



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 6 & 7, 2025



In Attendance

- Rachel Allan, President
- Kevin Langley, Vice-President
- Darcy MacKenzie, Treasurer
- Rick Benson, Director
- Jack Hawes, Director
- Lavaughn Larson, Director (via video conference)
- Darren Simpson, Director
- [Redacted]

Staff

- Diane St-Denis, Executive Director
- Shaquille Gilbert, Umpires & Championships Director
- Jim Ullock, Sport Development Director
- Haili Sinclair, Member Services & Communications Manager

1. Call to Order

1.01 Territorial Acknowledgement & Opening Remarks

R. Allan called the meeting to order at 11:10 am and provided a brief territorial acknowledgement.

1.02 Approval of agenda

Moved by D. Simpson, seconded by R. Benson, to approve the agenda with the addition of Board Meeting Cycle and Board Communication to item 4.6.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.03 Approval minutes

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the minutes of November 20, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.04 Email Votes

There were no email votes since the last meeting.

1.05 Business arising from the last meeting

- Rewrite Article 15 - Westerns or Canadian Championships was moved to 3.07
- Rewrite Article 17 - Tournaments, Exhibition Games & League Games was moved to 3.07
- Fundraising - Victory Vault Sweepstakes was moved to 2.01 a. ii.
- U11 Celebrations and U11 Rep Showcase survey was moved to 2.01 c. i.
- Rural Participation Working Group Revised Report was moved to 2.01 j. ii.

2. Board Business

2.01 Committee Updates

- Finance & HR Committee



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i. Q2 - Aug. to Oct, 2025 Financial Report

D. MacKenzie presented the Q2 Financial Report. Discussion on the content of the report led to the directors agreeing to the following changes to the report

Tab 1 - eliminate
Tab 2 - compared to budget vs previous year
Tab 3 - compared to budget vs previous year
Tab 4 - leave as is
Tab 5 - column A to E - change to show year-to-date
Tab 6 - leave as is
Tab 7 - leave as is
Tab 8 - leave as is

With these revisions in place, the office can provide explanations of variances to date or to the fiscal year-end.

D. St-Denis confirmed the current last payment practice on invoices:

- 30 days - warning letter
- 60 days - warning letter
- 90 days: a 2% monthly interest charge (equivalent to 26.8% per annum) is applied to the invoice until payment is received, AND registration for them (and their family) is blocked on RAMP.

Staff are exploring all options to reduce the need for invoicing by utilizing online options in RAMP or other suitable payment platforms (i.e., Square)

ii Fundraising - Victory Vault Sweepstakes

D. St-Denis presented her report on the sweepstakes, which included

- Presentation from Ascend Fundraising Solutions
- A copy of the sweepstake agreement and a copy of Lisa Parkes' feedback on the agreement.
- Confirmation that Softball BC will be using the Constant Contact platform as of January 1 for this activity, as well as for a monthly newsletter.

Move by D. MacKenzie, seconded by L. Larson, to support the participation of Softball BC in the Victory Vault Sweepstakes. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii 2026-2027 Budget Preparation

D. St-Denis reported that the office is currently compiling information with an eye on having a budget ready for the Finance Committee to review by the end of January/early February.

iv. Elimination of the Host Fee of \$200

The office recommended the elimination of the host fee of \$200 in favour of adjusting the hosting grant to exclude the host team from the formula (# of participation team members minus host team). Collecting the fees in exchange for returning them via the hosting grant is not an efficient accounting practice.

Lost revenue would be between \$675 (based on 2025) and a maximum of \$900 - \$75 per event for the following U11 Celebrations (max of 5 events), Regionals (max of 5 events) and U11 Showcases (max of 2 events).



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Move by D. MacKenzie, seconded by R. Allan, to eliminate the \$200 hosting fee and remove the host from the hosting grant formula.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Governance Committee

D. St-Denis noted that L. Parkes is the chair of the governance committee. D. St-Denis recommended J. Hawes act as Board liaison. The committee is meeting on December 9th to review the proposed bylaw changes. A report will be available for the January Board meeting.

c. Minor Advisory Council

D. Simpson provided a brief report on his observations to date of the council's meeting format and communications. The main area for improvement is ensuring that the council hears the voices of the member associations and that all council members are heard.

i. U11 Celebrations and U11 Rep Showcase survey

Directors review the feedback collected from the survey that the office sent out. The Board noted that the feedback on eliminating the U11 Celebration was split. The primary concern for several members and the Board was the lack of alignment between the event's competitive nature and the Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD).

Pilot for 2026 U11 Celebration

- U11 Celebrations must be in a round robin format only. There will be no playoffs.
- Softball BC will continue to provide balls and the hosting grants.
- Softball BC will no longer provide a gift to each participant or medals. Funds saved will be added to the hosting grant for the host to use to deliver other types of social bonding and to fund activities that make the event memorable for all participants (fun games, prizes for best cheers, best homemade sign, best costume). The exact amount will be confirmed in the bid document. This amount will be disbursed only upon proof of expenditures.
- Participating head coaches will be required to attend a preseason briefing with office staff (directors) to reiterate the expectations for U11, the rules, and how the U11 Celebration and Showcase will be delivered. Format and rules to be reiterated on the virtual coaches call before the event.
- Associations will receive a communication piece to share with each participant's parents/guardians.
- District coordinators will be asked to observe and report on coach behaviours (there will be a form) to determine if the altered format led to more positive conduct. The same request will be made of the UIC.
- Districts will have the option to opt and will be asked to confirm that intent by February 1st.

Staff to draft the one-page and have the board host a call-in in early January to approve.



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Adjusted Pilot for 2026 U11 Showcase

- Two showcases (2 x 24 teams) to be held on a weekend different than the U11 Celebration of Softball.
- The format will remain unchanged.
- Don't have to register as a rep team at the start of the season. All-star teams will be allowed.
- Softball BC will continue to provide balls, medals, and the hosting grants.
- Softball BC will no longer provide a gift to each participant. The funds will be provided to the host to use for other awards, such as most sportsmanlike team, best cheers, etc. Award to be voted on by the players themselves (see Abbotsford awards).
- Participating head coaches will be required to attend a preseason briefing with office staff (directors) to reiterate the expectations for U11, the rules, and how the U11 Celebration and Showcase will be delivered. Format and rules to be reiterated on the virtual coaches call before the event.
- Associations will receive a communication piece to share with each participant's parents/guardians.
- District coordinators will be asked to observe and report on coach behaviours (there will be a form) to determine if the altered format led to more positive conduct. The same request will be made of the UIC.

ii. Revision of Article 7

D. St-Denis informed the Board that the Minor Advisory Council has decided not to revise their motion on Article 7 to address the Board's feedback from the October 1, 2025, meeting. No further action is required on this item.

d. Men's & Women's Advisory Council

L. Larson reported that the council met on November 27th. The meeting was well attended. They are currently working on motions which will be discussed at their next meeting in the second half of January.

e. Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee

L. Larson reported that the council has yet to meet this fall. She anticipates that a meeting will be held in January, as the council needs to review the motions recently approved at the Softball Canada AGM.

f. Umpire Advisory Council

D. MacKenzie reported that the council or the PODC has not yet met. She will be reaching out to the PUIC to discuss their meeting schedule for 2026.

g. Ad Hoc Committees

i. Nominations Committee

The office aims to activate the committee in the first quarter of 2026.

ii. Awards & Hall of Fame Committee

1. Annual Awards Presentation



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H. Sinclair provided a brief overview of how the 2025 Awards are being announced on social media and of the planning currently underway to hold the local award presentations in the first part of 2026, so that each recipient can celebrate their award with their association/team, family, and friends.

The question of "Do we have too many awards?" was brought up. Consensus was to have the staff review the information over the next four months and bring a recommendation back to the Board for review. The review should aim to align the categories with those of Softball Canada and Sport BC.

The Hall of Fame Committee is meeting on December 11th to review the nominations. The proposed inductee slate, with bios, will be sent to the Board for ratification.

ii. Coaching Development Committee

1. 2026 Coaching Requirement Recommendations

D. St-Denis presented the 2026 Coaching Requirement Recommendations prepared by the Coaching Development Committee.

Move by R. Benson, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the coaching requirements recommendation for 2026 (Appendix A).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

j. Working Groups

i. Review the composition of the District Review Working Group

R. Benson provided an update on the committee composition, which required a change to the TORs.

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by K. Langley, to revise the terms of reference for this working group, specifically composition, item #4, to include the northern region (Districts 11, 12, and 13) and the interior region (Districts 9 and 10).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by K. Langley, to approve the working group composition as follows:

- Rick Benson, Chair
- Kevin Langley, Vice Chair
- Bill Hawkins
- Baukje Edamura
- Chris Roper
- Jake Dewitt
- Catherine Carreiro
- Softball BC staff support - Diane St-Denis

For reference and advice, the following individuals will be invited to be non-voting members of the working group:



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- **Al Groff, Chair of the Men's and Women's Advisory Council; and**
 - **Jason Ranchoux. Provincial Umpire in Chief**
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

R. Benson noted that the August 2026 reporting timelines may prove challenging. D. St-Denis recommend the topic be revisited once the group has had an opportunity to meet and discuss scope and outcomes.

R. Benson inquired whether the working group reported to the Governance Committee or the Board. D. St-Denis noted that the TORs speak to the group reporting to the Board, but that did not negate the option of consultation with the Governance Committee on the impact any recommendations might have on policies or bylaws.

- ii. Review report from Rural Participation Working Group
B. Edamura presented the revised report from the Rural Participation Working Group.

1. Rural Overage Exemption Pilot

Board feedback -

- Requests for approval will be entertained from April 1 until May 15th. Cannot play until the request is approved.
- Coaches are responsible for proactively informing opponents or tournament directors of their overage players.
- Approval is for one year only.
- The MAC is responsible for reviewing all requests.
- The coordinators must provide a report at the end of the season on the use of overage players by their district member. The head coach of the team who uses an overage player must also provide a written report. Staff to work with B. Edamura to develop a Google form which can be sent to the appropriate coordinators and coaches when approval is given (and a reminder at the end of the season).

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by D. Simpson, to approve the pilot for one year with the feedback provided, and with the directive that the pilot must be discussed with the Minor Advisory Council as it pertains to implementation and bring back the full report to the Board in January for final approval.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. U15C Regional

Board feedback -

- Coaches must be qualified in accordance with the coaching requirements.
- Use the same format as the current U13C regionals.
- Need to consult with the PUIC on availability of umpires, location and what dates this needs to be scheduled on to minimize assignment conflicts.
- Two regional events with a maximum size of 16 teams
 - North - D12, D13 and a portion of D11
 - Central - D9, D10 and a portion of D11



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- Teams will need to sign an LOI stating that if they don't qualify for provincials, they will go to regionals.
 - B. Edamura to articulate evaluation criteria for the pilot.
- B. Edamura is directed to revise the pilot, discuss it with the Minor Advisory Council as it pertains to implementation and bring back the full report to the Board in January for final approval.

3. G Grassroots Classification

Board feedback

- Pilot will be limited to District 10 only. We can examine extending the pilot to other areas following a complete evaluation of the 2026 pilot.
- U15 and U17 only
- Limiting pitching and catching to 2 innings
- Fees for the G classification will be the same as for the C category for that age category.
- B. Edamura to articulate evaluation criteria for the pilot.

Moved by D. Simpson, seconded by K. Langley, to approve the pilot for one year with the feedback provided, and with the directive that the pilot must be discussed with the Minor Advisory Council as it pertains to implementation and bring back the full report to the Board in January for final approval.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-1-0)

iii. Boys & Men's Fastpitch Working Group

D. St-Denis reported that staff are still working on finding a champion to chair the men's fastpitch working group. At this time, the focus is on having J. Ullock reconnect with some of the more outspoken players on the men's side to try to secure a provincial championship host for 2026. She reported a group, under the leadership of D. Mason, is working on various tactics for boys ball in the lower mainland. Work will begin in 2026 to connect with or reconnect with some of the boys' programs that currently exist in other parts of the province.

3. Operational Business

3.01 Management Report

D. St-Denis took questions on the Management Report. L. Larson mentioned that the Lower Mainland Tournament call was held on December 23rd. She believes 25 to 26 associations attended the call. Consensus was reached on when registration would open for the various categories. The question was raised as to whether the annual call should be led by the Softball BC Office and be labelled as the annual Softball BC call, and how best to address the concerns raised during the call

- How many tournaments we can host on a given weekend depends on how many umpires we have for each category in each region. Understanding what the analytics would say and how many teams are in each category.
- The challenge of getting into tournaments is that, as we know, people are holding spaces, so they will run their own tournaments.

Staff to identify questions that a working committee on tournament sanctioning would



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need to address, including the process for decision-making on conflicts, penalties for non-compliance, etc. D. St-Denis suggested bringing draft TORs for the working group and the questions it would need to answer.

3.02 Strategic Plan / Operational Plan

D. St-Denis provided the link for information only. Staff will break the plan down into 5 years, which will be part of the annual operational plan. Staff will also spend time discussing the data points needed to measure progress in the plan and reporting to viaSport, Gaming Grants, Softball Canada, etc.

3.03 OEI Implementation

The Governance Committee will be reviewing this at their upcoming meetings.

- a. Revised Bylaws as drafted by Greg Gilhooly of Sport Law.
- b. Revised TORs for councils, committees and ad hoc committees based on feedback received from Cheryl Humphrey from Sport Law
- c. Board documents (skills matrix, evaluation framework) based on feedback received from Cheryl Humphrey from Sport Law
- d. Policies as revised by Will Russell from Sport Law

The consensus was that the Governance Committee should review policies after each AGM to ensure they are up to date.

3.04 RAMP

a. Mandatory Implementation

H. Sinclair provided a high-level overview of her report on RAMP. Of the 72 associations, 66 are actively using RAMP; three (3) are in the process of setting up their 2026 portal; meetings are scheduled for four (4), leaving two (2) to be resolved: Surrey Storm and Richmond.

D. St-Denis reported that staff recently uncovered that the importing feature has been contributing to flaws in the data and reports. A meeting was recently held with RAMP programmers to gain an understanding of the discrepancy between our invoicing and the invoices we received from RAMP. Unrostered profiles due to flawed imports were identified as the culprit, which translated into Softball BC losing revenue as the profiles were not being invoiced. Eliminating imports will not only ensure that each participant completes their profiles in full but also that they pay their fees.

b. Letter from Richmond Minor Softball

The Board reviewed the letter from Richmond. D. St-Denis reminded the directors of the dates when members were informed of the elimination of the import function as of the start of the 2026 season.

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to reaffirm the Board's decision to fully implement the usage of RAMP as our provincial registration platform and to no longer allow importing for data.

CARRIED (6-0-1) R. Benson abstained



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D. St-Denis to respond to Richmond and clarify that Softball BC is already paying for their profiles in RAMP.

c. Softball Canada Membership Report

Staff provided a copy, for information purposes only, of the membership report provided to Softball Canada.

3.05 Championships

a. 2026 Host Selection

S. Gilbert presented the bids received for the 2026 championships. He confirmed that the competition schedule was built in consultation with the PUIC and that the recommendations reflect the principles of fairness and equity as it pertains to distributing the hosting duties within the province and, where possible, avoiding the Lower Mainland during the FIFA World Cup.

Move by K. Langley, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to approve the following hosts:

U17A Girls Provincial	June 26 - 28	Canadian Amateur Sports Society
U15C Girls Provincial	July 3 - 5	Alberni Valley Minor Softball Assoc.
U17C Girls Provincial	July 3 - 5	Enderby Minor Softball
U20C Women Provincial	July 3 - 5	Abbotsford Minor Fastball Assoc.
U13B Girls Provincial	July 10 - 12	Kelowna Minor Fastball Society
U15A Girls Provincial	July 10 - 12	Langford Minor Fastball
U13A Girls Provincial	July 17 - 19	Ridge Meadows Minor Softball Assoc.
U15B Girls Provincial	July 17 - 19	Langley Fastball Association
U17B Girls Provincial	July 17 - 19	Cloverdale Minor Softball
U19A Women Provincial	July 17 - 19	Ridge Meadows Minor Softball Assoc.
U19B Women Provincial	July 24 - 26	Alberni Valley Minor Softball Assoc.
Women's A Provincial	July 17 - 19	Victoria Saanich W. Softball Assoc.
Women's B Provincial	July 17 - 19	Richmond Softball Assoc.
Women's D Provincial	July 17 - 19	Richmond Softball Assoc.
Women's C Provincial	July 24 - 26	Richmond Softball Assoc.
Women's Inter. A Prov.	July 24 - 26	Richmond Softball Assoc.

CARRIED (6-0-1) D. Simpson abstained

Moved by J. Hawes, seconded by K. Langley, to select the Ladysmith Softball Association as the host for the 2026 Women's U19 and Men's U20 Western Canadian Softball Championships.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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S. Gilbert noted that Softball City is interested in hosting the Slo-Pitch Provincials if the date can shift to earlier in September. He is currently consulting with the Slo-Pitch Advisory Committee on the topics. He and J. Ullock are consulting with various individuals in the boys/men's community to find a host for this year's events, and consultations are currently underway on the U13C Regionals.

b. Host - Accommodation Requirement

D. St-Denis requested the Board's position on requiring hosts of provincial championships to block accommodations for participating teams. Consensus was that most teams (or districts) book their accommodations early and do not require the host to hold rooms unless the provincial championships are in a location with limited accommodations. D. St-Denis confirmed that staff will remove that requirement for future bid packages, but hosts are encouraged to recommend a host hotel, as it may serve as a revenue-generating line in their budget.

3.06 Membership

a. Peachland

b. TriCity/Port Coquitlam

i. Update report

D. St-Denis shared a recent written update from the leads of the TriCity / Port Coquitlam merger. The group is currently on track to meet the benchmarks established in September.

ii. Motion to approve TCMSA Adult Program Request

The TCMSA submitted a request to allow their previously registered adult programs, registered through the TriCity Minor Softball Association, to continue using the name "Titans" once the PCMSA and TCMS amalgamate into the new Port Coquitlam Fastpitch Association. D. St-Denis noted that the Board previously approved a similar request for the women's teams previously registered through the PCMSA for the use of the name "Ravens".

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by J. Hawes, to allow the previously registered adult programs registered through the TriCity Minor Softball Association to continue using the name "Titans" once the PCMSA and TCMSA amalgamate into the new Port Coquitlam Fastpitch Association.

CARRIED (6-0-1) D. MacKenzie abstained

3.07 SOR changes

a. Rewrite Article 15 - Westerns or Canadian Championships

Move by D. Simpson, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the revisions to Article 15 - See Appendix B. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Board directed staff to move sections 8.10 and 9.8, Interprovincial Events, of the handbook to Article 15 and ensure that 10.1, 11.1, and 12.1.1 reference Article



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15.

b. Rewrite Article 17 - Tournaments, Exhibition Games and League Games

Moved by R. Benson, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to approve the revisions to Article 17 (Appendix C). **CARRIED (6-0-1) Larson Abstained**

c. Article 2 - Resident and Insurance Implications

The Board discusses the liability exposure for the association when allowing participants from another country (non-residents) to be members of a club or team in BC. After discussion, the Board directed D. St-Denis to review the question with Markel, the recent changes by Softball Canada to their residency rule, and bring Article 2 back to the table for review and, if appropriate, approval.

d. Umpire Advisory Council's concerns about non-adherence to Softball Canada Rules

The Board discussed the document prepared by J. Ranchoux, PUC and D. St-Denis regarding the UAC's concerns with the non-adherence to Softball Canada Rules in league and tournament play (Appendix D).

Move by R. Benson, seconded by D. Simpson, to approve the recommendation to host a town hall in January to hear feedback from members on the following concepts:

a. Alter Softball BC SORs to refer to the Softball Canada handbook for official rules. Allow for the replication of a Softball Canada Rule in the Softball BC SORs when it is deemed a tool to manage our risk (i.e., player equipment). Add Softball BC SORs that allow for league game rule amendments. Same for tournaments.

b. Review and, if necessary, revise the Softball Canada minor softball (U13 and younger) and adopt them as official rules for Softball BC.

c. Clarify disciplinary measures to be taken if a league, tournament director, or team (in the case of an exhibition game) does not adhere to the official rules.

- i. Disqualification from provincial events
- ii. Removal of insurance benefits
- iii. Loss of membership

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Article 7 - U9, U11C, U11R, U13C Rules

D. St-Denis informed the Board that, following its rejection of the proposed edits to Article 7, the Minor Advisory Council directed the staff to draft a discussion document on what rules apply when, and what happens when associations or leagues do not adhere to the rules, in preparation for a town hall meeting. This work may be combined with the previous discussion in 3.d.

f. Helmets and Protective Gear

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by J. Hawes, to approve the edits to articles 8.1.10, 8.1.11, 9.1.15 and 9.1.6 as presented (Appendix E).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. Tie-breaker

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to approve the edits to the



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tie breaker rules as presented (Appendix F).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

h. Seeding

Moved by D. Simpson, seconded by R. Benson, to approve the edits to articles 8.6.11 and 9.6.4 as presented (Appendix G). CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

i. Classification of Minor Players

The item was withdrawn as it was addressed in the revisions to Article 15.

j. Change to Age Category

D. St-Denis provided background to the motion received from the Renegades to alter the U19 age category back to U18. The Board consensus was to have the president speak with G. Timm and K. Proctor and report back to the Board.

K. WCSA Motions

D. St-Denis shared with the Board the motions BC would be submitting for the January 14th Western Canadian Softball Association AGM. The motions are intended to address discrepancies in the WCSA Handbook, gaps in information on the U13 championships, and a recommendation regarding the WCSA website. She thanks Elizabeth Lee, Kathy Weston and D. Simpson for their contributions to identifying the gaps in the U13 rules following last year's event hosted in Abbotsford.

4. New Business

4.01 Culture

D. St-Denis noted that this topic was on the Board agenda for discussion before the strategic plan was completed. Now the plan is in place and includes the creation of a Culture and Ethics Task Force; she recommended removing this item from the agenda for now. She also noted that some of the concerns may be addressed in the new Safe Sport Policies, which the office is currently working on with Sport Law.

4.02 OneBadge Proposal

D. St-Denis provided a high-level overview of the OneBadge Proposal. She recommended setting the topic aside for now, as Softball BC has many projects it is currently implementing and won't have the bandwidth to take on another. A delay in discussing the new platform may also lead to greater access to feedback from other PTSOs and NSOs who use it.

4.03 Lauren Bay Regula Softball Canada Hall of Fame Nomination

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by J. Hawes, to endorse the nomination of Lauren Bay Regula for the Softball Canada Hall of Fame.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.04 ED bi-weekly reports & Board Meeting Cycle

D. St-Denis shared the proposed meeting schedule chart for the Board. The current schedule calls for the Board to meet in January, March, April, May, July, September, October, and December. April and December will be in-person meetings.

Management and Financial reports are also listed, with these being provided within 15



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to 30 days after the end of each quarter. The Board agreed to hold a meeting every other month, recognizing that the president can request an additional meeting as needed.

D. St-Denis explained to the Board that she stopped the bi-weekly reports at the end of August when she elected to prioritize the completion of the additional work she inherited from the director. The bi-weekly reports will resume on December 19th in the same format.

D. St-Denis will be working with staff to find an easy way to share council, committee and working group minutes with the Board.

4.05 **In Camera**

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by J. Hawes, to move in camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by D. MacKenzie, to move out of camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **Next Meeting & Adjournment**

- Reminder - [training requirements](#).
- Next Meeting - Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Moved by K. Langley, seconded by D. Simpson, to adjourn the meeting at 4:27 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Appendix A - Coaching Requirements

Softball BC Coach Requirements by Category:

A team must have a qualified NCCP coach on the field of play at the Softball BC Celebrations, Showcases, Regionals, District Playdowns and Provincial Championship. The same expectation applies to Western Canadian Championships.

CATEGORY (Article 18)	REQUIREMENT: All Events leading up to and including Provincial Championships	REQUIREMENT: Western Canadian Championships	REQUIREMENT: Canadian Championships (Head Coach)
Girls & Boys Learn to Play, U7, U9	Recommended - Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Girls & Boys U11 Community	Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Girls & Boys U11 Rep	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Girls U13A	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A

Appendix A - Coaching Requirements

Girls U13B	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A
Girls U13C	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Boys U13	Community Sport On-Going Participation, OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A
Girls U15A	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Girls U15B	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A

Appendix A - Coaching Requirements

Girls U15C	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 and Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Boys U15	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 and Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Girls U17A	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Girls U17B	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A
Girls U17C	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 and Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A

Appendix A - Coaching Requirements

Boys U17	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 and Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Women U19A	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Women U19B	Competition Introduction Trained AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A
Women's U20C	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Men's U20	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *

Appendix A - Coaching Requirements

Men & Women U23	Community Sport On-Going Participation OR Competition Introduction Weekend #1 AND Foundations of Coaching Softball 1 & 2, PLUS Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	Recommended - Competition Introduction Certified, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Men's & Women's A	Recommended - Competition Introduction Trained, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Recommended - Competition Introduction Certified, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Women's Intermediate A	Recommended - Competition Introduction Trained, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	Recommended - Competition Introduction Certified, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Men's & Women's B	Recommended - Competition Introduction Trained, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A
Men's Intermediate A & B	Recommended - Community Sport Ongoing Participation OR Competition Introduction in Training, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A
Women's C & D	Recommended - Community Sport Ongoing Participation OR Competition Introduction in Training, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	N/A

Appendix A - Coaching Requirements

Women's & Men's Masters	Recommended - Community Sport Ongoing Participation OR Competition Introduction in Training, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Competition Introduction Certified and Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation	Recommended - Competition Introduction Certified, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *
Men's & Women's Slo-Pitch	Recommended - Community Sport Ongoing Participation OR Competition Introduction in Training, PLUS Making Ethical Decisions Evaluation	N/A	Recommended - Competition Introduction Certified, plus Make Ethical Decisions Evaluation *

** Assistant Coaches must be Competition Introduction Trained for National Championships only.*

Appendix B - ARTICLE 15

15.1. LETTER OF INTENT

- a. To represent BC at a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, teams must complete and submit a Letter of Intent to Softball BC. Deadline for submission is as follows:
 - Minor (U13-U19) - May 1st of the current playing season
 - Adult (fastpitch only) - June 1st of the current playing season
 - Adult (slo-pitch only) - June 1st of the year PRECEDING the championship

Note: The president of the minor association or, in the case of an adult team, the team manager will receive notification seven (7) days before the LOI window closing of their team's LOI submissions to date. The same recipient will receive confirmation within 24 hours of the LOI window closing of their team's LOI submission.

- b. In instances where BC is allowed to send more than 4 teams in a designated category to Canadian Championship, the teams who have submitted an LOI will be provided with an opportunity to retract their LOI by the deadline established by the Softball BC Office.

15.2. MUST ATTEND - Teams that have submitted a Letter of Intent to participate in a Western Canadian or a Canadian Championship, and have qualified for that championship, are obligated to attend. Teams failing to attend ~~shall result~~

- a. ~~In their Association being subject to a \$2,500 fine from Softball BC and disciplinary action, including but not limited to being declared ineligible for Western Canadian or Canadian Championships for the following season when the team has six or more returning players. If the team is registering as an Independent Adult Team, the team will be subject to the fine and disciplinary action.~~
- b. ~~The Association may be liable for additional costs, including but not limited to entry fees, administrative fees and penalty assessments made by the Western Canadian Softball Association or Softball Canada, incurred by Softball BC if a replacement team is not found to take that spot. If the team is registering as an Independent Adult Team, the team will be subject to the fine and disciplinary action.~~
~~upon their commitment to do so may be liable for costs and further disciplinary action if a replacement team is not found to take that spot. Consequences may include:~~
 - a. ~~The club/association to pay all costs including but not limited to entry fees, administrative fees and penalty assessments made by the Western Canadian Softball Association or Softball Canada due to failure by the team to appear at said championship.~~
 - b. ~~DISQUALIFIED from attending Districts or Provincials and ineligible for Western Canadian or Canadian Championships for the following season when the team has six or more returning players.~~

Note: A team cannot intentionally forfeit a game in order to avoid having to decline a berth for the Western Canadian or Canadian Championship. If a team is deemed by the Softball BC Representative assigned to the event to have

Appendix B - ARTICLE 15

intentionally forfeited a game, the team's association or in the case of an independent adult team, the team will be subject to the above penalties in 15.2. The team can appeal the decision by providing a written justification and supporting documentation demonstrating the necessity of the decision.

- 15.3. REPRESENTATIVE TEAM - The team representing British Columbia at Canadian ('A' Classification) or Western Canadian ('B' Classification) Championships shall be as follows:
- BC1: The highest placing team at the qualifying Provincial Championship team to have completed a "Letter of Intent" by the due date.
 - DEFENDING CHAMPION: Where the defending champion from the previous year's championship is eligible to attend in the same category, and has submitted a "Letter of Intent" by the due date, that team shall be designated as DC.
 - PRO RATA TEAM - where Softball Canada or Western Canada Softball Association has allocated additional spots to Softball BC, those teams shall be designated as BC2, BC3, BC4, etc., based on their place of finish at the qualifying Provincial Championship.

Note: If two teams who have put in their Letters of Intent for a Western or Canadian Championship are knocked out at a provincial at the same point in the championship (for example, tied for 6th or tied for 8th) and one or the other team will attend the Championship in the last available spot, the two teams will have a playoff game to determine which team will attend the Championship.

- 15.4. FOLLOW UP - Unless otherwise stipulated by Softball BC before the start of the Provincial Championship, Within 24-48 hours of winning a Provincial Championship, the a team who has qualified for a Western Canadian or a Canadian Championship must contact the Softball BC office (Umpires & Championship Director) to confirm their participation and receive further information within 24 hours of the completion of the Provincial Championship.

Note: The Softball BC Representative assigned to a Provincial Championship will notify and remind all teams who qualify for a Western Canadian or a Canadian Championship of the above requirements.

- 15.5. TRAVEL ASSISTANCE - See Article 20

15.5.1 Where Softball BC has designated funds to assist teams in travel costs to their respective championship, the funds will be paid to the club/association directly. Travel assistance is provided only to the team designated as BC1 (unless the defending champion team finishes higher at the appropriate Provincial Championship and had submitted a Letter of Intent before the deadline, in which case the DC will receive the travel assistance). Funding is based on a formula of number of teams and distance to the championship destination.

Appendix B - ARTICLE 15

15.5.2 RECIPIENTS - The recipients of the team travel fund will be as follows:

1. Teams must participate in a Provincial Championship, providing a championship is held to qualify.
2. Softball BC will determine the funding allocated to teams travelling to Western Canadian and Canadian Championships in the same year as they qualified for the event.
3. The amount of payout to teams is based on how far they travel and other travel funding available.
4. The highest finishing team from the Provincial Championship travelling to a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship is eligible to receive the travel funding. The amount of travel one way must be equal to or greater than 400 kilometres to be eligible. (Ferry travel to and from Vancouver Island is considered to be applied as a 400 km trip).

15.6. ~~PRIOR YEAR CHAMPION - Prior year's Provincial Champion (Slopitch and Mixed Orthodox only).~~

15.7. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - To be eligible to participate in any Minor Western or Canadian Championship, all players must have participated in three games in an affiliated league with the team on which they are registered.

15.8. CLASSIFICATION OF MINOR PLAYERS

Girls: To be eligible for Western Canadian Championships, all minor 'B' teams must be made up of no fewer than 11 players who have not registered on any 'A' classification team in the preceding year with the exception U13A. For the purposes of this, players from teams reclassified from 'A' to 'B' by the Umpires & Championships Director pursuant to Articles 8.2.2 d), 8.6.1, 9.2.1.6 and 9.2.10.6 shall be considered 'B' players.

Boys: To be eligible for Western Canadian Championships, all boys' teams must be made up of no fewer than 11 players.

15.9. HOST TEAM:

The host team for a Western Canadian or Canadian Championship will be selected by the host association and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

MEN AND WOMEN - If a team from the host association, city and/ or District wins the Provincial Championship, then the second-place team in the Provincial Championship would also go to the Canadian or Western Canadian Championship.

MINOR - If a host association/district/city does not compete in Provincials, the host team will be based on the decision of the host, declared prior to the Provincials.

Appendix C - ARTICLE 17

This article applies to all Minor and Men's & Women's Tournaments, Exhibition and League Games. Softball BC's Sport Liability and Participant Accident Insurance does not cover Softball BC members participating in unsanctioned tournaments and exhibition games.

17.1 DEFINITION

- 17.1.1. **Exhibition Game** - Single game between two opponents.
- 17.1.2. **Exhibition Series / Ice Breaker** - A series of exhibition games scheduled for the same day or subsequent days between a core group of teams is considered a tournament.
- 17.1.3. **League Game** - A game scheduled by an oversight body (league executive) for a specific date, time and location between two teams.
- 17.1.4. **Tournament** - Three or more teams playing a series of games in round-robin, pool play or elimination brackets that take place over one or more days.

17.2. TOURNAMENTS HOSTED BY A SOFTBALL BC MEMBER

All softball tournaments hosted by Softball BC teams and/or associations and held within the Province of BC, must be sanctioned by Softball BC for membership benefits to stand.

17.2.1. APPLYING FOR A SANCTION

- a. Sanction applications are completed online. Team /Association applying for a sanction must be a member in good standing with Softball BC.
- b. RULES All rules, regulations and policies of Softball BC are to be adhered to.
- c. Tournament Sanctions should be obtained at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of the tournament. ANY applications received less than three (3) weeks prior to the tournament may be assessed a late fee of \$50.00. A sanction application MUST be accompanied by the signed / approved by the District UIC - "Online Sanction Request Form".
- d. Tournaments must use Provincial classification when inviting teams to participate in their event. (Senior A, Intermediate B, U23, etc., NOT Division 1, Division 3, etc.)
- e. The tournament sanction, if granted, will be issued by the Softball BC office with the tournament details being posted to the website.
- f. **Without prior approval from the Umpires and Championship Director**, no sanctions will be issued in conflict with scheduled District Qualifier or Regional/Provincial Championships in the area.
- g. To avoid unnecessary confusion and turmoil at the tournament in the event of inclement weather, it is recommended that all tournament organizers adopt some form of rainout rules. Teams should be advised of these rules before they participate in a tournament.
- h. Umpires MUST BE registered with Softball BC or other Softball Governing Body if out of province. Registered umpires must be in an official uniform.
- i. The tournament host must secure and forward to Softball BC proof of insurance (CGL – Commercial General Liability) from all non-Softball BC Affiliated teams participating in the tournament. Non-Softball BC Affiliated teams are not allowed to participate in the tournament without proof of insurance.
- j. Softball BC's Injury and Liability Insurance covers teams in good standing with Softball

Appendix C - ARTICLE 17

BC when participating in tournaments hosted by a Softball BC Member in good standing. Proof of membership can be verified with the Softball BC Office.

17.2.2. RESULTS

- a. Any irregularities, problems, conflicts, etc. must be reported to Softball BC within 72 hours after the completion of the tournament.
- b. For Minor Tournaments Only
 - i. The results of all minor tournaments, together with any recommendations as to team classification, shall be forwarded by the tournament hosts to the Softball BC office immediately upon conclusion of the tournament for the use by Association administrators and Minor Coordinators to properly assess and classify teams in their respective Association/District.
 - ii. Failure to submit tournament results may result in having future sanction requests denied.

17.3. IN PROVINCE EXHIBITION GAMES / SERIES & LEAGUE GAMES

17.3.1. ~~Between members in good standing~~—Softball BC's Injury and Liability Insurance does cover both teams when the game or series is between two Softball BC teams in good standing.

17.3.2. ~~Softball BC Members are not allowed to participate in exhibition games/series against teams that are non-Softball BC Members unless the opposing team is duly registered, and by extension sanctioned, by a Softball BC recognized Provincial, National or International Sport Governing Body. Failure to adhere to this requirement will void all Softball BC insurance coverage for the game(s) in question.~~ ~~Against a non-Softball BC affiliated team~~ ~~The Softball BC's Sport Liability and Participant Accident Insurance does not cover the Softball BC team participating in a game against a non-Softball BC affiliated team.~~ ~~Teams are responsible for securing their own liability and medical insurance.~~

17.4. TOURNAMENTS HOSTED BY A NON-SOFTBALL BC MEMBER

~~Softball BC Members are not allowed to participate in tournaments against or hosted by teams that are non-Softball BC Members unless the opposing team is duly registered, and by extension sanctioned, by a Softball BC recognized Provincial, National or International Sport Governing Body. Failure to adhere to this requirement will void all Softball BC insurance coverage for the game(s) in question~~

~~17.4.1. The Softball BC's Sport Liability and Participant Accident Insurance does not cover Softball BC members when playing in a tournament hosted by a non-Softball BC Affiliated team~~

~~17.4.2. The Softball BC members are responsible for securing their own liability and medical insurance.~~

17.5. PARTICIPATION IN OUT OF PROVINCE EXHIBITION / LEAGUE GAME OR TOURNAMENTS

17.5.1. ~~In accordance with Softball BC rules, members who wish to play or officiate softball outside of BC, but within Canada, are no longer required to notify the office unless they require a travel permit.~~ ~~must advise Softball BC by completing the Softball BC Travel Advisory Form.~~

17.5.2. The Softball BC's Sport Liability (CGL) and Participant Accident (PA) Insurance does cover members in good standing with Softball BC when participating in out-of-province exhibition games or tournaments as long as the team has the following terms met:

~~The member(s) has advised Softball BC Office of their travel by submitting a Softball BC Travel Advisory Form and;~~

- a. The Softball Canada affiliated Provincial or Territorial Softball Association has

Commented [1]: need to alter Article 6 to point to Article 17 on insurance.

Appendix C - ARTICLE 17

- sanctioned the exhibition game or tournament.
- b. The opposing team is duly registered, and by extension sanctioned, by a Softball BC recognized Provincial, National or International Sport Governing Body.
- 17.5.2.1. Members are responsible for having their own travel medical insurance when traveling out of province to ensure you are covered for out-of-pocket expenses e.g., hospitalization, medication, ambulance, and treatment fees for injuries sustained off the field of play. Please note: The British Columbia Medical Services Plan (BCMSP) does NOT provide medical coverage to you in another province.
- 17.5.3. Softball BC Members are allowed to participate in tournaments against or hosted by teams that are non-Softball BC Members as long as the opposing team is duly registered, and by extension sanctioned, by a Softball BC recognized Provincial, National or International Sport Governing Body.
- ~~In cases where the exhibition game or tournament is not sanctioned by a Softball Canada affiliated Provincial or Territorial Softball Association, members are responsible for securing their own insurance which would include:~~
- a. ~~Commercial General Liability (CGL) Insurance~~
- b. ~~And adequate travel medical insurance to ensure you are covered for out of pocket expenses e.g., hospitalization, medication, ambulance, and treatment fees for injuries and illness.~~
- ~~Teams can apply to Softball BC for assistance in securing a quote from our insurance broker, SBC Insurance or use another broker of their choice. Please note, a separate form (NOT the Softball BC Travel Advisory Form) will be sent to you to collect the details necessary to provide a CGL and/or travel medical insurance quote.~~
- 17.6. **PARTICIPATION IN OUT OF COUNTRY EXHIBITION / LEAGUE GAMES / SERIES OR TOURNAMENTS**
- 17.6.1. ~~In accordance with Softball BC rules, members who wish to play or officiate softball outside of BC Canada, are no longer required to notify the office unless they require a travel permit, must advise Softball BC by completing the Softball BC Travel Advisory Form.~~
- 17.6.2. The Softball BC's Sport Liability (CGL) and Participant Accident (PA) Insurance does not cover Softball BC members travelling to tournaments or exhibition games / series outside of Canada.
- 17.6.3. Teams are responsible for securing their own insurance which should include:
- Commercial General Liability (CGL) Insurance
 - And adequate travel medical insurance to ensure you are covered for out-of-pocket expenses e.g., hospitalization, medication, ambulance, and treatment fees for injuries and illness.
- ~~Teams can apply to Softball BC for assistance in securing a quote from our insurance broker, SBC Insurance or use another broker of their choice. Please note, a separate form (NOT the Softball BC Travel Advisory Form) will be sent to you to collect the details necessary to provide a CGL and/or travel medical insurance quote.~~

Commented [2]: From L. Parkes:
Sections 17.5 and 17.6.1 says "unless they require a travel permit", which I don't believe exist anymore?

Commented [3]: From L Parkes:
17.5 is almost identical to section 17.6.1 and I think one could be deleted

Appendix D - Umpires' concerns about non-adherence to Softball Canada Rule

How to address them

The Softball BC Umpire Advisory Council has been vocal and clear that it would like Softball BC to adhere to the rules of the game as published in the Softball Canada Rule book (Official Fast Pitch Softball Rules and Official Slo-Pitch Softball Rules).

They believe adopting the rules will facilitate umpires' training and development and minimize the possibility of confusion at events/games, which often leads to conflict between coaches and umpires.

Mandating the use of Softball Canada and Softball BC rules

It is an acceptable practice for a PTSO to require its members to follow the official rules set by the national organization. Leagues that choose to play outside the rules may be subject to disciplinary action and, at a minimum, lose their insurance coverage and other benefits.

While leagues must adhere to the core provincial framework, there are examples, such as in soccer, where a league is permitted to establish its own specific rules with BC Soccer's approval. For instance, a league's rules may specify details such as unlimited substitutions in league games or weather protocols for a coastal league. Some examples for Softball BC could be: the option of unlimited substitutions, no time limits on league play, or the option to play one more inning in a run-up rule situation.

The Approach

Start with Minor Ball (U7/U9 to U20)

1. Have a Townhall in early January to hear feedback from members on the following concepts:
 - a. Alter Softball BC SORs to refer to the Softball Canada handbook for official rules. Allow for the replication of a Softball Canada Rule in the Softball BC SORs when it is deemed a tool to manage our risk (i.e., player equipment). Add Softball BC SORs that allow for league game rule amendments. Same for tournaments.
 - b. Review and, if necessary, revise the Softball Canada minor softball (U13 and younger) and adopt them as official rules for Softball BC.
 - c. Clarify disciplinary measures to be taken if a league, tournament director, or team (in the case of an exhibition game) does not adhere to the official rules.
 - i. Disqualification from provincial events
 - ii. Removal of insurance benefits
 - iii. Loss of membership
2. SOR rewrites - February

Men's & Women's & Slo-Pitch will be addressed once the above work is completed as it is perceived as the most significant concern at this time.

Appendix E - Helmets and Protective Gear

Moved by G. Johnson, seconded by A. Doughwright, to replace 8.1.10 Helmets (Batting), 9.1.15 Helmets, 8.1.11 Helmets & Masks (Catchers) and 9.1.6 Helmets & Masks with the following, which reflects the content of the Softball Canada rule.

8.1.10 Helmets

In accordance with Softball Canada Regulation 2.1.9, A helmet that is cracked, broken, dented or altered will be declared an illegal helmet and removed from the game.

- a) For an on-deck batter, batter, batter-runner and a runner, a helmet must have two ear flaps (one on each side) and must be of the type that has safety features equal to or greater than those provided by the full plastic cap with padding on the inside. A liner covering only the ears does not meet the specifications of a legal helmet.
- b) For a catcher or a defensive player, a helmet may be the skull type without earflaps.
- c) For U17 categories and below, all on-deck batters, batters and base runners must have an attached face mask.
- d) Youth age players who coach in the first and third base coach's box.
NOTE: A youth age coach registered only as a coach is not required to wear a helmet when coaching in the coach's box.
- e) Youth age representatives that participate as a batboy or batgirl while on the field or in the dugout.

9.1.15 Helmets

In accordance with Softball Canada Regulation 2.1.9, A helmet that is cracked, broken, dented or altered will be declared an illegal helmet and removed from the game.

- a) For an on-deck batter, batter, batter-runner and a runner, a helmet must have two ear flaps (one on each side) and must be of the type that has safety features equal to or greater than those provided by the full plastic cap with padding on the inside. A liner covering only the ears does not meet the specifications of a legal helmet.
- b) For a catcher or a defensive player, a helmet may be the skull type without earflaps.
- c) For U17 categories and below, all on-deck batters, batters and base runners must have an attached face mask.
- d) Youth age players who coach in the first and third base coach's box.
NOTE: A youth age coach registered only as a coach is not required to wear a helmet when coaching in the coach's box.
- e) Youth age representatives that participate as a batboy or batgirl while on the field or in the dugout.

8.1.11 Protective Equipment

Appendix E - Helmets and Protective Gear

a) MASKS. All catchers must wear a mask, throat protector, and helmet. Catchers (or other members of the defensive team) must wear a mask, throat protector and helmet while receiving warm-up pitches from the pitching plate, or in the warm-up area. If the person catching the pitch will not wear the mask, they must be replaced by a person who will do so. An extended wire protection attached to the mask may be worn instead of the throat protector. The ice hockey goalie style facemask is approved for use by catchers. If there is no throat protector built onto the mask, the throat attachment must be added to the mask before using.

1. If the person catching for the pitcher will not wear the mask, after a warning, they will be removed from the game.
2. If the person catching for the pitcher is anyone other than a team member and will not wear the mask after a warning, it shall mean the removal of the coach or manager of the offending team.

b) FACE MASKS. Any defensive or offensive player may wear an approved plastic face mask/guard. Face masks/guards that are cracked or deformed, or if padding has deteriorated or is missing, are prohibited from use and must be removed from the game. Catchers may not wear the plastic face mask/guard in place of the regular mask with a throat protector.

Pitchers in the U17 and below categories are required to wear a protective face mask.

- c) BODY PROTECTORS.** All youth/minor catchers must wear a body protector.
- d) SHIN GUARDS.** Youth/minor catchers must wear shin guards that will offer protection to the kneecap.
- e) PROTECTIVE LEG/ ARM GUARDS.** These may be worn by a batter and a batter-runner.

9.1.6 Protective Equipment

a) MASKS. All catchers must wear a mask, throat protector, and helmet. Catchers (or other members of the defensive team) must wear a mask, throat protector and helmet while receiving warm-up pitches from the pitching plate, or in the warm-up area. If the person catching the pitch will not wear the mask, they must be replaced by a person who will do so. An extended wire protection attached to the mask may be worn instead of the throat protector. The ice hockey goalie style facemask is approved for use by catchers. If there is no throat protector built onto the mask, the throat attachment must be added to the mask before using.

1. If the person catching for the pitcher will not wear the mask, after a warning, they will be removed from the game.
2. If the person catching for the pitcher is anyone other than a team member and will not wear the mask after a warning, it shall mean the removal of the coach or manager of the offending team.

Appendix E - Helmets and Protective Gear

b) FACE MASKS. Any defensive or offensive player may wear an approved plastic face mask/guard. Face masks/guards that are cracked or deformed, or if padding has deteriorated or is missing, are prohibited from use and must be removed from the game. Catchers may not wear the plastic face mask/guard in place of the regular mask with a throat protector.

Pitchers in the U17 and below categories are required to wear a protective face mask.

c) BODY PROTECTORS. All youth/minor catchers must wear a body protector.

d) SHIN GUARDS. Youth/minor catchers must wear shin guards that will offer protection to the kneecap.

e) PROTECTIVE LEG/ ARM GUARDS. These may be worn by a batter and a batter-runner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Appendix F - Tie-breaker

Moved by M. MacDonald, seconded by G. Johnson, to replace the following SOR with these edits.

8.1.25. TIEBREAKER - Starting with the top of the eight inning OR the first new inning after time has expired: for each half-inning thereafter until the game ends, the offensive team starts its turn at bat the player scheduled to bat last in that respective half-inning placed on second base as a runner.

8.6.5. Ties are permitted in round robin play. Ties are NOT permitted in playoff games and extra innings must be played until there is a winner. For all playoff games that are tied after 7 complete innings or after time has expired, subsequent innings shall be played using the TIEBREAKER rule.

9.1.26 **TIEBREAKER** - Starting with the top of the eight inning OR the first new inning after time has expired: for each half-inning thereafter until the game ends, the offensive team starts its turn at bat the player scheduled to bat last in that respective half-inning placed on second base as a runner.

9.6.1.5. Ties are permitted in round robin play. Ties are NOT permitted in playoff games and extra innings must be played until there is a winner. For all playoff games that are tied after 7 complete innings or after time has expired, subsequent innings shall be played using the TIEBREAKER rule.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6.3.6. Ties are permitted in round robin play. Ties are NOT permitted in playoff games and extra innings must be played until there is a winner. For all playoff games EXCEPT the final game that are tied after 7 complete innings or after time has expired, subsequent innings shall be played using the TIEBREAKER rule.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Appendix G - Seeding

Move by K. Weston, seconded by B. Hawkins, to replace .6.11 Seeding and 9.6.4. KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL with the following:

8.6.11 - Seeding

The final seeding shall be determined as follows:

- a. Won-Loss record. If still tied, then:
- b. When only two (2) teams are tied, the winner of the game between the tied teams is declared the winner. When three or more teams are tied, or when two teams are tied, but have not played each other in the qualifying round, only criteria (c), (d), (e) and (f) will apply in that order.
- c. Combined Run Differential (Total runs for minus total runs against). Note: Run differential limit is +7 or -7 runs per game. If still tied, then:
- d. The least (fewest) runs scored against during the entire qualifying round. (Note: full team records from the qualifying round shall be used). If still tied, then.
- e. Most runs scored for during the entire qualifying round (Note: full team records from the qualifying round shall be used). If still tied, then:
- f. If time and facilities permit, play a tie-breaker game. If time and facilities do not permit, the final seeding will be determined by a coin toss by the Softball BC Representative or designate.

9.6.4. KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL – At the end of the qualifying round the top four or six teams advance to the Knockout Championship Draw final and will be determined as follows:

- a. Won-Loss record. If still tied, then:
- b. When only two (2) teams are tied, the winner of the game between the tied teams is declared the winner. When three or more teams are tied, or when two teams are tied, but have not played each other in the qualifying round, only criteria (c), (d), (e) and (f) will apply in that order.
- c. Combined Run Differential (Total runs for minus total runs against). Note: Run differential limit is +7 or -7 runs per game. If still tied, then:
- d. The least (fewest) runs scored against during the entire qualifying round. (Note: full team records from the qualifying round shall be used). If still tied, then.
- e. Most runs scored for during the entire qualifying round (Note: full team records from the qualifying round shall be used). If still tied, then:
- f. If time and facilities permit, play a tie-breaker game. If time and facilities do not permit, the final seeding will be determined by a coin toss by the Softball BC Representative or designate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY