



Winter League Regulations

UPDATED MARCH 23

WINTER LEAGUE

COMPETITION DATES

April 15th – Final Series April 27 at BISP

ENTRY FEES

The entry fee \$880 per team (GST inclusive)

DUE DATES:

Deposit (\$220)	Monday April 2
Proposed Team Roster	Monday April 2
Final Team Roster	Monday April 9
Balance of Levy (\$660)	Monday April 9

PRIZE MONEY

Prizemoney will be paid into a club/association bank account. **Monies will not be paid into a personal account**

Champions:	\$800
Runners-up	\$400

Please note: If a club/association can supply Softball New South Wales with a tax invoice, the cash prizes will be as follows:

Champions:	\$880
Runners up:	\$440

WITHDRAWAL FROM WINTER LEAGUE

Team contacts will be advised of all teams entering the League by Thursday 4, Teams will have until **Monday April 9** to withdraw their team without penalty.

FINAL SERIES

If less than 10 teams enter, a round robin will be played with a final series to be played at the conclusion of the round robin.

A finals series will be played to determine the winner of the League. The top 4 teams will play for the Winter League title. Teams 5-8 will play for the Plate.

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REGULATIONS

1. THE COMPETITION

- 1.1 The Softball NSW Winter League will be conducted under the auspices of, and governed by, the Rules and Regulations of Softball NSW.
- 1.2 The Winter League will be conducted in two (2) divisions Male & Female.
- 1.3 The Winter League will be conducted at approved affiliate venues and the NSW Softball Centre.
- 1.4 **Games may be scheduled Midweek, Friday nights, Saturday, Saturday nights and Sunday. Games may be scheduled at Country Venues.**
PLEASE NOTE: IF COUNTRY AFFILIATES ARE GRANTED A 'HOST VENUE' ALL TEAMS ARE EXPECTED TO TRAVEL.
- 1.5 The draw will be made available to all participating teams prior to the start of the competition.

2. ADMINISTRATION

- 2.1 The Softball NSW Winter League Committee will be responsible for the administration, development and promotion of the Winter League.
- 2.2 The Softball NSW Office will provide administrative support for the Winter League competition.
- 2.3 The Winter League Committee will ensure that a SNSW Representative is in attendance at each game.
- 2.4 **All teams must be registered with an incorporated club within their association and have a bank account in that clubs name.**

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Every participant in Winter League must be:
 - (a) A current registered member of a Softball NSW fully Affiliated Association;

OR

 - (b) A current registered member of a state affiliated with Softball Australia. An interstate team member (player/official) shall be required to pay a competition fee of thirty-three dollars (\$33) per team member through a Softball NSW "Registration for Interstate Player/Official" form and a "Softball Australia Interstate Permit' Player/Official" form **(to be completed via the Sports TG database)**. Players are to be permitted by 5.00 on Thursday prior to the first game in which the player/official participates.

- 3.2 Male and Female Under 19 & Under 23 players who were selected to play for any state/territory in the **2018** Softball Australia National Championships are **INELIGIBLE** to play Winter League.
- 3.3 Males and Females who have played in an Open Softball Australia National Championship (ie for any State or Territory) or any rounds of the Gilley's in the past **5 years** are ineligible to play Winter League.
- 3.4 Winter League – Players must be at least fifteen (15) years of age as at December 31 in the year of the competition.
- 3.5 Teams can include 2 players over the age of 35 (in the year of the competition) the remainder of the team must be **35 years or under**.
- 3.6 Interstate players will be limited **to 4 per team**. (If a team from another state or territory has been granted permission to enter the League this rule does not apply).
- 3.7 **Notwithstanding the above eligibility criteria, the Winter League Committee remains the final arbiter with regard to the eligibility of all players.**
- 3.8 Players and Officials must be involved with only *one* team in a division of the competition.
- 3.9 Participants in Winter League are not required to transfer their registered Affiliation.
- 3.10 All participants must be included on a team roster prior to involvement in any Winter League game.
- 3.11 Any woman who is pregnant must seek professional medical advice regarding her participation in this competition. A copy of this advice is to be provided to the team Head Coach or Co-Ordinator. Players must notify their team management of the fact that they are pregnant immediately upon becoming aware of such circumstances.
- 3.12 **WWCC No:** Working With Children Check Number are required for all team officials.

4. TEAM ROSTERS

- 4.1 Additions to team rosters will be accepted 1 hour prior to the teams scheduled game/s on any day for player/official participates. This person must be a registered member of a full affiliate of Softball NSW or a current registered member of the Australian Softball Federation through an Inter-state Softball Association. The player/official must be in full team uniform to be able to participate in any game. The registration status of the player/official will be checked by the Softball NSW office. Should a registration discrepancy be revealed the team shall incur a fine of **\$1100 and a forfeit declared**. The addition to roster form needs to be handed to the Venue Representative.

- 4.2 Winter League teams must register a minimum of twelve (12) players and a minimum of three (3) officials. Coach, Co-Ordinator and Statistician, must be included on each team sheet submitted prior to the commencement of the competition. A maximum of eighteen (18) players can be registered. **Players cannot be deregistered and replaced.**
- 4.3 All Coaches (including Assistant Coaches) involved with each team in Winter League must have at least Level 3 coaching accreditation. Any player/official who takes the diamond to coach must be at least Level 3 accredited.
- 4.4 Scorers for each team in the Winter League must have at least **Level 2 Scoring Accreditation** and must be able to complete basic statistics. (See section 8)
- 4.5 Winter League teams must nominate an umpire who will be assigned to Winter League games by SNSWU for the duration of the competition (**this includes Grand Final Series**). The name of the nominated umpire(s) must be submitted with the team entry.

If a team nominates 2 umpires who are available each week then the team levy will be reduced by \$200. If the umpires do not make themselves available for any week then the team will be invoiced for the \$200 and the regular fine referred to in 9.1 will be apply.

See Section 9 – Umpires for complete details of Umpiring commitments and responsibilities.

5. MATCH BALLS

- 5.1 It is the responsibility of each Winter League team to provide Easton Optic 888 Yellow leather match balls (**cor 0.47**) for each game. These balls may be used as long as they are accepted by the Plate Umpire.

6. VENUES

- 6.1 A SNSW representative (or Appointee) will be in attendance at the affiliate venues to provide assistance with the running of the event.
- 6.2 Affiliate venues are required to have an Affiliate Venue Representative available to liaise with the SNSW Representative. This representative cannot be a member of any Winter League team participating on the day.
- 6.3 The League Representative (or Appointee) shall chair the League Tribunal (if required). The League Tribunal shall also consist of the U.I.C. and the Affiliate Venue Representative.

For matches at the NSW Softball Centre, the Tribunal (if required) will be chaired by the League Representative (or Appointee), and additionally consist of the U.I.C. and one (1) other member appointed by the League Representative (or Appointee)

- 6.4 Affiliate venues must provide team benches and shelters on every diamond.
- 6.5 *Affiliate venues are required to provide an accredited first aid representative(s) to be in attendance 1 hour prior to the first game until the completion of the last game. Games will not commence/continue if there is no first aid representative in attendance.*
- 6.6 All proceeds from food and drink concessions or fundraising activities by the host affiliate associated with the League games will remain the property of the Affiliate hosting the games.
- 6.7 The SNSW Representative (or Appointee) - in consultation with the Affiliate Venue Representative - will be the sole arbiter on matters pertaining to the conduct of Winter League games on their rostered day.
- 6.8 Appeals regarding any Affiliate Venue Representative's decision must be received in writing by the Softball NSW Office within two (2) working days of the decision being handed down. A fifty five dollar (\$55) fee must be included with all appeals submitted. This fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

7. RESULT SHEETS – LINE UP PADS

- 7.1 One Line up pad for the season for each team will be supplied by Softball NSW. The line up sheets containing a list of all players and officials must be completed by both teams at least ten (10) minutes prior to the start of the game. One copy is to be given to the plate umpire and one copy to the opposing team. ***Please ensure that the team name and date is printed on top of the line up sheet.***
- 7.2 The family and given name of every participant must be legibly printed on the line up sheet. No nicknames or initials are permitted.
- 7.3 At the conclusion of the game the final game score shall be entered on both of the line up sheets and signed by the Plate Umpire. The two line up sheets from each team then needs to be stapled together. The Plate Umpire shall return the line up sheets to the UIC.
- 7.4 The Affiliate Venue Representative shall forward all line up sheets to the SNSW Office within five (5) working days of the games. Game scores must be submitted within 24 hours via email to events@softball.net.au
- 7.5 For games held at NSW Softball Centre, the Venue Representative shall leave all line up sheets in the Winter League Box for collection by the Softball NSW Events Co-Ordinator.

8.0 STATISTICIANS

- 8.1 Scorers for each team in the Winter League must have at least **Level 2 scoring accreditation** and have access to a computer and be able to complete stats on an excel package that will be provided.

- 8.2 Scorers with each team are required to complete the Statistics Sheets (pitching/batting/fielding) provided by the Softball NSW Selection/Winter League Committees for every game for their team.
- 8.3 These sheets are required to be emailed to the SNSW Office by the Wednesday following each game played. **One (1) competition point will be deducted for each set of Statistical Sheets not submitted by the due day.**

9. UMPIRES

- 9.1 Winter League teams must nominate an umpire who will be assigned to Winter League games by SNSWU for the duration of the competition.

The name of the nominated umpire(s) must be submitted with the team entry information.

The nominated umpire must commit to doing games as assigned during the competition on behalf of the team. More than one umpire may be nominated.

Should a team's nominated umpire not be available to umpire on any day of the competition it is the responsibility of the team and umpire to organise a replacement of similar or senior standard. The Umpires' Coordinator must be advised of the change, including the contact details of the replacement umpire (name, email address and mobile number) before 3pm on the Wednesday before the day of competition.

TEAMS THAT FAIL TO SUPPLY AN UMPIRE WILL BE FINED \$55 FOR EACH ALLOCATED GAME THE UMPIRE IS NOT IN ATTENDANCE.

The Winter League Committee has set the qualifications for umpires registered on Winter League team sheets as:

Umpires	Females	<u>1 per team Level 2 Accredited</u> – Minimum age 15 years
	Males	<u>1 per team Level 2 Accredited</u> – Minimum age 15 years

Please Note: Umpires are required to remain at the host venue for the full day, host association to provide the balance of umpires.

- 9.2 The Affiliate Venue will be responsible for providing an Umpire-in-Chief (U.I.C)
- (a) Should an Affiliate Venue not have a suitable qualified umpire to act as a UIC, the SNSWU will identify an appropriate umpire
- (b) Should a UIC have to travel outside the Sydney Metropolitan area, travel and accommodation costs will be paid by the Winter League Committee.
- (c) The Winter League Umpiring Co-ordinator will provide the Venue UIC with the Umpire Allocation Spreadsheets and list of appointed umpires for the round by 5.00 pm on the Thursday prior to the day(s) competition. These sheets are to be completed and returned by 5.00 pm on the Wednesday following the competition round.

- 9.3 The SNSWU will determine the suitability of ALL umpires nominated to officiate at Affiliate Venues. If the nominated umpire is deemed unsuitable by the SNSW UA the team will be asked to find a suitable replacement.
- 9.4 Umpires are required to report at least sixty (60) minutes prior to the first scheduled game time.
- 9.5 Protests will be dealt with on the spot by the Affiliate Venue U.I.C.

10. INCLEMENT WEATHER

- 10.1 If it is necessary to cancel games prior to a weekend, this will be done by the SNSW Events Co-Ordinator by 3.00pm on Friday. All team contacts will be notified of the decision by 7.00 pm on that day.
- 10.2 At Affiliate venues, it is the responsibility of the Affiliate Venue Representative in consultation with the Winter League Committee representative to make the final decision regarding the playing of games at their venue prior to 7.30am on the day of competition.
- 10.3 Affiliate Venue Representatives are responsible for notifying all teams competing at their venue of any cancellations by at least 7.30am on the day of competition.
- 10.4 Where teams are travelling in excess of 100 kilometres to a Venue they are required to inform the Affiliate Venue Representative on the Thursday prior to the competition games of their scheduled departure time.
- 10.5 Where teams are required to travel in excess of 100 kilometres to a Winter League Venue every effort must be made to determine the likelihood of games being played prior to the departure of the travelling teams.
- 10.6 It is the responsibility of the Venue Representative and the UIC to determine whether games will be played at the SNSW Softball Centre on the day of competition. This decision will be made at 7.00am at the Centre. All team contacts will be notified immediately of the decision.
- 10.7 Once a game commences the decision to suspend that game will be the responsibility of the plate umpire who may consult with the UIC.
- 10.8 Any game called off, or any game that does not commence due to inclement weather, will be declared a draw.

11. PLAYING RULES – General

- 11.1 All games shall be played in accordance with the current Softball Australia Rules as adopted by Softball NSW unless otherwise specified hereafter.
- 11.2 All games shall commence at the time specified in the draw unless delayed by the previous game. A minimum of thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed between double-header games.

- 11.3 If any team is not ready to play at the appointed time, this will result in forfeit to the non-offending team.
- 11.4 Any team that does not have the required number of players to begin or continue a game will forfeit to the non-offending team.
- 11.5 Uniforms are the responsibility of the team Co-Ordinator.

11.6 **JEWELLERY**

*Distracting Adornments – no exposed items, including jewellery, judged by the umpire to be distracting to opposing players may be worn or displayed. The umpire shall require the item to be removed or covered. Medical alert bracelets and/or necklaces, if deemed distracting shall be required to be taped to the body in such a manner that the medical alert information remains visible. **Please Note: The player will not be allowed to take the field if this rule is not adhered to.***

- 11.7 The first named team in the draw shall occupy first base bench and shall call the toss. Each team shall be entitled to five (5) minutes warm-up on the diamond prior to the scheduled starting time.
- 11.8 A DR may be used in any game for any baserunner provided it is made known prior to the commencement of the game **and** the name of the DR is entered in the DR position on the line up pad.
- 11.9 The DR may enter the game **once** in **each inning** to run for any baserunner.
- EXCEPTION:** the DR may run two times in an inning if one time is for the catcher.
- 11.10 The DR may not enter the game on defence **or** as a batter.
- 11.11 The DR maybe substituted for at any time by a substitute who has not yet been in the game, in accordance with the official rules of softball.
- 11.12 The DR substituted by a pinch runner as in Rule 11.10 may not return to the game.
- 11.13 The original DR may re-enter the game, once, in accordance with the official rules of Softball.
- 11.14 The penalty for an illegal DR is the ejection of both the Head Coach and the player in violation.
- 11.15 Should the catcher be on base after the defensive team makes the second out, he/she must be replaced by any eligible player who is not in the next four positions, ie bench player, DR etc.

12. PLAYING RULES

- 12.1 All games EXCEPT THE GRAND FINAL GAME shall be regulation or ninety (90) minute games, whichever occurs first. At "Time" the innings in progress will be played out.
Note i) a new innings will not commence in the last five (5) minutes.
Note ii) with five minutes or less to go, if the team second at bat has scored the 'go ahead run' the game will stop.
- 12.2 If, at the conclusion of a regulation game, the score is equal and the game time has not exceeded 90 minutes, the tie-breaker will commence at the beginning of the eighth (8th) inning. If a result has not been decided by the bottom of the ninth (9th) inning or at the conclusion of 90 minutes, (whichever occurs first) the game will be declared a draw.
- 12.3 At least twelve (12) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time the toss shall be taken by the team Co-ordinators/representatives.
- (a) The team batting first in the game has the first use of the diamond and its time shall expire seven (7) minutes prior to start time.
- (b) The second team warming up, time shall expire two (2) minutes prior to the start time.
- (c) The Home Plate Meeting shall occur two (2) minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- 12.4 **METAL CLEATS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN WINTER LEAGUE.**

13. UNIFORMS

- 13.1 No Softball NSW Uniforms are to be worn eg undershirts and helmets.
- 13.2 Batting helmets must all be the same colour ie if one white all white. No tape or bandage over logos. No NSW or Australian paraphernalia. ***Please Note: The player will not be allowed to take the field if these rules are not adhered to.***
- 13.4 All socks and belts must be of the one team colour, this also includes undershirts if worn.
- 13.3 Official's uniform must be team colours. **Jeans, in any form, will not be allowed to be worn by officials.**
- 13.5 The Winter League Committee has the ability to impose a fine or loss of points for any breaches of incorrect uniform.

14. EJECTION OF PLAYERS/OFFICIALS

- 14.1 Should any player/official be ejected from a game for any form of misconduct the umpire concerned shall submit a written report to the UIC immediately at the conclusion of the game in question.

- 14.2 Every player/official ejected from a game for any form of misconduct shall appear before a tribunal.
- 14.3 The UIC shall advise the Venue/Affiliate Venue Representative of the need to call a Tribunal Hearing.
- 14.4 The Venue/Affiliate Venue Representative shall advise the player/official **and** the umpire who ejected the participant of the time and place of the Tribunal Hearing which shall be conducted as close as possible to the end of the game in question.
- 14.5 The player/official who was ejected shall not be eligible to participate further in any Winter League game until they have appeared before a Winter League Tribunal.
- 14.6 The League Tribunal shall hear the umpire's account of the incident responsible for the participant's ejection and then the response from the player/official who was ejected or their nominated Advocate. Should the player/official or the umpire be under eighteen (18) years of age he/she must be accompanied by an adult.
- 14.7 The League Tribunal shall have the authority to impose one of the following:
- a) no further penalty, **OR**
 - b) reprimand the player/official, **OR**
 - c) suspend the player/official for any or all of the remaining games in the League season.
- 14.8 At the conclusion of any League Tribunal, the Venue/Affiliate Venue Representative shall record the result on the Ejection Form and leave it in the Winter League Box for collection by the SNSW Events Co-Ordinator. If this occurs at an affiliate venue the Ejection Form shall be forwarded by the Affiliate Venue Representative to SNSW on the Monday immediately following the fixture.
- 14.9 The venue representative shall notify the Softball NSW Events Coordinator of any suspensions prior to the next fixture (i.e. if a Tribunal occurs on Saturday notification is to be given to the Winter League Umpire's Co-ordinator prior to Sunday of the same weekend).
- 14.10 The Softball NSW Events Coordinator will notify all venue representatives of any suspensions prior to the next fixture.

15. WINTER LEAGUE POINTS

- 15.1 Points for round games will be allocated as follows:
- 3 Win
 - 2 Draw
 - 2 Inclement Weather/Cancellations
 - 1 Loss
 - 0 Forfeit

16. WINTER LEAGUE AWARDS

Game Points will allocated 3 2 1 to players for each game by the **opposing team**. At the end of the season points will be collated and an MVP will be awarded to **one** member of each team.

Teams who do not submit their voting within 48 hours will be penalised 1 point per game that the voting was not submitted.

17. DETERMINING TIED - FINAL PLACINGS

- 17.1 If two or more teams are tied on points, the team with the least runs against for the entire round robin shall take the higher ladder position.
- 17.2 If two teams are tied on points, the higher ladder position will be determined by the following:
1. runs against
 2. the team that won the first head to head game in the round robin
 3. should the head to head game be tied the teams shall play off to determine who takes the higher position.
- 17.3 If three teams are tied on points and runs against, the head-to-head results played between those three teams shall be considered. If one team has won more matches against the other two teams it is tied with, this team shall take the higher ladder position. The next two ladder positions would be decided as per 17.2
- 17.4 In the case that three or more teams are tied on points and runs against and the teams can't be separated by the head-to-head results in the round robin, the positions will be determined by the number of runs against in the head-to-head games between all teams which finished equal on points.
- 17.5 If these teams are still tied (three or more teams tied on points, runs against, can't be separated by head-to-head result and are tied on points and runs against) then the teams that are tied shall play off, in a series of games determined by the Winter League Committee, to determine final placings.

18.0 FORFEITS & PENALTIES

- 18.1 Payment of all fines imposed must be received at the Softball NSW office by 5.00pm on the Thursday following the game in question. Failure of a team to pay said fines by the time specified will result in the loss of all future game points until the payment is received. (Note: the lost points are NOT reinstated on payment of fine.)
- 18.2 Appeals must be submitted in writing no later than 3 days after the event/game. Any appeal received after 3 days will not be considered by the Committee.

Please Note: If a letter is submitted to the Winter League Committee asking to review the fine/penalty imposed, all fines must be paid by the specified deadline and if the fine/penalty is overturned a refund will be provided to the team in question.

- 18.3 A general fine of fifty five dollars (\$55) and the loss of three (3) points will be imposed on any team that forfeits any Winter League game. Specific fines may be imposed for forfeits as a result of breaches of rules and regulations. Please Note: This rule does not include a technical forfeit ie a player was injured and no substitute was available.
- 18.4 The participation of an unregistered/ineligible Winter League player/official will result in the forfeit of the game in which the unregistered/ineligible player/official participated, together with a fine of eleven hundred (\$1100) and loss of any points awarded for the game.
- 18.5 If an ejected player/official takes part in any game prior to appearing before a League Tribunal, this will automatically result in the forfeiture of all games in which the ejected player/official has participated. An eleven hundred dollar (\$1100) fine and a loss of six (6) competition points for each game in which the ejected player/official participated will be imposed.
- 18.6 Payment of the fine referred to in Rule 18.4 must be received by the SNSW office prior to the “ejected player/official” taking part in further Winter League games. Failure of a team to pay this fine by the time specified will result in the loss of all future game points until the payment is received. (Note: the lost points are NOT reinstated on payment of fine.)
- 18.7 Should a player/official who has been suspended by a League Tribunal take part in any game this will automatically result in the forfeiture of all games in which the suspended player/official has participated. A five hundred and fifty dollars (\$550) fine and a loss of six (6) competition points for each game in which the suspended player/official participated will be imposed.
- 18.8 A maximum of sixteen (16) players may be on the result card and participate in any one game. Should this number be exceeded the team at fault will forfeit to the non-offending team and incur a fifty five dollar (\$55) fine and a loss of three (3) competition points.
- 18.9 **Withdrawal from the Winter League Competition:** Should a team withdraw from the Winter League prior to the commencement of the competition all monies submitted in relation to the Winter League will be forfeited.

Prior to the commencement of the competition, any team failing to pay monies relating to the Winter League by the due date will automatically have their team withdrawn from the competition **AND** forfeit all monies paid to date.

Should a Team withdraw from the Winter League after the competition has commenced this will result in:

- nullification of all matches played and cancellation of all points awarded to opponents.
- forfeiture of all monies submitted; and
- a maximum fine of five hundred dollars (\$550) less the amount of any fines imposed (and paid) for forfeiture of previous games.

19. DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

- 19.1 The Plate Umpire shall suspend a game if the conditions are dangerous or unplayable. It is the responsibility of the Plate Umpire and does not require the UIC's consent.
- 19.2 The UIC and/or Venue/Affiliate Venue Representative may direct the Plate Umpire to suspend a game.
- 19.3 Once the Plate Umpire has suspended a game, the UIC and/or Venue/Affiliate Venue Representative may:
- resume that game if the conditions warrant or
 - abandon that game if the conditions remain dangerous or unplayable.
- 19.4 When any round game in progress is called off it shall be considered a regulation game provided 50% of allotted time has elapsed OR a minimum of three (3) innings has been played. Any game called off before such time shall be declared a draw.
- 19.5 Any game called off, that does not satisfy Rule 18.4, or any game that did not commence due to inclement weather, will be declared a draw.

20. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINAL SERIES - 2017

- 20.1 *Players must participate in at least **30%** of games (this includes any washed out games) to qualify for the final series. The percentage of games played will be 'rounded up'.*

21.0 FINAL SERIES

- 21.1 **The first team into the GRAND FINAL will have the choice of 'home or away'. If a team takes the option of 'batting first' they will be in the 1st base dugout.**
- 21.2 In the event that competition rounds are not completed, for the purpose of conducting a finals series and the awarding of prizes the criteria (number of matches played) will be:

That 50% of teams have played 50% of their scheduled games

- 21.3 All competitions will have a finals series.

If pools are played after a round robin the top 3 teams will form the upper pool to play for the title. The lower pool will be able to qualify for the plate final series.

The top 4 teams from the upper pool will contest the final series for the Winter League Title. The bottom 2 teams from the upper pool together with the top 2 teams from the lower pool will play for the Winter League Plate Title.

If there are no pools the playoffs format will be determined dependant on the number of teams entered.

- 21.4 All final series games, EXCLUDING THE GRAND FINAL GAME, shall be regulation or ninety (90) minute games, whichever occurs first. At "Time" the innings in progress shall be completed to a result. (See 12.1)
- 21.5 During a final series game if the final game score is a draw, this game will continue until a result is obtained with the Tie Breaker commencing at the beginning of the next inning.

22. FINALS SERIES - UNABLE TO BE PLAYED

- 22.1 In the event that games after the Round Robin has been completed and the Final Series may be unplayable the following will apply:

Unplayable Semi Final(s):

Team 1 through to Grand Final.
Teams 2 and 3 to play Preliminary Final
Team 4 drops out

Unplayable Preliminary Final:

Highest ranked team through to Grand Final

Unplayable Grand Final

JOINT WINNERS will be declared and the first and second place prize money will be SHARED EQUALLY

If the FINAL SERIES IS ABANDONED before any game is played, the winner shall be the winner of the preliminary rounds.

- 22.2 In the event that Pools were used in the Preliminary Rounds and all upper/lower pools games were not complete the following will apply:

The 2 teams from the upper pool will play in the League Finals
Semi Final - 1st Pool X vs 1st Pool Y (G1) & 2nd Pool X v 2nd Pool Y (G2)
Preliminary Final - Loser G1 v Winner G2 (G3)
Grand Final – Winner G1 v Winner G3

If the semi finals cannot be played the top 2 teams from each pool will play in the Grand Final.

If the FINAL SERIES IS ABANDONED the top team from each pool will be declared joint winners.

The 3rd and 4th placed teams from the each round robin pool will play for the Winter League Plate.

- 22.3 If any of the final series games, EXCLUDING THE GRAND FINAL GAME, are called off due to inclement weather and:
- (a) five (5) or more innings have been completed or the team second at bat has scored more runs than the other team in five (5) or more innings, the winner shall be the winner of this regulation game.

OR

- (b) fifty five percent (50%) of the time has elapsed, the winner shall be the team that has scored more runs in even innings, or if the team second at bat has scored more runs than the other team, the winner shall be the winner of this regulation game.

- 22.4 Should neither of the above clauses [22.3 (a), 22.3 (b)] be satisfied, the result will be determined according to ranking.

- 22.5 The Grand Final Game will be a regulation game. Should the score be equal at the end of seven (7) innings, the Tie Breaker will commence at the beginning of the eighth (8th) inning.

- 22.6 In the event of the GRAND FINAL GAME not being completed and,

- (a) five (5) or more innings have been completed or the team second at bat has scored more runs than the other team, the winner shall be the winner of this regulation game.

OR

- (b) If LESS THAN five (5) innings have been completed OR the score is tied at the end of five (5) or more completed innings JOINT WINNERS will be declared and first and second prize money WILL BE SHARED EQUALLY.

23. GENERAL

- 23.1 All correspondence pertaining to the Winter League should be forwarded to:

Softball NSW Inc.

Attention: Winter League

PO Box 210

ROOTY HILL NSW 2766

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30 am - 4.30 pm

Phone: 9677 4000

Fax: 9677 4040

Email: events@softball.net.au

- 23.2 All cheques pertaining to Winter League should be made payable to Softball NSW Inc.

23.3 All accounts must be settled through the Softball NSW Office. No monies will be accepted at Affiliate Venues.

24. DISCLAIMER

Notwithstanding the above rules and regulations, the Softball NSW Winter League Committee retains the right to rule on any matter not specifically covered by the these rules and to take action on decisions pertaining to the League subject to the right of appeal to the SNSW Board of Management.

25. MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

The Softball NSW is committed to ensuring that the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children are maintained at all times during their participation in activities run by the Softball NSW and its member bodies.

The Softball NSW aims to promote a safe environment for all children and to assist its staff and volunteers to recognise child abuse and neglect and follow the appropriate notification procedures when reporting abuse.

The development of child protection and intervention policy and guidelines for the NSW will assist in establishing coordinated strategies for dealing with the problem of child abuse and neglect in a responsible, effective and consistent manner. A main focus of the policy and guidelines is the prevention of child abuse in the sporting environment.

The policy and guidelines promote the care and protection of children participating in Softball and provide information and direction for employees, volunteers and members of the organisation.

The objectives of the Softball NSW Child Protection and Intervention Policy and Guidelines are to:

- Provide information and comprehensive guidelines relating to risk minimisation and reporting/notification procedures to assist staff and volunteers in dealing with all forms of child abuse.
- Provide direction to all staff and volunteers in relation to responsibilities arising from recent child protection legislation.
- Promote the principles of child protection and intervention adopted by the SNSW amongst staff, volunteers, coaches and parents of children participating in programs/competitions organised by SNSW.

The Softball NSW Child Protection Intervention Policy and Guidelines are applicable to all management and staff (paid, voluntary, permanent or casual) of the SNSW and its affiliated regional/local clubs.

Roles and responsibilities of sports administrators, coaches, volunteers and officials involved with Softball:

Administrators, coaches and officials often have a high level of contact with children in the sporting environment and play a major part in the successful operation of sporting activities.

They have a responsibility to:

- Be aware of the indicators of child abuse and how to recognise an abusive situation.

- Report any suspected cases of child abuse using the appropriate procedures.
- Know and understand the requirements placed on them by recent legislation, in relation to reporting child abuse and disclosing any child related convictions they may have.
- Be aware of the contents of the SNSW's Policy and Guidelines for Child Protection and intervention and how to effectively implement the strategies it contains.
- Recognise that they are in a position of power and influence over young children in their care and behave in an appropriate manner to ensure that their safety and wellbeing is maintained.

AFFILIATE VENUE REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES

1. PRIOR TO GAMES

- 1.1 Liaise with Softball NSW Events Co-Ordinator and Winter League Committee Representative regarding host venue requirements.
- 1.2 Liaise with the Affiliate Venue UIC regarding umpire allocations.
- 1.3 ***Advise Affiliate Venue UIC of any notified forfeits immediately the information is received.***
- 1.4 In the event of inclement weather the affiliate venue representative in consultation with the Winter League Committee representative will make the final decision regarding game cancellations. The affiliate venue representative will then advise teams according to the inclement weather procedure as per Section 10 of the competition rules. Once a game commences the plate umpire shall be responsible for suspending that game.
- 1.5 *Affiliate venues are required to provide an accredited first aid representative(s) for the duration of the games being conducted. Games will not commence/continue if there is no first aid representative in attendance.*

2. AT THE GROUND

- 2.1 Arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the first scheduled game and check the grounds with the Venue UIC ensuring all markings are correct, the playing surface is safe and there are team benches and shelters on every diamond.
- 2.2 Co-opt a person to be the third member of the League Tribunal.
- 2.3 Ensure the following are available:
 - Affiliate Venue Kit**
 - Winter League Manual
 - Line up Pads (spares)
 - Softball NSW Ejection Forms
 - Injury Report Forms
 - Sports Insurance Claim Forms (V-Insurance Group)
 - Incident Reports
 - Addition to team roster form
 - Winter League Player Registration & Nomination Forms
- 2.5 Assist Venue UIC to organise umpires should rostered umpires not arrive.
- 2.6 Ensure games are conducted in accordance with the Winter League competition rules.
- 2.7 Provide necessary assistance to visiting teams.
- 2.8 The Venue/Affiliate Venue Representative may not accept monies owing to the League

2.9 Maintain a record of all injuries. (Injury Report Forms are in the back of the kit)

3. AFTER GAMES

3.1 Write game results on the Result Sheet Form provided and fax or email the sheet back to Softball NSW Office by the 9am Monday following the games played on the weekend.

Fax: 9677 4040

Email: events@softball.net.au

3.2 Forward completed Result Sheets to Softball NSW Office within 24 hours

3.3 Forward results of any Tribunal to Softball NSW within 24 hours following the competition fixture.

3.4 If the penalty imposed requires that the player/official does not participate in a game to be played on a subsequent day or at an alternate venue, the Winter League Representative is to be notified of the penalty imposed and the player/official concerned prior to the commencement of the next days play.

3.5 Advise Softball NSW in writing of any fines to be imposed in relation to forfeits, etc.

VENUE UMPIRE IN CHIEF DUTIES

1. All umpires officiating on Winter League games must have at least Level 1 Umpiring Accreditation.
2. Winter League teams must nominate an umpire who will be assigned to Winter League games by SNSWU for duration of the season.

The name of the nominated umpire must be submitted with the team entry information. The nominated umpire must commit to doing games as assigned during the season on behalf of the team. More than one umpire may be nominated.
3. Ensure you have received from SNSWU the list of all umpires (and their contact numbers) officiating at your venue.
4. In the week prior to your games advise each umpire of their first scheduled game. The umpires should arrive at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the first scheduled game.
5. Arrive at venue at least forty-five (45) minutes before the first game and check the grounds with the Affiliate Venue Representative.
6. Ensure you are familiar with the Winter League Competition Rules and advise your umpires of all rules that are inconsistent with the Official Rules.
7. Remind officiating umpires that protests are dealt with on the spot but no time is made up in the game.
8. Remind officiating umpires to print their names on Line up sheets to ensure they will receive payment for each game.
9. Do not umpire any games unless there is an equally accredited umpire available to act in the capacity of U.I.C. for that game.
10. The Affiliate Venue Representative has copies of the Ejection Form and Injury Forms should you require them.
11. You will be a member of the League Tribunal if is it necessary to conduct a hearing.
12. Forward all allocations to the SNSWU by the Wednesday following each game played.

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING A TRIBUNAL

1. COMPOSITION OF A TRIBUNAL

- 1.1 The Softball NSW Winter League Tribunal shall consist of the Winter League Representative (or Appointee) (Chair), the Affiliate Venue Representative and the Umpire-in-Chief.

For games held at Blacktown, the Tribunal shall consist of the Winter League/Venue Representative, (Chair), the UIC and one independent member selected by the Winter League/Venue Representative.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRIBUNAL

- 2.2 The tribunal shall be responsible for conducting a hearing in relation to every player/official ejected from a SNSW Winter League game for any form of misconduct.

3. PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

- 3.1 Every player/official ejected from a game for any form of misconduct shall appear before a Tribunal.
- 3.2 The player/official who was ejected shall not be eligible to participate further in Winter League until they have appeared before a Winter League tribunal.
- 3.3 The League Tribunal shall hear the umpire's account of the incident responsible for the participant's ejection and then the response from the player/official who was ejected or their nominated Advocate. Should the player/official or the umpire be under eighteen (18) years of age they must be accompanied by an adult.
- 3.4 The umpire responsible for the ejection shall submit a written report (Ejection Form) on the circumstances of the ejections to the UIC immediately at the conclusion of the game.
- 3.5 The UIC shall advise Winter League Committee Representative and the Affiliate Venue Representative of the need to convene a Tribunal Hearing.
- 3.6 The Winter League Committee Representative shall advise the player/official and the umpire responsible for reporting on the circumstances of the ejection of the time and place for the Tribunal Hearing which shall be held as close to the end of the game in questions as is possible.

4. THE TRIBUNAL HEARING

- 4.1 The Tribunal shall first consider the report of the circumstances of the ejection and the umpire shall then give a verbal account of the incident.
 - 4.2 Following the umpire's account the player/official is to be given the opportunity to respond and provide further information to the Tribunal.
 - 4.3 Following consideration of both the umpire's and player/official's account of the incident and any related submissions made in support or defence of the ejection, the Tribunal shall have the authority to impose one of the following penalties:
 - (a) No further penalty, or
 - (b) Issue a reprimand
 - (c) Issue a suspension from further participation in one or more State or Winter League games.
- Note:** Where the Tribunal is of the opinion that the conduct of the player/official may warrant suspension or disqualification by the SNSW Judiciary Committee, a written report shall be forwarded immediately to the SNSW Executive Committee/Board of Management for their consideration and determination in relation to reference to the SNSW Judiciary Committee.
- 4.4 The player/official is to be notified of the decision of the Tribunal immediately following the conclusion of the Tribunal Hearing.
 - 4.5 Any player/official who has had a penalty imposed by a Tribunal on two occasions within a period of three years will be required to appear before the SNSW Judiciary Committee.

5. SUSPENSIONS

- 5.1 Any player who is suspended **must serve that suspension in the competition in which he/she is registered** (State or Winter League) before participating in any further games in **either** competition.
- 5.2 Players registered in both competitions **must serve that suspension in the competition for which the suspension was issued** before participating in any further games in **either** competition.
- 5.3 Any penalty imposed, if it extends beyond the duration of the fixture shall be carried forward to the next SOFTBALL NSW fixture.

6 TRIBUNAL REPORTS AND GENERAL

- 6.1 At the conclusion of any Tribunal Hearing, the Winter League Committee Representative is to forward a report on the outcome of the Tribunal Hearing, together with the ejection report prepared by the officiating umpire, to the SNSW.
- 6.2 This report is to be forwarded to SNSW PO Box 210 ROOTY HILL 2766, on the first business day following the hearing.
- 6.3 If the penalty imposed requires that the player/official does not participate in a game to be played on a subsequent day or at an alternate venue, the Winter League representative is to be notified of the penalty imposed and the player/official concerned prior to the commencement of the next days play.
- 6.4 The Winter League Representative is to notify all UIC's of any suspensions prior to the next Winter League fixture.



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