**State Championship Regulations**



***Made by the SNSW Board***

***Effective May 2019***

SNSW State Championship Regulations

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework and regulations for the operation and management of Softball NSW State Championships.

Interpretation

Terms defined in these regulations shall have that meaning throughout the regulations. Unless the contrary intention appears, other terms shall have the meaning given by (in order of priority): (a) other policies, regulations and the constitution of SNSW; (b) the official playing rules published by Softball Australia Limited or (c) their ordinary meaning.

Acronyms used in these Regulations

SNSW Softball New South Wales

SNSWUA Softball New South Wales Umpires Association

UIC Umpire In Chief

**Version Control**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Authorised by** | **Changes** | **Next review by** |
| V2.0 | May 2019 | SNSW Board | U12 final specified as 6 innings  U12 Assistant Coach accreditation amended to Level 2  Changes to sponsorship  General review for clarity | May 2020 |
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# GOVERNANCE AND DUTIES

## EVENTS TO BE HELD ANNUALLY

### Softball NSW (SNSW) shall conduct State Championship annually for both males and females.

### The allocation of the hosting of the championship shall be determined by the SNSW Board.

### Championships shall be conducted in the format prescribed by the SNSW Board.

## FEES

### Team entry fees shall be determined by the SNSW Board.

## NOTIFICATION OF CONTESTANTS

### Five (5) weeks prior to the Championship SNSW shall advise the Host Affiliate of the teams competing in the Championship.

## DRAW AND GROUND RULES

### SNSW shall prepare the draw for all State Championship.

### At least three (3) weeks prior to the Championship SNSW shall forward a copy of the draw, ground rules and location map to:

* each competing affiliate;
* the SNSWUA; and
* the Host Affiliate.

## RECORDING OF RESULTS

### The SNSW Technical Delegate shall be responsible for the recording duties during the Championship.

### SNSW will provide a progressive scoreboard for the Championship and updated results on the SNSW Website.

## CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

### The Championship Committee shall consist of the

* Technical Delegate;
* Umpire in Chief; and
* Championship Manager.

### This Committee shall be responsible for:

* Setting ground rules for the Championship.
* Varying the draw, length of games and changes of venue, etc. after the commencement of the Championship if necessary.

## DISPUTES COMMITTEE

### The Disputes Committee comprising of no less than three (3) persons shall be chaired by and chosen by the SNSW Technical Delegate at the Championship.

### This Committee shall adjudicate on all disputes involving an interpretation of these Regulations or on any matter that may arise at a State Championship not otherwise covered by these Regulations and these shall be resolved as soon as practicable.

## CHAMPIONSHIP TRIBUNAL

### The Championship Tribunal shall consist of the SNSW Technical Delegate (Chair), the UIC or delegate and one (1) independent member selected by the SNSW Technical Delegate.

### This Tribunal shall be responsible for conducting a hearing in relation to every player or official ejected from a Championship game for any form of misconduct.

### Details regarding the conduct and powers of the Championship Tribunal can be found in Section 6 of these Regulations.

## TECHNICAL DELEGATE

### SNSW shall appoint a Technical Delegate to each State Championship.

### The Technical Delegate shall be responsible for:

* attending a meeting with the UIC and the Championship Manager at least 90 minutes prior to the start of play on the first day, to assist in setting ground rules for the Championship;
* conducting a Managers’ meeting 1 hour prior to the start of play on the first day to ensure that all participants are aware of the regulations governing the Championship. Attendees at the meeting should include the UIC or Deputy UIC, Championship Manager and a representative from each competing team;
* co-opting at least two (2) persons to be members of the Championship Disputes Committee;
* co-opting one (1) person to be on the Championship Tribunal; and
* conducting Championship Tribunal Hearings as necessary.

## UMPIRE IN CHIEF

### SNSWUA shall appoint an Umpire In Chief (UIC) to each State Championship.

### The UIC shall be responsible for:

* Attending a meeting with the Technical Delegate and the Championship Manager at least 90 minutes prior to the start of play on the first day, to assist in setting ground rules for the Championship.
* Attending the Manager’s Meeting, to address any playing rules specific to the Championship.
* Conducting an Umpires’ meeting 1 hour prior to the start of play on the first day to ensure that all umpires are aware of the regulations governing the Championship
* Assigning umpires to all games.
* Resolving any protests.
* Being the primary contact for any matter relating to umpires during the Championship.

### SNSWUA may appoint up to two (2) Deputy Umpires in Chief (Deputy UICs) to each State Championship. The Deputy UICs may perform any of the UIC’s functions at the direction of the UIC.

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

### The accommodation and travel requirements for the SNSW Technical Delegate(s), Umpire in Chief, two (2) Deputy UICs and Chief Statistician (if appointed) shall be the responsibility of SNSW.

# COMPETING AFFILIATES

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### All competing team members shall abide by the SNSW Code of Conduct.

## UNIFORM

### An affiliate shall lodge a full description and diagram or photograph of its intended representative playing uniform with SNSW. The uniform must be registered and ratified by SNSW prior to the affiliate participating in a State Championship.

### Should an affiliate wish to change their registered uniform, an application must be made to SNSW and such change approved by SNSW prior to the affiliate participating in a Championship wearing the new uniform.

### Every affiliate shall have the SNSW Logo on their playing uniforms and Official’s uniforms.

### All players and team officials must be in the correct uniform as submitted by the participating affiliate and approved by SNSW. Fully enclosed footwear must be worn by all officials whilst on the diamond or on the bench. Denim Jeans in any form are not permitted. No lycra active wear is permitted.

### Undershirts and compression garments must be one of the team colours.

### SNSW may impose a fine of $55.00, payable by an affiliate, for each and every infringement of the uniform requirements by a team member representing that affiliate.

### Players competing must have numbers of no more than two (2) digits on their playing shirts – i.e. from 1 to 99.

### Tops (e.g. jackets, sloppy joes, etc) worn on the diamond must be the same as in the playing uniform register as submitted by the affiliate.

### Advertising by sponsor/s is permitted on team uniforms in accordance with the following parameters.

* Each team is allowed one major sponsor on playing apparel a maximum of 300mm x 300mm and can be positioned on the front or back of apparel item.
* Each team is allowed no more than five (5) secondary sponsor logos on playing apparel however each individual logo must not be larger than 120mm x 120mm.
* Playing apparel must be approved by SNSW prior to production.

### Sponsorship on non-playing apparel is at the discretion of the relevant Association.

### No part of a SNSW State Team Representative Uniform or SNSW representative logo can be worn at the Championships on the diamond.

### Wet weather gear may be worn by all players and officials during inclement weather. Such wet weather gear may be any colour and no number is required.

### Team members must be in uniform at all times that the team is playing.

## ENTRY FORMS

### Every Affiliate entering teams in the State Championship must complete a Championship Entry Form. This form, together with the prescribed entry fee and team sheet, must be received by SNSW no later than two (2) calendar months prior to the State Championship.

### Championship Entry Forms received after the closing date, prior to 1 month before the Championship and accepted into the competition (at the discretion of the SNSW Board) and incur a late fee of up to $500.

## TEAM SHEETS AND UMPIRE FORMS

### One (1) month prior to the Championship forward the completed Final Team Sheets to SNSW for checking and for inclusion in the Championship program. Umpires names are to be included under the Umpires section on the team sheet, where applicable. SNSW may impose a fine of $250 to an affiliate who fails to nominate an umpire at least one month prior to the Championship.

### The SNSW Office will return Team Sheets (after checking), signed and dated by email 2 (two) weeks prior to the Championship. These sheets are to be used by Affiliates if making any additional changes at the Championship.

### Any changes to nominated affiliate umpires shall be made by email as soon as possible to SNSW and the SNSWUA Secretary.

## WITHDRAWAL OF TEAM/S

### Affiliates must notify SNSW as soon as it is known that the team may be withdrawn from the Championship. SNSW may be able to assist the affiliate in fielding a team.

### Should an Affiliate withdraw a team from the Championship after the Entry Form has been submitted to SNSW, the entry fee shall be forfeited to SNSW.

### Should an Affiliate withdraw a team from a Championship after the draw has been compiled and prior to 48 hours before commencement of the Championship, SNSW may also impose a fine of up to $500.

### An affiliate may make an application for the return of the entry fee if there are special circumstances justifying the withdrawal of the team.

## ATTENDANCE AT PRESENTATION CEREMONY

### It is expected that teams and participating umpires remain for the Presentation Ceremony. Permission to leave the Championship prior to the Presentation Ceremony can only be granted by the SNSW Technical Delegate.

## EXPENSES INCURRED BY AFFILIATE

### Any expenses incurred by an affiliate taking part in the Championship shall be the responsibility of the competing affiliate.

# ELIGIBILITY

## LEVEL OF AFFILIATION

### All Participants must be registered with a full affiliate of Softball NSW.

## REGISTRATION WITH SOFTBALL NSW

### Players and officials must be registered with SNSW at least one (1) month prior to the Championship. Players and officials may only represent the affiliate with whom they are first registered, unless they are appointed to another team through the SNSW pickup procedure.

## CLEARANCES

### A player or official who clears to an affiliate less than two (2) calendar months prior to the State Championship will not be eligible to represent their new affiliate unless such clearance was instigated by a genuine residential relocation.

## AGE DIVISION

### Players participating in the divisions must be age criteria set out below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Under 10** | Under 10 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |
| **Under 12** | Under 12 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |
| **Under 14** | Under 14 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |
| **Under 16** | Under 16 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |
| **Under 18** | Under 18 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |
| **Open** | At least 14 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |
| **Over 35** | At least 35 years of age as at 31 December in the year of the Championship. |

## GENDER COMPOSITION

### Teams must include all male players or all female players and will be placed into the draw as determined by the SNSW Board.

### Mixed Teams are permitted at the U10 and U12 State Championships at the discretion of the SNSW Board. Mixed Teams are not permitted at any other State Championship.

## PICK UP PLAYERS

### Application for pick up players from affiliates must be submitted to SNSW eight (8) weeks prior to the Championship. Pick up players are not permitted for the Over 35 State Championships.

### Affiliates must have minimum of 9 players from their affiliate before requesting permission from the SNSW Board to pick up players.

### Affiliates must submit names of players wishing to be picked up eight (8) weeks prior to the Championship.

### A combined team may be entered at the discretion of the SNSW Board.

### The pick-up list shall include:

* players from Affiliates who have not entered the Championships; and/or
* players from Affiliates who have a team participating in the Championship and who have made themselves available for selection and have not been selected to represent their Affiliate.

### Further details are set out in the SNSW Player Pick Up Procedure.

## NUMBER OF PLAYERS

### The number of players in each team shall be as follows.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Under 10** | A team shall consist of twelve (12) players. Teams may have fourteen (14) players on their roster however only twelve (12) players are permitted to participate in any one game.  All twelve players must play on defence and offence in every game, however, only nine (9) players are permitted on the field at any one time. All 12 players shall bat and be included in the batting line-up.  The Technical Delegate shall determine whether each team has complied with this rule in each game. The Technical Delegate shall have regard to the result card, and may have regard to the scorebooks where there is a dispute as to whether a player played defence.  Failure of a team to adhere to this rule will result in a forfeiture of the game and score of 7-0 to the non-offending team. The offending team will receive zero (0) competition points for the forfeit.  There shall be no restrictions related to the type or number of defensive substitutions that may be made during a game and the batting order must remain the same for the duration of the game.  If due to injury and/or illness at a tournament, twelve players are not able to participate in any game, the minimum number of players required by a team to start or continue a game, shall be nine (9).  If a player is injured or becomes ill during a game, that player may be removed from the lineup. A player who is removed shall not return for the duration of the same game. The player’s turn at bat will be skipped, with no penalty, and the game will continue with no less than 9 batters. |
| **Under 12** | A team shall consist of twelve (12) players. Teams may have fourteen (14) players on their roster however only twelve (12) players are permitted to participate in any one game.  All twelve (12) players must play on defence and offence in every game, however, only nine (9) players are permitted on the field at any one time. All twelve (12) players shall bat and be included in the batting line-up.  The result card and /or team scorebooks may be be used to determine whether all players have taken the field in defence.. Failure of a team to adhere to this rule will result in a forfeiture of the game and score of 7-0 to the non-offending team. The forfeited game will record zero (0) competition points for the forfeit.  A player may pitch no more than three (3) innings in a game. A player is taken to have pitched an inning if they throw one (1) pitch in that inning. No penalty applies. If an infringement is identified the offending player shall be changed from the pitching position    A player may catch no more than three (3) innings in a game. A player is taken to have caught an inning if they catch one (1) pitch in that inning. No penalty applies. If an infringement is identified the offending player shall be changed from the catching position  A player may pitch up to three (3) innings and catch up to three (3) innings.  In the event of a tie-breaker, during rounds and the final series, the pitching and catching limits shall be reset. A player may pitch up to an additional three (3) innings and catch up to an additional three (3) innings.  There shall be no restrictions related to the type or number of defensive substitutions that may be made during a game and the batting order must remain the same for the duration of the game.  If due to injury and/or illness at a tournament, twelve players are not able to participate in any game, the minimum number of players required by a team to start or continue a game, shall be nine (9).  If a player is injured or becomes ill during a game, that player may be removed from the lineup. A player who is removed shall not return for the duration of the same game. The player’s turn at bat will be skipped, with no penalty, and the game will continue with no less than 9 batters. |
| **Under 14** | The team list shall not exceed sixteen (16) players. |
| **Under 16** | The team list shall not exceed sixteen (16) players. |
| **Under 18** | The team list shall not exceed sixteen (16) players. |
| **Open** | The team list shall not exceed sixteen (16) players. |
| **Over 35** | The team list shall not exceed sixteen (16) players. |

## PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

### Teams must use only those players and officials as submitted on the team sheet and presented to the SNSW Technical Delegate.

## OFFICIALS

### The number of Officials in each team shall not exceed eight (8).

### Team Officials must include a Head Coach, Manager and Statistician.

### The Head Coach, Manager and Statistician may not participate as players.

### At least one official of the same gender as the team must accompany each underage team (under 10, under 12, under 14 and under 16).

### One (1) official from each team must attend the Managers’ Meeting as indicated in the Championship Draw.

### Should the Head Coach or Statistician be unable to attend a game or part of a game (including as the result of an ejection or disciplinary measure), the Head Coach must nominate another person with the required qualification to act as the Head Coach or Statistician. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit of any game which the Head Coach or Statistician is unable to attend.

## MINIMUM ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Head Coach** | **Assistant Coach** | **Statistician** | **Umpires** |
| **Under 10** | 3 | 2 | 1 | Two (2) - Must have at least Level 1 Accreditation. |
| **Under 12** | 3 | 2 | 1 | Two (2) - Must have at least Level 1 Accreditation. |
| **Under 14** | 3 | 3 | 2 | Two (2) - One (1) umpire must have at least Level 2 Accreditation OR be a Level 2 candidate and the other umpire must have at least Level 1 Accreditation. |
| **Under 16** | 3 | 3 | 3 | Two (2) both with at least Level 2 Accreditation |
| **Under 18** | 3 | 3 | 3 | Appointed by the SNSWUA. |
| **Open** | 3 | 3 | 3 | Appointed by the SNSWUA. |
| **Over 35** | 3 | 3 | 2 | Three (3) umpires if entering two (2) teams, two (2) umpires if entering one team and must have at least Level 2 Accreditation. |

### Any Affiliate that is not able to enter a team(s) due to the Accreditation Requirements outlined should contact the SNSW office in writing for assistance at least two (2) calendar months prior to the event.

## CHANGES TO TEAM SHEET

### If changes are necessary after submitting Team Sheets the Team Manager or Appointed Deputy shall present four copies of the altered team sheet/s to the appointed SNSW Technical Delegate one (1) hour prior to the first game.

### The amended sheet will be checked by the SNSW Office after the Championship.

### Should a registration discrepancy be revealed, SNSW may impose a fine of $500.00 payable by the affiliate.

## Suspended Players/Officials

### Any player/official under suspension by a Championship/State League Tribunal or the SNSW Judiciary Committee shall not be eligible to participate in Championship games until the suspension has expired (refer to the SNSW Suspended Player Policy)

### If a suspended player/official takes part in any game this will automatically result in the forfeiture of all games in which the suspended player/official participated (refer to the SNSW Suspended Player Policy).

### Softball NSW may impose a fine of $550.00 for each game in which a suspended player or official has participated (refer to the SNSW Suspended Player Policy).

## PREGNANCY

### SNSW follows the Softball Australia Pregnancy Guidelines. Pregnant participants are encouraged to read and follow these guidelines in regards to their participation in the competition. A copy of these guidelines can be found at [*http://nsw.softball.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/02/Pregnancy-Guidelines.pdf*](http://nsw.softball.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/02/Pregnancy-Guidelines.pdf)*.*

# HOST AFFILIATE

## ELIGIBILITY TO HOST

### Venues must meet the requirements as set down by the SNSW Board.

### Only a full affiliate may host a Softball NSW State Championship.

## MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

### Subject to the provisions contained in these Regulations the management and control of the Championship shall be the responsibility of the Host Affiliate.

### Any expenses incurred by the Host Affiliate in conducting the Championship shall be the responsibility of the Host Affiliate unless other arrangements in writing have been made with SNSW, prior to incurring the expense.

## DUTIES OF SNSW

### At least five (5) weeks prior to the Championship, SNSW shall provide to the Host Affiliate with:

* the number of male and female teams competing;
* the maximum number of diamonds required;
* the name of the SNSW Technical Delegate/s and any other SNSW Board or Staff attending the Championship in an official capacity;
* any other special requirements - eg VIP parking; and
* names of VIP, guests or teams that can be used for publicity - eg Australian players, announcement of State team etc.

## DUTIES OF THE HOST AFFILIATE

### The host affiliate shall use its best endeavours to ensure that the Championship is conducted in an efficient manner.

### The Host Affiliate shall:

* at least six (6) calendar months prior to the Championships, notify SNSW of the draft diamond plan and numbers, if not already provided with the Application to Host Form;
* arrange venues for meetings as required by SNSW and the SNSWUA;
* appoint a Championship Manager and provide the name, email address and phone number of the Championship Manager to SNSW; and
* provide all necessary personnel to arrange, prepare and conduct the Championships.

### The host affiliate shall provide the following:

* adequate toilet facilities for the number of teams competing;
* separate shelter for the SNSW officials and the UIC with power supply, tables and chairs;
* separate Male and Female change rooms for umpires officiating at the U10, U12, U14, U16 and Over 35 Championships and a UNISEX change room for umpires officiating at the U18 and Open State Championships.
* cold drinking water and tea/coffee making facilities available for umpires’ use.
* canteen facilities.
* first aid facilities and First Aid Officer for the duration of the event.
* an area for SNSW to sell merchandise.
* a hooter for U10 and U12 events
* a public address system suitable for use at the Presentation Ceremony.
* diamond equipment for each diamond in use:
* fixed bases (including safety base) and home plate. All pegs must be covered. The Host Affiliate must notify SNSW at least four (4) weeks prior to the Championship if it is unable to fix bases on any diamond.
* fixed pitchers plate (white)
* back nets
* team benches and shelters. Where an association does not have sufficient benches and / or shelters it is the Host Affiliate’s responsibility to source these from other Associations.
* grounds and diamonds meeting the following requirements:
* the playing areas are unobstructed.
* there is a safe distance between diamonds.
* they are situated on reasonably level ground;
* they have clear and correct ground markings.
* the limit of the playing area in foul territory is clearly indicated by a marked line;
* diamonds are clearly numbered; and
* all diamonds are prepared ready for play at least ninety (90) minutes before the scheduled starting time of the first game every day;
* a map showing the location of the ground and parking areas is to be provided to SNSW at least four (4) weeks prior to the Championships; and
* a ground plan, to be provided to SNSW at least four (4) weeks prior to the Championships, indicating:
* position of diamonds in relation to the boundaries of the Park;
* control points for SNSW Officials;
* control points for the UIC and Deputies;
* dressing and toilet facilities;
* canteen facilities;
* First Aid facilities; and
* a Merchandising Area.

### The Host Affiliate may be required to facilitate a ground inspection up to two (2) weeks prior to the Championship. An inspection may be conducted by a representative of SNSW or SNSWUA. The representative conducting the inspection will prepare a report, and the Host Affiliate will be responsible for rectifying matters identified in that report at the Host Affiliate’s expense prior to the Championship.

# UMPIRES

## PENALTIES FOR FAILING TO SUPPLY ACCREDITED UMPIRES

### Where Affiliates are required to supply umpires they must be appropriately accredited umpires, who must fulfil their commitments at the championship.

### The Penalty to the affiliate, for non-attendance of the nominated or notified replacement umpire possessing the appropriate accreditation, a fine will be incurred of up to $500 at the discretion of the SNSW Board.

### The penalty to the affiliate, for failure of an umpire to fulfil their commitments at the championship, without the Championship Disputes Committee determining that extenuating circumstances exist, will be a fine will be incurred of up to $500 at the discretion of the SNSW Board.

## UMPIRE COMMITMENTS

### All umpires attending a State Championship will:

* attend the Umpires’ Briefing, 60 minutes prior to the first game and any other meeting as determined by the Umpire in Chief (UIC);
* dress for all games in uniform as prescribed by Softball Australia;
* be in attendance for the entire Championship unless excused by the UIC;
* officiate all games allocated by the UIC;
* undertake any reasonable task associated with umpiring, as directed by the UIC or Deputy UIC; and
* be in attendance at the presentation Ceremony.

## PENALTY FOR UMPIRES OUT OF UNIFORM

### The penalty for an umpire out of uniform shall be a $55.00 fine. The fine will be incurred by the Affiliate the umpire is representing or, in the case of SNSWUA appointed umpires, by the umpire. All infringements will also be notified to the Affiliate UIC.

## NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE/S TO UMPIRES

### The UIC must be notified by the SNSW Office of any changes in umpires as submitted 3 days prior to the championship.

### When an affiliate must make a change in the umpire/s nominated for the tournament, that affiliate will use their best endeavours to provide an umpire of similar accreditation and experience to the umpire originally listed.

## UMPIRE’S BRIEFING

### All umpires shall attend a briefing starting one hour prior to the opening round of the Championships.

## PROTESTS

### The UIC or a Deputy UIC shall adjudicate on all protests and these shall be resolved on the spot. Games shall be suspended pending the resolution of any protest. Protests regarding the score of a game will be resolved as soon as practicable after the conclusion of the game.

### The UIC or Deputy UIC shall not adjudicate on any protest involving a game in which that person officiated as an Umpire, or in which the UIC or Deputy UIC is registered with one of the competing teams.

### In the event of the UIC or Deputy UIC being unable to resolve a protest for any reason the UIC shall appoint a substitute for that occasion.

# CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS – THE GAME

## REGULATIONS TO PREVAIL OVER RULE BOOK

### All games shall be played in accordance with the Official Rule Book and established Ground Rules for the Championships except as specified in these regulations, including Championship specific rules set out in Appendix 1.

## PITCHING DISTANCES

### Pitching distances for the Championships are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Female** | **Male** |
| **Under 10** | 40 feet (12.20m)  Location of plate | 40 feet (12.20m)  Location of plate |
| **Under 12** | 38 feet (11.58m) | 40 feet (12.20m) |
| **Under 14** | 40 feet (12.20m) | 43 feet ( 13.11 m) |
| **Under 16** | 43 feet ( 13.11 m) | 46 feet (14.02m) |
| **Under 18** | 43 feet ( 13.11 m) | 46 feet (14.02m) |
| **Open** | 43 feet ( 13.11 m) | 46 feet (14.02m) |
| **Over 35** | 43 feet ( 13.11 m) | 46 feet (14.02m) |

## COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION OF GAMES

### Games shall commence and finish at the times specified in the Draw.

### Games times shall be:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Time** |
| **Under 10** | 60 minutes, started and stopped on a hooter |
| **Under 12** | 60 to 75 minutes, started and stopped on a hooter |
| **Under 14** | 60 to 90 minutes |
| **Under 16** | 60 to 90 minutes |
| **Under 18** | 60 to 90 minutes |
| **Open** | 90 minutes |
| **Over 35** | 60 to 90 minutes |

### All games except finals shall be timed games. At time the following rules shall apply.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **At Time** |
| **Under 10** | The game ends when play ceases. The batter is not entitled to complete their turn at bat.  Where the team second at bat is in front, then the bottom of the inning does not need to be played out. If the team second at bat draws level, or gets in front, then the score stands. If the team first at bat draws level, or gets in front and time is called, then the score reverts back to that at the end of the last complete inning |
| **Under 12** | The game ends when play ceases. The batter is not entitled to complete their turn at bat.  Where the team second at bat is in front, then the bottom of the inning does not need to be played out. If the team second at bat draws level, or gets in front, then the score stands. If the team first at bat draws level, or gets in front and time is called, then the score reverts back to that at the end of the last complete inning |
| **Under 14** | The batter shall complete their turn at bat.  At time, if the game is in the top of the inning, the game will stop and revert back to the score at even innings.  If the team second at bat is at bat and equal or behind, the game will continue until the third out is made or the team at bat goes ahead.  No new inning will commence with five (5) minutes or less of the playing time remaining. |
| **Under 16** | The batter shall complete their turn at bat.  At time, if the game is in the top of the inning, the game will stop and revert back to the score at even innings.  If the team second at bat is at bat and equal or behind, the game will continue until the third out is made or the team at bat goes ahead.  No new inning will commence with five (5) minutes or less of the playing time remaining. |
| **Under 18** | Play out the innings in progress. No new inning will commence with five (5) minutes or less of the playing time remaining. |
| **Open** | Play out the innings in progress. No new inning will commence with five (5) minutes or less of the playing time remaining. |
| **Over 35** | At time, if the game is in the top of the inning, the game will stop and revert back to the score at even innings.  If the team second at bat is at bat and equal or behind, the game will continue until the third out is made or the team at bat goes ahead.  No new inning will commence with five (5) minutes or less of the playing time remaining. |

### During round games should a regulation game (7 innings) be completed before the time limit and result is a draw, the game will continue with the tie breaker being played until a result is achieved or time expires, whichever occurs first.

### During an elimination 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.

### A final shall be played between the (2) top teams in each division.

### The final will be:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Final Game** |
| **Under 10** | Regulation Game (7 innings) or 60 minutes, whichever occurs first. |
| **Under 12** | 6 innings or 75 minutes, whichever occurs first. |
| **Under 14** | Regulation Game (7 innings) or 90 minutes, whichever occurs first. At time if the team second at bat is at bat and equal of behind, play out the innings in progress |
| **Under 16** | Regulation Game (7 innings) or 90 minutes, whichever occurs first. At time if the team second at bat is at bat and equal of behind, play out the innings in progress |
| **Under 18** | Regulation Game (7 innings) or 90 minutes, whichever occurs first. At time play out the innings in progress. |
| **Open** | Regulation Game (7 innings) |
| **Over 35** | Regulation Game (7 innings) or 90 minutes, whichever occurs first. At time if the team second at bat is at bat and equal of behind, the game will continue until a result is obtained or the innings is completed. |

Note: In all Championship Finals other than U18 and Open, if at time you are in the top of the innings the score will revert back to the last completed innings. If at time reverting back results in a draw the innings in progress will be completed until a result is obtained. If the game is drawn at the end of the complete innings, a tiebreaker(s) shall be played.

## TIE BREAKER

### If a Tie Breaker is to be played then at the beginning of the next innings and each half innings thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that half innings being placed on 2nd base.

## TOSS

### During the round(s) the team named first in the draw shall occupy first base bench and call the toss prior to the umpires arriving at the game.

### For all finals games the highest ranked team shall have the option of being home or away.

## WARM-UP

### Each team shall be entitled to five (5) minutes warm-up on the diamond prior to the scheduled starting time of the first game played in the competition as follows:

* The team batting first shall have first use and its time shall expire ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.
* The team fielding first have second use and its time shall expire five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. Players are then to leave the field and the pre-game meeting between the umpires and coaches will occur at home plate.

## SCOREBOOKS

### Each team must provide its own scorebook.

## Bench lists/sheets

### SNSW shall provide bench lists/sheets for each competing team. These Bench lists/sheets must contain a list of all players and officials and must be completed by both teams and signed by both head coaches at least five (5) minutes prior to the commencement of the game. After the game the official score shall be entered and the bench lists/sheets signed by the Plate Umpire. The return of the bench lists/sheets to the SNSW Technical Delegate shall be the responsibility of the Plate Umpire.

## MATCH BALLS

### Match balls will be:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Match Ball** |
| **Under 10** | Optic EASTON 10.5” Softcore and are supplied by the competing affiliates. |
| **Under 12** | EASTON 804 Optic and are supplied by the competing affiliates |
| **Under 14** | EASTON 804 Optic and are supplied by the competing affiliates |
| **Under 16** | 888 Optic and are supplied by the competing teams |
| **Under 18** | 888 Optic and are supplied by the competing teams |
| **Open** | 888 Optic and are supplied by the competing teams |
| **Over 35** | 888 Optic and are supplied by the competing teams |

## RUN AHEAD RULE

### During all games:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Runs Ahead** |
| Under 10 | Not applicable |
| Under 12  Under 14 | A game ends when a team is leading by ten (10) runs after five (5) innings.  Complete innings are played unless the team second at bat scores the required number of runs whilst at bat. When the visiting team reaches the required number of runs in the top half of the inning, the home team bats in the bottom half of the inning. |
| Under 16  Under 18  Open  Over 35 | A game ends when a team is leading by fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings; ten (10) runs after four (4) innings, or seven (7) runs after five (5) innings.  Complete innings are played unless the team second at bat scores the required number of runs whilst at bat. When the visiting team reaches the required number of runs in the top half of the inning, the home team bats in the bottom half of the inning. |

## INTENTIONAL WALK RULE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Intentional Walk Rule** |
| Under 10 | Not applicable |
| Under 12  Under 14 | There shall be no Intentional Base on Balls used in this Championship. |
| Under 16  Under 18  Open  Over 35 | Each team playing in these Divisions may only use the Intentional Base on Balls rule once per game.  The Plate Umpire shall disallow any further requests by the defensive team to use the Intentional Base on Balls |

## POINTS

### Points for games shall be awarded as follows:

### WIN – 3 points DRAW – 2 points LOSS – 1 point FORFEIT – 0 points

## PROTESTS REGARDING SCORING OF RUNS

### Protests relating to the scoring of runs must be lodged with the UIC within twenty (20) minutes of the completion of the game in question.

## PROTESTS RELATING TO PLACINGS

### Any protest relating to the placing of teams for a playoff game (including the final) must be made to the UIC or Technical Delegate prior to the commencement of the game in question.

## EJECTION OF PLAYERS/OFFICIALS FROM A GAME

### 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.

### Every player/official ejected from a game for any form of misconduct shall appear before the SNSW Championship Tribunal.

### The UIC shall advise the SNSW Technical Delegate of the need to call a Tribunal Hearing.

### The SNSW Technical Delegate 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 to the end of the game in question as possible.

### The player/official who was ejected shall not be eligible to participate further in the Championship until they have appeared before the Championship Tribunal.

### The Championship 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. Should the player/official or the umpire be under eighteen (18) years of age they shall be entitled to have one (1) advocate or support person.

### The Championship Tribunal shall have the authority to impose one of the following:

* no penalty; or
* reprimand the player/official; or
* suspend the player/official for any or all of the remaining games of the Championship.

### Where the Championship Tribunal is of the opinion that the conduct of the player/official may warrant suspension/disqualification by the SNSW Judiciary Committee, a written report shall be forwarded immediately for consideration by the SNSW Board/Executive Committee. Should this avenue be determined, the player/official concerned shall be advised of this decision at the time the Championship penalty is imposed.

### The SNSW Board, on receipt of a written report, shall determine whether the matter shall be referred to the SNSW Judiciary Committee.

### Any player/official who has had a penalty imposed by a Championship Tribunal on two (2) occasions within a period of three (3) years will be required to appear before the SNSW Judiciary Committee.

## DETERMINING TIED POSTIONS

### In the event of teams being tied for any position following the completion of round games, the higher seeding will be given to the team with fewer runs against.

### Should the teams still be tied after calculating runs against the higher seeding shall be allocated to the winner of the round game between the two (2) tied teams.

### Should this game be a draw, the following procedure shall be followed until the “tie” is broken.

1. The higher seeding shall be allocated to the team with the highest total number of runners left on base in the game between the teams tied.
2. Should the number of runners left on base be equal, the higher seeding shall be allocated to the team who scored first, after equal innings, starting at the 1st innings.
3. Should the innings in which each team scored be the same, the higher seeding shall be allocated to the team whose earlier number batter scored first.
4. Should the batter number be equal, (c) will continue to be applied for each consecutive innings until a result is obtained.

### In the event of the teams being equal following this procedure, the higher seeding will be given to the team with the greater number of runs for. In the event that number is equal, the position will be determined by a toss of a coin.

## FORFEITS

### If a team is not at the diamond fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time a forfeit will be declared in favour of the non-offending team, unless the offence was the result of a game running over time or delay in determining placement for a playoff game.

### In any situation that results in a forfeit, the result of the game will be 7-0 in favour of the non-offending team. The offending team will receive zero (0) competition points for the forfeited game.

## DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

### In the event of dangerous conditions:

* The Plate Umpire shall suspend a game if the conditions are dangerous or unplayable. It is solely the responsibility of the Plate Umpire and does not require the UIC’s consent. The Plate Umpire may resume the suspended game if the conditions warrant.
* The UIC may direct the Plate Umpire to suspend a game.
* The UIC may abandon that game if the conditions are dangerous or unplayable.

## Preliminary Games

### When any game in progress except a final is abandoned 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 abandoned before such time and which cannot be re-scheduled shall be declared a draw.

## Championships not being completed

### In the event of the Championships not being completed, the final placings and winner of each division shall be determined as follows:

### **Round Robin**

### In the event of the round robin not being completed no winners will be declared.

### If the round robin has been completed the following will apply to determine the winners of the Championship:

* the team placed highest after the Round Robin will be declared winners;
* in the event of teams being tied for any position following the completion of round games runs against shall be used to determine placement;
* should the teams still be tied after calculating runs against the higher seeding shall be allocated to the winner of the round game between the two (2) tied teams; and
* should this game be a draw, the following procedure shall be followed until the “tie” is broken:
  + the higher seeding shall be allocated to the team with the highest total number of runners left on base in the game between the teams tied;
  + should the number of runners left on base be equal, the higher seeding shall be allocated to the team who scored first, after equal innings, starting at the 1st innings;
  + should the innings in which each team scored be the same, the higher seeding shall be allocated to the team whose earlier number batter scored first; and
  + should the batter number be equal, (c) will continue to be applied for each consecutive Innings until a result is obtained; and
* in the event of the teams being equal following this procedure, the higher seeding will be given to the team with the greater number of runs for. In the event that number is equal, the position will be determined by a toss of a coin.

### **Pools**

### In the event of the Championship Final Series not being able to be played the following will apply:

* if there are 2 pools – the winners of each pool will be declared joint champions; and
* if there are more than 2 pools – no winner will be declared

## Final Series

### In the event of the Championship Final Series not being able to be completed, the Technical Delegate will apply one of the following.

**Round Robin – preliminary final and final playable**

### The top placed team will progress into the Grand Final and the second and third placed teams will play the preliminary final.

**2 Pools – semi finals and final playable**

### The top 2 teams from each pool will play with first in Pool A playing second in Pool B and first in Pool B playing second in Pool A with the winners of those games progressing into the Grand Final.

**3 Pools – preliminary final and final playable**

### The winners of the 3 pools will be contending for the championship with the team with the lowest runs against moving into the Grand Final and the remaining 2 teams playing a preliminary final. If the runs scored against between two teams are equal, the higher seeding will be given to the team with the greater number of runs for. If the number of runs for is also equal, the higher seeding will be given to the team with the greater number of runners left on base. If the number of runners left on base is also equal, placements will be decided by a toss of a coin.

### In the event that the teams have played a different number of games, the number of runs against, runs for and runners left on base will be the average per game for each team.

**Round Robin – final playable only**

### The top 2 teams at the completion of the round robin will progress to the final.

**2 Pools – final playable only**

### The top team from each pool will progress to the final.

**3 Pools – final playable only**

### The final shall be played between the two highest ranked winners of the pools, following the method for 3 Pools (preliminary final and final playable) above.

**Unplayable final**

### In the event that a grand final is not able to be played the following will apply:

* if the 2 teams played each other in the final series, then the winner of that game will be the winner; and
* if that game was drawn or the team did not play each other in the final series then the teams will be joint winners

**Unplayable Semi Final(s)**

### First placed team from each pool go through to the final.

**Unplayable Preliminary Final**

### Winners of the game between the two first place pool teams goes to the final.

## ****Incomplete finals****

### In the event of the final having begun and not being completed due dangerous or unplayable conditions the winner of the game shall be determined as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Championship** | **Regulation Game – due to dangerous or unplayable conditions** |
| Under 10 | 3 competed innings or 30 minutes |
| Under 12  Under 14 | 3 competed innings or 50% of the time each game has been played in the championship |
| Under 16  Under 18  Open  Over 35 | 5 complete innings or 50% of the time each game has been played in the championship |

* If the final meets the criteria of a Regulation game the winner shall be the winner of this Regulation Game.
* If the final does not meet the criteria of a Regulation Game or the score is tied at the end of the Regulation Game joint winners shall be declared.

# DRAW FORMAT GUIDELINES

## THIS SECTION FOR GUIDANCE ONLY

### These are guidelines only which will also be dependent on ground availability, number of days allocated and time of the year (daylight savings).

## Eight Teams (8) or under – Round Robin

Final Series – 1st v 2nd

## Nine (9) to Fourteen Teams (14) – 2 Pools

Finals Series 9 – 11 Teams

2nd Pool A v 3rd Pool B (G1)

2nd Pool B v 3rd Pool A (G2)

1st Pool B v WG1 (G3)

1st Pool A v WG2 (G4)

WG3 V WG4

## 12 Teams

1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B (G1)

1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A (G2)

WG1 v WG2

## 13 - 14 Teams

1st Pool v 1st Pool B

## Fifteen (15) Teams - 3 Pools

Pool X = 1st Pool A, 2nd Pool B, 1st Pool C

Pool Y = 2nd Pool a, 1st Pool B, 2nd Pool C

Winner Pool X v Winner Pool Y

Sixteen (16) Teams - 4 Pools

Pool X = 1st Pool A, 2nd Pool B, 1st Pool C, 2nd Pool D

Pool Y = 2nd Pool A, 1st Pool B, 2nd Pool C, 1st Pool D

Winner Pool X v Winner Pool Y

# Appendix 1

## Under 11 Specific Rules