



Policies and Procedures

Women's League Standing Committee 2010-2011 - **Modified for 2012-13**

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Abbreviations

ABF - Australian Baseball Federation Incorporated.

OABR - Official Australian Baseball Rules as published by the ABF.

NSWBL - New South Wales Baseball League Incorporated also known as Baseball NSW (BNSW)

WLSC – Women’s League Standing Committee of BNSW

WL Club - A club registered as a member of the WLSC also referred to as “Club”

WL – Women’s League - NSW

1. ALTERATION TO DRAW

- 1.1 No alteration to the playing schedule or venues is permitted without the approval of the WLSC.

2 GAME PRELIMINARIES - FITNESS OF GROUND

- 2.1 It is the HOME Clubs' responsibility to notify the Wet Weather Contact ([see handbook](#)) of the closure after 7:00 a.m. and if possible, before 8.30 a.m. on game day, otherwise the Club responsible will be charged with the umpires fees.
- 2.2 Any game venue, closed because of unfitness of ground, may be changed with notice to the opposition club, umpires and WLSC Registrar by midday the day before the scheduled playing date.
- 2.3 When a game is NOT being played because of the ground unfitness, the result shall be declared "no game." The WLC shall retain the right to reschedule the game and such decision will be final.

3 POINT SCORE

- 3.1 For the purpose of determining semi finalists in all grades of the WL Competition the percentages will be calculated in the results of games played and the number of games won, lost or forfeited. (*Note: a tied game is to be regarded as a half win and a half loss*) Where teams are tied, the positions will be decided by;
- (1) Head to Head clashes in all games between the teams involved
 - (2) If still tied, the lowest ratio of (number of runs scored against them) divided by (defensive innings played) in the games between the tied teams.
 - (3) If still tied, go to the runs allowed by each of the tied teams against the highest ranked team, then the second ranked team, and so on
- 3.2 Ranking of the final two tied teams will be determined by the Head to Head process.

4 UNIFORMS

- 4.1 All affiliated clubs shall register the colours, logos and design of its uniform and warm-up jackets with BNSW. Only these shall be worn whilst on the field of play. Any changes will NOT be made to the colours of the uniform unless approval is given by the WLSC.
- 4.2 Each uniform is required to have an individual number (no duplications) not less than 150mm in size that can be clearly seen from outside the field of play.
- 4.3 Baseball caps will form part of the uniform and must be worn at all times excepting when the batting helmet is worn.
- 4.4 Clubs may add only three sponsor patches to the uniform. The patches can only be applied to one sleeve, the back of the uniform and the left breast. The maximum diameter allowed for such logo on the sleeve is 65mm in diameter – or 65mm in height if lettering is affixed to the uniform.
- 4.5 Alcohol and Tobacco advertising is not permitted. WLSC reserves the right to refuse other advertising which it considers to be not in the best interest of the sport. Its decision will be final.

5 DRUGS

- 5.1 The anti doping policy that has been adopted by the ABF will be enforced.
- 5.2 Any player who is required by doctor's prescription to treat a medical problem with proscribed drugs as defined by ASDA guidelines shall be registered with BNSW and or the ABF Players are to forward details accompanied by a letter from the player's doctor to BNSW.
- 5.3 Clubs are to ensure that all players who have queries re prescribed drugs are advised to consult the ASDA website www.asda.org.au and if further information is required, contact the drug advisory hotline on 1800 020 506.

6 LEGISLATION and POLICIES

- 6.1 The Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act 1984 and the NSW Anti Discrimination Act 1977 (as amended) particularly Section 221 now includes discrimination on the grounds of sexual harassment in sport have been accepted by the ABF and BNSW. Reports on any matter of this nature are to be referred immediately to the Member Protection Officer of BNSW for attention.

- 6.2 Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998 – the working with children check requires that all clubs with players under the age of 18 require that coaches and managers (whether paid or unpaid) to declare whether they are a prohibited person under the terms of the act.
- 6.3 Any suspected breach of BNSW Policy in regards to inappropriate behaviour (e.g. harassment, discrimination) should be referred to the Member Protection Officer of BNSW. Details of the resolution process can be found in the BNSW Member Protection Policy (June 2003).
- 6.4 Players, officials and clubs should be aware of the following policies and documents as published by BNSW and ABF; player protection policy, pregnancy policy, member protection policy

7 REGISTRATIONS

- 7.1 The minimum age of players registering is 14 years of age on 31st December in each competition year. The minimum age of bat persons is to be 12 years of age.
- 7.2 Players who are under 18 years of age on 31st December in each competition year shall be classified as Under 18 players.
- 7.3 Players who are under 16 years of age on 31st December in each competition year shall be classified as Under 16 players.
- 7.4 Each WL club shall register the name and address and date of birth of every player, coach (including registration number), manager, bat person and scorer using the prescribed form. The block registration form must be returned to the WL Registrar and entered into the *My Club* database no later than 5.00pm the Tuesday immediately prior to the commencement of the season.
- 7.5 Late registrations (i.e. any player/official not listed on the original block registration) may be accepted providing that the following procedures have been followed;
- (1) Player's details must be entered into the *My Club* database.
 - (2) Player's names must be noted on the Result Sheet for the first game they appear in.
 - (3) A copy of the player's Registration Form must be forwarded to the WL Registrar within 7 days of the player participating for the first time.
- 7.6 All clubs shall register their players, coaches and managers. The minimum number of players being registered is to be not less than equal to ten (10) players per team entered into the competition.
- 7.7 Registrations will not be accepted after **15th December** in each competition year, except by decision of the WLSC, which shall be final.
- 7.8 Only persons whose registrations have been approved by the WLSC may participate in any competition games, the WLSC retains the right to refuse registrations, or any registration in a particular grade, at their discretion and this decision will be final.
- 7.9 A team shall be debited with a forfeit of nine (9-0) to nil for any game in which an unregistered player, coach or manager participate.

8 TRANSFERS

- 8.1 Any player, coach or manager registering with a WL Club who has previously played for another WL Club, will secure a clearance from their previous WL club stating that they had cleared all obligations to that club.
- Before such a person can participate in a game for the new WL Club, the previous WL club must have been contacted and no notification of outstanding obligations has been received.
- Clearances given to a player to play for another club before transferring to a new WL Club does not negate the responsibility of the new WL Club to obtain a clearance.
- It is the new club's responsibility to check the most recent default list produced by Baseball NSW and ensure that any person from their club that appears on the list does not participate in a game until the matter has been resolved.
- Note: Once a problem has been notified, the player, coach or manager CANNOT take part in any game until the matter has been resolved. PENALTY: forfeit of nine to nil (9-0) to the non-offending team.**

- 8.2 Any players, coaches etc. registered in another State will NOT participate in any competition game until they have been cleared by that State's controlling body, under penalty of the games in which they participated in being declared a forfeits of nine (9-0) to nil to the non offending team.
- 8.3 A player, coach etc may not play or coach with more than one WL Club during the same season without the approval of the WLSC. No change may be made after final completion of Round 11 games.
- 8.4 When any registered person changes their address, the club is required to notify the WL Registrar of the new address and update the *My Club* database within fourteen (14) days.

9 MEDICAL

- 9.1 Before registering to play all people should notify their club officials and the Baseball NSW of any condition that may affect their performance or participation in the sport of baseball, such conditions may include, for example, pregnancy, epilepsy, diabetes etc.
- 9.2 Players or Officials with such a condition shall seek medical advice in relation to their continuing participation in the sport.
- 9.3 Information relating to an individual's medical condition shall be held confidentially (unless this is not required) but may be used by the organisation for administrative, insurance, legal or related purposes.
- 9.4 All people who register with Baseball NSW agree that they shall NOT contravene any medical advice in relation to their continued participation and when required to provide a medical certificate approving their continued participation in the sport.
- 9.5 BNSW will NOT be held responsible for the players or an individual's failure to seek and follow appropriate medical advice.

10 COACHES

- 10.1 All coaches must have a current Level **Two** accreditation.
Exemptions to this requirement may be granted by the BNSW Technical Committee
PENALTY: the offending club shall be fined \$350.

11 SCORERS

- 11.1 Clubs playing in this competition are required to provide an official scorer for each grade. Each Club should have at least one scorer who is a financial member of the NSW Baseball Scorer's Association, or a CABS accredited scorer.
- 11.2 Scorer's shall be seated together in the designated area behind home plate, where possible.
- 11.3 The home team is required to provide a table, chairs and shelter that provide adequate cover from all forms of weather.
- 11.4 Venues for night games should have adequate lighting in the designated scorer's area for scorers to be able to see their scorebooks.
- 11.5 Club scorers are to ensure that all relevant details (injuries, ejections etc) are recorded on the game result sheet presented to the Umpire/s for signature.

12 UMPIRES

- 12.1 Official umpires will be appointed to all games by the NSW Baseball Umpires Association Inc. or by WLSC. WL Clubs will not interfere in any way with appointments.

13 NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

- 13.1 Each home WL Club shall SMS **the results to the CM system within 30 minutes following the game.** The score sheet in 'soft format' should be emailed to the WL Registrar by 9:00pm Monday following the completed round.
- 13.2 Each WL Club is required to forward to the WL Registrar by email the 'soft format' of the result sheets, **by 9.00 p.m. on the** Monday following the completed round.
- 13.3 Where a wash out occurs a result sheet, indicating that the game was washed out, is required to be submitted to the WLSC.
- 13.4 Penalty: Failure to comply with these rules is a monetary fine of Fifty (\$50) Dollar fine per team

13.5 Results of all games will be available on BNSW's WomensLeague web page:
www.nswwbl.baseball.com.au

14 FINAL SERIES

14.1 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

14.2 To be eligible to play in the Final Series a player has to be listed on the Team's Player/Coach Registration form lodged with the NSW WBL EC

14.3 A player is to have participated for that team in at least one third of the NSW WBL Competition rounds played during the current NSW WBL season

14.4 No player having **participated in seven (7)** or more competition matches in A grade shall be eligible to play in B grade unless approval has been given by the NSW WBL Standing Committee .

Approval must be sought at least 48 hours before the match

14.5 The grade in which a player shall be eligible to participate in the Final Series shall be determined according to the following criteria.

(1) In each round, a player's grade will be deemed by the highest grade in which the player formed part of the starting line-up (or was used as a fresh reserve **AND** participated in the game), i.e. they had not played in any other game in the round already

(2) For a player to be eligible to participate in the Final series, a player must have not have been deemed in a higher round more than three (3) times in the player's last six (6) FULL COMPETITION rounds

14.6 A player qualified in a lower grade is eligible to play in a higher grade in the final series.

14.7 Players who, through extenuating circumstances, do not meet the qualification criteria for the Final Series may be considered for qualification at the NSW WBL Standing Committee meeting immediately prior to the Final Series.

15 FINALS SERIES FORMAT

8 or more team draw

	Home		Away
Semi Final A	1	v	2
Semi Final B	3	v	4
Final C	Looser of A	v	Winner of B
Grand Final D	Winner of A	v	Winner of C

6 team draw

	Home		Away
Final A	2	v	3
Grand Final B	1	v	Winner of A

4 team draw

	Home		Away
Grand Final	1	v	2

16 FINALS SERIES GAMES Umpires for the Finals Series shall be appointed by NSWBUA

- 16.1 No game. If Final Series game (other than a Grand Final) does not start, or is not being completed as a constituted game due to inclement weather or ground conditions, then the higher team in the competition table shall be declared the winner
- 16.2 Both teams shall provide two (2) new leather match balls
- 16.3 Any team that does not have nine (9) eligible players in uniform ready to take the field at the scheduled start time will forfeit.

17 PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

- 17.1 Any club wishing the WLSC to adjudicate on any dispute arising from any game shall forward to the WL Registrar a clear statement on the matter in dispute. The report along with a \$100 fee shall be received within three (3) days of the game. The \$100 fee shall be forfeited should the protest be considered frivolous.
- 17.2 Failure to observe the CORRECT PROCEDURE above shall render any protest invalid.
- 17.3 The WLSC, or persons appointed by it, shall be the authority as to whether or not a protest is to be upheld and any subsequent decision. They may call upon any person to assist them in any way they consider appropriate.
- 17.4 The WLSC will make the necessary rulings where penalties are not stipulated for rule infringements, they may include, loss of a game involved in protest, monetary fine or no penalty.
It should also be understood that loss of a game does not always award a win to the opposing team.
- 17.5 Any club that commits a breach of the rules that cannot be reasonably identified by the umpire during the game such as, but not restricted to, playing of an illegal player or pitchers going over their pitch limit, can be issued a Breach Notice.
The WL Registrar is to be notified of any such breach, and upon notification the following procedure will be followed;
 - (1) WL Registrar will prepare a Breach Notice listing the offence and the penalty to be imposed if the breach is found to be correct, within seven days of receiving notification.
 - (2) The offending club may choose to accept the breach and pay the penalty, or contest the breach at the next WLSC meeting.
 - (3) If contesting a breach, a written explanation of the incident must be sent to the WL Registrar, prior to the next WLSC meeting.
- 17.6 Clubs will have the right to appeal any decision of WLSC to the WL Appeals Committee.
- 17.7 Any club wishing to appeal to the WL Appeals Committee shall forward to the WL Registrar a clear statement on the grounds of the appeal. The appeal along with a \$100 fee shall be received within three (3) days of the WLSC's original decision. The \$100 fee shall be forfeited should the appeal be dismissed.
- 17.8 In extenuating circumstances, such as when several WL Clubs are involved in the dispute, the WLSC may chose to refer the matter to the WL Appeals Committee.
- 17.9 The decision of the WL Appeals Committee shall be FINAL
- 17.10 Clubs who are found to breach the Playing Rules more than five times in a season will be asked to show cause for continuation in future seasons. Conditions may be imposed on such a club should they continue in the competition.

18 FORFEITS

- 18.1 Clubs whose team(s) forfeit will be responsible for the payment of the umpires' fees for that game/round. In addition the club responsible for the forfeit will be fined;
- (1) \$50 for the first breach
 - (2) \$100 for the second breach
 - (3) \$200 for each subsequent breach
- 18.2 Clubs who forfeit more than five games in a season will be asked to show cause for continuation in future seasons. Conditions may be imposed on such a club should they continue in the competition.

Results: SMS as per the Handbook and Fax result sheets as per the Handbook

Wet Weather: Check the website www.nswwbl.baseball.com.au

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