

2025 WCSA BY-LAWS & SPECIAL OPERATING RULES



Rawlings
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THE OFFICIAL
SOFTBALL OF

WESTERN CANADA SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS

PART 1 – NAME

The name of the organization shall be the 'Western Canadian Softball Association' and herein the By-Laws referred to as WCSA or the Association.

PART 2 – AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Association is to carry on in more than one Province or Territory of Western Canada, without pecuniary gain for its members, with the following objectives:

a. Foster, develop, promote, and regulate the playing of Amateur softball,
b. Provide the game of Softball with proper safeguards in accordance with the spirit of true sportsmanship,
c. Encourage all eligible potential members to affiliate with the Association and
d. Instigate, promote, and regulate the Western Canadian Softball Championships.

PART 3 – DISSOLUTION

If for any reason the operations of the Association are terminated or wound up, or the Association is dissolved and there remains at that time after the satisfaction of loans, debts, and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be paid to a charitable organization in Canada having the same or similar objectives as set out for this Association.

PART 4 – JURISDICTION

a) The Association recognizes all Amateur sports and claims jurisdiction over and recognizes its responsibilities as the governing body of the Western Canadian Softball Championships, which include Fastpitch and Slo-Pitch softball as played by members of this Association in Western Canada or in other such places as may be designated by the Association.
b) Softball Canada recognizes the Association as the governing body of the Western Canadian Softball Championships, which include both fastpitch and slo-pitch softball in Western Canada.
c) The softball playing rules as set by Softball Canada (unless modified by WCSA Special Operating Rules) shall be the established rules.

PART 5 – MEMBERSHIP

a) Association Membership: membership shall be open to the following Provincial/Territorial Associations; British Columbia-BC, Alberta-AB, Northwest Territories-NT, Manitoba-MB, Saskatchewan-SK, and Yukon-YT. The Provincial/Territorial Associations shall be the governing bodies of softball in the applicable Province or Territory.

b) Team Membership: teams that are bona fide affiliates of their Provincial/Territorial Associations shall be deemed as members of the Association.

c) Individual Membership: anyone elected or appointed to the Board of Directors shall be a member of the Association.

d) Affiliate Membership: The provinces of Ontario and Quebec may be invited to participate in the WCSA Championships in case of low participation of teams to fill championship draws.

PART 6 – MEMBERSHIP DUES

a) Membership fees shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting as directed by the Annual General Meeting and shall be in an amount as is deemed necessary to carry out the continued operation of the Association.

b) Team registration fees shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting as directed by the Annual General Meeting and shall be in an amount deemed necessary to carry out the continued operation of the Association.

PART 7 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

a) A Board of Directors of the following officers and a President shall manage the affairs of the Association:
   - President – SK
   - Office/Treasurer – SK
   - Member-at-Large – NT
   - Draw Master – AB
   - Historian – YT
   - Officials Coordinator – MB

b) Each Provincial/Territorial Association shall appoint one (1) of their members to the Board of Directors of the Association annually.

PART 8 – DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

a) Upon appointment by their Provincial/Territorial Associations, the Board of Directors so appointed shall conduct the affairs of the Western Canadian Softball Association in the Province/Territory that he/she represents.

b) The Board of Directors shall conduct the business of the Association between the Annual General Meetings of the Association.

c) The Board of Directors shall carry out such duties as outlined below:

1) The WCSA President shall:
   - i) Chair all Board of Directors meetings.
   - ii) Be the spokesperson for all matters pertaining to the WCSA.
   - iii) Have signing authority for all the WCSA contracts.
   - iv) Be ex-officio of all committees.
   - v) Monitor individual Director performances.
   - vi) Establish the agenda for the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
   - vii) Supply a report to the WCSA AGM.
   - viii) Represent the WCSA at the Western Canadian Softball Championships, if required.
   - ix) Act as the liaison with Provincial/Territorial Presidents and Associations.

2) The WCSA Office shall:
   - i) Be responsible for networking all WCSA correspondence.
   - ii) Be responsible for collating the AGM packages.
   - iii) Coordinate all conference calls of the Association.
   - iv) Be the recording secretary for all Board of Directors meetings.
   - v) Be responsible for updating the WCSA handbook and distributing it by April 1 of the current playing year.
   - vi) Act as a liaison between the WCSA and their respective Provincial/Territorial Association.

3) The WCSA Treasurer shall:
   - i) Supervise the receipt and disbursement of all Association funds.

ii) Serve as chairperson of the Financial Committee to establish a yearly budget.

iii) Co-ordinate and communicate the participation of teams in all Western Canadian Softball Championships (follow-up may be required to fill Championships on a pro-rata basis).

iv) Be responsible for receiving and distributing the 'Confirmation of Participation' (COP) chart to all Provincial/Territorial Associations by June 15th of the current playing year.

v) Co-ordinate with the Member-at-Large on the purchase of the Awards for all Western Canadian Softball Championships.

vi) Provide an accounting of all financial transactions.

vii) Provide a financial statement to the Annual General Meeting.

viii) Act as liaison between the WCSA and their respective Provincial/Territorial Association.

4) The WCSA Member-at-Large shall:

i) Be the Chairperson of the Appeal Committee.

ii) Tabulate the Participation Evaluation Forms.

iii) Develop and maintain a WCSA Championship Supervisors Manual.

iv) Develop and maintain a WCSA 'Team Information Package' containing 'what every team should know when attending a Western Canadian Softball Championship'.

v) Evaluate annually, the WCSA, awards, and selection criteria.

vi) Supply a report to the WCSA AGM.

5) Act as liaison between the WCSA and their respective Provincial/Territorial Association.

i) The WCSA Draw Master shall:

ii) Approve all Western Canadian Softball Championship draws.

iii) Negotiate any draw modifications with each host – the Draw Master shall have final approval of all draws.

iv) Annually, evaluate the draw format.
v) Distribute all draws to the P/T Associations, Hosts, and WCSA Supervisors.
vi) Supply a report at the AGM.
vii) Act as liaison between the WCSA and their respective P/T Association.

6) The WCSA Historian shall be responsible for the collection and storage of:
i) All WCSA meeting minutes and correspondence.
ii) All WCSA tournament results forms with the following information:
- Final placing of all teams
- Dates and tournament locations

iii) Forward pertinent information to the WCSA office by October 1st.
iv) Act as liaison between the WCSA and their respective P/T association.

7) The WCSA Officials Coordinator shall:
i) Compile the attendance of officials at all Championships.
ii) Issue penalties to participating P/T's for failure to send officials to applicable championships.
iii) Field and review all UIC and WCSA Championship reports.
iv) Forward pertinent information to the WCSA Board of Directors where a recommendation or need for further disciplinary action is required.
v) Act as a liaison between the WCSA and their respective P/T Association.

PART 9- GENERAL DUTIES OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

a) The Provincial/Territorial Associations shall:
1. Bear all costs of their delegates attending the WCSA Annual General Meeting (AGM).
2. Pay the WCSA Affiliation Fees, Team Registration Fee, and any fines due to the WCSA Treasurer by October 1st.
3. Assign WCSA Representatives to all WCSA Championships in their P/T and inform all Provinces/Territories by July 1st.
4. Designate the Umpire-in-Chief for all WCSA Championships in their P/T and inform the Member-at-Large by July 1st.

5. Provide notification of Officials travelling to the Western Canadian Softball Championships by May 1st, and names by July 1st.
6. Collect the signed 'Host Agreements' and 'Host Fees', submitting the 'Host Fees' to the WCSA Treasurer by October 1st.
7. Bear all costs of the WCSA Championship Supervisors.
8. Be responsible for distributing Team Information Packages.

b) The WCSA Championship Supervisor shall:
1. Chair the pre-tournament coaches/manager meetings.
2. Establish and be a member of the Protest Committee and ensure alternates are designated.
3. Contact the Tournament Host two (2) weeks before the championship to ensure completion of the Host Agreement Checklist.
4. Be responsible for providing an evaluation back to the Provincial/Territorial office.
5. Ensure the Tournament Results Form is completed and forwarded to all P/T offices.

c) Every member of the Board of Directors of the Association or other person who has undertaken any liability on behalf of the Association and their heirs, executors, administrator, and estate, respectively, shall from time to time and at all times, be indemnified and save harmless out of the funds of the Association and from against:
1. All costs, charges, and expenses whatsoever which such member of the Board of Directors of the Association or other person sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit, or proceedings which are brought, commenced, or prosecuted against him or in any respect of any act, deed, matter or thing whatsoever, made, done or permitted by him, in or about the execution of the duties of his office or in respect of any such liability.
2. All other costs, charges, and expenses which he/she sustains or incurs in or about or concerning the affairs hereof, except such costs, charges, or expenses as are occasioned by his own wilful neglect or default.

d) The Board of Directors shall have the power to authorize expenditures on behalf of the Association from time to time and may delegate by resolution to any one member of the Board of Directors of the Association, the right to employ and pay salaries to employees. The members of the Board of Directors shall have the power to:

1. Make expenditures for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the Association.
2. Enter a trust arrangement with a trust company for the purpose of creating a trust fund, in which the capital interest may be made available for the benefit of promoting the interests of the Association in accordance with such terms as the members of the Board of Directors may prescribe.

PART 10 – MEETINGS

a) The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association shall be held virtually during January.

PART 11– VOTING AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

a) Each Provincial/Territorial Association shall have one (1) vote. The President of the Western Canadian Softball Association shall not cast a vote for their P/T and shall cast a deciding vote in the case of a tie.

b) Notices of Motion must be given in writing by December 1st. New motions may be brought to the floor with a 100% vote approval of the members present at the Annual General Meeting.



2025 Western Canadian Softball Championship Dates & Locations

U13 Girls & Boys	**Abbotsford, BC**	**Aug. 7 – 10**
U15 Girls & Boys	**Calgary, AB**	**Aug. 1 – 4**
U17 Girls & Boys	**Regina, SK**	**Aug. 7 – 10**
U19 Women's	**Brandon, MB**	**Aug. 7 – 10**

APPENDIX A: CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS/ PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

2025 WCSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Gary MacDonald - SK
Yukon	Garry Seeley - YK
British Columbia	Lisa Parkes - BC
Alberta	Todd Neuman - AB
Northwest Territories	Trent Dundas - NT
Saskatchewan	Guy Jacobson - SK
Manitoba	Larry Giesbrecht - MB

Office/Treasurer:	Softball Saskatchewan 2205 Victoria Avenue Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 0S4 Email: info@softball.sk.ca Phone: 306-780-9235
Draw Master:	Softball Alberta 9860-33rd Avenue NW Edmonton, AB T6N 1C6 Email: info@softballalberta.ca Phone: 780-461-7735
Member-at-Large:	Softball Northwest Territories 4908 - 49th Street, Box 11089 Yellowknife, NT X1A 3X7 Email: nwtsoftball@gmail.com Phone: 519-301-2598
Historian:	Softball Yukon 4061 4th Avenue Whitehorse, YK Y1A 1H1 Email: sarah@softballyukon.com Phone: 867-667-4487
Officials Coordinator:	Softball Manitoba Suite 321, 145 Pacific Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3B 2Z6 Email: softball@softball.mb.ca Phone: 204-925-5673

SPECIAL OPERATING RULES

ARTICLE 1 – CHAMPIONSHIP CATEGORIES

1. U13 Female and Male FP
2. U15 Female and Male FP
3. U17 Female FP
4. U19 Female FP

Note: Categories may not be added or deleted until the year following the passed motion.

ARTICLE 2 – AGE RESTRICTIONS

(All categories 'open' except)

1. U15 Male and Female: Maximum age limit shall be under 15 years of age before January 1st of the current year. EXCEPTION: NT and YT are allowed up to four (4) first year U17 players.
2. U17 Male and Female: Maximum age limit shall be under 17 years of age before January 1st of the current year. EXCEPTION: NT and YT are allowed up to four (4) first year U19 Female players and U20 Male players and will be allowed up to four (4) 1st year U23 players (under 23) before January 1st of the current year).
3. U19 Female and U20 Male: The maximum age limit for the U19 Female category shall be under 19 years of age before January 1st of the current year. The maximum age limit for the U20 Male category shall be under 20 years of age before January 1st of the current playing year.
4. All P/T's male divisions, U13 to U20, are allowed to have a maximum of 2 overage players per team. These players must be players who are one year advanced from the current playing category of the team in question. This will be highlighted on each OPL.
5. Overage players must reside in their home P/T.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR AGE CATEGORIES AND DISTANCE TABLES (FAST PITCH)

CANADIAN FAST PITCH CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY
AGE CATEGORIES & DISTANCE TABLE (FAST PITCH)

CATEGORY	AGE (prior to January 1st of the current year)	BALL	PITCHING	BASELINES	FENCES
MALE					
Masters*	40 or over	30.5cm (12")			
*** In Master Men's Fast Pitch the minimum age limit will be 40 years of age in the year of the event.**					
Men's		30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m – 81.0 m (225' – 265')
U23	Under 23	30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m – 81.0 m (225' – 265')
U20	***Under 20***	30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m – 81.0 m (225' – 265')
U17	***Under 17***	30.5 cm (12")	***14.0 m (46'***)	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m – 81.0 m (225' – 265')
U15	***Under 15***	30.5 cm (12")	***12.8 m (42')***	18.3 m (60')	64.0 m – 76.2 m (210' – 250')
U13	***Under 13***	***27.95 cm (11")***	***11.58 m (38')***	16.76 m (55')	51.8 m – 68.6 m (170' – 225')
U11	***Under 11***	27.95 cm (11")	***10.67 m (35')***	13.7 m (45')	48.5 m – 68.6 m (160' – 225')
U9	***Under 9***	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	48.5 m – 68.6 m (160' – 225')
U7	***Under 7***	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	48.5 m – 68.6 m (160' – 225')
FEMALE					
**** In Masters Women's Fast Pitch the minimum age limit will be 35 years of age in the year of the event.***					
Women's		30.5 cm (12")	13.1m (43')	18.3 m (60')	67.1m – 71.6 m (220' – 235')
U23	***Under 23***	***30.5 cm (12")***	***13.1 m (43')***	***18.3 m (60')***	***61.0 m – 64.0 m (200' –***
U19	Under 19	30.5 cm (12")	13.1m (43')	18.3 m (60')	61.0 m – 64.0 m (200' – 210')
U17	***Under 17***	30.5 cm (12")	***13.1 m (43')***	18.3 m (60')	54.9 m – 64.0 m (180' – 210')
U15	***Under 15***	30.5 cm (12")	***12.2 m (40')***	18.3 m (60')	51.8 m – 64.0 m (170' – 210')
U13	***Under 13***	27.95 cm (11")	***11.58 m (38')***	16.76 m (55')	48.5 m – 64.0 m (160' – 210')
U11	***Under 11***	27.95 cm (11")	***10.67 m (35')***	13.7 m (45')	45.7 m – 64.0 m (150' – 210')
U9	***Under 9***	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	45.7 m – 64.0 m (150' – 210')
U7	***Under 7***	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	45.7 m – 64.0 m (150' – 210')
Orthodox					
MALE		30.5 cm (12")	12.8 m (42')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m – 81.0 m (225' – 265')
FEMALE		30.5 cm (12")	12.2 m (40')	18.3 m (60')	61.0 m – 64.0 m (200' – 210')
MIXED		30.5 cm (12")	12.8 m (42')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m – 81.0 m (225' – 265')

Notes: Minor/Youth age categories refer to all categories up to U20 inclusive.

ARTICLE 3 – PROVINCIAL/TERRITORY ELIGIBILITY

1. Any Province/Territory that wishes to enter a team in any Western Canadian Championship after June 30th of the current year, will be assessed a $250.00 late entry fee which will be split by the hosting province/territory and the WCSA. This fee must be paid before the Province/Territory late entry is accepted.
2. Any Province/Territory who withdraws an entry in any Western Canadian Championship, after June 30th of the current year, will be assessed a $1,000.00 penalty which will be provided to the Host P/T.
   a) This penalty will be split by the hosting P/T and the WCSA. EFFECT: If the penalty is not received by the WCSA by October 1st of the current year, then the defaulting P/T will be ineligible to participate in the respective category the following year.
   b) Once the draw is complete and approved by the Draw Master and a team withdraws:
      i) The P/T of the team withdrawing has 24 hours to find a replacement team,
      ii) Then, the Host P/T has 24 hours, the 2nd option, to find a replacement team.
   c) If a team withdraws within one (1) week of the start of the Championship and no replacement team is found, the hosting P/T will receive the full amount of the penalty.
3. There may not be a Western Canadian Championship held unless there is participation from a minimum of three P/T's and six (6) teams.
4. The WCSA shall extend an invitation to teams from Ontario and Quebec to participate in all categories that are not filled by the Western P/T's.

ARTICLE 4 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. Players must register within their respective P/T in the current year.
2. Coaches/Managers shall not count as players unless currently signed as active players in the proper manner.
3. Players participating in a Western Canadian Championship are ELIGIBLE when:

a) They are picked up to go to a Canadian Championship – they may return and participate with their team in the Western Canadian Championship in the same year.
b) Or they are members of Male teams who have united to form a Male A team to compete in the Canadian Championship. This Male A team roster would thus be comprised of:
    i) more than two (2) players from each of two (2) or more Male teams participating in a Western Canadian Championship, and
    ii) Other Male players from the Province/Territory.

4. Players are INELIGIBLE to participate in a Western Canadian Championship when:
    a) They are on a roster of a team participating in a Canadian Championship.
        i) Exceptions as stated above (Article 4.3), and
        ii) Exception (Male FP): Male Men FP can pick up from U20.
    b) Or they are a current National team member.
5. In all fastpitch categories players may only participate in one (1) Western Canadian Championship.
6. Teams from NT and YT will be permitted to pick up three (3) players registered with another Province/Territory if that Province/Territory agrees to such additions. These players must be eligible to participate in their home Province/Territory in that category.
7. Players registered in one Province/Territory for a Canadian Championship may not participate in a different Province/Territory in a Western Canadian Championship.
8. Any player with a permanent address in one Province/Territory (P / T) and wishing to register in another P/T must have approval from both Provinces and/or Territories and complete an Inter-Provincial transfer form signed off by both Provinces and Territories involved by July 15th of the current playing year.
9. All policies follow those of Softball Canada. See www.softball.ca

ARTICLE 5 – TEAM ELIGIBILITY

1. The makeup of the Provincial/Territorial team representative participating at all Western Canadian Championships shall be the responsibility of the Provincial/Territorial Softball Association.

a) The approved Provincial/Territorial Western Official Players List is to be sent to the Host P/T office and the host contact person a minimum of one (1) week before the Championship. The final Western Canadian Championship Official Players List will be confirmed at the Championship Coaches meeting.

b) All categories are allowed a maximum of two (2) teams per Province/Territory plus a Host team. EXCEPTION: where there are seven (7) teams or less, one additional team may be added to adjust the draw to an even number. Said team will be allocated on a pro-rata basis from the Province/Territories other than the Host Province/Territory.

c) P/T must have completed Provincial Championships in categories that qualify for the same caliber Western Canadian Softball Championship a minimum of two (2) weeks before the scheduled start date of the Western Canadian Championship.

d) Female players are eligible to participate in male teams.

e) Coach Requirements

   i. A certified/trained coach must be in attendance and on the bench at all games.

   ii. Adult FP Categories: require one of the registered coaches to be fully trained in NCCP Community Softball.

   iii. Minor Categories: categories require one of the registered coaches to be fully certified in NCCP Competition Introduction. **Exception: For U13 category only, one of the registered coaches to be qualified as "Trained" in NCCP Competition Introduction.**

   EFFECT: If a Province/Territory sends a team that participates in a Western Canadian Championship without the required Level Coach/Manager, the Province/Territory will be assessed a $250.00 penalty by the WCSA, and the team will NOT be allowed to use base coaches during the Championship.

ARTICLE 6 – HOST TEAM

1. In all Western Canadian Softball Championships, the host Province/Territory may enter up to three teams.
2. The Provincial/Territorial Association shall determine the manner in which the Host team is to be determined.

ARTICLE 7 – AWARDS

1. The Association shall provide gold, silver, and bronze medallions for each Championship. No more than 20 shall be given to any team provided that the names of the individuals (receiving the medals) are duly registered on said team roster. (Masters FP and Coed SP shall be given NO MORE THAN 23 MEDALLIONS). All teams are encouraged to attend the medal presentations; however, the bronze medalists may request to receive their medals immediately following the bronze m edal game.
2. The Host shall provide a Championship trophy/plaque to the winning team in each Western Canadian Championship.
3. In minor categories the Host shall provide two (2) Player of the Game awards for each game in the round-robin.

ARTICLE 8 – DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

1. Players must be in identical uniforms. The Western Canadian Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament UIC, shall judge the acceptability of uniforms. Players unacceptably uninformed will be dealt with as follows:
   a) If possible, a player will be warned before a game about their appearance.
   b) A player participating in a game will be instructed to immediately correct the uniform deficiency.
   c) A player failing to correct the deficiency shall be ejected from the game.
   d) All players appearing on a game sheet must wear a uniform number on the back of their uniform. No number may be repeated. (Only whole numbers from 00 to 99 are permitted, a maximum of 2 digits).
   e) Coaches shall be respectfully dressed in similar colors to that of their team.
2. The Western Canadian Championships will use the same softballs as the Canadian Championships.

ARTICLE 9 – DURATION OF CHAMPIONSHIPS

All Western Canadian Softball Championships will be four days, with the Coaches/Managers meeting being held the evening before the first scheduled game.

ARTICLE 10 – CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS

The WCSA Draw Master shall forward to each WCSA Board Member and each Host Chairperson/Supervisor, a copy of said draw 10 days before all Western Canadian Championships.

ARTICLE 11 – CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

1. Unless otherwise stated, all Canadian Championship rules will be adhered to for all Western Canadian Championships.
2. The type of draw used in all championships will ensure the Final game is a one-game playoff. There will be no 'IF' game.
   a) Six to nine teams: each team will play in a complete round robin (5-7 teams) or a modified round robin (8-9 teams, maximum of six games per team). {If possible, the team(s) you do not play will be from your P/T.} The top four teams advance to a four-game playoff round. First and Second place qualifiers shall receive two lives and the third and fourth place qualifier will receive one life.
   b) Ten and eleven teams: Teams are split into two pools. Each team plays four games in either a complete round-robin or a modified round-robin (maximum of four games per team). The top four teams from each pool will advance to a ten-game playoff round. The top two teams in each pool shall receive two lives and the next two will receive one life.
   c) Twelve teams or more: Teams are split into two pools. Each team will play five games in either a complete round-robin or a modified round-robin (maximum of five games per team). The top four teams from each pool will advance to a ten-game playoff round. The top two teams in each pool shall receive two lives and the next two will receive one life.
3. All final games are scheduled for 1:00 pm on the final day.
4. In all round-robin games, the home team is the one whose name appears on the right side of the draw. In all Championship round games (except the final) option of being home team will be the highest-ranked team based on the standings after the round-robin. EXCEPTION: In the Championship Final Game, the option of the home team will be made by the winner of the 1 vs 2 Championship Round Game.
5. The Home team will always take the third base dugouts.

6. In case of inclement weather or other uncontrollable circumstances, the WCSA Supervisor will be responsible for revising and or altering the draw.
7. In case of a rain delay or a complete washout, during one of the days of the Championship, new times and a schedule may have to be made. No protests of the altered schedule will be allowed.
8. If a game is cancelled before completion, due to rain or any other reason, the game will be completed as soon as possible. The game will start at the exact point that it was called.
9. The 'Tiebreaker Rule' will be in effect after 7 innings of play.
10. A Run Ahead Rule applies to ALL GAMES in any championship and shall result in the conclusion of the game:
    a) **Fast Pitch Categories:**
        i) In all categories, games will end after 2 ½ innings of play if the home team is winning by 15 or more runs. A game will end after 3 complete innings of play if the visiting team is winning by 15 or more runs.
        ii) In all categories, games will end after 4 complete innings of play if the visiting team is winning by 10 or more runs.
        iii) In all categories, games will end after 4 ½ or 5 ½ innings of play if the home team is winning by 7 or more runs. A game will end after 5 or 6 complete innings of play if the visiting team is winning by 7 or more runs.
11. **Tiebreaking Procedures**: to determine the Final Standings in the round-robin the following criteria shall be used to break ties:
    a) The following guidelines will apply to WCSA Championship Games:
        i) No WCSA Championship games will remain a tie.
        ii) If a game is tied after seven (7) complete innings, the teams will revert to the international tie-breaking rule starting in the top of the eighth (8^{th}) inning.
        iii) The final score of a game is also the score used for tiebreaking purposes.
        iv) If the home team is ahead after 6 ½ innings of play, they will NOT bat in the seventh (7^{th}) inning. This rule will also be in effect if the mercy rule comes into play after 2 ½, 3 ½, 4 ½, or 5 ½ innings.

b) Two (2) teams tied:
   i) The winner of the round-robin game between the tied teams receives the higher placement.
c) Three (3) teams tied:
   i) When all three teams have played each other the winner of the round robin games between the tied teams will receive the higher placement.
   ii) If only one team has played all teams they are tied with, and won both games, then they will receive the higher placement. The two remaining teams will revert to the two teams tied criteria above.
   iii) Whether the teams have or have not played each other, the difference of plus or minus of total runs scored, with a limit of seven (7) plus or minus per game for all games played in the round-robin will be used to determine the highest placement, and:
      1) If the two teams remaining have played each other, the head-to-head game will be used to determine the 2nd and 3rd positions.
      2) If the two teams remaining have not played each other, the plus/minus criteria will be used to determine 2nd and 3rd placements.
   iv) If still tied then, the least runs allowed by each team for all games played in the round-robin will be used to determine the higher placement.
   v) If still tied, then the total runs for each team (with a maximum of 7 runs per game) for all games played in the round-robin will be used to determine the higher placement.
d) Four (4) or more teams tied:
   i) The difference of plus or minus of total runs scored, with a limit of seven (7) plus or minus for all games played in the round-robin will be used to determine all four placements. If still tied then,
   ii) The least runs allowed by each team for all games played in the round-robin will be used to determine the higher placement. If still tied then,

iii) Total runs for each team (with a maximum of 7 runs per game) for all games played in the round-robin will be used to determine the higher placement.

NOTES:

a) A regulation game shall consist of 7 innings. A full 7 innings need not be played if the team's second at-bat has scored more runs than the other team after 6 ½ innings or before the third out in the bottom of the 7th inning.

b) If the game is over and the bottom one-half of the inning is not required, the home team does NOT bat in the bottom of the inning.

Tiebreaking Games

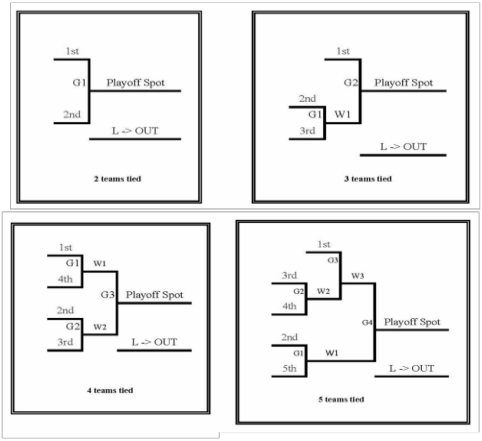
a) The above criteria ranking establishes the standing after completion of the round- robin.

b) If there is a tie for the last playoff position; tiebreaker games between these teams will be played, with ranking used to determine pairings in the first round, as follows:

i) The number of games played will be equal to number of teams minus one.

ii) If odd number of teams, the team ranked highest receives a bye in the first round.

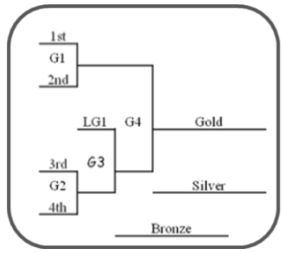
c) If no tiebreaker games are required, then the playoff round may begin in the time slots reserved for tiebreaker games. ***(Refer to Annex 'A' for larger image)***



ARTICLE 12 – INCOMPLETE CHAMPIONSHIP PROCEDURE

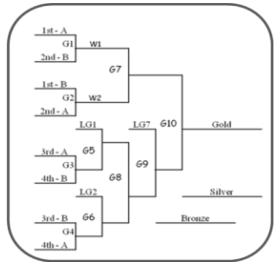
1. If, for any reason, a Western Canadian Softball Championship cannot be completed the following formula shall be applied to determine final standings and medal awards:
   a) If the qualifying round cannot be completed, medals will be awarded based on the standings at the time.
   b) If the qualifying round is completed and no games have been played in the championship round, the qualifying round standings shall be used to award medals.

FOR A CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND OF 4 TEAMS (Four games):



- If after games 1 and 2 have been played and no other games can be played, the gold shall be awarded to the team with two (2) lives and the silver and bronze to the remaining two (2) teams based on their qualifying round standings.
- If after game 3, the gold will be awarded to the team with two (2) lives and the silver to the team with one (1) life. ***(Refer to Annex 'B' for a larger image)***

FOR A CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND OF 8 TEAMS (10 games):



- If after games 1 and 2 have been played, the teams with two (2) lives shall receive the gold and silver medals, the gold will go to the team finishing higher in the qualifying round. The bronze medal shall go to whichever of the remaining teams with one (1) life finished higher in the qualifying round.
- If after the 3rd game on the two (2) life side (game 7), the teams in this game shall receive the gold and silver medals, the gold medal going to the winner of this game, and the silver to the runner-up. The bronze medal shall go to whichever of the remaining teams with one (1) life finished higher in the Championship round and in the qualifying round.

- If after game 8, the gold will be awarded to the team with two (2) lives and the silver to the runner-up of game 7 or the winner of game 9, with the bronze medal to the remaining team with one (1) life. ***(Refer to Annex 'C' for a larger image)***

2. If, for any reason, the Western Canadian Softball Championship cannot commence until the second last day, then the tournament shall revert to a single or double knockout (or modification thereof) format. This will be determined at the discretion of the Western Canadian Supervisor.
3. If, for any reason, a Western Canadian Softball Championship cannot begin, then a winner will not be declared in that year.
4. The Western Canadian Supervisor will be required to wait until 12:00 pm on the final scheduled day of the tournament before declaring champions.
5. If there are situations that arise which are not covered by the Incomplete Championship Procedure, or by any other article under the Special Operating Rules or By-Laws, the Western Canadian Supervisor shall have sole authority to rule.

ARTICLE 13 – OFFICIALS

1. Provincial/Territorial Associations who are planning to send officials to the Western Canadian Championships shall inform the appropriate host Province/Territory of the number of officials attending the Championship by May 1st of the current year. The Host Province/Territory shall have the right to refuse officials if the notice is not received by this date. The names of the officials are to be submitted to the host Province/Territory by July 1st of the current year.
2. In all Western Canadian Softball Championships, a two (2) umpire system will be used in all round-robin games and tiebreaker game(s) and a three (3) umpire system be used in all Championship Round games.
3. Umpire-in-Chief and Deputy Umpire-in-Chief working at a Western Canadian Championship will be paid a UIC/DUIC Fee of $50.00 per day per person that they are on site. **Each umpire will be paid a game fee of $45.00 per person per game.** Any Province/Territory Association that sends teams to a Western Canadian Championship but fails to send an umpire to that

Championship will be assessed a fee of $500.00 per incident. This fee will be forwarded to the WCSA who will then forward it to the host Province/Territory Associations.

4. Umpires traveling out of Province or Territory must receive a written/ electronic evaluation from the Western Canadian Championship UIC for all categories. Within 10 days of the end of the championship
5. Accommodations for designated umpires traveling to Western Championships shall be paid for by the host Provincial/Territory office. The cost then will be submitted to the appropriate Provincial/Territory office of the designated officials. Each province will be responsible for the accommodations of their designated officials.

ARTICLE 14 – ROTATIONS AND CHART

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Fastpitch:					
U13 Male & Female	BC	SK	AB	MB	BC
U15 Male & Female	AB	MB	BC	SK	AB
U17 Male & Female	SK	AB	MB	BC	SK
U19 Female	MB	BC	SK	AB	MB

1. The hosting P/T must indicate at the AGM the year preceding the event, their intention to host their assigned championship.
2. If a P/T forfeits their right to host a Championship the year following the AGM, the members will make an effort to award the Championship at the AGM or by no later than June 1st.
3. For any category, if no host site has been found by March 1st in the year of the Championship, that Championship will not be played in that year.
4. NT and YT can be added to the rotation chart as agreed one year in advance.

ARTICLE 15 – CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

1. The preferred weekend for the Western Canadian Championships for the U13 Male, U15, U17, and U19 Female/U20 Male categories is the second weekend in August.

ARTICLE 16 – CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

1. Rules governing any Western Canadian Championship shall be those found in the Softball Canada rulebook for the current year; EXCEPT where rules are changed by Western Canadian Championship rules.
2. Attendance at the pre-tournament coaches/managers meeting is mandatory for all teams. Failure to have a coach, manager, or representative at the pre-tournament meeting, unless there are extenuating circumstances, will result in a $500 fine per offending team assessed against the offending Province/Territory. The fine will be forwarded to the WCSA.
3. A maximum of 17 and a minimum of 11 players, including added players are permitted on each team roster. Teams may have a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of five (5) coaching positions on the championship OPL.
4. All teams must participate in the opening ceremonies, fully dressed in team uniforms. As prescribed by the Host Committee, teams may have to supply their own flag and banner.
5. Games will start exactly on time or as close to the scheduled time as possible. Teams must be available and ready to play at the scheduled time; if the team is not ready to play at the scheduled time, the game will be forfeited.
6. Line-up cards shall be submitted to the WCSA supervisor at a designated location complete with the full name of the player, and position. Must include all substitute names and be signed by the team coach. The lineup cards must **be** submitted thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled game time.
7. No equipment other than bats in the bat rack, such as gloves, helmets, balls, etc., will be allowed on the tops of the dugouts or outside the dugout area unless being used and approved by the umpires.
8. If a player/coach/manager is ejected from the ball game, that player/coach/manager must leave the ballpark. He/she cannot sit on the player's bench or remain in the stands. Players/coach/managers ejected from a game may continue to participate in subsequent games of the Championship, providing that the Protest Committee has levied no further suspension.

9. No foul or abusive language (or gestures) or harassment by players/coaches/managers or game officials will be tolerated at any time. No smoking, vaping, liquor, and/or other recreational impairment-inducing substances shall be allowed within 100 feet of the benches or on the playing field area. EFFECT: the offending person(s) will be given a warning and both teams shall be advised that the warning has been given. A second offense will lead to ejection from the game.
10. If a ball is hit or thrown out of play, the plate umpire is to immediately put another ball of their choice into play. The ball that went out of play must return to an umpire for inspection before it can be put back into play.
11. All protests will be handled by the Protest Committee at the TIME OF THE PROTEST. Upon arrival of the Protest Committee, the protesting team will supply the Committee with a Protest Fee of $250.00 (cash). Failure to do this will nullify the protest and the game shall continue immediately. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned after the game.
12. Any game or procedure not covered by the above will be clarified and ruled upon by the Championship Protest Committee. In this context, any decision rendered by the Protest Committee will be considered final. NO APPEALS WILL BE ALLOWED.
13. Any of the starting players, including the 'DP' (FP) and 'EP' (SP), may be withdrawn, and re-entered once, provided players occupy the same batting positions. EXCEPTION: (U19 and under categories) When all legal substitutions have been entered by a team in a game the RE-ENTRY rule is waived in the event of injury and/or illness.
    a) The player entering the game shall assume the batting position of the injured and/or ill player.
    b) The injured and/or ill player may NOT return to the game.
    c) Substitutions can only take place at the time of the injury and/or illness.

ARTICLE 17 – U13 SPECIAL OPERATING RULES

1. The Game
   i) **Maximum of 5 runs or 3 outs for the offensive team. Once the 5th run is scored, all other runners are stranded.**
   ii) Each player listed on the line-up card must play a minimum of 2 innings (12 outs) by the end of the 4th inning in each game. In a run-ahead game, a team will not be penalized if not able to play all players. Violations of this rule will result in the Head coach being suspended for one (1) game.
2. Pitching
   a) **Pitchers may pitch a maximum of (4) innings per game in the round-robin, possible tiebreakers, and Championship Round.** Should a pitcher throw (1) pitch this is classified as a complete inning pitched. **In the event of extra innings, the pitching rule is not in effect.** The penalty for a pitcher(s) exceeding the limit of innings pitched is that the coach is ejected, the player(s) is removed from the pitching position and all illegal innings will be re-played.
   b) The "Conference Rule" (regarding pitchers) in U13 will allow one (1) conference per pitcher per inning and the second (2) conference will result in the pitcher being removed from the pitching position but may remain in the game in another position.
   c) In the event of a suspension in play resulting in a day(s) delay the Pitching Rule is carried over to the new day and the game resumes from the point of suspension.
   d) All pitchers must wear a protective mask.
   e) No Intentional walks.
3. Distances & Measurements
   a) Base Path Distance: 13.70m (55')
   b) Pitching Distance: 10.67m (38')
   c) Softball: Rawlings 27.95cm (11") Red Dot

ARTICLE 18 – ACTS OF SUSPENSION

1. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, suspend any players, coaches, managers, clubs, and umpires from membership in the Association. A registered letter to the suspended party shall communicate notice of any suspension and such notice shall state

the reasons for the said suspension. The Board of Directors may authorize an appeal of the suspension provided they are satisfied, on majority vote, that the situation warrants the hearing of such appeal.

2. If a Western Canadian Supervisor recommends to the WCSA Board of Directors that disciplinary action be taken against a player, team, or official, notification shall be forwarded to the President and Office of the WCSA, the Provincial/Territorial Association of the player, team, or official and the offending person or persons. This report should be forwarded to the above people within 30 days of the Championship.
3. The WCSA shall recognize all Provincial/Territorial suspensions.

ARTICLE 19 – ACTS OF DISQUALIFICATION

A team, team member, or umpire may be disqualified for any of the following:

1. Conduct detrimental to the game of Softball,
2. Physical violence proceeding, during or following a game,
3. Participating while they do not meet the eligibility requirements of the WCSA,
4. Forfeiture of a game.

HOSTING STANDARDS

A. Responsibilities of the host
   1. Agrees that the Host Chairperson/Representative will not be affiliated, in any way, with any of the participating teams.
   2. Agrees that the sponsoring group will become a signatory to this agreement and shall indemnify and hold harmless the WCSA from and against any financial loss, debt, or liability arising out of the Championships.
   3. Agrees to undertake liability insurance coverage for all reasonable hazards pertaining to the Championship.
   4. Will submit to the Provincial/Territorial office, at least two (2) months before the Championship, a list of recommended accommodations including facilities and price, as well as submit same to the other P/T offices for distribution to their participating teams.

5. Agrees to provide sufficient diamonds for each category in the Championship (approved by the Provincial/Territorial Association).
6. Will provide 'double bases' for each diamond used in the championship.
7. Agrees to provide a change room at the ballpark for the umpires.
8. Shall be responsible for securing additional required WCSA official softballs (above the allocation provided), as well as a powdered rosin bag for all games, on all diamonds in all fastpitch softball games. The WCSA official softballs are Rawlings for FP and Worth for SP, of which the WCSA will provide five (5) dozen per category.
9. Will provide qualified personnel for the following:
    a) Scorekeepers and groundkeepers
10. Shall be responsible for press facilities, including but not limited to, a press box.
11. Shall not issue any press release(s) on the policy of the tournament without WCSA approval.
12. The Host agrees to comply with any sponsorship agreements the WCSA has in place (Rawlings). Will assist in putting up corporate sponsor banners at their Championship site as designated by the WCSA and be responsible for their return to the Provincial/Territorial office.
13. If the host agrees to publish a program for the sale of the same, all receipts from advertising and sale thereof, shall be the property of the host. The host agrees to provide the WCSA and the Provincial/Territorial Association of the host, one page of advertising without charge. (See Host Chairperson/Supervisor guidelines, a letter from the WCSA Chairperson and sponsorship advertising should be included in the program).
14. Shall follow WCSA/Softball Canada protocol in the Opening ceremonies, and shall receive approval of the procedure being used, before the championship. The Opening ceremonies shall be conducted on the first day of competition.
15. Will provide the following awards (trophies):
    a) ADULT CATEGORIES:

i) The winning teams must be issued a 'keeper' trophy/plaque supplied by the host committee.

b) MINOR CATEGORIES:

i) A player of the game award for both teams in each game of the Championship.

16. Agrees to take pictures of the top three teams and submit the same with the Championship report.
17. Will provide adequate room(s) for the Coaches/Managers meeting and the Umpire Meeting, to be held before the championship, as outlined in the WCSA bylaws.
18. Agrees to book a block of hotel rooms for the officials. It is preferable that this be at a different hotel than the teams are staying. Eight rooms are usually appropriate. Each room should have two beds. The payment of rooms for the tournament is the responsibility of the Host Province/Territory who then invoices each P/T their allocated expense.
19. Agrees to book the hotel room for the Western Canadian Supervisor for the duration of the Championship. The payment of the room for the tournament is the responsibility of the Host P/T.

B. Financial Responsibilities of the Host

1. In lieu of a percentage of the gate, the host will pay the WCSA:
   a) $250.00 per adult category (Male and Female)
   b) $100.00 per minor category (Male and Female)
   c) A complete report on the championship must follow the event.
2. There shall be no complimentary tickets, other than those issued to and by the WCSA, officials, and their delegates. All teams competing in a championship will be entitled to admission passes for those listed on the OPL only. Passes should be issued to all Provincial Directors who attend the Championship.
3. The host agrees to assume the cost of the following:
   a) Ceremonies, meetings, advertising, and prizes.
   b) Ground transportation of the officials to and from the host airport, hotel, and tournament site.
   c) Social event (optional) and a nominal fee may be charged.

d) Umpire-in-Chief and Deputy Umpire-in-Chief working at a Western Canadian Championship will be paid a UIC/DUIC Fee of $50.00 per day per person that they are on site. Each umpire will be paid games fees of $30.00 per person for a three-umpire system, and $35.00 per person for a 2-umpire system for all adult categories. Minor Categories will be $25.00 per person for three umpire system and $30.00 per person for 2 umpire system.

C. Responsibilities of the WCSA

1. Shall, in consultation with the Host, prepare and approve the draw. The WCSA will then forward the draw to the Western Canadian Supervisor and the Host, who in turn will forward same to participating teams.
2. Shall provide:
   a) Awards as outlined in the WCSA Special Operating Rules (i.e. Medals).
   b) Five (5) dozen of the WCSA official Rawlings softballs.
   c) Sufficient line-up cards for use in the Championship.
3. Shall approve the teams/players wishing to participate in the Championship.
4. Shall, in conjunction with the host, conduct the coaches/managers and umpire meetings before the commencement of the Championship.
5. The Western Canadian Supervisor shall chair the Coaches/Managers meeting and appoint the Protest Committee. The Protest Committee will be made up of no less than three people, which will include the following:
   a) Western Canadian Supervisor
   b) Umpire-In-Chief (UIC)
   c) Chairperson/Representative/Designate, provided by the Host Committee.
   d) All decisions rendered by the Protest Committee shall be final, with no avenue for appeal.
6. All negotiations for sponsorship of a WCSA Championship must be approved by the WCSA.

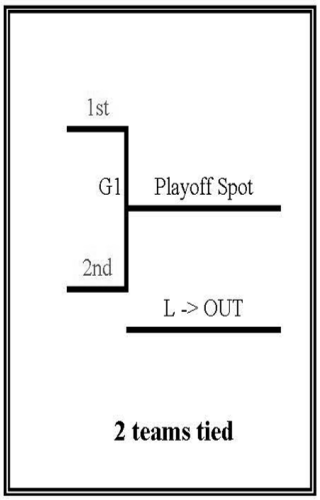
D. GENERAL

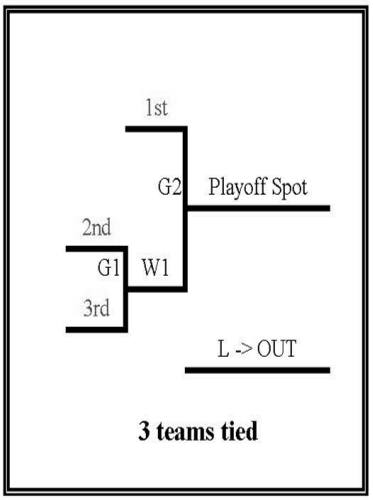
If the above-mentioned championship(s) is (are) canceled because of weather conditions, political unrest, an act of God, insurrection,

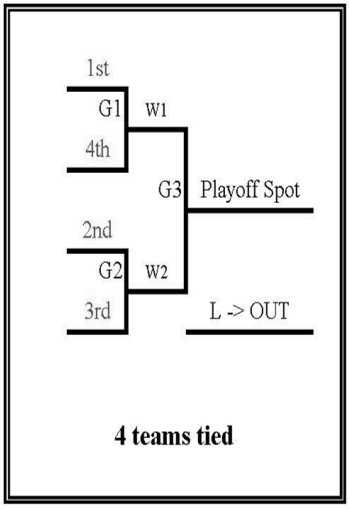
labour unrest, or for any other reason beyond the control of the WCSA, or the Provincial/Territorial Association, the host organization shall have no recourse against the WCSA or the Provincial/Territorial Association for expenses, costs or damages incurred by the host organization in consequence of any undertakings, obligations or other matters related to this agreement. It is agreed by both parties, that entering into this agreement is done with the knowledge that the ultimate goal is the most successful Championship possible.

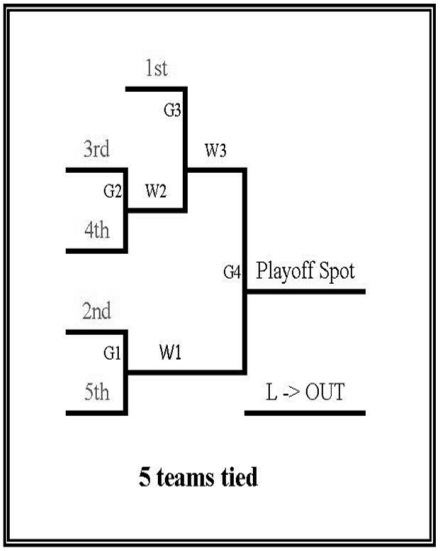
ANNEXES

Annex 'A' – Tiebreaker

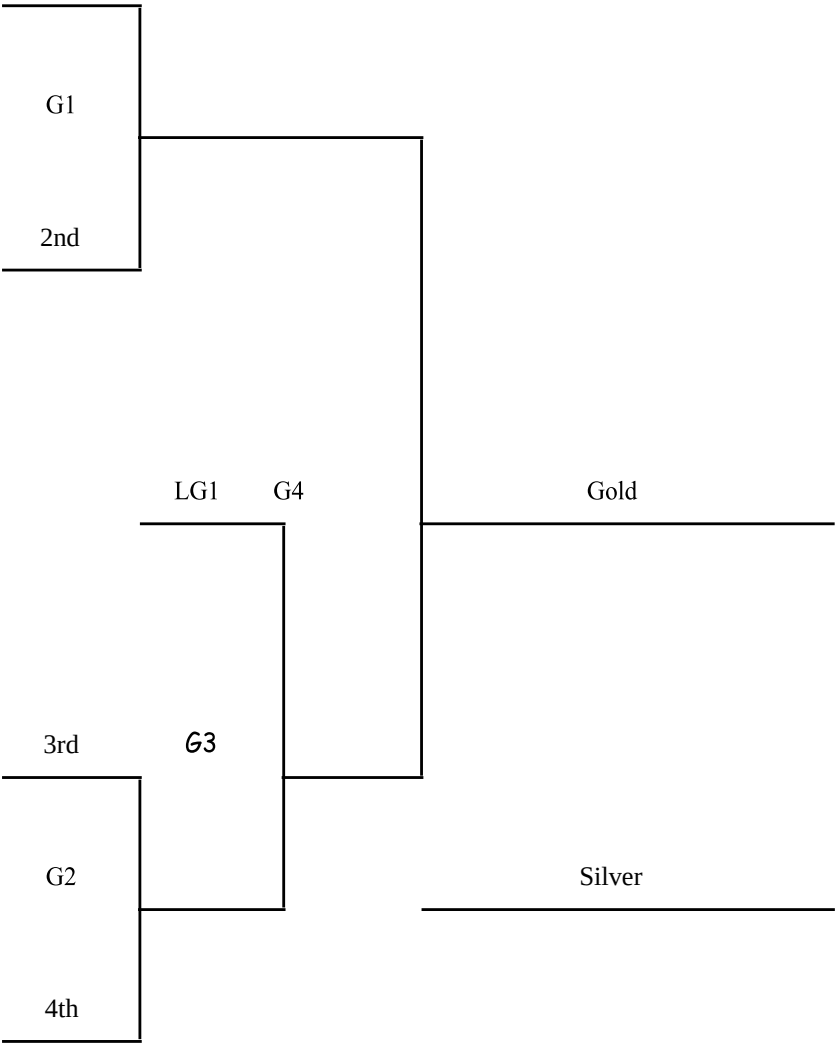




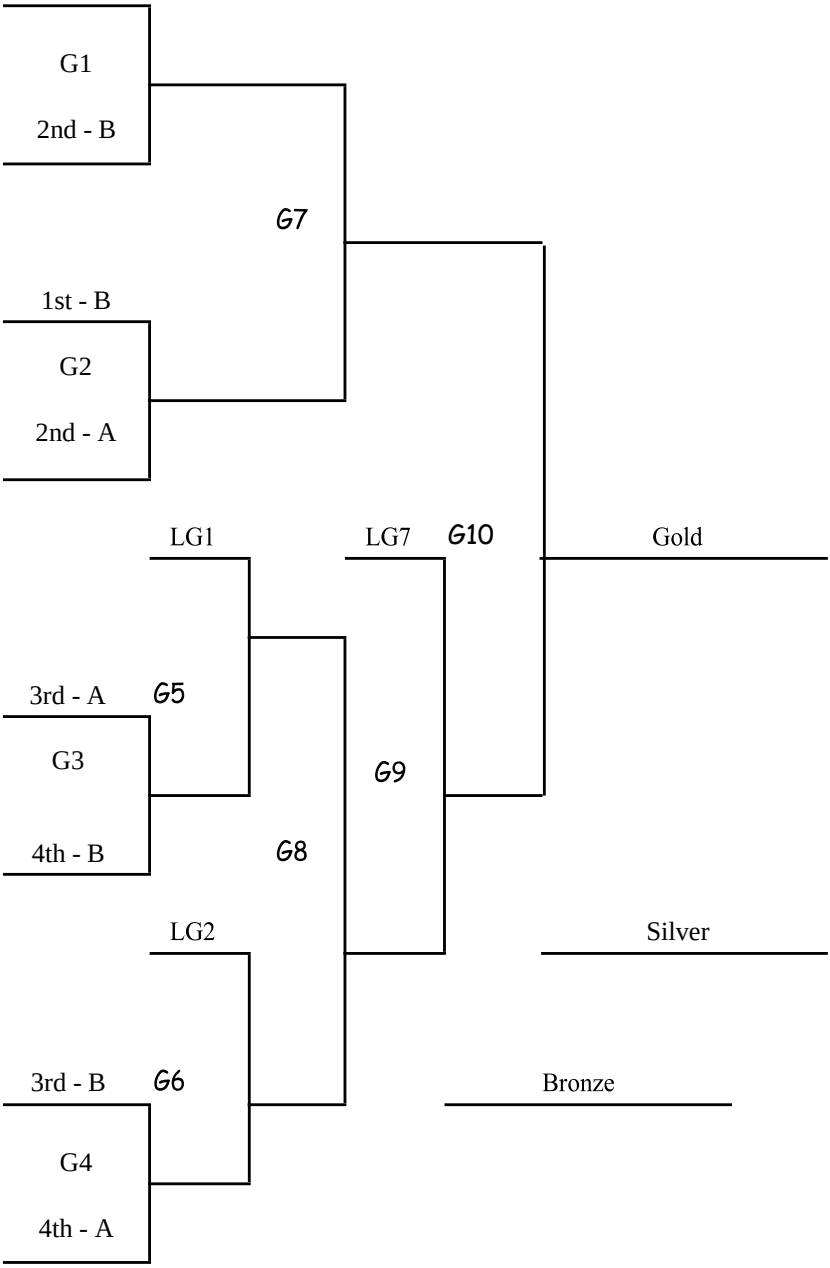




Annex 'B' – 4 Team Championship Round



Annex 'C' – 8 Team Championship Round



NOTES


EASTON
THE NEXT
OC
MEGAN GRANT
UCLA SOFTBALL
GHOST OC


Rawlings
Est. 1887