



WBSC

9 - 24 NOVEMBER 2024

# TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS



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## **A. GENERAL NORMS**

These Tournament Regulations ("Regulations", each a "Reg.") are adopted by the WBSC and enforced by the WBSC Executive Board and the responsible persons named herein. They supplement the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball ("Rules"). In the event of an inconsistency between a Rule, Regulation or the WBSC Statutes, or an interpretation of or a dispute in the application of one of these, the WBSC Executive Director or his delegate will issue a ruling.

As used in these Regulations, a "WBSC Competition" is a Premier12, a WBSC Baseball World Cup and a qualifier for one of these, including: U-23 Baseball World Cup; U-18 Baseball World Cup; U-15 Baseball World Cup; U-12 Baseball World Cup; Women's Baseball World Cup, Continental or Regional Games, or World or Regional Championships; or another Baseball competition sanctioned by the WBSC. A "competition" refers to a particular WBSC Competition that is being conducted under these Regulations.

Every notice given under these Regulations before, during or after a competition ("Notice") is to be made by e-mail or first-class post according to contact information held by the WBSC in connection with that competition. Every Notice is deemed effective if given by e-mail on the day and time sent or if by first-class post two (2) business days after posting.

### **A1. PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY**

#### Nationality of Competitors

A1.1. Any player in the Premier12 ("competitor" or "player") must be a national of the country, territory or region of the Member Organisation that is entering him.

A1.2. All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in the Premier12 shall be resolved by the WBSC Executive Board.

A1.3. A competitor who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent any one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one of them in a WBSC Competition, they may not represent another country or region unless they meet the conditions set forth in Reg A1.4 that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality. (Note: a non-official competition may be considered an exception to this rule)

A1.4. A competitor who has represented one country in a WBSC Competition and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality shall not participate in any other WBSC Competition to represent his new country or region until three years have passed since the competitor last represented their former country. (Note: a non-official competition may be considered an exception to this rule). This period may be reduced or even canceled with the agreement of both National Federations and the approval of the WBSC Executive Board.

A1.5. If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new National Olympic Committee ("NOC") is recognized by the International Olympic Committee ("IOC"), a competitor may continue to represent the country or region to which they belong or belonged. However, they may, if preferred, choose to represent their country or be entered in the official WBSC competition by his new Federation or NOC if one exists. This particular choice may only be made once.

A1.6. In all cases not expressly addressed in this Reg. A1, in particular in those cases in which a competitor would be in a position to represent a country other than that of which they are a national or have a choice as to the country they intends to represent, the WBSC Executive Board may take all decisions of a general or individual nature, and, in particular, issue specific requirements relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the competitors, including the duration of any waiting period.

A1.7. Should an eligibility violation occur, and a player be proven to be ineligible prior to any games being played, they are automatically removed from their team's Final Team Roster ("FTR") and will not be allowed to participate in that competition. The Technical Commission of the competition will notify the WBSC Executive Board for further action.



A1.8. Should a violation be discovered during a competition and after the player has played in one or more games, they are automatically removed from the FTR, and any game in which they actually played shall be considered a forfeited game for the team. The team shall continue to play in the competition, and the infraction shall be reported by the Technical Commission of the competition to the WBSC Executive Board for further action.

A1.9. Should a violation of eligibility be discovered after the competition, the case can be submitted by the WBSC Technical Commission, or by the Member Organisation, directly to the WBSC Executive Board for further action. In any case the WBSC Executive Board is empowered to act.

A1.10. During a competition, a player, removed from the FTR for any eligibility violation, cannot be replaced by another player. A team can be penalized for an eligibility violation only if a player has actually played in a game.

A1.11. In any case, it is the obligation of the team or the Member Organisation, officially protesting the ineligibility of a player, to produce valid proof, the documentation and all the information regarding the violation in writing at the moment when filing the protest.

### Provisional Members

A1.12. A National Team from a WBSC Provisional Member may participate only in a WBSC Regional or Continental level competition (“Regional Competition”) but not in a WBSC Competition.

- The provisions of Reg. A1. to A1.11 apply to a Provisional Member player, Club Team and National Team in a Regional Competition.
- A player who is a national of two or more countries/regions, one of which is a WBSC Provisional Member, may on evidence of nationality elect to represent either (i) a Provisional Member National Team or (ii) a Full Member National Team. Having done so, such a player can not represent any other National Team in the same Calendar Year.
- If a player that played for a WBSC Provisional Member National Team wishes to change and play for the National Team of a full WBSC Member, or vice versa, the player requires written permission to do so from the WBSC Provisional Member, the WBSC Member and the WBSC.

## **A2. PROVISIONAL TEAM ROSTER – (PTR)**

A2.1. No later than 10 September 2024, all Member Organisations must communicate to the WBSC the Provisional (maximum 60 players) Team Roster (“PTR”), through the online platform: <http://my.wbsc.org>

*Note: User ID and Password have been communicated to all NFs from WBSC Headquarters.*

A2.2 If a person named on a PTR becomes unavailable after 10 September 2024 for injury, sickness or any other reasons that are approved by WBSC, they may be replaced on that PTR before 10 October 2024. Member Organisations must obtain WBSC’s approval in writing before making such changes. If for a medical reason, a medical certificate in English or Spanish language must accompany the request when submitted to the WBSC. Failure to report and obtain WBSC approval may result in the ineligibility of that person from the competition.

A2.3. The non-fulfillment of the deadline to submit the documents mentioned under point A2.1., the incomplete submission or lack of fulfillment of any of the sections shall be sanctioned with a one hundred (100) USD fine per day until the problem is corrected.

## **A3. FINAL TEAM ROSTER – (FTR)**

A3.1. No later than 10 October 2024, all Member Organisations must communicate to the WBSC the **FTR** composed of 28 players and 14 delegation members including manager, coaches, delegation leader and staff.

*Note: User ID and Password have been communicated to all NFs from WBSC Headquarters.*



A3.2. During the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting, the Delegation Leader shall submit the following to the Technical Commission:

- a) A current valid passport (“passport”) for each player on the FTR must be presented at the Pre-Tournament Technical Meeting. If a player(s) has not arrived in the host country the Member Organisation could present a copy of the player(s) passport for **roster registration purpose only**.
- b) Upon arrival of player(s) in the host country the Member Organisation **MUST** present the valid passport(s) to the Technical Director for **official roster activation** of the player(s). Player(s) will not be allowed to play until the Technical Director has **approved passport validation**. Additional members of the Delegation such as Delegation Leader, Team Manager, Coaches, Trainers, etc. shall appear on the FTR but do not need to submit their Passport
- c) The name, room number (local address), email and social media (i.e. Whatsapp) address and phone number of the Delegation Leader, Team Manager, media officer of each Delegation.

A3.3 A maximum of eight (8) players are allowed to be replaced on the **FTR** after the 10 October 2024. The WBSC must be informed in writing of such changes at any moment up to and including the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting, which notice of change must be in the hands of the Technical Director at the time of the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting. If for any reason, previously known and accepted by the WBSC, a team arrives in the country later, the Delegation Leader must ensure that the Technical Director gets these documents promptly upon the team’s arrival. Those eight (8) players may come from either inside or outside the PTR.

A3.4. The participating team’s official Delegations will be composed of:

Players	28 (at least 13 pitchers and 2 catchers)
Delegation Leader	1
Team Manager	1
Coaches	6
Athletic Trainer/Team Doctor/ Physiotherapist	1
Travel Manager	1
Press Officer	1
Member Organisation Officials/Staff	3

Max. total: 42

Note: Member Organisations may request to bring extra personnel in addition to the Official Team Delegation Members set. The LOC may assist finding appropriate accommodation and food upon request. Team delegations are responsible to cover all the associated costs of extra personnel.

A3.5. The non-fulfillment of the deadline to submit the documents mentioned under Reg. A3.1., the incomplete submission or lack of fulfillment of any of Reg. A3 shall be sanctioned with a five hundred (500) USD fine per day until the problem is corrected.

A3.6 If more than eight (8) players on FTR become unavailable after 10 October 2024 due to injury, sickness or any other reasons and if the Member Organisation wishes to replace such player(s), the reasons for such unavailability must be communicated to WBSC in writing. WBSC will review the request and communicate if the request could be granted. Without WBSC’s approval in writing, no changes are permitted.

A3.7 Once the player verification at Technical Meeting is over, no changes to the FTR will be permitted for the duration of the competition. Copies of the FTR shall be provided to each Delegation Leader, Technical Director, Technical Commissioners, Scorers, Anti-Doping Commissioner and Media before the start of the competition.



#### **A4. PRE-TOURNAMENT TECHNICAL/ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

A4.1. On the day before the start of the competition, an information meeting will be held, to discuss all rules, technical, scheduling and organizational issues concerning the competition. The place, date and time of the meeting will be made available to the teams as soon as possible.

A4.2. The Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting will be chaired by the Tournament Director accompanied by the Technical Director, the Director of Umpires (or their assistant assigned for the competition), the Scoring Director (or their assistant), the Anti-Doping Commissioner, a representative of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and a representative of the WBSC Events Department. Relevant technical matters of the competition will be discussed in this meeting.

*Note: All materials handed out at this meeting should be printed in English and Spanish at a minimum.*

Attendance at this meeting and the receipt of materials signifies the understanding and acceptance by each delegation and its members of all conditions, requirements, Rules, and Regulations.

#### **A5. DOPING CONTROL**

A5.1. Doping Control will be conducted in accordance with the WBSC Anti-Doping Rules which are in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.

A5.2. WBSC will appoint a WBSC Anti-Doping Commissioner to oversee the anti-doping program. The WBSC Anti-Doping Commissioner may vary the test distribution in consultation with the head Doping Control Officer (DCO).

A5.3. For games in which doping controls will be conducted, the following procedure shall be followed:

- At the end of the first half of the fourth innings the head DCO, the WBSC Anti-Doping Commissioner and one of the Technical Commissioners in charge of the game (if requested), with a copy of the starting Line-ups, shall meet in the Doping Control Station. The head DCO will have a copy of the FTR for the selection process.

NOTE: In the continuous development of the fight against doping and in trying to make everything in line with international guidelines, the WBSC outsources its anti-doping services and is committed to secrecy and data protection as required by WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency). In this sense, the WBSC recommends the minimum involvement of the WBSC Family and the WBSC Officials to ensure the best execution of the sample collection. However, as indicated, where specifically requested, collaboration between the parties involved is required.

- The Team Manager has to confirm to the TC that all players are at the game and if one is missing (for injury, sickness, etc...) why and where the player is (for Doping test reason).
- The head DCO will provide a random system. In the case of no available system, player names or numbers will be written on pieces of paper and cut up.

A random selection process will be conducted for each team. This will include selection of reserve players in the event the original selected player/s are seriously injured during the game.

- If one player from each team is being selected, all players will be included in the draw, and one reserve player selected. If two players from each team are being tested, the first selection will be from the Starting Line-up, the second from the full player roster. The reserve selections will be made from the full list.
- While a player may be subject to doping control on more than one occasion, the WBSC Anti-Doping Commissioner may ask for a redraw if the player has already been tested twice at the same tournament.





- The selections will be marked on the Starting Line-up, signed by the parties in attendance and given to the DCO.
- The names of the selected players shall not be communicated to the teams before the end of the game.

A5.4. Players must stay at the field for the duration of the game. The Technical Commissioner(s) assigned to the game and the Executive Director shall be informed immediately in case a player needs to be absent from the field or tournament at any time.

A5.5. If a selected player gets seriously injured and needs to be immediately hospitalized, the reserve player selected from the same team shall be tested instead. In such a case, medical evidence on the serious status of the injury must be given to the WBSC Anti-Doping Commissioner. The injured player may still be selected for a doping control by WBSC once they have recovered. For example: a player is hurt before the doping procedure on a Monday and goes to the hospital. On Tuesday, he is taken off the roster but is still in the country at the hotel or at the game. That player is still eligible to be tested just as the rest of the players on the initial FTR are eligible to be tested. In short, any player who is injured or removed from the roster is still subject to the same drug testing procedures as the rest of the team.

A5.6. Any players on the FTR not present at the game may be selected by WBSC for a doping control whether still in the host city or not.

A5.7. The LOC is responsible for getting the Doping Control Station properly equipped and ready for use.

## **A6. AWARDS**

### **A6.1. Team Awards**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Award</b>
First	Gold Medal + P12 Championship Trophy
Second	Silver Medal
Third	Bronze Medal

The total number of Medals will be the number of the Official Delegation members (See A3.4. for details).

A6.2. Individual Awards (one for each award, unless noted. No trophy handed out, to be announced through WBSC's media outlets only):

<b>Individual Awards</b>
Leading hitter
Pitcher with best earned run average
Pitcher with best win - loss average
Most runs batted in
Most home runs
Most stolen bases
Most runs scored

A6.3. The leading hitter of the competition shall be determined by WBSC Official Rules of Baseball. In case of a tie, the decision shall be based on the slugging average according to the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball.



A6.4. The pitcher with the best earned run average and the pitcher with the best win and loss record of the series shall be determined in accordance with the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball. If there is a tie, the pitcher who has pitched more innings shall win the award.

A6.5. If there is a tie for the title of most home runs and/or most runs batted in, the one with fewest number of plate appearances minus the number of BB minus the number of HBP will win the award. That is  $HR / RBI \text{ leader} = PA - (BB + HBP)$ .

A6.6. In case there is a tie for title of most runs scored and most stolen bases, the award shall go to the player with the fewest plate appearances and the one with the best average based on the times they tried to steal and the number of times they successfully stole a base (rule 10).

A6.7. Determination of the awards mentioned under A6.3, A6.4, A6.5 and A6.6 shall be based on the statistics at the end of the day before the Medal Games. The name of the player(s) and the assigned award(s) will be delivered to the WBSC shortly after the completion of the last game of the Super Round.

A6.8. The Most Valuable Player (MVP), the Outstanding Defensive Player, and the All-World Team players shall be selected by the Technical Commission of the competition and members of the WBSC Media Department. The Scoring Director (or Coordinator) will deliver the name of the players mentioned in point A6.2 and A6.9 to WBSC. The MVP shall be chosen from one of the teams participating in the Championship Game.

A6.9. All-World Team (one for each position, unless noted. No trophy handed out, to be announced through WBSC's media outlets only):

<b>All-World Team</b>
Best Starting Pitcher
Best Relief Pitcher
Catcher
First baseman
Second baseman
Third baseman
Shortstop
Outfielder (3)
Designated hitter
Outstanding defensive player
Most valuable player

A6.10. Reallocation of Medals. The WBSC is taking every possible step to ensure fair competition and to recognise the achievements of players whose results are obtained in a clean, honest, and unbiased manner. The document defining the procedures that will be followed for the Reallocation of Medals can be found in the documents section on the WBSC website.





## **A7. CONDUCT, INFRACTIONS, AND FINES AND SUSPENSIONS**

### **A7.1. Scope.**

a) An action by a person named on an FTR that constitutes an infraction may take place before, during or after a game, or away from the ballpark during a competition. Such an infraction will lead to the imposition of a fine and/or suspension.

b) Under these Regulations and Rules 3.1.2 and 3.1.7, a manager/head coach, coach, or a player or coach acting as a manager/head coach, is responsible for the actions of every person on an FTR before, during or after a game and at and away from the ballpark during a competition. It will be an infraction under these Regulations and a violation of Rules 3.1.2 and 3.1.7, or a violation giving rise to a Disciplinary Action under the Disciplinary By-Laws, to cause, encourage, facilitate or further an act, fail to prevent an act or fail to take reasonable steps to prevent any person on an FTR from doing an act that is or would be an infraction under these Regulations or a violation of a Rule.

c) An infraction of a Rule will lead to an Effect as provided for in the Rules. An infraction of a Regulation will automatically incur a fine in USD and may incur a suspension or other sanction. A fine or suspension may be assessed on one or more persons named on an FTR or a team. A fine will be invoiced to the National Federation in question upon the conclusion of the competition. Any appeal will be handled as per Reg. B4. Delegations and National Federations will be notified about an infraction, fine and suspension by notice under Reg B.5.1 during the competition or as soon thereafter as possible. It is the responsibility of the National Federation involved to ensure that a fine is paid and that a suspension is honoured. Failure to do so will result in a National Federation's team or the individual involved being unable to participate in a WBCS Competition, as well as additional fines being imposed and the National Federation being deemed not to be in Good Standing.

d) An act or omission that takes place during a competition that constitutes an infraction may be identified or confirmed during or after that competition by corroborated personal statements, audio or video recordings or referral to the WBCS Executive Director by an Umpire, Umpire Director, Technical Director, Technical Commissioner, from that competition. Any such identified or confirmed infraction will result in a fine or suspension or may, under Reg. A7.1 e), result in a Disciplinary Action.

e) Notwithstanding any provision of the WBCS Statutes, a By-Law, these Regulations or the Rules, the Executive Board acting by the Executive Director reserves the right, having considered all relevant facts and with Notice to all concerned, to commence a Disciplinary Action leading to a Sanction in lieu of the imposition of a fine and/or a suspension for an infraction that involved intentional, serious, unethical, improper, illegal or unreasonable behaviour; or causes serious injury to a person or damage to property, which infraction occurred before, during or after a game or away from the ballpark during a competition.

A7.2. The following is the list of infraction levels and associated fines and suspensions. A suspension can be given for a period of time or a number of games, or both:

<b>Infraction Levels</b>	<b>Associated fines (USD)</b>
A Level	A minimum of \$2,000
B Level	\$1,000 - \$1,999
C Level	\$500 - \$999

### **A level infractions:**

A level is an infraction of rules that are considered crucial for competition success or that causes damage, harm or serious negative effects on international baseball. The fine for an A level infraction is \$2000 and above, and carries the possibility of a suspension or, as provided for in Reg. A7.3, a further sanction.

The following are examples of A level infractions.

- Not leaving the dugout, playing field and ballpark promptly after ejection;



- Any form of communication during a game between stands and a dugout, playing field or bullpen by any means detected either during or after a game, whether or not after an ejection;
- Foreign substance/doctored baseball;
- Physically aggressive behaviors or fighting;
- Altered bat;
- Non presence of a team in the competition after confirming the participation;
- Intentional throwing at a batter; and
- Throwing equipment at or the direction of an Umpire or TC.

**B level infractions:**

B level is an infraction of rules that are considered important for games operations and/or also is a behavior that is considered unsportsmanlike. The fine for a B level infraction is \$1000 – \$1999. The following are examples of B level infractions.

- Inappropriate comments directed at an Umpire or TC;
  - Contacting an umpire; and
  - Ejection.

**C level infractions:**

C level is an infraction of logistical and/or routine rules in nature. The fine for a C level infraction is \$500 – \$999. The following are examples of C level infractions.

- Delay or absence in technical meeting without prior notice;
- Failure to follow regulations concerning uniform color and related Regulations;
- Failure by the LOC to follow guidelines on stadium use and maintenance;
- Failure by the host to meet the protection and security regulations of the team members in the playing field; and
- When non-authorized personnel enters/does not leave the dugout, oe playing field after being instructed by an Umpire or TCs.

**Infractions, actions, fines and suspensions**

The following actions are non-exclusive examples of infractions, actions, fines, and suspensions. These serve as guidelines for the fines and/or suspensions that the Technical Director and the WBSC Executive Director will impose. The fact that an action is not listed below does not mean that it is not an infraction or otherwise capable of resulting in a fine or suspension. For the avoidance of doubt, a single act, omission or incident may under the circumstances result in multiple infractions, and two or more acts, omissions or incidents, whether or not related, may result in two or more incidents, each with a fine or a fine and a suspension.

The circumstances involving an action will be taken into account in imposing an infraction, a fine and/or a suspension. Depending upon the circumstances, an Umpire, TC, WBSC Executive Director or Technical Director may eject or suspend a team member for an A or B level infraction and impose a fine.

During a game, a person ejected from a game must leave the dugout, playing field and ballpark promptly (within 5 minutes) and unless selected for doping testing remain so removed until two hours after the game in which they were involved ends. A person that is ejected will be escorted from the dugout or playing field and ballpark by a TC that is not involved in the game in question, cannot return to the competition venue while the suspension is in place without the prior written consent of the WBSC Executive Director or the Tournament Director and cannot engage in any form of communication, directly or indirectly, with any team member during the time that they are ejected. In the youth categories (i.e., U-12, U-15, or U-18), ejected players are required to stay with their coach (or designated team official) in the team area, at whatever location the player is required to go. i.e., locker room. A team member that engages in an action before or after a game or away from the competition venue during the competition that would in the reasonable opinion of an Umpire, TC, WBSC Executive Director or Tournament Director constitute an infraction resulting in ejection is suspended from their next game and fined, must comply fully with the provisions of this paragraph as if they had been ejected during a game.

Infraction Level	Action	Fine	Suspension
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C	Delay or absence in technical meeting or other required without prior notice	\$500	
C	Failure to follow Regulations concerning uniform color and numbering related requirements	\$550	
C	Failure by the LOC to follow guidelines on stadium use and maintenance	\$550	
C	Failure by the LOC to notify all participants regarding the ground rules at each competition site	\$550	
C	Failure by the host to meet the protection and security regulations of the players in the playing field	\$600	
C	Failure by the LOC to adhere to the Technical Commission guidelines regarding scheduling of games	\$600	
C	Failure to submit starting line up cards in time	\$650	
C	Failure by the LOC to use the WBSC official baseball	\$650	
C	Prolonged arguing or foul language or gesture(s)	\$700	
C	Non-authorized personnel enters/does not leave the dugout or playing field, after being instructed by an Umpire or TC	\$700	
B	Communication between dugout and stands during a game	\$1,000	
B	Inappropriate comments or verbal abuse directed toward any tournament participant (i.e. team member, Official, staff, spectators, etc.	\$1,000	
B	Use of an illegal bat	\$1,000	
B	Violently throwing equipment	\$1,000	
B	Inappropriate gestures at an Umpire or TC	\$1,000	
B	Restrained from confronting Umpire, TC, coach, manager, scorer or player	\$1,000	
B	Actions causing benches to empty	\$1,200	
B	Ejection	\$1,200	0 to 1 game
B	Team personnel ejection (any delegation member)	\$1,200	
B	Failure by the LOC to provide adequate scorekeeping personnel and resources	\$1,200	
B	Actions during bench clearing (not physical violence)	\$1,500	0 to 3 games
B	Throwing equipment/debris onto the playing field from the dugout	\$1,500	0 to 6 games
B	Any violation of ejection conditions	\$1,500	0 to 6 games
B	Charging the mound	\$1,500	0 to 3 games
B	Not leaving dugout after ejection	\$1,600	1 to 3 games
B	Contacting an Umpire or TC	\$1,600	1 to 6 games
A	Verbal abuse or trending towards a WBSC Official a WBSC Official, player, coach, manager, spectator, or other persons involved at an event	\$1,900	1 to 6 games
A	Throwing equipment in Umpire's direction	\$1,900	3 to 8 games
A	Intentional throwing at a batter	\$1,900	4 to 6 games
A	Use of altered bat	\$2,000	7 to 8 games
A	Foreign substance/doctored baseball	\$2,000	10 games
A	Non-compliance with WBSC uniform advertising regulations	\$2,500	
A	Delegation leader, coach or manager not controlling their team before, during or after a game and while at the ballpark that results in an "A" or "B" infraction	\$2,500	3 games to suspension of up to one year
A	Threatening or engaging in physically aggressive behavior against or fighting with a WBSC Official, TC, Umpire, player, coach, manager, scorer, physio, spectator, or other persons involved in a game	\$2,500	3 games to suspension of up to two years
A	Not leaving the dugout, playing field and ballpark promptly after ejection	\$2,500	3 to 8 games
A	Physically aggressive activity against a fan or others (e.g. Volunteers)	\$5,000	0 to 6 games
A	Causing a forfeit game	\$5,000	0 to 6 games
A	Any form of communication during a game between stands and a dugout, playing field or bullpen by any means that is detected either during or after a game, whether or not after an ejection	\$5,000	0 to 6 games



Note: The WBSC Executive Director has the authority to make additional decisions at his discretion.

A7.3. If a team member intentionally, recklessly, or wilfully commits an A level infraction or encourages another person to commit an A level infraction, the Technical Director and the WBSC Executive Director may impose a fine, penalty and/or suspension beyond those stated in Reg. A7.2 they find appropriate and justified. Any appeal of the decision will be taken up by the Jury of Appeal.

A7.4. Conduct on or off the field: damages caused by any member of a Delegation to the installation where they are housed, the competition facilities or transport units, or to any other area, will be the direct responsibility of the Member Organisation they represent. The host country, LOC and/or Organizing Committee shall not be responsible for the financial situation of any Delegation member. The WBSC Executive Director may impose any fine, penalty or sanction that he finds appropriate and justified. Any appeal of the decision will be taken up by the Jury of Appeal, which will make the final decision.

A7.5. Any suspension imposed in terms of games in relation to an ejection, infraction or any violation pronounced on any Team Delegation Member outside of a Tournament or not served during an official WBSC Event for which they were intended (elimination or the last game in the Tournament) are carried over to the National Team's next official game.

A7.6. When an infraction, fine or suspension is to be imposed, the Technical Director, in cooperation with WBSC Headquarters, will deliver by Notice the decision citing the person involved, the action constituting an infraction and any fine or suspension ("Decision"). Notice of a Decision will be given to the National Federation and the person(s) involved (a) if at a competition within 24 hours after the incident occurred or was identified and confirmed or (b) if after a competition as soon thereafter as possible, in both instances setting forth the deadline for the purpose of an appeal under Reg B.4. The Decision shall be duly signed by the Technical Director and other parties involved. As stated under "General Norms" All such notices and communications shall be deemed to have been duly given: at the time and email is sent, delivered by hand, if personally delivered; or two Business Days after being deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, if mailed.



## **B. COMPETITION ADMINISTRATION**

### **B1. COMPETITION OFFICIALS**

#### WBSC Executive Director

B1.1. The WBSC Executive Director is the highest authority in the competition.

B1.2. The Responsibilities of the WBSC Executive Director, or in his absence his direct delegate or, in that person's absence, the Tournament Director, include the following:

- Enforce all WBSC Statutes, rules and regulations and all agreements between the WBSC, the Member Organisations and the LOC.
- Review final arrangements with the LOC Chairperson for the organization of the competition, which include all logistical aspects such as accommodation, transportation, protocol, etc. and all related aspects.
- Harmonize the interests represented by the WBSC, the LOC, the Member Organisations, Umpires and the Technical Commissioners working in the competition.
- Ensure that the Jury of Appeal is constituted to act if the situation arises.
- Ensure that the LOC facilitates and enforces all matters related to the rights and privileges of WBSC and competition sponsors regarding the competition.
- Other than hearings conducted by or decisions taken by a Jury of Appeal, arbitrate and have final authority in making a decision regarding any disputes that cannot be resolved by negotiations among any or all of the groups or organisations involved in the competition.
- Enforce the decision of a Jury of Appeal.
- Convene and chair along with the Technical Director at the Tournament Technical/ Organizational Meeting before the competition.
- Act as the official WBSC spokesperson to all media.
- In the absence of the WBSC President, or of his specifically designated representative, represent the WBSC in all formal acts and presentations related to the competition.
- Inform the WBSC Executive Board about the matters regarding the competition organization.
- Prepare the final official report for its consideration by the Executive Board.
- Take a final decision in regard to game schedule after consulting the Technical Director and LOC.
- Review and validate Tournament Official's daily assignments.
- During or after a Competition, cooperate with the Technical Director, Umpire Director, Umpires and Technical Commissioners to identify or confirm infractions that occur or occurred in a Competition and recommend the imposition of fines and suspensions.

#### Technical Commission

B1.3. A Technical Commission will be appointed to work at least five (5) months prior to the competition. Its functions



and responsibilities are the following:

- Supervise all technical aspects of the competition.
- Compile, verify and submit for the approval of the Executive Board all statistical data related to the competition.
- Control the eligibility and the credentials of the players.
- Inspect the playing fields and practice facilities for the competition.
- Interpret and enforce the Rules and Regulations.
- In the event of suspended games, the Technical Commission will propose the adjustment of the competition schedule in consultation with the WBSC Event Department. Any changes in the schedule require the final approval of the WBSC Executive Director.
- Receive and judge as first instance protests related to technical matters that come from participating teams.
- Rule as first instance in discipline cases in the dugout and on the playing field involving team members.
- During or after a Competition, cooperate with the Technical Director, Umpire Director, Umpires, other Technical Commissioners and the WBSC Tournament Director to identify or confirm infractions that occur or occurred in a Competition and recommend the imposition of fines and suspensions.

B1.4. At least two international members of the Technical Commission for the tournament must be present at each game to supervise all technical aspects of the game and the fulfillment of the Rules and Regulations.

B1.5. The name(s) of the Technical Commissioner(s) assigned for each game shall be announced a day before the game. The LOC shall provide a Spanish-English translator at the disposal of the Technical Commission for each game. The Technical Commission Members will be seated in a reserved area behind home plate with good visibility and easy access to the playing field.

#### Technical Director

B1.6. The WBSC shall appoint one Technical Director in the competition.

B1.7. The responsibilities of the Technical Director include the following:

- Proceed to the final review and approval of competition and practice venues.
- Present all Technical Competition items at the Pre-Tournament Technical Meeting
- Assign the Technical Commission members to daily game supervision.
- Liaise with WBSC Office to confirm assignment of Technical Commissioners.
- Liaise with WBSC Events Department and Technical Commission members regarding game delays, rescheduling and cancellation to submit jointly a proposal to the WBSC Executive Director / Tournament Director, who is charged with making the final decision.
- Gather relevant statistical and game report information from Technical Commission members.





- Chair the meetings of the Technical Commission to review issues associated with technical areas of competition and, with the WBSC Executive Director to determine actions related to infractions, discipline or protests.
- Chair the All-World Team selection meeting.
- During or after a Competition, cooperate with the Tournament Director, Umpires and Technical Commissioners to identify or confirm infractions that occur or occurred in a competition and recommend the imposition of fines and suspensions.

### Jury of Appeal

B1.8. The WBSC Executive Director or his duly authorized delegate will appoint a Jury of Appeal comprising of the chairman and two (2) other members. Each member must be independent and free from any conflicts of interest with respect to any matter arising thereunder, including the appealing National Federation and the person(s) involved.

B1.9. The Jury of Appeal is the body of appeal for fines, judgments, or suspensions dictated by the Technical Commission occurring during the competition. It will have no application in the judgments dictated by the Technical Commission in cases related to the Rules or Disciplinary Action under the Disciplinary By-Laws. Only the Technical Commission decisions that are not related to the Rules of the Game may be appealed in front of the Jury of Appeal.

### Umpires

B1.10. The panel of umpires shall consist of a number of WBSC International Umpires (recommended by the WBSC Baseball Umpire Director) and that make up the total number needed for the competition. All Umpires for the competition must be appointed by the WBSC with the approval of the WBSC Executive Director.

B1.11. The WBSC will directly appoint the Umpires to serve, considering the criteria of quality, experience and ability.

B1.12. After complete evaluations are conducted by the WBSC Umpire Director and input from the Umpires Commission, Member Organisations, Umpires selected by the WBSC to work in the competition will be notified of their selection in a timely manner.

B1.13. All WBSC Umpires selected, including national Umpires, will have their cost of lodging, meals and per-diems covered.

B1.14. Each Umpire must make the commitment to stay for the whole duration of the competition, including the final phase if needed. Failure to abide by this rule by an Umpire from a participating country may result in a fine of up to US\$ 1,000 to the Umpire's National Federation, and/or a suspension of the individual from participation in WBSC events.

B1.15. Two (2) umpires of a same participating country may work together in a game. Every attempt will be made in order for Umpires, even host team country Umpires, not to be assigned to the games of their countries as on-field umpires. Clock operators are not subject to this regulation.

B1.16. A least four (4) umpires shall be assigned to each game.

B1.17. Game assignments for Umpires will be notified no less than 12 hours before game time of their respective assignments. No more than two days of assignments will be distributed at anytime during the competition.

B1.18. At the beginning of the competition, an Umpire Pre-Tournament meeting will be conducted by the Umpire Director. The WBSC Executive Director, the Technical Director, a representative of the LOC, and other selected WBSC staff may be requested to attend this meeting. During the competition, a daily umpire meeting may be held as required.



The Umpire Director will chair this meeting.

B1.19. During the competition, the Umpire Director will complete Umpire Evaluations form. WBSC Umpire Director will be in contact with Technical Commissioners to seek their feedback on the umpires officiating their games.

B1.20. After the completion of the competition, the Umpire Director will submit a complete report to the WBSC Executive Director.

#### Umpire Director

B1.21. The WBSC will appoint one member as Umpire Director in the Competition.

B1.22. The responsibilities of the Umpire Director include the following:

- Carry on the final inspection and approval of competition venues, determining the specific Ground Rules for each field of play.
- Present Ground Rules and any other pertaining items at the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting.
- Assign Umpire crews to daily games.
- Liaise with WBSC Event Staff to confirm assignment of Umpires.
- Liaise with tournament Umpires and TCs regarding game delays, rescheduling and cancellation, or any other matters that arise during the competition.
- Supervise and evaluate each Umpire during the competition, compiling information to present a final evaluation report after the tournament.
- Chair the Umpire tournament meetings before and during the tournament to review items associated with umpiring the competition.
- Oversee video review and game management clocks operation.

#### Scorers

B1.23. The board of Scorers shall consist of a sufficient number of both international and local scorers (recommended by the WBSC Scoring Director and appointed by the WBSC) to score and register each game officially and produce a “live” online transmission of the play-by-play of each game on the WBSC website under the supervision of the Competition Scoring Director and the Technical Director. All Scorers shall be appointed by the WBSC Headquarters.

B1.24. No later than ninety minutes (90) before the start of the game, the Technical Commissioner(s) shall obtain from each Team Manager a tentative line-up and then distribute it to the LOC to make copies for the scorers and other appropriate individuals.

B1.25. Each game shall be recorded by two or more Scorers. It shall be the duty of the Scorer to compile the averages of defense and offense plays for all players of each team and provide a day-by-day account and circulate these statistics daily within 24 hours after the game. At the end of the tournament, in accordance with what has been established; the Scorer(s) shall indicate the name of the players who have excelled individually.

#### Scoring Director

B1.26. The WBSC will appoint one member as Scoring Director in the Competition.



B1.27. The responsibilities of the Scoring Director include:

- Carry on the final inspection and approval of scorers working spaces at the competition venues.
- Attend the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting to cover any items related to scoring, tie-breakers, etc. that may arise during the meeting.
- Assign Scorer's crews to daily games.
- Liaise with WBCS Event Staff to confirm assignments of Scorers.
- Liaise with tournament scorers regarding game delays, rescheduling and cancellation, or any other matters that arise during the competition.
- Supervise and evaluate each scorer during the competition, compiling information to present a final evaluation report after the competition.
- Chair the Scorers tournament meetings before and during the tournament to review items associated with scoring the competition.
- Provide statistical data to Technical Commission for the election of the All-World Team.
- Provide tie-breaker and/or statistical information to Tournament Director upon request.
- Provide list of Individual Award winners to Tournament Director upon completion of the games determining the calculation for the awards.

#### Anti-Doping Commissioner

B1.28. The Anti-Doping Commissioner appointed by the WBCS will oversee the anti-doping program at the competition. This will include ensuring that the facilities for doping control are secure and appropriate, overseeing the doping control process, including player selection, notification and the sample collection process, and making decisions on any issues arising during this process.

## **B2. OTHERS**

#### Bat Boys/Girls

B2.1. For all games the bat boys/girls shall be furnished by the LOC. The bat boys/girls of each team shall be kept close to the dugout when the team is at bat. They must be at least 15 years-old, and they must wear uniforms and double-ear flap protective batting helmets. They must receive proper training on their functions and responsibilities from the LOC. Infractions may result in ejection of the bat boy/girl. Also teams may bring their own bat boys/girls as long as they are in appropriate uniforms during games and teams shall be responsible for all associated costs.

#### Team Attachés/Interpreters

B2.2. The LOC will assign a person who speaks the language of the host country and Spanish or English to act as interpreter during the games. This person shall be permitted to sit in the team dugout of the team to which they are assigned.

Note: If a coach for the team is also serving as an interpreter, the manager must let the home plate Umpire know about this at the pre-game meeting at home plate.

#### TV Cameramen and Photographers



B2.3. WBSC authorized TV cameramen and photographers who have been authorized by WBSC are allowed to be at restricted areas on the playing field during pre-game and post-game activities. They must always wear an official WBSC Media bib/vest as well as their accreditation in order to access the corresponding areas. During the game, when the game is not in play, TV cameramen may also be on the playing field provided that they will not interfere with any aspect of the operation of the game.

#### First Aid

B2.4. Medical and first aid attendance shall be available all the time during the competition and practices. LOC is responsible to make sure adequate staff and facilities are assigned to the competition. Adequate staff and facilities are defined as having present a certified first aid attendant with ambulance and doctor on call.

### **B3. PROTESTS**

B3.1. When a protest is made by a Team Manager over a suspected misapplication or misinterpretation of the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball, it shall be presented to the Home plate Umpire according to the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball. When such protest is made, the Home plate Umpire shall stop the game, inform the Team Manager of the opposing team, the Technical Commissioner(s) assigned to work that game, and the audience that a protest has been filed.

B3.2. The manager or acting manager shall notify the Home Plate Umpire, before the next play, that he is protesting a misapplication or misinterpretation of WBSC Official Rules of Baseball. He must tell the Umpire what rule he is protesting. The Home Plate Umpire will then notify the Technical Commissioners assigned to that game. If the game has video review in place, they will notify the Video Review Official working that game for assistance. The Umpires will then rule on the protest. If the game does NOT have video review in place, then the Technical Commissioners and the Umpires will get together and render a ruling. In both instances, the Umpires and the Technical Commissioners may contact the Technical Director and the Umpire Director to let them know of the protest. The presentation of a protest will incur a non-refundable cost of \$200 USD to be directly deducted from the Member Organisation's portion of the prize money. If the protest occurs on the game-ending play, the desire to submit a protest must be announced by the Team Manager to the Home Plate Umpire or the Technical Commissioner(s) assigned to the game. They will inform the opposing team and the other necessary parties that a protest has been filed. After consultation a decision will be taken immediately by the Technical Commissioner(s) assigned to work that game. The opposing team must wait for the decision before they leave the playing field.

B3.3. No protest shall be permitted on decisions by the Video Review Official.

B3.4. When a participating Delegation protests the participation of any athlete; the protest shall be presented to the Technical Commission of the competition prior to the conclusion of the competition.

B3.5. If the protest does not refer to an action in the game, it must be submitted in writing to the Technical Commission, explaining the reasons that state for it and the due dispositions that supposedly apply to it.

### **B4. APPEALS**

B4.1. Only a Technical Commission decision that is not related to the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball may be appealed to a Jury of Appeal. Technical Commission's decisions related to the rules of the game are final and they can only appeal other items not related to game rules.

B4.2. The appeal, with a clear statement of the grounds on which the appeal is based and all supporting materials ("appeal brief"), must be in writing and served by Notice to the Jury of Appeal (to the WBSC Office), accompanied by a copy of the Decision. The presentation of an appeal will incur a non-refundable cost of USD 100 to be deducted directly from the National Federation's guarantee fee on the day of the receipt of the appeal brief or if necessary



invoiced to the National Federation in question.. Appeal briefs are confidential to the WBSC, the Jury of Appeal and the parties involved.

B4.3. The time limit to present an appeal brief (a) if during a competition is three (3) hours or (b) if after a competition has ended is 48 hours, which periods start from the delivery of a Notice of a Decision under Reg A7.5. An appeal brief may be amended only before the Jury of Appeal starts its deliberations, which time will be notified to the parties involved. An untimely appeal or a frivolous or vexatious appeal will be dismissed with no opportunity to resubmit the appeal. A materially misleading or incomplete appeal brief will be dismissed as an invalid appeal if the deficiencies that are notified to the person making the appeal by the Jury of Appeal are not corrected within a stated period of time to cure.

B4.4. Every appellant or the person that is the subject of or involved with the appeal has the right to present materials and statements to the Jury for it to consider. Each appellant or person involved may be represented by one person. The Jury may take statements, interview persons or review video or audio footage to help it consider the matter and render its decision. Once the appeal has been presented to the Jury, the Jury will meet, consider the matter and render a decision.

B4.5. A Jury of Appeal may reject an appeal in part or whole and will issue a written statement of its findings, which is, save for manifest error, final and not subject to further appeal. The Jury of Appeal may order a different penalty or increase or decrease a fine or suspension or outcome from that to which the appeal was made.

B4.6. In the event of an appeal involving the suspension of a player, coach or manager, a decision will be taken within three (3) hours, knowing that the decision of the Jury of Appeal could have a bearing on any subsequent games in the Competition. For all other matters a decision will be rendered within 24 hours.

B4.7. Notwithstanding any provision of these Regulations, a player, coach, or manager who is suspended for one game or more must sit out the next scheduled game to allow the Jury to complete its process and ensure due process.

## **B5. DELIVERY OF NOTICES**

B5.1. The Technical Director, in cooperation with WBSC Headquarters, will deliver the written decision with a fine(s) or suspension to the interested parties, by "Notice" as outlined in the general norms making evident the time of delivery for the latter purposes of appealing.

## **B6. GAME PROTOCOL**

B6.1. The following ceremony shall be used before and during all games:

- The competition anthem supplied from the WBSC Headquarters shall be played to indicate the start of the ceremony and shall continue to be played in the background during the introductions.
- Before the game begins, the Public Address Announcer will first call the visiting team (manager and coaches first, then the players in the starting line-up by name, the pitcher in the bullpen and the rest of the roster) on to the field, followed by the home team and then the Umpires. The teams shall line up along the foul line, while the umpires stand at home plate.
- When the teams are lined up, the flag of each country shall be displayed next to its own team with the WBSC flag centered in the middle. All flags shall look impeccable for a first-class presentation.
- A 45-60 second version of the national anthems of the two teams, as approved by the WBSC, shall be played with the teams and Umpires lined up. During the national anthems, those involved must show a respectful posture with hats removed and refrain from talking, laughing, spitting, eating and drinking.



- Music and sound effects should be used prior to, during and after each game in order to enhance a sense of cultural diversity and international competition. After the anthems and before the game starts, time shall be made available for any prize-giving, special recognition or announcement of special guests.
- Only uniformed members of the team delegations are permitted on the field during the pre-game ceremony. Non-uniformed personnel must stay in dugouts or their designated seats.

## B6.2. Opening ceremony

B6.2.1 WBSC may invite team delegations and/or officials to attend the Opening Ceremony. However none of them shall be forced to participate and all teams shall be treated fairly and equally.

## B 6.3. Closing ceremony

B6.3.1 The Teams and Officials who will participate at the closing ceremony will be informed during the competition by the WBSC.

## **B7. COMPETITION SYSTEM**

### Format of 12 Teams

#### Opening Round

2 groups of 6 Teams (Group A, Group B), will play a round robin all vs. all, with the top-2 teams from each group advancing to the Super Round. In case of a tie, see tie-breaking system.

#### Super Round

The top-2 teams of each group (A, B,), will play a round robin all vs. all..

Results from the Opening Round will not count in the Super Round.

At the end of this round, the standings to play in the Finals will be determined based exclusively on the results of the Super Round games contested between the 4 qualified teams.

#### Finals

The teams will play in the Finals in the following manner:

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places after the Super Round will play Premier12 Championship Final;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places after the Super Round will play Bronze Medal Game





## **C. TECHNICAL ASPECTS**

### **C1. UNIFORMS**

C1.1. The Home Team shall have preference to wear the colours of their national uniform, and the Visiting Team shall wear a colour that cannot get confused with the other one. The final decision on the colours to be worn by each Team on each game will be made at the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting. The Home team shall wear a light color (i.e. white, gray) uniform top and the Visiting team a dark color uniform top. There will be no changes allowed to the established uniforms without prior approval of the Technical Commission. If a team requests a change to uniform color, the said request must be submitted in writing to the Technical Commission, and the Technical Commission will also communicate to the team of its decision (whether approved or disapproved) in writing.

C1.2. All players and uniformed coaches must wear a specified and different number on the back of the uniform. Each uniformed individual must keep the same number during the competition. The numbers cannot be changed during the competition unless exceptional circumstances justifying such changes arise. In any case no numbers can be changed on the uniforms without the previous approval of the Technical Commissioners of the game. If any changes to uniform numbers are approved, then Technical Commissioners of the game will hand to both teams in writing such notice prior to the start of the game. Uniform numbers must be chosen from 0 to 99.

C1.3. The participants shall fulfil the following regulations with regard to the trademark of the manufacturers and the advertising on the uniforms and material (refer to the Addendum A). These items will be checked by members of the Technical Commission upon arrival of that team in the host country. A designated time and location will be determined to check the following items:

a) Manufacturer trademark

The manufacturer trademark, i.e. indication of the name, a design, a mark, a logo or any other distinguishing mark of the manufacturer of the item, may only appear once on each item and should not exceed sizes as per the WBSC Uniform Guidelines.

b) Advertising

Advertising is allowed on the uniforms, previously authorized by the WBSC, per the WBSC Uniform Guidelines.

**Further details about the uniforms can be found in the WBSC Uniform Guidelines.**

### **C2. COMPETITION VENUES**

C2.1. All competition facilities shall fulfil the requirements established by the WBSC and will be subject to inspections by WBSC representatives to verify their use during the competition.

### **C3. GROUND RULES**

C3.1. Ground rules related to the competition venue(s) will be proposed by the LOC before the start of the competition and approved by the Technical Director and Umpire Director. These rules shall be printed in both English, Spanish and the language of the host country and distributed to all Team Managers and Umpires and discussed thoroughly at the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting. In addition, copies of the Ground Rules shall be posted in both dugouts of all competition venues. Ground rules shall be prepared by the LOC prior to the arrival of the Technical Director and Umpire Director and shall be completed after their site inspection before the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting.



#### **C4. DUGOUT**

C4.1. The designation and assignment of clubhouses and dugouts shall be made by WBSC without regard to which team shall be the home team. WBSC will confirm the clubhouse designation at the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organizational Meeting.

C4.2. Only essential accredited personnel (uniformed players and coaches, translators, training staff, security personnel and/or delegation leader) will be allowed to stay in the dugout. A maximum of forty-five (45) will be permitted. There are no exceptions to this rule. It shall be the responsibility of the Technical Commissioners assigned to the game to make sure that unauthorized persons do not occupy the dugout and that all the authorized persons stay inside the dugout or are placed in alternative locations during the game. More than this number of people in the dugout will not be permitted, and teams in violation of this rule subject themselves to fines from the Technical Commission.

C4.3. No communication between any personnel in the dugout and those outside the playing field or in the stands should take place during the games. The communication with bullpens is allowed and is not subject to this rule.

#### **C5. PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

##### Pre-Tournament Official Practice

C5.1. The LOC in conjunction with WBSC shall set up a pre-tournament schedule for all teams. Each team shall have a minimum of ninety (90) minutes on-field session at least once at the competition venue. If more than one competition venue is to be used, all efforts shall be made for teams to be assigned to respective timeframes by WBSC. Assignments and schedule shall be made available to the teams prior to their arrival at the competition.

##### Pre-Game Practice

C5.2. The WBSC shall determine the site(s) of practice together with the LOC and Technical Commission.

C5.3. Note that while batting practice prior to the game is for forty (40) minutes, it certainly can be less if a team desires. This does not, however, mean that the other team can hit for a longer period of time. Moreover, teams are not permitted to stretch, warm up, or be near the batting cage until BP for the other team is over. Teams should warm-up in an area outside the baseball field during this time. If no viable warm-up area exists (this will be the discretion of the Technical Commissioner), then teams are permitted to go to the far right or left field area during BP to warm-up during the other teams batting practice time. Should they do so, teams should provide someone to protect the players from getting hit baseballs during the batting practice time. The Technical Commissioner will be on site to assist with any difficulties during this time.

C5.4. Each team will be allowed ten (10) minutes for infield practice before the beginning of the game. Fifty (50) minutes before the official game time, the Home team may take a pre-game infield and outfield practice. Forty (40) minutes before the official game time, the Visiting team may take pre-game infield and outfield practice. Thirty (30) minutes prior to official game time, the field will be made available to the maintenance crew.

#### **C6. STARTING LINE-UP**

C6.1. Team Managers shall compulsorily present a tentative line-up to the Technical Commissioner(s) ninety (90) minutes before the scheduled start of the game. This line-up is for information purposes only and whether the games are televised or not shall be duly communicated from the WBSC staff onsite in advance. This line-up shall include first and last name, uniform number, and field position of each player in the starting batting order and the pitcher. All other players on the approved roster (FTR) will be considered as possible substitutes for all the games and their first and last name, uniform number and field position must also be clearly included in the line-up. The official line-up card will be given to the Home-plate Umpire at the meeting at home-plate immediately prior to the start of the game. A copy of the official line-up card shall be given to the opposite Team Manager, the Scorer(s) and Technical Commissioner(s) in



charge of the game. The preliminary line-up is an important document and should not be misused. If there are changes between the preliminary and starting line-up, it must be announced directly to the Technical Commissioner in charge of the game and to the opposing team. An injury or other extraordinary reason should be the only reason for changes in the preliminary line-up. Abuses in this regard will not be viewed lightly and are subject to fines from the Technical Director.

C6.2. Each team manager or delegated team official shall inform WBSC Team Liaison within one (1) hour after the conclusion of the previous day's game or games, the name of probable starting pitcher for the next game. The change of such announcement shall not be permitted without valid reason and WBSC's approval must be obtained. Failure to do so may subject a team or teams in question to disciplines and fines by WBSC. A public announcement shall be made by WBSC for the relevant teams together. Following WBSC's official announcement or two (2) hours after the conclusion of their game, whichever comes first, teams can communicate their next game's starting pitcher to press and social media.

## **C7. PLAYING RULES AND PACE OF PLAY**

C7.1. All games will be played under the event year of the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball and the WBSC Premier12 Tournament Regulations.

### Run difference Rule

C7.2. If a team is losing by fifteen (15) or more runs after having batted at least in five (5) innings, the game is ended at that point. If a team is losing by ten (10) or more runs after having batted at least in seven (7) innings, the game is ended at that point.

The Run Difference Rule shall be enforced for the Opening Round Robin games, while it does not apply for the Super Round games, the Bronze Medal game and the Championship Final.

## **C8. COMPETITION GAME SCHEDULE**

C8.1. Once the competition game schedule has been approved by the WBSC, it becomes inviolable and can only be amended further to a new decision of the WBSC in conjunction with the LOC and all stakeholders. Nevertheless, if during the competition there are unforeseen and valid reasons requiring amendment to the schedule would be necessary, changes to the game schedule could be done through a joint proposal of the Technical Director and WBSC Events Department to the WBSC Executive Director, who is the only person entitled to sanction an amendment. The new game schedule shall officially be approved in writing by the Executive Director before being released to all participants.

## **C9. SUSPENDED GAMES**

Refer to the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball to see suspended games regulations.

## **C10. HOME/VISITOR ASSIGNMENT FOR SUPER ROUND AND FINALS**

C10.1. Home and visitor teams for Super Round games shall be established in accordance with the WBSC Baseball World Rankings if the standings of the Opening Round are equal (ex: 1st place team from Group A vs 1st place team from Group B, the team ranked higher on latest WBSC Baseball World Rankings will be home team). However teams with higher seed in the Opening Round should be given home team (ex: 1<sup>st</sup> place from Group A vs 2<sup>nd</sup> place from Group B, then 1<sup>st</sup> from Group A will be home team). The same principles shall apply for establishing home and visitor teams for the Championship Final and Bronze Medal Game in which teams with higher seed after the Super Round shall be home teams.



## C11. TIE BREAKING

All ties after the Opening Round and Super Round will be settled as follows (in order):

The standing of the teams after a round robin shall be according to the win-loss record of all the games played. All ties after Opening Round and/or Super Round shall be settled in the order of the following list. That is, if criteria (1) does not break the tie, then it is no longer considered the criteria capable of breaking the tie, and the next criteria (2) will be used. This logic continues through the list, in order, until the tie is broken:

1. The team that won the game(s) between the teams tied shall be given the higher position.
2. Team's Quality Balance (TQB) and win-loss records in games between the teams tied.

**Note: If three or more teams are tied and when criterion 1 does not break a tie, a team or teams with the higher TQB will be placed in the highest spot(s) and a team or teams with the lower TQB will be placed in the subsequent lower spot(s). If some of the teams tied have the same TQB, a head-to-head result shall be the first to apply. If the head-to-head result does not break the tie, then the next criterion 3 shall be used.**

3. The team that has the best Earned Runs Team's Quality Balance (ER-TQB).
4. Highest batting average in games between the teams tied.
5. A coin flip

### Four Examples of the application of the Tie Breaker Criteria.

#### Scenario 1:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 5 - 4  
 Game 2: Team E - Team F 4 - 2

Standings:

Team A	4 Won, 1 Lost	*
Team B	4 Won, 1 Lost	*
Team C	3 Won, 2 Lost	**
Team D	2 Won, 3 Lost	**
Team E	1 Won, 4 Lost	
Team F	1 Won, 4 Lost	

\* Criterion 1: Team A finishes higher than Team B, because of the result of Game 1.

\*\* Criterion 1: Team E finishes higher than Team F, because of the result of Game 2.

#### Scenario 2:

Game 1: Team B - Team A 4 - 5 (8 1/3 innings)  
 Game 2: Team A - Team C 0 - 2 (9 innings)  
 Game 3: Team C - Team B 2 - 6 (9 innings)

Standings after single round robin:

Team A	3 Won, 1 Lost *
Team B	3 Won, 1 Lost *
Team C	3 Won, 1 Lost *

\* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Criterion 2: Team B has the highest TQB, followed by Team A and Team C. Therefore, Team B is 1st place, Team A is 2nd place and Team C is 3rd place.

Team	Runs Scored	Offens. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	5	17.33	0.2890	6	17	0.3529	-0.0639
B	10	17	0.5882	7	17.33	0.4046	0.1836
C	4	17	0.2353	6	17	0.3529	-0.1176



Team B: 10 runs scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.5882; 7 runs allowed in 17.33 defensive innings = 0.4046 TQB = 0.1836

Team A: 5 runs scored in 17.33 offensive innings = 0.2890; 6 runs allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.3529 TQB = 0.0639

Team C: 4 runs scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.2353; 6 runs allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.3529 TQB = 0.1176

### Scenario 3:

Game 1: Team C - Team D 4 - 3

Game 2: Team C - Team E 8 - 5

Game 3: Team D - Team E 3 - 7

Standings after Super Round:

Team A 5 Won, 0 Lost

Team B 3 Won, 2 Lost

Team C 2 Won, 3 Lost \*

Team D 2 Won, 3 Lost \*

Team E 2 Won, 3 Lost \*

Team F 1 Won, 4 Lost

\* Criterion 1: Based on the games played between teams C, D and E, team C won both games (record of 2-0), team E has one win one loss (1-1), and team D lost both games (0-2). Therefore this 3-team tie can be broken with criterion 1 as Team C won the games between the 3 teams. C is placed 3rd, E is 4th place and D is 5th place in this scenario.

### Scenario 4:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 7 - 4 (9 innings), in earned runs 3 - 4

Game 2: Team B - Team C 7 - 4 (9innings), in earned runs 5 - 2

Game 3: Team C - Team A 7 - 4 (9 innings), in earned runs 5 - 1

Standings after single round robin:

Team A 3 Won, 1 Lost \* \*\*

Team B 3 Won, 1 Lost \* \*\*

Team C 3 Won, 1 Lost \* \*\*

\* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Criterion 2: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Team	Runs Scored	Offens. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	11	18	0.6111	11	18	0.6111	0.0000
B	11	18	0.6111	11	18	0.6111	0.0000
C	11	18	0.6111	11	18	0.6111	0.0000

\*\* Criterion 3: Team B finishes higher than Team C and Team A because of the TQB in games 1, 2 and 3.

Team	Earned Runs Scored	Offens. Innings	Ratio	Earned Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	ER-TQB
A	4	18	0.2222	9	18	0.5000	-0.2778
B	9	18	0.5000	5	18	0.2778	0.2222
C	7	18	0.3889	6	18	0.3333	0.0556



Team B: 9 ERuns scored in 18 offensive innings = 0.5000; 5 ERuns allowed in 18 defensive innings = 0.2778 TQB = 0.2222

Team C: 7 ERuns scored in 18 offensive innings = 0.3889; 6 ERuns allowed in 18 defensive innings = 0.3333 TQB = 0.0556

Team A: 4 ERuns scored in 18 offensive innings = 0.2222; 9 ERuns allowed in 18 defensive innings = 0.5000 TQB = 0.2778

## **C12. ALTERNATE DETERMINATION OF STANDINGS**

C12.1. In case of inclement weather during the competition, play proceeds as follows.

- a) If inclement weather prevents the playing of Round Robin games, all efforts will be made to complete the Opening Round by playing only the game(s) which remain to determine the top two teams.
- b) If the Super Round and/or the Medal Games cannot be completed, the standings may revert to the Opening Round Robin and/or the Super Round standings respectively.
- c) Under extreme conditions, the tournament format and/or travel days may require additional adjustments as determined by the WBCS.
- d) If a decision regarding final standings must be made without playing a game, the tie-breaking criteria from C11 shall apply.





## **D. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE USE AND CARE OF PROPERTY AND INSTALLATIONS**

D1. Teams are responsible for the damages to or disappearance of property in the places where they will be accommodated during the competition. The following procedures will be applied:

- a) A LOC representative and one person from each team will inspect the accommodation upon arrival of each team and prepare a written inspection report which shall be kept by the LOC with a copy to the WBSA Office.
- b) A clearance certificate or a bill for damages and alleged disappearances of property will be prepared by the LOC (in writing) at the end of the competition and submitted to the Delegation Leader of each non-local participating team before leaving the city.
- c) A certificate in writing will certify that the LOC does not have any claim for damages or disappearance of property against the team or any of its members and that it does not know of the existence of any claim against the team.
- d) A written invoice for damages or disappearance of property will specify the damages claimed, the disappeared article(s), name and address of the affected person(s) and amount of the claimed compensation, with supporting documentation when available.

D2. In the event of a claim for damages and/or disappearance of property against a team, the LOC and the WBSA will conduct a complete investigation of the events, and propose the corresponding steps to be taken.

D3. Failure to fulfill the stipulations of this section shall mean that the LOC loses the right to make any claim for damages or disappearance of property against any offending team and the WBSA.



## **E. OTHER MATTERS**

### **E1. USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

The use of social media by participants is not allowed during the games. If any violation is detected, the individual(s) and Member Organization(s) in question will subject themselves to fines, sanctions, and penalties by WBSC. If your team staff is in the stands during the entire duration of the game, such person may use electronic devices but not to communicate with team members in the dugout or on the playing field. However, the use of electronic device is prohibited when in and close to dugouts. Before and after a game, use of such electronic devices is allowed. Fans can follow the official online play-by-play, live-stream and/or @WBSC. Press officers stationed in designated press zones are encouraged to share posts (no video footage of game) to social media during the games.

### **E2. BREAK BETWEEN INNINGS**

The amount of time between innings shall be two minutes and twenty-five seconds (2:25) or as set otherwise for each game by WBSC, which shall provide that information to the Technical Commission. The Technical Commission shall communicate to the Umpires and both teams accordingly. The home plate umpire will instruct the catcher to throw to second base thirty (30) seconds before the conclusion of a between-inning break. After signaling "one more pitch," the home plate umpire shall actively call the leadoff batter to approach home plate and enter the batter's box. The goal is to have the first pitch delivered immediately after the inning break concludes.

An extended five (5) minute break will take place after the bottom of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) inning for field maintenance.

### **E3. TEAM PRESENTATION**

All official delegation members must wear at all times official game uniform or non-uniform official apparel provided by their Member Organization ("team apparel") at the competition venues. In particular players, coaches and manager must wear game uniform during their stay at the venues when participating in official activities (e.g. games, ceremonies, any other events as requested by WBSC). Persons other than players, coaches, and managers in dugout during the games, they must wear official team apparel provided by their respective organizations. All delegation members must be mindful of how their teams are presented and perceived and must maintain professional attire at all time at the venues.

### **E4. MEDIA OBLIGATIONS**

On game and workout days, players and coaches shall be present at media interviews and press conference if so requested by WBSC or its partners. All players and coaches must go through the mixed zones at each venue, if any. All official delegation members shall also cooperate on all other media opportunities reasonably requested by WBSC or its partners. Team Delegation Members must wear game uniform at press conference and other media appearances if so requested by the WBSC.



## **F. FINAL DISPOSITIONS**

F1. The Hosting Agreements signed between the WBSC and the LOC establishes the rules and the general norms under which the competition shall be conducted, as well as the obligations and responsibilities of each of the parties. This document serves as a non-restrictive complement to said Agreements.

F2. During the course of a competition, the WBSC Executive Director, the Technical Director and the LOC shall have the authority to jointly make decisions on any point not specifically covered in this document. In any aspects where there is no mutual agreement, the WBSC Executive Director will be the final authority.

F3. Any unforeseen circumstances, which arise and are not specified in the WBSC Premier12 Tournament Regulations, then the WBSC Statutes, Disciplinary Rules, Code of Ethics, Protocol, Sanction Procedure and International Game Rules and other WBSC official documents as well as the WBSC Official Rules of Baseball will serve as the primary source of guidance for all WBSC Tournament Officials and will be interpreted and applied by the WBSC Executive Director



World Baseball Softball Confederation  
Avenue Général-Guisan, 45  
CH-1009 Pully, Switzerland  
Tel. (+41) 213188240 | e-mail: [office@wbsc.org](mailto:office@wbsc.org) | [www.wbsc.org](http://www.wbsc.org)