

SOFTBALL

1 ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 Competition will be conducted in Open, Senior (Years 10, 11 & 12), Year 9, Year 8 and Year 7 grades.
- 1.2 If a Year 7, Year 8, or Year 9 player plays in the Open grade, she is not eligible to play in the Year 7, 8 or 9 competition, in that year.
- 1.3 In the event of an abandoned competition, any student in Years 7, 8 & 9 who was selected in an Open or senior team is eligible to play in their own year level competition in that year.
- 1.4 Refer to Team Sports 1.2 and 1.3.
- 1.5 The maximum number on a team list will be 16 players.
- 1.6 For a team to be able to play the game, the minimum number of players to take and remain on the diamond will be 7 players. There is an automatic out awarded for each missing player at the time of their bat. Otherwise the team will forfeit.

2 FIXTURES

2.1 Open and Senior Grades

- 2.1.1 Three rounds will be played on each Saturday morning until the completion of the competition. The first game will commence at 7.30am.
- 2.1.2 Games will be played over seven innings or sixty-five minutes, whichever occurs first. If at the end of seven innings, or sixty-five minutes, the teams are drawn, no extra innings shall be played.
- 2.1.3 A 15 minute break shall occur between matches.
- 2.1.4 The pitching distance for Open and Senior grades will be 40 feet.

2.2 Years 7, 8 and 9

- 2.2.1 Two to three rounds will be played on each afternoon of competition, scheduled on four different weekdays over a period of two weeks. The first game will commence no earlier than 2:30pm. The week day will be rotated over the five weeks.
- 2.2.2 If a school is to miss more than one day of the competition, they cannot be included in the draw. They must undertake to complete a minimum of two days of the competition to be eligible for points to count towards the pennant.
 - (1) If a school will miss one day, another school can field a second team. This entry will be considered as social and no points will apply.
 - (2) Teams that are in the scheduled draw will receive points for a forfeit.
- 2.2.3 Games will be played over seven innings or one hour, whichever occurs first.
- 2.2.4 A 20 minute break will occur between games.
- 2.2.5 Years 7, 8 and 9 pitching distance will be 35 feet.

- 2.2.6 Year 7, 8 and 9 pitchers should not be pitching more than 150 pitches in a day. Each coach is encouraged to be instigating a pitch count system to prevent overuse of any one pitcher.
- 2.3 Teams must be prepared to run on five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the game. No provision will be made for the extension of playing time due to a late start.
- 2.4 A warning whistle will be sounded five minutes prior to the commencement of each game, followed by a "commencing" hooter / siren. Play must commence and close with the hooter / siren.
- 2.5 At the end of the game, game scores should be calculated back to the last completed innings - unless the team at bat is the second team to bat and has drawn or is ahead on runs. However, in an incomplete innings, if the team second to bat does not draw with or pass the first team's score, scores revert back to the last completed innings.
- 2.6 Teams who do not hand in scoresheets to the recording area within 20 minutes of the conclusion of the game, will be awarded no points for that round.
- 2.7 QGSSSA will not adopt the International rule of "Intentional Walk"
- 2.8 In the spirit of QGSSSA competition, and as softball games are played as time based matches, in any innings where there are two (2) out, the catcher of the batting team who is on base, may be replaced by another player listed in the batting line-up.
- This replacement base runner cannot be one of the next 4 batters scheduled to bat.
 - This replacement base runner is not deemed a substitute.
 - This replacement shall not be a bench player.
 - Only one replacement base runner may be used on base at any one time.
 - This decision should be at the discretion of the coach.
- 2.9 Schools will be emailed the day prior to competition, if possible, if the Executive Officer and the sub-committee decides that the fields are unsuitable for play. Otherwise all schools are to report to the venue.
- 2.10 Two-thirds of the scheduled games must be completed to constitute a competition.**

3 WET WEATHER

Refer to By-Laws 5.16, 5.17, & 5.18

3.1 Abandoned Games

Open and Senior Grades: If a game is abandoned after two completed innings the scores will stand. (NB: In accordance with ASA rules that in any incomplete innings if the team second at bat has drawn or passed the first team's score this score will count.)

Years 7, 8 and 9 Grades: If a game is abandoned after one completed inning the scores will stand. (NB: In accordance with ASA rules that in any incomplete innings if the team second at bat has drawn or passed first team's score this score will count.)

4 POINTS

Win	2 points
Win on forfeit	2 points
Draw	1 point each
Loss	0 points
Bye	0 points
Abandoned round	1 point

5 PENNANTS

Refer to General Rules 5

6 UMPIRES

6.1 OPEN & SENIOR GRADES:

For every team entered by schools at least one umpire who is capable of plate umpiring must be provided for each team.

6.2 YEARS 7, 8 & 9 GRADES

6.2.1 Schools entering 3 teams must provide 3 umpires

TWO MUST BE CAPABLE OF PLATE UMPIRING (at least at Year 7 level) – the other may be a base umpire.

6.2.2 Schools entering 4 teams must provide 4 umpires

THREE MUST BE CAPABLE OF PLATE UMPIRING (at least at Year 7 level) – the other may be a base umpire.

6.2.3 Schools entering 5 teams must provide 5 umpires

FOUR MUST BE CAPABLE OF PLATE UMPIRING (at least at Year 7 level) – the other may be a base umpire.

6.2.4 Schools entering 6 teams must provide 6 umpires

FOUR MUST BE CAPABLE OF PLATE UMPIRING (at least Year 7 level) – the other two may be base umpires.

6.3 If any school is unable to supply the required number of umpires on any day and there are no replacement umpires available at the venue, the school will be required to substitute the missing umpire/s with replacements at the venue.

6.4 All umpires are to meet at the recording area 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the first game.

7 EQUIPMENT

7.1 In the event of equipment not being supplied by the venue leasee, upon request from the Association, schools are to provide their own equipment (first base/safety base, 2nd and 3rd bases, one home plate, one pitcher's plate). Schools must provide padded bases that can be securely pegged underneath with U shaped pegs and correct flat-topped pegs for pitchers plate and home plate.

7.2 Schools should ensure that the equipment is on the diamond 30 minutes prior to the start and that they collect it at the end.

7.3 A new ball must be used by each school for the Open grade games each week. For the Senior grade and Years 7, 8 and 9, a match ball in good condition must be used.

7.4 An 11 inch ball will be used for Year 7 matches.

8 DISPUTES

Refer to By-Law 8

9 DRAW

Refer to General Rule 2