

WBSC

WORLD
BASEBALL SOFTBALL
CONFEDERATION

Game Time!

WBSC SOFTBALL WORLD CUPS

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

**Appendix I: Specific
Regulations for each
WBSC Softball World Cup**

WBSC.ORG

Revised Version: 29 May 2025

APPENDIX I: Specific Regulations For Each WBSC Softball World Cup Tournament

The following are specific Tournament Regulations chapter excerpts detailing information that applies specifically to each of the age/gender categories for WBSC Softball World Cups.

A.1 PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY

A1.12. The age limit for each WBSC Softball World Cup is determined by the year in which they were born. Players must turn the minimum age for any given WBSC World Cup in the year in which the tournament takes place:

- For the *U-15 Women's Softball World Cup*, 13-15 year old players are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2010, 2011 and 2012 are eligible for the U-15 Softball World Cup 2025.
- For the *U-18 Men's Softball World Cup*, 14-18 year old players are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 are eligible for the U-18 Men's Softball World Cup 2027.
- For the *U-18 Women's Softball World Cup - Finals*, 14-18 year old players are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, and 2007 are eligible for the U-18 Softball World Cup 2025.
- For the *U-18 Women's Softball World Cup - Group Stage*, 14-18 year old players are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 are eligible for the U-18 Softball World Cup 2028.
- For the *U-18 Women's Softball World Cup - Finals*, 14-18 year old players are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011 are eligible for the U-18 Softball World Cup 2029.
- For the *U-23 Men's Softball World Cup*, 14-23 year old players are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 are eligible for the U-23 Men's Softball World Cup 2026.
- For the *Men's Softball World Cup*, 14 year old players or older are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2010 or before are eligible for the Men's Softball World Cup Group Stage in 2024. Those players born in 2011 or before are eligible for the Men's Softball World Cup Final Stage in 2025.
- For the *Women's Softball World Cup*, 14 year old players or older are eligible. Accordingly, those players born in 2012 or before are eligible for the Women's Softball World Cup Group Stage in 2026. Those players born in 2013 or before are eligible for the Women's Softball World Cup Final Stage in 2027.



A2. FINAL TEAM ROSTER

A2.4. The participating team's Official Delegations for each WBSC Softball World Cup will be composed of:

Official Team Delegation				
WBSC Softball World Cups	Players	Delegation Leader	Delegation Members (including Head Coach, Coaches and Staff)	Max. total:
U-15 Women's	16	1	5	22
U-18 Women's				
U-18 Men's				
U-23 Men's				
Women's				
Men's				
Coed	16-20 (8 minimum - 10 maximum for each gender)			26

C2. COMPETITION VENUES

C2.2 Field of play dimensions specifications:

WBSC Softball World Cups Official Field Dimensions	U-15 Women's	U-18 Women's and Men's	U-23 Men's	Women's	Men's	Coed
Distance between bases	60ft / 18.29m					65ft / 19.81m
Distance from home plate to pitcher plate	40ft / 12.19m	(Women's) 43ft / 13.11m (Men's) 46ft / 14.02m	46ft / 14.02m	43ft / 13.11m	46ft / 14.02m	50ft / 15.24m

Distance from home plate to second base	84ft 10 ¼ / 25.86 m				
Distance from home plate to backstop	25ft / 7.62m				
Three feet line	3ft /0.91m				
Distance from home plate to left and right field fence	200 ft / 61m	(Women's) 220ft / 67m (Men's) 250ft / 76.20m	220ft / 67m	250ft / 76.20 m	275ft / 83.82m <small>** recommend</small> 300ft / 91.44m
Distance from home plate to center field fence	200ft / 67m	(Women's) 220ft / 67m (Men's) 250ft / 76.20m	220ft / 67m	250ft / 76.20 m	275ft / 83.82m <small>** recommend</small> 300ft / 91.44m
Outfield fence height	min. 4ft / 1.06m - max- 6ft / 1.83m	6ft / 1.83m			
Pitching circle radius	8ft / 2.44m				Not Required
Batter's box dimensions	3ft x 7ft / 0.91m x 2.13m				
Catcher box dimensions	10ft x 8.5ft / 3.05m x 2.57m				
Pitcher plate dimensions	24" x 6"x 5" / 0.61m x 0.15.m x 0.12m				
Bases dimensions	15" x 15" x 5" / 0.38m x 0.38m x 0.12m				
First (Double) Base dimension	15" & 15" x 15" x 5" / 0.38m x 0.38m x 0.12m				

C7. OFFICIAL RULES OF SOFTBALL

C7.2 Specific Regulations for youth category World Cups:

Specific U-15 Softball World Cup Regulations:

- Bats: No restriction on the bat length and weight.
- Balls: 12-inch Softball.
- NO Pitch counts.
- Seven (7) Inning Games. Extra-innings will start in the 8th inning.
- Run-difference rule: As per Rule 1.2.3 of the Official Rules of Softball.
- No metal cleats allowed.
- Batting Helmets must include a guard/mask to protect the face.
- Facemasks on defense are not mandatory, however, the WBSC highly recommends the use of facemasks on defense.

C7.3 Specific regulations for the Coed Slow Pitch category World Cups:

Specific to Coed Slow Pitch Softball World Cup Regulations:

- Rule 3.2.4 Extra Player - Teams may choose, game by game, to bat either 10 or 12 (with two Extra players, one male and one female) in the batting line-up, but having confirmed the line-up to the plate umpire may not vary the number. Only ten (5 male & 5 Female) may field at any one time but may be replaced during any dead ball.
- Any minor (U18) players must wear a helmet when on offence or acting as bat-boy / girl, and a helmet plus mask if playing defence as a catcher. Footwear must consist of rubber soles/cleats. NO metal, plastic or other materials are allowed.
- Bats must all comply with WBSC certification standards, and identification requirements, and will be subject to pressure testing before and during the competition.
- Official softball is 52 cor 300 compression (rule 2.3.3b. 12" for male batters and 11" for female batters).
- Pitcher/catcher may not be of the same gender; the positions of the 1st, 2nd & 3rd base fielders and Shortstop must be filled by 2 males and 2 females. The remaining 4 defensive players may be positioned anywhere in the outfield and players in the outfield cannot leave their positions until the ball has been hit. The right centre position is designated #10.
- Balls and strikes are called by the plate umpire on a strike zone, not a floor mat.
- Each team is permitted a maximum of 5 'over the fence' home runs per game. Any homerun exceeding 5 will count as an OUT against the batter. The ball is dead and runners cannot advance. Female home runs do NOT count towards the overall total.
- Rule 5.4.1b - Batting Order - 2 (Coed) The batting order shall alternate the genders.
- Rule 5.5.1 bii 3) In Coed, any walk to a male batter, intentional or otherwise, will result in a two-base award. The female batter will bat, except if there are two out, the female batter has the option to walk or bat. Once the batter enters the batter's box or reaches first base, the option is considered to have been selected and cannot be changed. Should the female batter-runner pass a male batter-runner when choosing to walk, no out shall be called during this dead ball period.
- Stealing is not allowed.
- Run Ahead Rule - 20 runs after 4, 15 after 5.

Pitching Rules per Rule 4: Slow Pitch: extracts:

Rule 4.3.7i - The pitching arc must be between 6 and 12 feet, at a reasonable speed. (Rule 4.3.7 g) moderate speed).

Pitching Rules per Rule 5.4.3: Balls and Strikes: extracts:

A strike is called by the umpire:

- A) For each legally pitched ball entering the strike zone before touching the ground and at which the batter does not swing. Exception - It is not a strike if the pitched ball touches home plate and is not swung at.
- B) For each pitched ball, including an illegal pitch, struck at and missed by the batter.

Note: The batter cannot legally swing at any pitched ball that hits the ground or the plate. However, if the batter swings and misses the pitch prior to the ball hitting the ground or the plate, it is a strike. The ball is dead and runners may not advance.

- C) For each foul tip. The batter is out if it is the 3rd strike.
- D) For each foul ball, including the third strike.

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