

SLO-PITCH

All participants must be at least 55 years of age by December 31 of the year of the Games.

AGE CATEGORIES / EVENTS:

AGE	EVENTS	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER PROVINCE/TERRITORY
55+	Mixed Teams	4 teams of 10 min./16 max.
65+	Mixed Teams	4 teams of 10 min./16 max.
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER PROVINCE/TERRITORY= 128 (max)		
<p>Note 1: Each team must have a minimum of ten (10) players, to a maximum of sixteen (16), and must include a minimum of three (3) men and three (3) women, with at least two (2) men and two (2) women playing at all times.</p>		
<p>Note 2: If a team has a <i>non-playing</i> coach and/or manager and/or trainer, these people are not included in the 16-player team roster, but must all be registered as participants.</p>		
<p>Note 3: To encourage more women to play in the Slo-Pitch event, women can choose to play in either age group. Men, however, must play within their own age group.</p>		
<p>Note 4: For safety concerns, we strongly recommend that all players wear a helmet, but it is not mandatory to do so.</p>		

Slo-Pitch National Rules will apply, as modified by the rules below.

The following take precedence, if needed, over all others:

1. Safe-t-base to be used at first.
2. Runner commitment line to be in effect on third base line (designed to reduce collisions at home plate)
3. A home plate made of rubber or some other suitable material, and measuring 2 feet by 3 feet, is to be used.
4. A medical examination two months prior to the Games is strongly recommended.
5. Metal cleats will not be allowed.
6. Teams are not required to wear uniforms; however, all players must wear a number while playing.
7. A game tied after seven innings will continue until a winner is declared, using the International Tie Breaker Rule.

8. The umpire will check bats before the game begins. All bats must comply with those listed as legal on slo-pitch.com (SPN) and/or softball.ca (Softball Canada). Authorized bat manufacturers shall have the USSSA compliance mark located on the bat. The ball used must comply with the rules as stated in slo-pitch.com (SPN)
9. There is to be no tag by the catcher or other defensive player between the commitment line and the safe line.
10. If the runner touches the strike plate he is an automatic out.
11. A safe base at first is mandatory. A runner must touch the outside of the safe base (orange) at first base. If there is no play at first, the first baseman is to give the runner the inner part of the safe base (white) regardless of whether the runner is proceeding to second base.
12. If a runner steps off any base after the ball crosses the plate or hits the ground, and no contact of the bat with the pitched ball is made, the runner is NOT called out.
13. The five-run rule per inning is in effect, except for the last or extra innings, which are open innings.
14. A legally delivered ball striking any part of the strike plate before it touches the ground is a strike – regardless of the direction the ball deflects.
15. To be called a strike, the minimum height of a pitched ball shall be 6 feet and the maximum height shall be 12 feet.
16. The bases are to be 65 feet.
17. Pitchers may pitch from 50 – 60 feet from the point of the original home plate.
18. Sliding is allowed at every base except home.
19. A player on the line-up can be removed and inserted once during a game.
20. A courtesy runner can be used once per inning. Any player listed on the line-up card (which is presented to the home plate umpire and opposing team prior to the start of the game) can be used. Female for female; male for male. This is not a substitution.
21. Courtesy runners from home can be used if both managers agree.
22. Each team must have ten (10) eligible players ready to play. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN FORFEITURE. No coach / manager / trainer may be under the age of 55 and **MUST** be registered as a participant.
23. All age categories may have one extra player on the batting line-up card and are allowed unlimited defensive substitution with this player.

24. When a male batter, who is batting before a female, is walked, intentionally or otherwise, he will be awarded first and second bases and the next batter, the female, must bat.
25. Bunting is not allowed
26. Carded umpires should be used.

PLAYOFFS

27. A round robin should be played, however the exact system to be used will depend on the number of teams entered in each age group.
28. In the case of two teams tied after the round robin, the winner of the game between the two, in the round robin, will receive the higher placing.
29. If a three, or more - way tie exists, go to:
 - (a) Who beat who in round robin play among those tied, and,
 - (b) Total points (runs) for/against, in the round robin.
30. Round Robin determines seeding for play-offs and play-offs determine medal winners.

NOTE:

The Host will hold a mandatory Managers / Coaches meeting including the Technical Director, preferably the night before the start of competition. **No rule changes will be made at this meeting, except for safety reasons such as field conditions or weather implications.**

