

Southern Districts Softball

Association Inc.

By Laws



Current from AGM held 24th July 2017

Index of By Laws

Clause	Contents	Page No
1	Duties of the President	4
2	Duties of the Vice President	4
3	Duties of the Secretary	4
4	Duties of the Treasurer	6
5	Duties of the Registrar	6
6	Duties of the Grounds Development Officer	7
7	Duties of the Development Officer	7
8	Duties of the Three Ordinary Board Members	8
9	Duties of the Board Chairperson of the Representative Administrative Committee	8
10	Duties of the Representative Secretary	8
11	Duties of the Representative Equipment/Uniform Officer	8
12	Duties of the Representative Administrative Committee	9
13	Duties of the Representative Selection Committee	9
14	Duties of the Development Officer Committee	9
15	Duties of the Coaching Coordinator	10
16	Duties of the Competition Committee	10
17	Duties of the Ground Development Committee	10
18	Duties of the Disciplinary Chairman	11
19	Duties of the Disciplinary Committee	11
20	Appeals Committee	13
21	Rules	13
22	Subscription	14
23	Registrations	14
24	Late Registrations	16

Index of By Laws (Cont'd)

Clause	Contents	Page No
25	Permissions	17
26	Interchange of Players	17
27	Substitutes	18
28	Grading	18
29	Failure to Fulfill Obligation	19
30	Games Details	19
31	Fixtures	19
31.14	Tiebreaker	20
32	Uniforms	20
33	Points	21
34	Wet Weather	21
35	Results Sheets	21
36	Forfeits	22
37	Protest	22
38	Fines & Penalties	23
39	Use of Lights	24
40	Coaches	24

1. Duties of the President:

- 1.1 Preside at all meetings of the Association at which present.
- 1.2 Have authority on every question of order at meetings and case of doubt or difficulty, the usual rules of debate shall be followed.
- 1.3 Have a casting vote only at all Board meetings of the Association.
- 1.4 Prepare in conjunction with the Secretary the Annual General Report of the Association.
- 1.5 Ensure that all Office Bearers /Board Members function, in accordance with Constitution and By Laws.
- 1.6 Attend AGM of NSWSA Inc with one other Board Member.
- 1.7 Shall act as Chairperson of the Selection committee.
- 1.8 Shall supply a written report to the association Secretary seven days prior to the Board meeting of the association.

2. Duties of the Vice President:

- 2.1 Preside at all meetings of the Association when the President is absent and assume responsibilities, rights and privileges of the absent President.
- 2.2 Assist in general with the running of the Association.
- 2.3 Shall act as Chairperson of the Representative Committee.
- 2.4 Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Board.
- 2.5 Provide a written report to the Secretary seven days prior to the Board meetings of the Association.

3. Duties of the Secretary:

- 3.1 Immediately after the Annual General Meeting advise the names of all Office Bearers/Board Members to the Administration Officer of NSWSA Inc.
- 3.2 Collect all records, minutes and equipment of the association from the previous Secretary within fourteen (14) days of appointment.
- 3.3 Liaise with all Board Members/Club secretaries/SNSW and other outside bodies.
- 3.4 Maintain a register (including names, addresses and phone numbers) of:
 - (i) Life members and forward to all committees;
 - (ii) Club secretaries and forward to all clubs;

- (iii) Club presidents and forward to the Disciplinary Committee; and
 - (iv) Club and alternate delegates
- 3.5 Issue notice and agenda for
 - (i) Board Meetings;
 - (ii) Annual General Meetings; and
 - (iii) Special General Meetings
- 3.6 Receive and distribute correspondence to:
 - Executive
 - Board
 - Committees
 - SDSUA
 - With other business referred to the Board Meetings
- 3.7 Maintain files for all correspondence received and sent.
- 3.8 Ensure all recent and relevant correspondence is available at all Executive Meetings/Board Meetings of the Association.
- 3.9 Circulate the names of all appointed Office Bearers / Board Members.
- 3.10 Prepare for the July Board Meeting and all subsequent meetings of the Association a calendar of events, including all ASF, NSWSA, SDSA and SDSUA events.
- 3.11 Prepare in conjunction with the President a report of the Association activities thirty (30) days prior to the NSWSA Inc AGM for presentation to the Association and NSWSA Annual General Meetings.
- 3.12 Ensure all minutes of all meetings are signed as true and correct records of proceedings by the Chairperson at the following meeting.
- 3.13 Liaise with the Registrar in relation to clearances in or out. Ensure approval of the Board before clearances out are signed. Provide Registrar with a copy of all clearances.
- 3.14 Immediately advise any Board member of any decision of the Disciplinary Committee which may affect a committee under their control.
- 3.15 Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Board.

4. Duties of the Treasurer:

Maintain accounts for:

- 4.1 General expenses
- 4.2 Ground Maintenance and development
- 4.3 Representative matters

- 4.4 Shop Activities
- 4.5 Other accounts as deemed necessary by the Board
- 4.6 Maintain a liability account in the Association's General Ledger which details the Clubs bonds held by the Association.
- 4.7 At each meeting of the Board:
- Produce a report confirming the Association financial records, balance (i.e. that reconciled bank statements equal the total of all Association accounts, as at a date within 7 days of that meeting)
 - Have on hand all Association financial records, in the event that the Board may appoint delegates to examine said record, seven days written notice
 - At the AGM of the Association provide a statement of the accounts signed by the Auditor, appointed at Annual General Meeting for the period May 1st to April 30th each year
 - Return to the Association all financial records/ documents and equipment belonging to the Association within 14 days of retirement or dismissal.
- 4.8 Make payment by EFT, BPAY or cheque for:
- All matters resolved by the Executive/Board
 - Goods which are for resale
 - In cases of necessity subject to ratification of by the Executive/Board
 - Ensure all payments are made by EFT, Bpay or cheque and are signed/authorized by any two of the President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer of the Association unless a float has been approved by the Executive.
 - Issue floats as approved by the Executive of up to \$500.00 for necessity of cash transactions
 - Convene the Financial committee and shall have a casting vote on any motions from this committee.
 - Prepare a full budget of annual income and expenditure to be presented to the Board prior to the end of the preceding year to which the budget relates.

5. Duties of the Registrar:

- 5.1 Maintain records of registered members.
- 5.2 The Registrar shall at Executive and Board meetings have on hand all registrations, including result sheets, in the event the Board may appoint delegates to examine said records, seven days written notice.
- 5.3 Have Association member lists on hand.
- 5.4 Preside at all meetings of the Competition Committee and exercise a casting vote on all tied votes.
- 5.5 Provide a written report to the Secretary seven days prior to the Board meetings of the Association.
- 5.6 Provide Clubs with lists of their registered players or inclusion on their registration sheets for the next season.

- 5.7 Administer the duties of the Assistant Registrar.
- 5.8 Record all minutes for meetings of the Competition Committee and shall provide to the Association Secretary written copy of these minutes no later than 7 days after the meeting is held.
- 5.9 Shall be responsible for all correspondence for this Committee. Copy of correspondence to the Association Secretary.

6. Duties of the Grounds Development Officer:

- 6.1 Oversee and be responsible for grounds personnel.
- 6.2 Oversee and liaise with clubs using lights for training.
- 6.3 Liaise with external bodies in connection with this position (i.e. Liverpool City Council etc).
- 6.4 Attend all meetings of the Liverpool Sports Council.
- 6.5 Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Board.
- 6.6 To chair meetings of the Grounds Development Committee.
- 6.7 To provide a written report to the Secretary seven days prior to the Board meeting.

7. Duties of the Development Officer:

- 7.1 To develop softball within the Association with focus on Junior Development, Scorers, Coaches and Umpires.
- 7.2 Shall act as Chairperson of the Committee.
- 7.3 Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Board.
- 7.4 Provide a written report to the Secretary seven days prior to the Board meetings of the Association.

8. Duties of the Three Ordinary Members:

- 8.1 Carry out duties as assigned by the Board.
- 8.2 Provide a written report to the Secretary seven days prior to the Board meetings of the Association.

9. Duties of the Board Chairperson of the Representative Administrative Committee:

9.1 Shall preside at all meetings of this committee and shall only have a casting vote.

9.2 Assist in the running of this committee.

10. Duties of the Representative Secretary:

10.1 Record all minutes for meetings of the Representative Administrative Committee and shall provide to the Association Secretary written copy of these minutes no later than seven (7) days after the meeting is held.

10.2 Shall liaise with the Registrar for confirmation of registrations.

10.3 Shall be responsible for liaising with places of accommodation and modes of travel. Will also be responsible for booking of accommodation and travel where applicable within the budget approved by the Board.

10.4 Shall be responsible for all correspondence for this committee. Copy of correspondence to the Association Secretary.

11. Duties of the Representative Equipment/Uniform Officer:

11.1 Shall maintain all Representative Equipment/Uniforms belonging to the Association.

11.2 Shall keep records of SDSA Representative Equipment/Uniforms that are on loan or hire with the following information:

1. Surname
2. Given Names
3. Address
4. Phone number or contact number
5. Club
6. Who paid hire fee
7. Uniform number

11.3 Shall collect all moneys pertaining to this position and issue a receipt for moneys received, as soon as practical after receiving same shall then be paid to the Association Treasurer.

11.4 Shall obtain three written quotes for equipment and uniforms, submitted to the Board for prior approval of purchase.

12. Duties of the Representative Administrative Committee:

12.1 Shall receive and collate all applications for all Official Positions (Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager, Scorer or any other position that may be advertised) to submit to the Board for selection and the Board's decision will be final.

- 12.2 All applications for Officials are to be submitted by the last Saturday in October of each year. Position will be notified within 30 days of applications being closed.
- 12.3 Applications for players for **all** representative teams will be accepted **from** the last Saturday in October each year.
- 12.4 Shall abide by the Representative Manual of Procedure as approved by the Board.
- 12.5 Shall receive from SDSUA the appointed Umpires for Regional's / State Championships or other events at which the Association representative teams may be entered.
- 12.6 Prepare representative budget and submit recommendations of required purchases of equipment and uniforms to the Board for approval.
- 12.7 Receive from Selection Committee teams selected to represent the Association at Divisional, State Championships or other events.
- 12.8 Nominate teams for the above mentioned events.
- 12.9 Only the Representative Administrative Committee shall be responsible for travel arrangements.

13. Duties of the Representative Selection Committee:

- 13.1 The Selection Committee shall implement the Association Selection policy as determined by the Board.
- 13.2 Shall be responsible for selecting players for Association Teams.

14. Duties of the Development Officer Committee:

- 14.1 Responsible for the development of all facets (i.e. playing, scoring coaching and umpiring) of softball within the Association).
- 14.2 Organise clinics for these different facets of softball.
- 14.3 Maintain records of qualifications of Coaches Scorers and Umpires.
- 14.4 Coordinators to assist in obtaining relevant officials for Representative teams when applicable.
- 14.5 Junior Development Officer to liaise with the Development Officer with regards to organising and conducting development programs.

15. Duties of the Coaching Coordinator:

To function on the Selection Committee of SDSA Inc

- 15.1 To conduct at least two (2) Orientation to Coaching courses. One prior to the commencement of the Summer competition and one within four (4) weeks of the start of the said competition.

16. Duties of the Competition Committee:

The committee shall:

- 16.1 Grade teams and players to ensure an even and fair competition results from their actions.
- 16.2 Determine the number of divisions required within each fixture and determine final grading.
- 16.3 Receive nominations for grading and act as the committee deems necessary. The Competition Committee may recommend to the Executive/Board the inclusion of teams created or received after the competition closing date, this recommendation must include the reason why the acceptance of such team(s) would benefit the Association.
- 16.4 Arrange the competition within parameters set by the Board.
- 16.5 Arrange Semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals.

17. Duties of the Ground Development Committee:

- 17.1 To develop a yearly plan for ground improvements to be presented to the Board.
- 17.2 To organise working bees to ensure the grounds are maintained.
- 17.3 To develop in conjunction with the Treasurer a budget to allow for the implementation of the yearly plan.
- 17.4 In conjunction with the Grounds Development Officer oversee and liaise with clubs using lights for training including the issuing of keys.
- 17.5 In conjunction with the Grounds Development Officer liaise with external bodies in connection with the grounds (i.e. Liverpool City Council etc).
- 17.6 Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Board.

18. Duties of the Disciplinary Chairperson:

The Disciplinary Chairperson shall

- 18.1 Preside at all meetings of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 18.2 Attend in conjunction with another Disciplinary Committee member all Appeals Committee hearings involving decisions of the Disciplinary Committee. If unavailable

another member of the committee present at the original hearing shall represent the committee.

- 18.3 Collect all records, minutes and equipment of the Disciplinary Committee from Disciplinary Committee members prior to the AGM.
- 18.4 Collect all records, minutes and equipment of the committee from the previous Disciplinary Chairperson with fourteen (14) days of appointment.
- 18.5 Allocate minutes, books and equipment to incumbent committee members as considered appropriate.
- 18.6 Maintain files for all cases heard within the last five years and any cases involving suspension of membership (including life sentences) which are current or where a member has been expelled whilst that person is alive.
- 18.7 Provide a report to the Board advising for any member or club cited:
 - (i) the date, place and time of the meeting
 - (ii) reason for citation
 - (iii) any resolution
- 18.8 Sign the official minutes of each hearing as true and correct after they have been initialed by three members of the committee and after any necessary changes have been made and initialed by three other members.
- 18.9 Ensure the Association Secretary receive a copy of minutes within seven (7) days.
- 18.10 Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Board.

19. Duties of the Disciplinary Committee:

- 19.1 The Disciplinary committee shall deal with incidents that are considered to require disciplinary action and call for and receive information from any source to ensure justice and the interests of the Association are protected. The Disciplinary Committee shall deal with matters where the Board believe an affiliated Club of the Association or a person representing such affiliated club:
 - (a) have persistently refused or neglected to comply with any Association rules; or
 - (b) have persistently and willfully acted in a manner prejudicial to interests of the Association; or
 - (c) have failed to comply with a written directive of the Association; or
 - (d) are the subject of a written complaint
- 19.2 Any player or official ejected from a game and the umpire who ejected them must give evidence before the Disciplinary Committee at the next scheduled Disciplinary Committee Meeting (see **Constitution 17.6.5**). The umpire who ejects a player or official from a game must complete a written report (on the Association Ejection Report Sheet, if available) and lodge it with the Board member on duty before leaving the grounds or the Association Secretary within twenty four (24) hours.

- 19.3 Any Member or Affiliated Club considered to have a case to answer (other than members automatically cited under **By Law 19.2**) shall be cited to appear before the committee in writing and must be given a minimum of seven (7) days notices and advised the following:
- (a) the date and place and approximate starting time for the meeting;
 - (b) the grounds of complaint;
 - (c) that the cited member or cited club may address the Disciplinary Committee and/or may submit to the committee at or prior to the date of that meeting written representations relating to the matter being heard.
- 19.4 Unless written notice of unavailability is accepted by the committee any member or club who fails to appear before the Disciplinary Committee at a scheduled time (or any umpire after ejecting a player or official from a game who fails to submit a written report) will automatically be suspended from all participation in softball (other than as a member of another Association committee or the Board) until such time as the member or club appears before the Committee or the Committee makes a determination at a subsequent meeting on evidence received.
- 19.5 At any Meeting of the Disciplinary Committee the committee shall:
- (a) Give the cited member or cited club the opportunity to make oral representations;
 - (b) Allow any member being cited to be accompanied by an Executive member of their club and if a junior by a parent or guardian also;
 - (c) Receive written representations submitted prior to the meeting or hear or receive representations from any party believing they have information pertinent at the meeting;
 - (d) Allow the cited member or two Executive members of any cited club (or their mother club provided one is a member of SDSA) to be present to hear and see all evidence presented, BUT this opportunity shall be forgone for all witnesses if the cited member or club interrupt the proceedings in any way and they may be required to leave the meeting until the completion of all evidence;
 - (e) Give due consideration to all representations after the cited member or club has left the meeting and make a determination;
 - (f) If the case is proven against the cited member or club previous determinations and penalties imposed on the cited member or club during the last five years shall be considered and then a resolution shall be passed.
- 19.6 If the committee finds a case proven against the member or club the Committee by resolution may:
- (a) Absolve the cited member or cited club of guilt or penalty; and/or
 - (b) Issue a warning or reprimand to the cited member or cited club; and/or
 - (c) Impose a monetary penalty; and/or
 - (d) Request a cited member to undergo some specialist sports training; and/or
 - (e) Suspend a cited member or team from functions or team activities for a specified period; and/or

- (f) Suspend the cited member or cited club from membership of the Association for a specified period; and/or
 - (g) Expel the cited member or cited club from the Association
- 19.7 Any determination or resolution of the Disciplinary Committee affecting the cited member or cited club shall be confirmed in writing by the Committee or Association to the cited member and their (or to the cited) club within seven (7) days and the right of appeal under **Constitution Clause 18** will be included or attached.
- 19.8 A resolution of the Disciplinary Committee will stand notwithstanding an appeal under **Constitution Clause 18** unless it is an appeal to the Appeals Committee for breaches of the Constitution or by Law.
- 20. Appeals Committee:**
- 20.1 Shall conduct all appeal hearings as allowed under **Constitutional Clause 16.7**.
- 20.2 Shall provide a report on all hearings to the Board.
- 20.3 Shall represent the Association at all appeal hearings involving the Association and NSW Softball Association Inc.
- 20.4 In the matter of an appeal under By Law 20.1 the Appeals Committee may in its sole discretion confirm the penalty or adverse finding of the Disciplinary Committee, or may decide not to confirm such penalty but instead impose an alternative penalty available under By Law 19.6, or may revoke the penalty or adverse finding of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 21. Rules:**
- 21.1 Game administered by the Association shall be played in accordance with the latest rules and interpretations applicable at the commencement of the competition of
 - 21.1.1 ASF Inc as adopted by NSWSA Inc in respect to Softball.
 - 21.1.2 NSWSA Inc in respect of U13 and U11 as amended by SDSA Inc.
 - 21.1.3 SDSA Inc. Ground Rules.
- 21.2 A copy of these ground rules must be supplied to each Club one month prior to the date set by the Board as per By Law 23.1 for submission of team names. If ground rules are not provided prior to this time the previous comparable season's ground rules shall apply.
- 21.3 Once an innings is started "Time and Game" cannot be called until completion of the innings unless the game continues 15 minutes beyond the scheduled time for completion. If there is a batter in the box, that batter shall be allowed to complete their turn at bat and when all play has ceased "Time and Game" shall then be declared by the Plate Umpire. A full innings is not to commence with five minutes or less remaining.
- 21.4 Games can only be cancelled due to inclement weather on a decision of the Board's wet weather committee in conjunction with the UIC or Deputy.

- 21.5 To be eligible to play in any semi final, final or grand final players shall have played in three competition matches throughout the season before the semi finals round with that team.
- 21.6 No member under the age of fourteen years may act as Plate Umpire in a game involving any open age division prefixed one unless they are an accredited Level One ASF umpire or higher or one of the base umpires is an adult.

22. Subscriptions:

- 22.1 Registration fees are due by the commencement of the third competition week of both summer and winter competitions except in the following circumstances:

If a newly formed club with no previous affiliation is granted admission as a member than that club shall pay their fees prior to the start of the competition.

OR

Clubs whose account for the payment of fees during the immediate previous season were three months or more in arrears than that club shall be required to pay their fees prior to the start of the competition.

- 22.2 Any Club failing to pay its fees, subscriptions, levies, fines or other moneys properly payable on or before the due date shall forfeit its right of representation, its teams shall be barred from taking part in any Association competition.
- 22.3 On payment of such moneys, said club may be re-admitted to the competition.
- 22.4 Every club is required to pay a \$100.00 bond, as a guarantee that their teams will keep all commitments for the season. Bond money is repayable to the club by request to the Association Secretary not less than 21 days prior Annual General Meeting. Clubs may elect to leave bond money in the hands of the Association for a period of three years.

23. Registrations:

- 23.1 Team names together with a list of players, registered uniform colours, club contact and team Officials shall be lodged with the Association Registrar or Assistant Registrar by the date set by the Board. For a team to be accepted it must list at least the following:

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---|--|
| (a) | Open Men | - | seven (7) players |
| (b) | Open Ladies | - | seven (7) players |
| (c) | Youth | - | seven (7) players |
| (d) | U/15's | - | seven (7) players |
| (e) | U/13's comp | - | seven (7) players, maximum twelve (12) players |
| (f) | U/11's Gold | - | seven (7) players, maximum twelve (12) players |
| (g) | U/11's Green | - | seven (7) players, maximum twelve (12) players |

- 23.2 Players & Officials who appear on the registration sheets, as set out in 23.1 shall be deemed registered with that Club if:

- (i) If they appear on the registration sheets of more than one club.
In this case the Competition Committee shall consult with the player/official and the clubs involved to determine which club and grade the player/official shall be registered.
- or
- (ii) If they have not participated in **any** game when the registration fees are due and payable i.e. by the commencement of the third competition week. A deregistration form must be completed by the Club Secretary and submitted to the Treasurer on the day registration fees are payable.

23.3 In addition to any fixtures required by the Board when four or more teams have been entered and accepted for the Summer competition fixtures will be conducted for each of the following:

- Women's Open age
- Youth Mixed
- U15s Mixed
- U13s competition – Mixed
- U11s Gold and Green – Mixed
- Men's Open Age

Note: Mixed does not exclude single gender teams from entering the competition.

23.4 In addition to any fixtures required by the Board when four or more teams have been entered and accepted for the Winter Competition fixtures will be conducted for each of the following:

- Mixed slowpitch
- Mixed Open Age

23.5 Players may register in more than one fixture if eligible by gender and age. Players may only be registered (as a Player) in one open age gender team (except as allowed for in **By Law 26.**) players ages must be under the required age as at **31st December in the year our competition ends.**

Maximum age:

- Mixed U/11's Gold and Green - Under eleven (11) years as at 31 December in the year the competition ends
- Mixed U/13's Competition - Under thirteen (13) years as at 31 December in the year the competition ends
- Mixed U/15's - Under fifteen (15) years as at 31 December in the year the competition ends
- Mixed Youth – Female under twenty (20) years as at 31 December in the year the competition ends
- Mixed Youth – Male under eighteen (18) years as at 31 December in the year the competition ends

23.5.1 No player eligible for U13 year's competition may participate in an Open Age Competition.

- 23.6 A club should give to the Association a list of un-financial players each season. If any club allows an un-financial player to play before paying money owing they will be classed as unregistered and the game will become a forfeit to the opposing team.
- 23.7 Any Club withdrawing a team after the first Competition Committee meeting will be fined \$250.00 for each team withdrawn.
- 23.8 A member registered in a previous season with a Club shall not play or Officiate with another Club without having obtained a clearance or permission as defined in these By Laws.
- 23.9 Once a player is de-registered from a team then that player is free to late register in a team of their choice subject to that team being graded equal or higher than they have de registered from. Once an Official is de registered from a team then that Official is free to late register in a team of their choice.
- 23.10 Borrow the player rule:
- A team must have six (6) minimum registered original players to start the game and will be permitted to borrow one (1) player from the opposing team (if possible) to make seven (7) players to enable the game to commence, that player will be returned to their own team upon arrival of a seventh (7th) registered player that is eligible to play in said team. If a seventh (7th) registered player that is eligible to play in said team fails to arrive, at the completion of the game, regardless of the score, the team that has borrowed the player from the opposing team is declared the loser via forfeit. Borrow the player rule CANNOT be used during the final series.
- 23.11 Junior players can only register into two Junior Age Groups.

24. Late Registrations:

- 24.1 All late registration details **must** be supplied on a late registration form or the player will be deemed unregistered.
- 24.1a Players and Officials wishing to late register **MUST** hand in form to the Registrar on the day they take the diamond. Failure to do so will result in loss of points.
- 24.2 Late registered players shall not be required to wear Club uniform on the day of registration but must be worn on third week. Failure to do so could result in the player being ejected from the game.
- 24.3 Fees for late registration will be decided by the Board.
- 24.4 Players late registering are entitled to register into any team as provided for in **By Law 23.5** Except as follows:
- 24.4.1 A player who is late registering must register into a grade higher than previously played if the team that was previously played in was a Premiership winning team.
- 24.4.2 A player who is late registered cannot play in a lower division than previously played, unless exempted by the competition committee. To be eligible for exemption a player

must complete the dispensation request form. Dispensation must be granted by the Competition Committee before a player can take the diamond.

- 24.4.3 A player eligible for our highest age Junior Competition can only late register into a senior team in the summer competition in a division prefixed one unless exempted by the competition committee. To be eligible for exemption a player must complete the dispensation request form. Dispensation must be granted by the Competition Committee before a player can take the diamond.

25 Permission's:

A registered member of one club shall be permitted to play or officiate for another club providing the member has **been granted an online permit** from the club they are first registered with and the member is playing or officiating in a division in which that first registered club is not participating.

Exception: If both clubs concerned **approve the online permit** that would allow the member to play or officiate in the requested division in which that first registered club is participating.

Exemption: When the 'borrow the player' rule is utilised.

26 Interchange of Players:

- 26.1 No team shall be allowed to borrow from teams in a lower grade unless that team belongs to the same club.
- 26.2 A player may participate and play up in a higher grade unlimited times. NOTE: This does not qualify the player to participate in the finals series for this team. If a player wishes to participate in the finals series a player needs to be late registered into the team prior to the last round game in December.
- 26.3 Players in any semi final shall have participated in 3 games throughout the season with that team.
- 26.4 When a Club fields more than one team in the same grade players may not interchange between teams.
- 26.4.1 When a Club fields more than one team in the same grade players may not interchange between teams.
Exemption: When the 'borrow the player' rule is utilised.
- 26.5 Players who are not permitted to late register into a senior division are not permitted to play up into that division or a lower division as an interchange player.

27 Substitutes:

- 27.1 If a team fields seven (7) players, shortie shall be any two batters together and counted as one out.
- 27.2 If a team fields eight (8) players any one of nine batters can be a shortie and is counted as one out.

- 27.3 Should a replacement arrive during the game, that person may take the field and bat in the batting order against shortie.

28 Grading:

- 28.1 Fixtures shall be conducted in grades/divisions as determined by the Competition Committee.
- 28.2 Teams shall be graded on ability.
- 28.3 Teams may apply for a particular division, but final grading shall be determined by the Competition Committee.
- 28.4(i) Re grading once the competition has commenced is not permitted:
Exception 1: Re-grading of teams is permitted up or down a grade to accommodate a division where a team has withdrawn within the first three (4) weeks of the competition ensuring that all affected divisions have a true competition.
Exception 2: Re-grading of U11 Green and Gold teams is permitted within the first four (4) weeks of the competition by the Competition Committee if they believe it is needed to ensure an equal and fair competition.
- 28.5 The system of promotion and relegation will apply to teams finishing first “Premiers” and the team running last.
- 28.6 The Premiers will be promoted up at least one grade.
Exception: In the event of there being a Ladies A grade Inter-district competition the promotion of teams from A reserve to A grade shall be at the discretion of the Competition Committee
- 28.7 The teams finishing last may be relegated down at least one grade.
- 28.8 Teams being relegated down may request to remain in that division.
- 28.9 The club is responsible to place a team including players who played in the team to be promoted in the appropriate division.

29 Failure to Fulfill Obligation:

When a team is promoted and the Club fails to nominate a team in that grade:

- 29.1 If there is no team within this grading then the Club may be fined \$100.00

30 Game Details:

- 30.1 The draw produced by the Competition Committee must be adhered to. The Competition Committee will give consideration and priority to requests for games not to conflict with State League, State Championships and Masters Softball Competitions if details of games are submitted with team registration sheets prior to grading.

31 **Fixtures:**

31.1 The Competition Committee shall be able to alter the draw if Regional or State Championships interfere with the competition.

31.2 The leading four teams in each grade at the completion of the fixtures shall be considered semi-finalists. In the event of the teams being level, the percentage of the team shall decide the order of the teams. Percentages shall be determined by dividing the runs scored against, into the runs for. In the event of a tie for fourth place the teams shall play off.

31.3 When there are **four or less** teams remaining in Senior Competitions the following will occur:

- No semi final will take place
- Team running second will play team running 3rd in final, winner of this game will play the team which came first in the grand final.

31.4 Semi Finals shall be played as follows:

- First versus Second Winner to Grand Final
 Loser to Final
- Third versus Fourth Winner to Final
 Loser to 4th place

Final

- Loser of 1st versus 2nd Winner of Third versus Fourth
 Winner to Grand Final

Grand Final

- Winner of 1st versus 2nd Versus Winner of final
- Any team that forfeits a semi final prior to commencement shall not participate further.

31.5 Games shall commence at the times determined by the Competition Committee provided that if either side has not seven players present at the time a stay of 5 minutes will be allowed by the umpire after which play must commence **or** if one team has not seven players present, such team shall forfeit the match. If at the end of 5 minutes neither team has seven players present the game shall be declare a no game and no points will be awarded to either side.

31.6 All Softball games shall be of one and one half hours duration.

31.7 U/13 Competition games shall be of one and a half hour's duration.

31.8 All U/11 Green and Gold games shall be of one hour duration

- 31.9 Home team to lay out the diamond, such as pitching mat and double base.
- 31.10 In the absence of umpires as per the fixtures draw, each team is to provide an umpire.
- 31.11 Failure to supply umpires as listed team at fault will be fined.
- 31.12 SDSUA Official Umpires may assume control of any game where prior notice has been given to umpiring club.
- 31.13 Play-Off for fourth position, semi finals, finals and Grand Finals must consist of 7 innings or the time limit as set out previously. If tied at the completion of seven innings and within the time limit a tiebreaker shall be played until a result is obtained. If tied at time, innings in progress to be completed if, however still tied, tie breaker will commence at the beginning of the next innings.

31.14 Tiebreaker:

- 31.14.1 The offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat 9 in that respective half inning being placed on 2nd base. The player who is running can be substituted in accordance with the substitution rules.

32. Uniforms:

- 32.1 All players shall wear regulation playing uniform, sandshoes, or approved softball shoes and socks. A draft player may wear bottoms as per 1st registered clubs but must have the shirt of club to whom they are drafted.
- 32.2 U/11, U13 and U15 players (when playing in that age group) are required to wear shin protection from 1st game.
- 32.3 All Coaches and Umpires must wear closed in shoes. **NO THONGS** at any time will be permissible.
- 32.4 All players of team shall be allowed to have three weeks only after commencement of the fixtures to have appropriate uniform of their team. The Board may grant a further extension if written application is received **prior** to third competition week.
- 32.5 New clubs shall submit to the Board the proposed colours and uniform design showing combination of the colours of the new club and shall not proceed with such colours without first having obtained approval.
- 32.6 At no time may any person wear **metal cleats** whilst training or playing on any surface of Jacquie Osmond Softball Complex.

33 Points:

- Points for fixtures:
- 33.1 Win 3 points
- 33.2 Draw 2 points
- 33.3 Loss 1 point

33.4	Bye	0 points
33.5	Wet Weather	2 points (See wet weather)
33.6	Forfeit Given	0 points
33.7	Forfeit Received	3 points

34 Wet Weather:

34.1 Should a division complete its matches when time is called, when rain causes play to be abandoned for the day points will be awarded for that division.

34.2 When all or some of the games are called off in any grade, no points shall be awarded for any game played in that grade. Wet Weather points will apply.

34.3 Games may be suspended due to wet weather by the Plate Umpire.

34.4 Definition of a game:

34.4.1 Where three (3) or more innings are completed or if half the game time has elapsed this will constitute a game.

34.4.2 Grounds may be declared unplayable by:

- Liverpool City Council
- Wet Weather Committee shall consist of :-
 - President and or Vice President
 - Umpire in Chief
 - Grounds Development Officer

34.5 Three wet weather Sundays will be allocated throughout the season (last Sunday in October, November and February summer season & May, June & July winter season). If there are more than three rounds lost due to wet weather then wet weather points will apply.

35 Result Sheets:

35.1 Result sheets must be completed in ink by both teams and handed to the Umpire 10 minutes before the game is due to commence.

35.2 Officials names are not to be shown unless they have participated in the game.

35.3 At the completion of the game the Plate Umpire is responsible for showing the winner of the game and the score, also his/her name and signature also that of the other two umpires must appear on the sheet.

35.4 Result sheets to be in the hands of the Registrar or an Executive Member within 24 hours of the game being played. Winner of the game responsible for result sheet, if no sheet received the winner will not be awarded any points. The losing team will receive their one point.

35.5 A team receiving a forfeit must complete team sheet unless a notified forfeit has been given.

- 35.6 Players playing in a higher grade must indicate which grade they are playing up from. Drafted players shall be *recorded on team sheets in red*.
- 35.7 If any team receives a forfeit and want to qualify players for semi finals shall complete a result sheet and be in the hands of the Registrar/or an Executive Member within 24 hours of the game being played

36 Forfeits:

- 36.1 A team who forfeits must notify the Registrar 24 hours prior to the game being played he/she may contact the other team and Umpires.
- 36.2 Any team forfeiting three games in a row (not including byes) shall take no further part in the competition. (See fines) **Exception-** If a team forfeits due to injury during the game.
- 36.3 Any team forfeiting a semi final shall take no further part in the Competition (see Fines) **Exception-** If a team forfeits due to injury during the game.

37 Protests:

- 37.1 Protests will be dealt with by SDSUA (Honorary Body).
- 37.2 Intent to protest must be notified to the Umpire before the next pitch. Must be followed up in writing within 48 hours stating the following.
- 37.3 The Date.
- 37.4 The names of the Umpires.
- 37.5 The exact time of the protest.
- 37.6 The name and position of runners on base and at bat (if applicable).
- 37.7 The count on the batter.
- 37.8 The rule or By Law involved.
- 37.9 Statement of events leading to protest.
- 37.10 The Registrar shall notify SDSUA of the protest, provide them with the result sheet and the Association Secretary will provide the written statement.
- 37.11 SDSUA will convene a meeting to decide if the protest is valid and if necessary will hold a meeting of the team officials involved together with the Umpires and scorebooks.
- 37.12 Secretary of the SDSUA will notify all parties concerned of the result and notify the Competition Committee of their decision in writing.
- 37.13 Protests on play offs, semi finals, finals and grand finals will be decided at the time of protest by Umpire's Convener allotted by SDSUA.

- 37.14 Appeals will be heard by Appeals Committee and will only be considered on non compliance with SDSA protest procedures. Decision on Rule Interpretations by SDSUA shall be final.

38 Fines and Penalties:

The following fines and penalties **may** apply:

38.1	Failing to supply three umpires	\$30.00 plus loss of points = to a win
38.2	Failing to supply two umpires	\$20.00
38.3	Failing to supply one umpire Umpiring in Teeball only one senior umpire or SDSA graded umpires is required	\$10.00
38.4	Failing to supply umpires for semi finals, finals and grand finals	\$50.00 per umpire
38.5	Failing to remove rubbish from bench area It is the responsibility of each team to keep bench area clean for the next team playing on the diamond	\$50.00
38.6	Failing to return equipment to the equipment room It is the responsibility of the home team at the last time slot to return this equipment	\$50.00
38.7	Any club failing to supply a team for promotion	\$100.00
38.8	Any team forfeiting three (3) games in a row (Not including the bye)	\$250.00
38.9	Any club withdrawing a team after the first meeting of the Competition Committee will be fined	\$250.00
38.10	Any team forfeiting a semi final <u>Exception:</u> Due to player being injured	\$100.00
38.11(i)	All clubs <u>not</u> supplying the required amount of people for working bees with 2 weeks notification	\$50.00 per person
(ii)	All clubs <u>not</u> supplying the required amount of people for any special events/masters/championships held by/at SDSA with 2 weeks notification	Each Senior Team will incur a loss of points equal to a win (i.e. 3)
38.12	Any club who allows a player/official to take the diamond whilst knowing that the person is under suspension receives a fine of	\$200.00
38.13	Any fines still outstanding at the end of the competition will be deducted from the bond paid by that club	

39 Use of Lights:

- 39.1 Clubs shall apply in writing for use of grounds and lights.
- 39.2 Allocation of grounds and lights for training will be determined by the Board.

40 Coaches:

- 40.1 At least one (1) of the coaches registered with each U11s & U13s team, entered for the summer competition, must be accredited as a “Community Coach”.
- 40.2 SDSA will conduct a “Community Coach” course prior to the start of the competition.
- 40.3 Applicants attending these courses will enable a team registration sheet to be accepted.