.2 Participants

a) Team Representation

i) Canadian Championship events will be hosted ranging from five to six days, with the maximum number of teams dependent on the host capacity.

(a) No province/territory be allowed more than 4 teams, including the Host Team.

(b) The defending champion does not count as one of the 4 provincial/territorial teams.

ii) If the number of teams intending to participate exceeds the host's capacity, entry will be awarded as follows:

(a) Initially to each province/territory in good standing, a host team and the previous year's champion when applicable.

(b) On a pro-rata system based upon provincial/territorial registrations in the respective categories.

iii) A host team is determined by the provincial/territorial association where the Canadian Championship is to be held. Said team must have participated (as a team) in the provincial/territorial competition played to determine the provincial/territorial representative to the Canadian Championship.

iv) If there is more than one team eligible to represent the host committee, the applicable provincial/territorial softball association shall determine the manner in which the host committee team is to be decided.

v) In all Canadian Championship categories, the previous year's champions are eligible to attend their respective Canadian Championship, subject to the following:

(a) They are responsible for all of their own expenses.

(b) At least seven (7) players from the championship roster are still on the current roster and in attendance. If the previous champion does not have seven (7) returning players, the provincial/territorial body can declare their Provincial Champion (or top seeded team) as Defending Champion.

(c) They follow Softball Canada's team and player registration procedures.

(d) They must compete in the Provincial/Territorial Competition which determines representation to the Canadian Championships for the current year. Applicable to Provincial/Territorial Associations without All–Star status.

b) Managers and Coaches

Managers and Coaches are eligible to participate in Canadian Championships under the following provisions:

i) They are signed to the current Softball Canada or Provincial/Territorial Team Registration Certificate of their team.

ii) The Head Coach is Competition - Introduction Certified in the National Coaching Certification Program and is in attendance at all games and on the team's bench. All Assistant Coaches are Competition - Introduction Trained at U20 and below categories.

iii) If the Head Coach is not fully Certified and in attendance at all games and on the team's bench, then all coaching staff will not be allowed on the field or in the coaches box at a Canadian Championship. If the Head Coach is Certified and in attendance at all games and on the team's bench, then the coaching staff (coach, assistant coaches, and manager) may go on the field. If an Assistant Coach is not Trained they will not be allowed on the field or in the coaches box.

a) A province/territory sending a team to a Canadian Championship without the Head Coach Competition - Introduction Certified will be fined $2,500 (Two Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars).

iv) Managers and Coaches may not participate as players unless they are so registered.

c) Playing Rosters

i) Roster Size

Team roster sizes will be as follows:

	Minimum	Maximum
Players (including pick-ups)	11	17
Coaches and Staff	1	5
Masters	11	20

ii) All–Star Rosters

a) Provinces/territories participating in Canadian Championships may be represented by an All–Star team provided the previous Annual Meeting has so ruled.

or

b) The following provinces/territories have been allowed All–Star status in all categories:
   1. Newfoundland & Labrador
   2. Nova Scotia
   3. New Brunswick
   4. Prince Edward Island
   5. Quebec
   6. Manitoba
   7. Saskatchewan
   8. Nunavut
   9. Northwest Territories
   10. Yukon
   11. Ontario (Senior, and U23 only)
   12. British Columbia (Senior, U20 Male and U23)
   13. Alberta (Senior, and U23)

iii) Affiliated Team Representatives

When no designation occurs, representatives must use their affiliated rosters.

iv) National Team Player Additions

A provincial/territorial team representative may add players to replace National Team athletes who are unable to participate due to National Team activities providing that:

a) Players have signed a Softball Canada or Provincial/Territorial Team Registration Certificate by the registration date with the province/territory seeking to pick them up.
b) Approval to pick up these players is received from their provincial/territorial association.
c) The players are eligible for Canadian Championship play.
d) The pick-ups are made by the end of the coaches/managers meeting at the Canadian Championship and have Provincial/Territorial written approval.

v) Player Additions

A provincial/territorial team representative may add up to 3 players providing that:

a) Players have signed a Softball Canada or Provincial/Territorial Team Registration Certificate by the registration date with the province/territory seeking to pick them up.
b) Approval to pick up these players is received from their provincial/territorial association.
c) The players are eligible for Canadian Championship play.
d) The pick-ups are made by the end of the coaches/managers meeting at the Canadian Championship and have Provincial/Territorial written approval.

vi) Coaches Additions

A provincial/territorial representative may add a coach or manager providing that:

a) Coaches/managers must have signed a Softball Canada or Provincial/Territorial Team Registration Certificate by the official registration date within the province/territory seeking to pick them up.

b) Approval to pick up these coaches is received from their provincial/territorial associations.

c) The coaches are eligible for Canadian Championship play.

d) The pick–ups are made by the end of the coaches/managers meeting at the Canadian Championship and have Provincial/Territorial written approval.

e) The total number of signed coaches and managers does not exceed five (5).

vii) Additions Due to Injury

In the event that a player is injured while participating in a Softball Canada National Team activity and unable to participate in a Canadian Championship, the province/territory so handicapped will be allowed a replacement or pick-up subject to the following considerations:

a) Where applicable, the injured player must have been on the roster of the provincial/territorial championship team.

b) The replaced player will not be eligible for any of the Canadian Championship.

c) The player picked up must meet all existing eligibility requirements.

1.3 Penalties for Non–Participation and Late Entry

a) A province/territory withdrawing a team(s) after the June 7th deadline will forfeit their registration fee and be fined an amount equal to $1000.00. Any withdrawal after July 15th will result in a fine of $2000.00. This penalty will be equally divided between Softball Canada and the Host.

b) A province/territory withdrawing from a Canadian Championship before completing their schedule will be fined $1000.00 that will be equally divided between Softball Canada and the Host.

c) A province/territory registering a team after the June 7 deadline will be assessed a late fee of $500.00 to be paid immediately upon notification.

d) Failure of a team to appear in any Canadian Championship game shall result in that team being suspended for the remainder of the championship and will be assessed a $1,000.00 fine and disciplinary action reviewed by the Directors of Softball Canada.

e) Host to receive their portion of fines no later than September 30 of the year of event.

ARTICLE 2 – TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

2.1 Tournament Format

a) Qualifying Round

i) That Softball Canada will execute various formats at the Canadian Championships depending on the number of teams that are participating in a championship, the length of the event and the number of diamonds that are available. Softball Canada will maintain a minimum of 6 scheduled games in all formats.

ii) Event formats may include round robin pool play, modified pool play or multiple seeding rounds to determine Championship and other placement rounds.

b) Championship Round

i) In all championships, a modified version of the "Page System" will be used.

ii) In championships with 7, 8 or 9 teams, 6 teams will play in the championship round. The top 2 teams will have ***2*** "lives" and the next ***4*** teams will have a single "life". In championships with 10 or more teams, 8 teams will play in the championship round. The top 4 teams will have 2 "lives" and the next 4 teams will have a single "life".

iii) In championships with 10 or more teams, the format will be determined based on number of teams, length of the event and diamond availability. If the 8 team format is used, the top 4 teams will have 2 "lives" and the next 4 teams will have a single "life".

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;

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;

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

iv) Least (fewest) amount of runs scored against in all games;

v) Total runs scored in all games;

vi) Positions will be settled by a coin toss.

d) Tiebreaker Games

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.

2.2 Model Draws

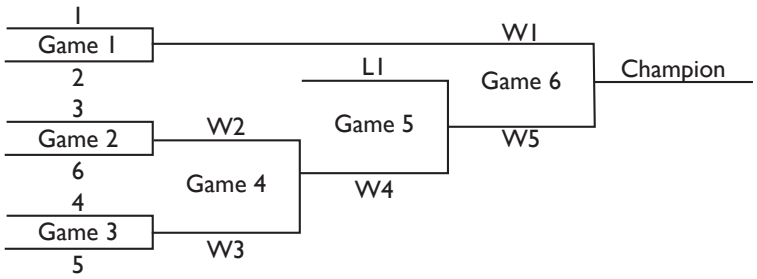
a) Qualifying Round (Two Pools)

i) Seeding of teams in each section will be determined by the Softball Canada National Office.

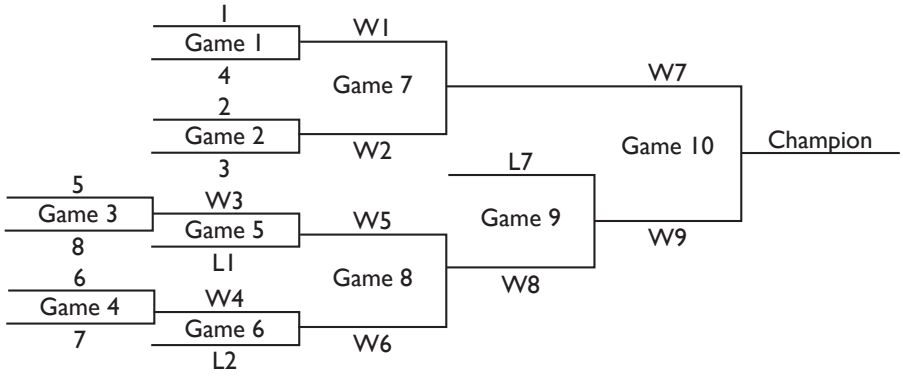
ii) Where there are 2 teams from the same province/territory, they will be in opposite sections.

b) Championship Round

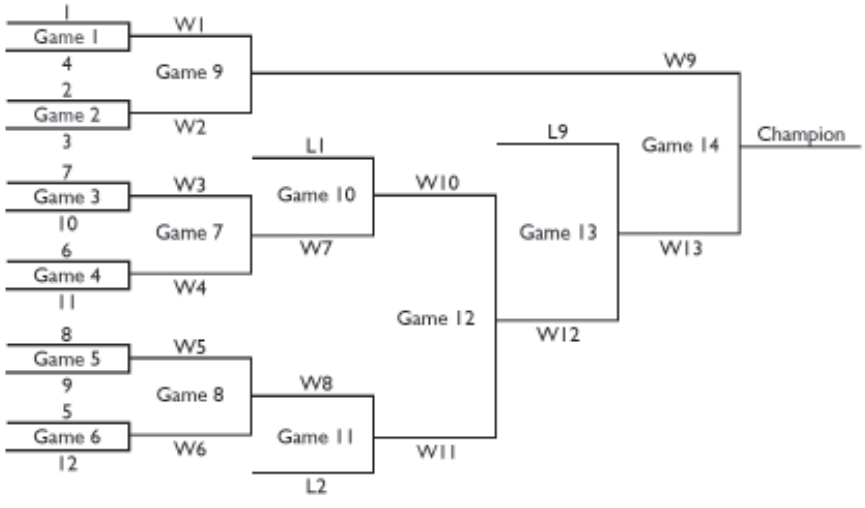
Six Team Playoff



Eight Team Playoff



Twelve Team Playoff



2.3 Scheduling

a) In the qualifying round, the host and provincial team will be allowed a daily prime time game.

b) A minimum of two hours will be scheduled between game starts.

c) Softball Canada is responsible for rescheduling games, if necessary.

d) No protests may be made on the rescheduling of games.

2.4 Unfinished Championships

If for any reason, any Canadian Championship cannot be finished, the following formula shall be applied to determine final standings and medal awards:

NOTE: the team that is awarded the gold medal will be eligible to compete next year as the Defending Champion providing all criteria of a defending champion is met.

a) If the qualifying round cannot be completed, medals will be awarded on the basis of the standings at that time.

b) If the qualifying round is completed and no games played in the double life section of the championship round, the qualifying round standings shall be used to award medals.

c) If games 1 and 2 of the championship round have been played, the "A" side finalists will receive the gold and silver medals, with the gold going to the team finishing higher in the qualifying round. The bronze medal will go to whichever of the remaining "B" side teams finished highest in the qualifying round.

d) If after game 7 (game 5 in six team playoff), the "A" side final, and before game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff), the winner of game 7 (game 5 in six team playoff) will receive the gold medal and the loser the silver medal. The bronze medal will go to whichever of the remaining "B" side teams finished higher in the qualifying round.

e) If after game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff), the gold medal will go to the winner of game 7 (game 5 in six team playoff), the silver medal to the winner of game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff), and the bronze medal to the loser of game 9 (game 7 in six team playoff).

f) The final scheduled game of the championship is complete if at least five (5) innings have been played should the game not be finished. (Note: In this situation if the home team is leading after 4½ innings of play, the game would be considered to have completed 5 innings of play.)

2.5 Awards

a) A team trophy will be awarded to the winning team of any Canadian Championship tournament.

b) A team trophy will be awarded to the runner–up in all Canadian Championships.

c) When medals are awarded (for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners), no more than 22 will be provided.

d) Except for the "Top Player of the Championship Round", all individual awards are based on the qualifying round(s).
   i) Recipients of these awards can be announced prior to the start of the championship round.
   ii) These awards should be presented between games C1 and C2 of the Championship Round as time permits.

e) In order for players to qualify for individual awards, the following will apply:

   At bat: A player must have at least 2 plate appearances times the number of games the team has played, rounded to the highest whole number

   In the circle: A pitcher must have pitched in 10 innings or more.

f) Teams travelling by vehicle and participating in the Bronze Medal game shall have the option of having the medal presentation immediately following the game. The team must declare they want this option when submitting their line-up sheet to the Game Control Official, 30 minutes prior to game time.

2.6 Official Softball

a) The official softball to be used at all Canadian Championships will be determined by the Directors of Softball Canada.

b) The official and exclusive softball for the Fast Pitch Canadian Championships will be as follows:
   i) All male Canadian Fast Pitch Championships will use the Rawlings K-Master C120YCC (COR 47).
   ii) All female Canadian Fast Pitch Championships will use the Rawlings Red Dot PX2RYLC (COR 47).

2.7 Dress and Equipment

a) Uniforms
   i) All players participating in a Canadian Championship must play in identical uniforms.

      The Softball Canada representative in consultation with the tournament Umpire–in–Chief shall judge the acceptability of uniforms. Players unacceptably uniformed will be dealt with as follows:

      a) If possible, a player will be warned before a game appearance.
      b) A player participating in a game will be instructed to immediately correct the uniform deficiency.
      c) A player failing to correct the deficiency will be ejected from the game.

   ii) Coaches appearing on the field must wear uniforms identical (similar) to the players or any combination of dress shorts, slacks or track pants and shirts as near to the team colours as possible in all categories and Coaches' footwear must be completely closed in (no sandals, crocs or similar footwear permitted). Both coaches are required to be dressed in similar fashion.

EXCEPTION: In the U23 Men's and Men's categories no shorts are allowed.

If, in the judgement of the Softball Canada official representative, the coach or manager's uniform is not to the representative's satisfaction, this coach or manager shall not be permitted to coach.

iii) All players appearing on a game sheet must wear a uniform number on the back of their uniform shirt/sweater. NO number may be repeated.

iv) At all Fast Pitch Canadian Championships, each team must have at least two sets of uniform tops (one dark coloured and one light coloured). The home team will wear their dark coloured uniform. The away team will wear their light coloured uniform. If a team fails to wear the proper uniform colour, they will lose the game.

b) Masks, Throat Protector and Helmet

At ALL Fast Pitch Canadian Championships, the catcher while receiving warm–up pitches prior to and during a game, must wear their mask, throat protector and helmet.

c) Double Base

The Double Base (Safe–base TM system) will be used at first base for all Canadian Championships.

d) Bat Compression Test

Bat compression testing will be conducted at ***all*** Men's Canadian Championships on an annual basis. Failure to meet the bat compression test will result in the bat being an illegal bat and not permitted for use at the Canadian Championships. Bats approved for use will be marked, and any bat used that is not so marked will be considered an illegal bat.

Note - The protocol that will be followed to determine whether bats are suitable for play at the Canadian Championships will be available on the Softball Canada website. All bats will be compression tested to the current WBSC standards. If the bat passes compression testing, it will be approved for Canadian Championship play regardless of certification stamp(s).

2.8 Mixed Orthodox Rules

a) There shall be no more than six players of either gender on the field and in the batting order at any time, nor no fewer than three. The offensive and defensive components when using a DP shall count as one player and shall be of the same gender. They may play in any position including pitching.

b) Substitutions must be male for male and female for female unless substituting to replace a gender in excess of the minimum three.

c) Metal cleats are not allowed.

d) Absolutely no slingshot, sidearm or submarine pitching is to be allowed. Legal pitches will be either a figure eight or bowling ball style.

ARTICLE 3 – GAME PROCEDURES

3.1 The Game

a) Home Team

i) In the Qualifying Round, home team will be determined by a coin toss at the Coaches/Managers meeting prior to the start of the championship.

NOTE: Teams not represented at the Coaches/Managers meeting will not have choice of inning.

ii) In the next round of play, Home teams will be determined by the previous round standings, the higher placing team will have a choice of inning.

a) If two or more divisions were in the previous round, the highest placed team from the division pairings will have choice of inning in the first game.

b) In subsequent games, the higher ranked team of all divisions (of the previous round) combined will have choice of inning.

c) If teams of all divisions combined (of the previous round) are ranked equal, a coin toss will determine the higher placing team.

EXCEPTION: In the Championship Game, if there is only one undefeated team in the Championship Round, that team will have choice of inning (i.e., home or away).

b) Game Length

In all Canadian Championship games, 7 innings will constitute a legal game, except if tied after 7 innings, it must be continued until a winner is declared.

EXCEPTION: Softball Canada Canadian Championship Supervisors can shorten games in the qualifying and championship round to 5 innings where weather threatens the completion of the Championship. The Championship game will be 7 innings except in the case where Playing Rule Rule 1.2.4 applies.

c) Game Interruptions

If for any reason a Canadian Championship game is interrupted prior to the completion of an official game, the game shall resume at the exact point in which it left off. (Includes number of outs, count on batter, etc.)

d) Tie Breaking

i) The tie breaking procedure used in extra inning games shall be applied in all Canadian Championship games except the final championship game (i.e., C10). See Fast Pitch Rule 1.2.1 c) of the Softball Canada Official Rule Book.

ii) The procedure will come into effect after 7 innings have been played.

3.2 Protests

a) The Protest Committee for all Canadian Championships shall consist of three (3) people selected by the Softball Canada Supervisor as outlined below:

i) the Softball Canada Supervisor or Assistant Supervisor.

ii) the Umpire In Chief or Deputy Umpire in Chief.

iii) an individual appointed by the Softball Canada Supervisor.

b) All game play protests must be made at the time of the play in question (i.e., before the next pitch). The home plate umpire must announce the outcome of the protest.

c) There shall be no protests on:

- the rescheduling of games.
- the contents of a line–up card.

d) Upon arrival of the Protest Committee, the protesting team will supply the committee with the protest fee of $100 (cash or certified cheque). Failure to do this will nullify the protest and the game shall continue immediately. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned after the game.

3.3 Smoking and/or Liquor Prohibitions

a) No smoking, vaping, liquor and/or other recreational impairment inducing substances shall be allowed within 100 feet of the benches or on the playing field area.

b) The offending person(s) will be given one warning and the team manager shall be advised that the warning has been given. A second incident will lead to the ejection from the game.

3.4 Discipline

If there is an incident on the field of play including foul territory that causes the players on the bench to join into the altercation, then all involved players will be ejected immediately from the game and also be given a minimum of 3 games suspension. The Disciplinary Committee can also add to the suspension if the incident is deemed as a major infraction. If a second offence occurs, it will result in the removal of that player or Coach from the balance of the Championship.

PART FIVE – UMPIRES AT CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARTICLE 1 – SELECTION PROCESS

1.1 Selection

a) The National Director of Umpires of Softball Canada shall select umpires for Canadian Championships using the following procedure:

i) They shall receive nominations from the provincial/ territorial association and its Umpire–in–Chief by May 1 of the Championship year.

ii) They shall determine that the nominated umpire:

a) Is a registered affiliate umpire.

b) Has been affiliated nationally during the preceding two years.

c) Has been evaluated at a provincial/territorial tournament by the association's Umpire–in–Chief during the year prior to their nomination. This evaluation must accompany the nomination.

d) If nominated for a Slo–Pitch Canadian Championship, is qualified and experienced in Slo-Pitch.

1.2 Right of Refusal

The National Director of Umpires of Softball Canada shall have the right to refuse a provincial/territorial umpire nomination if that umpire has attended a previous Canadian Championship.

ARTICLE 2 – REGULATIONS

2.1 Umpires working in Canadian Championships must wear the uniform and follow established written guidelines as outlined by Softball Canada.

a) The rules and regulations for Umpires-in-Chief at Canadian Championships must be defined in writing (to ensure proper procedures are followed at all Canadian Championships), and must be made available to all concerned prior to the staging of the Canadian Championships.

PART SIX – SOFTBALL CANADA HALL OF FAME

ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE

The Softball Canada Hall of Fame exists to honour those individuals and teams who have served and represented fast pitch, orthodox and slo-pitch softball. Prolonged and meritorious performances while a member of Softball Canada at the national and international level will be recognized.

ARTICLE 2 – SUPERVISION AND CONTROL

The supervision and control of the Softball Canada Hall of Fame shall be under the Board of Directors of Softball Canada, and administered by a committee hereunder called "The Committee".

ARTICLE 3 – THE COMMITTEE

The Committee shall consist of three (3) members from the Board of Directors, appointed by the President of Softball Canada.

ARTICLE 4 – MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

a) The Committee shall accept nominations by April 1, study the nominations based on the established criteria, and make a decision as to the acceptance or non-acceptance of each nomination to the Hall of Fame.

b) The selections must be approved by the Board of Directors of Softball Canada.

ARTICLE 5 – FINANCES

a) The cost of operating the Hall of Fame shall be borne by Softball Canada.

b) Expenses of the individuals being inducted to Softball Canada's "Hall of Fame" at an Annual Meeting, will be covered by Softball Canada. Expenses would include meals, travel and accommodation.

ARTICLE 6 – NOMINATIONS

a) Nominations may originate from a Provinical/Territorial Association member, from the Board of Softball Canada, or from a team, club or other softball organization. Where the nomination is from a team, club or other softball organization, the nominations must have the support of the provincial/territorial softball governing body where the nominee was involved.

b) Written nominations must be accompanied by documents covering in as great detail as possible, the athletic accomplishments or the service record or both, of the person(s) nominated (e.g. newspaper clippings). The claimed accomplishments or service record shall be supported by documentary evidence where there is any possibility of doubt.

c) Nominations must be accompanied by one or more photographs of the nominee(s). In the case of an athlete, if possible, an action picture from the athlete's competing days. In the case of a sportsman/woman, it shall be a suitable pose from their active service days.

d) Nominations must be in the hands of the Committee by April 1 for consideration that year.

e) Successful nominees for the Hall of Fame will be inducted at the Annual Meeting of Softball Canada. All applicants approved by the Committee shall be forwarded for final approval to the Board of Directors of Softball Canada with a recommendation for enrollment in the Hall of Fame.

ARTICLE 7 – GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for nomination, the individual must have been a Canadian citizen or permanent resident during the period for which outstanding performance/service is claimed.

Except in extraordinary circumstances, and with the exception of the Sports Builders category, individuals must be retired from active competition at the national and international level.

ARTICLE 8 – SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

a) Athletes
   i) Have compiled an outstanding record at national competitions (Canadian Championships and/or Canada Summer Games) over a period of at least seven (7) years; or
   ii) Have been a significant contributor at recognized major international competitions (ex. Border Battle, World Championships, Pan American Games and/or Olympic Games) over a period of at least five (5) years.

b) Coaches
   i) Have coached with distinction at national competitions (Canadian Championships and/or Canada Summer Games) over a period of at least seven (7) years; or
   ii) Have coached with distinction at recognized major international competitions (ex. Border Battle, World Championships, Pan American Games and/or Olympic Games) over a period of at least five (5) years.
   iii) Have made notable contributions to the development of coaching in Canada.

c) Officials
   i) Have officiated and/or supervised in at least seven (7) Canadian Championships; or
   ii) Have officiated and/or supervised in at least two (2) recognized major international competitions (ex. Border Battle, World Championships, Pan American Games and/or Olympic Games).
   iii) Have made notable contributions to the development of umpiring in Canada.

d) Sports Builders
   i) Have served Softball Canada with distinction nationally or internationally for at least five (5) years; and/or
   ii) Have made significant contributions to the game for at least ten (10) years at the provincial/territorial level; and
   iii) Have performed the above services in an exemplary manner.

e) Teams
   i) A club or national team that has represented Canada and distinguished itself in recognized international competition (ex. Border Battle, World Championships, Pan American Games and/or Olympic Games); or
   ii) A club team that has won at least three (3) Canadian Championships within a five year period. When reviewing this accomplishment, the committee must be comfortable that a substantial core of players have remained with the team throughout the period.

   NOTE: The Selection Committee will not consider club teams with players who are still actively competing at the national and/or international level.

f) Trailblazers

   An individual or a team that has compiled outstanding accomplishments or made significant contributions to softball in Canada at the national or international level prior to Softball Canada's foundation in 1965.

ARTICLE 9 – RECOGNITION

Each successful nominee will receive:

a) An engraved framed certificate;

b) An acrylic trophy;

c) A Hall of Fame pin.

ARTICLE 10 – REGISTER

A Hall of Fame register shall be kept by the Softball Canada head office for the purpose of recording names, citations, photographs (or negatives) or other material considered of value for records of all persons enrolled in the Hall of Fame.

ARTICLE 11 – HALL OF FAME CENTRE

The Hall of Fame plaque, with all inductees' names will be displayed at the Softball Canada office.

ARTICLE 12 – ANNUAL LIMIT

The annual limit shall be set at a maximum of five (5) selections, not including the Trailblazer category.

Up to five (5) entrants to the Softball Canada Hall of Fame may be named each year. Except in special circumstances, nominations will only be considered for inductees from the region hosting the Annual Meeting that year. Trailblazer may be inducted any time at Softball Canada's discretion.

NOTE: In special circumstances, the Board of Directors in conjunction with the Hall of Fame Committee, can add additional members beyond the annual limit of five (5) inductees.

PART SEVEN – AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE 1 – AMENDMENTS

a) Amendments to the Special Operating Rules (S.O.R.) of Softball Canada may be made as follows:

   i) By majority vote at the Annual Meeting.

   ii) By a two-third (2/3) majority vote at a special or extraordinary general meeting.

   iii) By a unanimous vote of the Directors and a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the provinces/territories.

   iv) Approved changes to the Special Operating Rules, excluding Part Six – Softball Canada Hall of Fame and the Special Olympics Canada Rules, may not be reversed or changed at a subsequent Annual Meeting or Special General Meeting prior to the approved change being implemented for at least a period of three (3) years.

b) Annual Meeting Amendments

   A motion to amend the Association's Special Operating Rules (S.O.R.) will be considered at an Annual Meeting provided it was:

i) Received in writing or email by the National Office by October 1.

ii) Emailed by the national office to all Annual Meeting delegates at least twenty (20) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

When a notice of motion to amend the S.O.R. has not been served as provided for in the above manner, it may still be considered provided that two-thirds (2/3) of those present are in favour of having the matter discussed on the floor.

c) Special and Extraordinary Meeting Amendments

A notice of motion to amend the Association's Special Operating Rules will be considered at a special or extraordinary meeting provided it was circulated to the delegates at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

When a notice of motion to amend the S.O.R. has not been properly served, it may still be considered provided that there is unanimous agreement amongst those delegates voting in favour of having the matter discussed on the floor.

d) Board of Directors' Amendments

In an emergency situation, the Directors of the Association may make amendments to the Special Operating Rules provided that:

i) There is unanimous support of the amending motion by the Directors.

ii) The provinces/territories are polled within seven (7) days of the Directors' decision and two-thirds (2/3) of the provinces/territories are in support of the Directors' decision.

e) The enactment, repeal or amendment of any Special Operating Rule shall go into effect as follows:

i) In the case of those made at any general meeting, immediately following the meeting.

ii) In the case of those made by Directors, immediately after two-thirds (2/3) support of the provinces/territories has been obtained.