

UniSport Australia Guideline

Softball

Women

UniSport softball competitions are conducted in accordance with the official softball rules of the [World Baseball and Softball Congress \(WBSC\)](#) and as varied by Softball Australia's [Australian Championship regulations](#) (Appendix 3) except where these differ from UniSport sports rules; in which case the latter shall take precedence. Reference should also be made to the UniSport breach of competition requirements guideline for penalties related to breaches.

1. Team/squad size

- Minimum registered players – 11
- Maximum registered players – 16
- Maximum cross registrations – 3
- Minimum number of players that can take the field without incurring a forfeit – 8

2. Competition format

2.1. Rule modifications

The following rules from the Australian Championship Regulations (Appendix 3) will not apply to this tournament:

- a) Rule 12.2 – filming restrictions
- b) Rule 13 – team statistics
- c) Rule 14.1 – line up cards (teams to provide own lineup cards)
- d) Rule 26 – complaints, disputes, etc (refer to UniSport disciplinary regs)

2.2. Run ahead rule

- a) If after five innings, a team is seven runs or more in front, the game is deemed finished according to the run ahead rule
- b) If after four innings, a team is 10 runs or more in front, the game is deemed finished according to the run ahead rule
- c) If after three innings, a team is 15 runs or more in front, the game is deemed finished according to the run ahead rule

2.3. Intentional walks

- a) Each team is allowed one intentional walk per game. One extra intentional walk will be allowed in the event of a tie breaker.

2.4. Game duration

- a) All games will be seven innings or a 90-minute time limit.
- b) Medal matches will be a full seven innings.

2.5. Pool point scoring

Points for each match shall be awarded as follows:

- a) Winning team: 3 points
- b) Drawn match: 2 points per team
- c) Losing team: 1 point
- d) Forfeited team: 0 points

2.6. Pool tiebreakers

In the event that two or more teams have the same number of points at the completion of the preliminary rounds, a tie will be resolved by following rule 21.4 of the Australian Championship Regulations (Appendix 3).

Note – in the event that only one round is played during the tournament and the game between the two tied teams is a draw, rule 21.4.2 cannot be applied and is replaced with Australian Championship Regulations, Appendix 5, Rules for International Friendship Series, Rule 7.2

2.7. Drawn matches

- a) If preliminary matches are drawn after seven innings, or less than seven innings if time has expired, both teams will be awarded two points as per section 2.5.
- b) If progression or medal matches are drawn at the end of normal time, rule 18 of the Australian Championships Regulations (Appendix 3) relating to tiebreakers applies from the 8th innings until a result has been achieved.

3. Team duties

3.1. Team duty requirements softball are:

- a) One person from each team will be required for the match immediately following theirs for the duties of base umpiring or scoring. Teams that have the second timeslot of the day will be required to provide duty in the first timeslot.

3.2. The person fulfilling the team duty requirements can be any competent person associated with that team or university and does not necessarily have to be a player e.g. team manager.

4. Equipment

4.1. All bats will be tested as per [Australian Championship regulations](#) (Appendix 3, Rule 30) including those which already have a Softball Australia sticker.

4.2. Testing will occur on the first morning of competition prior to the competition starting (at the conclusion of the sport specific technical meeting).

5. Uniform requirements

5.1. In addition to the requirements outlined by the WBSC 2018-2021 Official Rules of Softball (rules 2.1.8, 2.4-2.7), the following items are required:

- a) Numbers are compulsory on the front and back of the shirt. Sizes are:
 - a. Height - front (3" or 7.62cm high) and back (6" or 15.2cm high)
- b) If numbers are worn on shorts, these numbers must match the numbers on the shirt
- c) University name on the front of the shirt is compulsory and must be a minimum of 10cm high

6. Forfeits

6.1. A forfeit will be declared 10 minutes after the scheduled start of play time where either team is unable to commence play.

6.2. The forfeit score is seven (7) runs to nil (0).

Previous rule amendments

August 2001 | July 2004 | April 2005 | August 2005 | April 2008 | March 2010 | April 2011 | May 2012 | May 2014 | February 2015 | March 2016 | March 2017 | March 2018 | May 2019 | February 2020 | April 2021

*All competitions will be held in accordance with the UniSport competition guidelines.