



# WBSC Baseball5 World Cup Tournament Regulations



This is the WBSC Baseball5 World Cup Tournament Regulations, published by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC). Its application is compulsory in all competitions.

In the whole document everything that is written in masculine applies also to the feminine:

e.g.:     he = she  
          his = her

Likewise, “competition”, “event” or “tournament” under this document is synonymous with Baseball5 World Cup.

The WBSC Tournament Regulations are provided in both English and Spanish, should there be any inconsistency or conflict between the English or Spanish version of this document the English version shall prevail.



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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 Official Baseball5 Rules("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 WBSC Baseball5 World Cup and a qualifier for one of these, including: Baseball5 World Cup; Youth Baseball5 World Cup; Continental or Regional Games, or World or Regional Championships; or another Baseball5 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 All players in any WBSC official competition ("competitor" or "player") must be a national of the country, territory or region of the National Federation that is entering them.
- A1.2 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in a WBSC Competition 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 cancelled 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 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, where 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 intend 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 Director of the competition will notify the WBSC Executive Board for further action.
- A1.8 Should an eligibility 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 his team. The team shall continue to play in the competition, and the infraction shall be reported by the Technical Director 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 Director, or by the National Federation, directly to the WBSC Executive Board for further action. In such a 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 National Federation, 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.

A1.12 Age limit for each WBSC Baseball5 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:

| <b>WBSC Baseball5<br/>World Cups<br/>Players' eligibility</b> | <b>Youth Baseball5 World Cup</b>  | <b>Baseball5 World Cup</b> |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2025 edition  | Born in 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 | -                          |
| 2026 edition  | -                                 | Born in 2011 and older     |
| 2027 edition  | Born in 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009 | -                          |
| 2028 edition  | -                                 | Born in 2013 and older     |

### Provisional Members

A1.13 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 World Cup, the Olympic Games.

- The provisions of Reg. A1. to A1.12 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 thirty (30) calendar days prior to the beginning of the competition, all participating National Federations must communicate to the WBSC the Provisional (maximum 20 players) Team Roster (PTR), through the online platform: <http://my.wbsc.org> and the following information must be uploaded:

- Name;
- Lastname;
- Date of Birth;
- Passport Number;
- Passport Expiration Date;
- Passport Copy (in JPEG file); and
- Headshot (WxH of 600x800px, ratio of 3:4, in JPEG file).

*NOTE: User ID and Password are communicated to all NFs from WBSC Headquarters.*

A2.2 If a person named on a PTR becomes unavailable after the PTR deadline due to injury, sickness or any other reasons that is approved by WBSC, they may be replaced on that PTR. National Federations 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 will result in the ineligibility of that person from the competition.

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

### **A3. FINAL TEAM ROSTER – (FTR)**

A3.1 No later than ten (10) days prior to the beginning of the competition, all National Federations and/or Associate Members must communicate to the WBSC the Final Team Roster (FTR), through the online platform: <http://my.wbsc.org> and the following information must be uploaded:

- Name;
- Lastname;
- Preferred Name;
- Preferred Lastname;
- Date of Birth;



- Passport Number;
- Passport Expiration Date;
- Passport Copy (in JPEG file);
- Headshot (WxH of 600x800px, ratio of 3:4, in JPEG file);
- Uniform Number; and
- Position, Height, Throw/Bat (for players only).

*NOTE: User ID and Password are communicated to all NFs from WBSC Headquarters.*

A3.2 During the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organisational Meeting, the Delegation Leader shall submit the following to the Game Officials:

- a) A current valid passport ("Passport") for each player on the Final Team Roster (FTR) must be presented at the Tournament Technical Meeting to the Game Officials for official roster activation of the player(s). If a player(s) has not arrived in the host country the federation could present a copy of the player(s) passport for roster registration purpose only. 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.
- b) The name, room number (local address), e-mail and social media (i.e. WhatsApp) address and phone number of the Delegation Leader and Team Manager and media officer of each Delegation.

A3.3 A maximum of 2 (two) players are allowed to be replaced on the FTR. The WBSC must be informed in writing of such changes at any moment up to and including the start of the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organisational Meeting, which notice of change must be in the hands of the Game Officials at the time of the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organisational 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 Game Officials gets these documents promptly upon the team's arrival. Those 5 (five) players may come from either inside or outside the PTR.

A3.4 Official Team Delegations at WBSC Competitions vary in size depending on the age category and level. The specific number of Team Members for each Baseball World Cup is established in the following chart, including the minimum roster size required to participate in the event. If a team registers or arrives at the event with fewer players than the established minimum roster size, the team will still be permitted to participate; however, it will be considered at fault, and fines and sanctions will be imposed by the WBSC on the relevant National Federation.



| WBSC Baseball5 World Cups<br>Official Team Delegation | Youth Baseball5 World Cup | Baseball5 World Cup     |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Players   | 8<br>(4 male, 4 female)   | 8<br>(4 male, 4 female) |
| Delegation Leader                                     | 1                         | 1                       |
| Coach   | 1                         | 1                       |

*NOTE: National Federations 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 required under Reg. A3.1., the incomplete submission or lack of fulfilment of any of Reg. A3 shall be sanctioned with a non-appealable fine of USD five hundred (500) fine per day until the problem is corrected.

A3.6 If more than 2 (two) players on FTR become unavailable after the FTR deadlines has passed and before the Pre-Tournament Technical/Organisational Meeting, due to injury, sickness or any other reasons and if National Federation/Associate Member 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, Game Officials, Scorers, Anti-Doping Commissioner and Media before the start of the competition.

#### **A4. PRE-TOURNAMENT TECHNICAL/ORGANISATIONAL 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 organisational 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/Organisational Meeting will be chaired by the Tournament Director accompanied by the Technical Director, a representative of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) and a representative of the WBSC Events Department. Relevant technical matters of the competition will be discussed in this meeting.



*NOTE: Any material shared for this meeting, printed or digital, should be in English and/or 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 comply with the World Anti-Doping Code.
- A5.2 During the competition, the frequency of doping controls will be decided by the WBSC.
- A5.3 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").

*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 Game 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 Game Officials 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 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 card and the second from the FTR. The reserve selections will be made from the FTR.



- 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 competition.
- The selections will be marked on the starting line-up card, 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 Game Officials assigned to the game and the Executive Director (or Tournament Director in his absence) shall be informed immediately in case a player needs to be absent from the field or tournament at any time through ejection or another reason.

A5.5 If a selected player is seriously injured and needs to be immediately hospitalised, 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, the player 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 FTR are eligible to be tested. In short, any player on the FTR who is injured is still subject to the same drug testing procedures as the rest of the team.

A5.6 Any player on the FTR not present at the game may be selected for doping control, whether still in the host city or not.

A5.7 The LOC is responsible for ensuring the Doping Control Station is properly equipped, ready for use and maintained in a suitable manner at all times.

## A6. AWARDS

A6.1 Team Awards:

| Position | Award                                  |
|----------|--|
| First    | Gold Medal + World 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:

| Individual Awards         | Award |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Outstanding female player | Prize |
| Outstanding male player   | Prize |
| Best Coach                | Prize |

A6.3 Determination of the awards mentioned under A5.2 are done by representatives of the LOC and Technical Director and confirmed by the WBSC. Best coach is elected by the peers by secret ballot.

| All-World Team                   |
|----------------------------------|
| 5 Athletes<br>(min 2 per Gender) |

A6.4 Reallocation of Medals. The WBSC is taking every possible step to ensure fair competition and to recognize 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, 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 coach or a player or coach acting as a coach, is responsible for the actions of every person on an FTR before, during or after a game and away from the field 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 WBSC 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 WBSC Executive Director by any Game Official 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 WBSC 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:

| Infraction Levels | Associated fines (USD) |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| A Level           | a minimum of \$1000    |
| B Level           | \$500 - \$999          |
| C Level           | \$100 - \$499          |

#### A level infractions:

A level is an infraction of rules that is considered crucial for competition success or that causes damage, harm, or serious negative effects on international Baseball5. The fine for an A level infraction is a



minimum of \$1000 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 and playing field promptly after ejection;
- Physically aggressive behaviors or fighting; and
- Non-presence of a team in the competition after confirming the participation;

#### B level infractions:

B level is an infraction of rules that is considered important for game operations and/or also is a behavior that is considered unsportsmanlike. The fine for a B level infraction is \$500 - \$999. The following are examples of B level infractions:

- Inappropriate comments directed at a Game Official
- Contacting a Game Official; 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 \$100 - \$499. The following are examples of C level infractions:

- Delay or absence in the technical meeting without prior notice;
- Failure to follow regulations concerning uniform colour and related Regulations;
- Failure by the LOC to follow guidelines on field use and maintenance;
- Failure by the LOC to meet the protection and security regulations of the team delegation members in the playing field; and
- When non-authorized personnel enters/does not leave the dugout, or playing field after being instructed by a Game Official

#### 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, a Game Official, 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 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 or sanctioned 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 he/she is ejected or suspended for. In the youth categories 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 a Game Official, 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   |
|------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| C                | Delay or absence in technical meeting or other required without prior notice  | \$300               |  |
| C                | Failure to follow Regulations concerning uniform colour, numbering related requirements   | \$350               |  |
| C                | Failure by the LOC to follow guidelines on field use and maintenance  | \$350               |  |
| C                | Failure by the LOC to meet the protection and security regulations of the players in the playing field  | \$400               |  |
| C                | Failure by the LOC to adhere to the guidelines regarding scheduling of games  | \$400               |  |
| C                | Failure to submit starting lineup card in time  | \$450               |  |
| C                | Failure by the LOC to use the WBSC official Baseball5 balls   | \$450               |  |
| C                | Prolonged arguing or foul language or gesture(s)  | \$500               |  |
| C                | Non-authorized personnel enters/does not leave the dugout or playing field, after being instructed by a Game Official   | \$500               |  |
| B                | Inappropriate comments or verbal abuse directed toward any tournament participant (i.e. team member, Official, staff, spectators, etc.                            | \$500               |  |
| B                | Violently throwing equipment  | \$500               |  |
| B                | Inappropriate gestures at a Game Official   | \$500               |  |
| B                | Restrained from confronting Game Official or player   | \$500               |  |
| B                | Ejection  | \$600               | 0 to 1 game  |
| B                | Team personnel ejection (any delegation member)   | \$600               |  |
| B                | Failure by the LOC to provide adequate scorekeeping resources   | \$650               |  |
| B                | Actions during bench clearing (not physical violence)   | \$650               | 0 to 3 games   |
| B                | Throwing equipment/debris onto the playing field from the dugout  | \$700               | 0 to 6 games   |
| B                | Any violation of ejection conditions  | \$700               | 0 to 2 games   |
| B                | Contacting a Game Official  | \$800               | 1 to 6 games   |
| B                | Fighting  | \$950               | 3 to 8 games   |
| A                | Verbal abuse or trending towards a WBSC Official, player, coach, manager, spectator, or other persons involved at an event  | Minimum of \$1,000  | 1 to 6 games   |
| A                | Throwing equipment in Game Official's direction   | Minimum of \$1,000  | 1 to 6 games   |
| A                | Non-compliance with WBSC uniform advertising regulations  | Minimum of \$1,500  |  |
| A                | Delegation leader or coach not controlling their team before, during or after a game and while at the field that results in an "A" or "B" infraction              | Minimum of \$2,000  | 3 games to suspension of one year  |
| A                | Threatening or engaging in physically aggressive behavior against or fighting with a WBSC Official, player, coach, spectator, or other persons involved in a game | Minimum of \$2,000  | 3 games to suspension of up to two years   |
| A                | Causing a forfeit game  | \$2,000             | 0 to 6 games   |
| A                | Not leaving the dugout and playing field promptly after ejection  | Minimum of \$1,000  | 3 to 8 games   |
| A                | Players' eligibility violation (i.e. age, nationality, gender etc..)  | Minimum of \$10,000 | 8 games to suspension of up to four years to the athlete and possible suspension for the entire NF for WBSC events for up to 2 years |

**NOTE:** The WBSC Executive Director has the ability to make additional decisions at his discretion.



- A7.3 If a team member intentionally, recklessly, or willfully 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 leading to damage 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 National Federation they represent. The host country, LOC and/or Organising 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 the 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 all WBSC Competitions.

B1.2. The Responsibilities of the WBSC Executive Director, or in his absence the Tournament Director, include the following:

- Enforce all WBSC Statutes, rules and regulations and all agreements between the WBSC, the National Federations and the LOC.
- Review final arrangements with the LOC Chairperson for the organisation 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 National Federations, Umpires, and the Game Officials 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 Pre-Tournament Technical/ Organisational 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 organisation.
- 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 Game Official's daily assignments.



- During or after a Competition, cooperate with the Technical Director, and Game Officials to identify or confirm infractions that occur or occurred in a Competition and recommend the imposition of fines and suspensions.

#### Game Officials:

B1.3. The Game Officials, recommended by the WBSC Technical Director, will be appointed by the WBSC with the approval of the WBSC Executive Director. Its functions and responsibilities are the following:

- Supervise all technical aspects of the competition.
- Compile, verify and submit to the WBSC all technical related data of 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 Game Officials will propose the adjustment of the competition schedule in consultation with the WBSC. Any changes in the schedule require the final approval of the WBSC Executive Director or Tournament 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 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.
- Each game shall be recorded by a Game Official assigned to the table. It shall be the duty of that Game Official to compile the averages of defense and offense plays for all players of each team.

#### Technical Director:

B1.4. The WBSC will appoint one Technical Director for each Competition.

B1.5. 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 Game Officials members to daily game supervision.
- Liaise with WBSC Office to confirm assignment of Game Officials;



- Liaise with WBSC and Game Officials 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 Game Officials.
- Chair the meetings of the Game Officials to review issues associated with technical areas of competition and, with the Executive Director, to determine actions related to infractions, discipline, or protests.
- Chair the All-World Team and the outstanding male and female players selection meeting.
- During or after a Competition, cooperate with the Tournament Director and Game Officials to identify or confirm infractions that occur or occurred in a competition and recommend the imposition of fines and suspensions.
- Provide tie-breaker and/or statistical information to Tournament Director upon request.

#### Jury of Appeal:

- B1.6. The 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.
- B1.7. The Jury of Appeal is the body of appeal for infractions, fines, judgments, or suspensions dictated by the Technical Director occurring during a competition. It will have no application in the judgments dictated by the Technical Director in cases related to the Rules or a Disciplinary Action under the Disciplinary By-Laws. Only the Technical Director decisions that are not related to the Rules of the Game may be appealed in front of the Jury of Appeal.

#### Anti-Doping Commissioner:

- B1.8. The Anti-Doping Commissioner appointed by the WBSC 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**

#### Team Attachés/Interpreters:



- B2.1. The LOC may 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:

- B2.2. 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, WBSC approved 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:

- B2.3. 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 Coach over a suspected misapplication or misinterpretation of WBSC Official Baseball5 Rules, it shall be presented to the Home plate Official according to the WBSC Official Baseball5 Rules. When such protest is made, the Home plate Official shall stop the game, inform the Coach of the opposing team, the other Game Officials assigned to work that game, and the audience that a protest has been filed.
- B3.2. The coach or acting coach shall notify the Home Plate Official before the next play, that he is protesting a misapplication or misinterpretation of WBSC Official Baseball5 Rulebook . He must tell the Home Plate Official what rule he is protesting. The Home Plate Official will then notify the other Game Officials assigned to that game and will report the protest to the Technical Director, his delegate, or in their unavailability the Game Official assigned to the table, which will then rule on the protest. The presentation of a protest will incur a non-refundable cost of \$100 USD to be directly deducted from the National Federation's guarantee fee. If the protest occurs on the game-ending play, the desire to submit a protest must be announced by the coach or acting coach to the Home Plate Official . He 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 Director, his delegate, or in their unavailability the Game Official assigned to the table. The opposing team must wait for the decision before they leave the playing field.

- B3.3. Any decision of the Game Officials regarding the WBSC Official Baseball5 Rules is final and not subject to appeal.
- B3.4. When a participating Delegation protests the participation of any player; the protest shall be presented to the Technical Director of the Competition prior to the conclusion of the competition.
- B3.5. If the protest does not refer to an action of the game, it must be submitted in writing to the Technical Director, explaining the reasons that state for it and the due dispositions that supposedly apply to it.

## **B4. APPEALS**

- B4.1. Only a Game Official decision that is not related to the WBSC Official Baseball5 Rules may be appealed to a Jury of Appeal. Game Officials' 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:
- Before the game begins, the Public Address Announcer will first call the visiting team (manager and coaches first, then the players in the starting lineup 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 Game Officials. The teams shall line up along the foul line, while the Game Officials stand at home plate.
  - 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 Game Officials 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. Ceremonies

##### Opening Ceremony:

Opening ceremony may take place 45-60 minutes before the beginning of the first match or the evening before, shall the matches start in the morning.

The staging and organizing of the opening ceremony is at discretion of the LOC. Should the ceremony take place it may include the following:

- Parade of the national teams
- Introduction of the officials
- Opening remarks from maximum 3 dignitaries (WBSC, LOC and Public Official)
- Party / celebration for fans and delegations alike
- Raise of the WBSC Flag / play of the anthem

Should the LOC wish to stage an opening ceremony, the complete rundown shall be priory discussed and approved in written by the WBSC.

##### Closing Ceremony:

After the end of the Gold Medal Game, the awards shall be prepared, and a closing ceremony may take place.

The Local Organizing Committee may plan a Closing Ceremony to be coordinated with the WBSC.

*NOTE: Only uniformed members of the team delegations are permitted on the field during the ceremonies. Non-uniformed personnel must stay in dugouts or their designated area.*



## **B7. COMPETITION SYSTEM**

### Match Format:

All Games are contested on “best of three (3) sets” format, in which each set (match) is composed of 5 innings each.

In order to win the game, the team has to win 2 matches out of three.

### Opening Round:

Four (4) groups of four (4) Teams will play all vs., with all four (4) teams from each group advancing to the Round of Sixteen (16). In case of a tie, see tie-breaking system.

### Round of Sixteen:

The sixteen (16) Teams will be paired in the bracket according to the standing after the Opening Round. The Team that finishes first in its group will face the fourth-placed Team from another group. The second-placed Team will face the third-placed Team from another group. And vice versa. The eight (8) Teams that will win in the Round of Sixteen will advance to the Quarter finals. The eight (8) Teams that will lose in the Round of Sixteen will move to the Placement Bracket for the positions from 9th to 16th place.

*Add groups pairing from schedule like: A1 vs. B4 / A4 vs. B1 ecc... or add full brackets*

### Quarter Finals:

The eight (8) Teams, already paired in the bracket, will play an elimination game with the four (4) winning Teams that will advance to the Semi finals. The four (4) losing Teams will move to a Placement Bracket for the positions from 5th to 8th.

### Semi Finals & Finals:

The four (4) Teams will play an elimination game with the two winners that will qualify for the Gold Medal Game and the two losers that will play in the Bronze Medal Final.

### Placement Bracket:



The eight (8) Teams losing in the Round of Sixteen will play a Placement Bracket for the positions from 9th to 16th. All teams will play a Quarter Final, Semifinals and Finals according to the results of the single elimination games.



## C. TECHNICAL ASPECTS

### C1. UNIFORMS

- C1.1. Team must have at least two (2) sets of uniforms (jerseys). 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/Organisational Meeting. There will be no changes allowed to the established uniforms without prior approval of the Game Officials. If a team requests a change to uniform color, the said request must be submitted in writing to the Game Officials, and the Game Officials will also communicate to the team its decision (whether approved or disapproved) in writing. Numbers must be a solid contrasting colour that is clearly visible.
- C1.2. All players must wear a specified and different number on the back of the uniform. 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 by the Game Officials of the game. If any changes to uniform numbers are approved, then Game Officials of the game will hand in both teams in writing such notice prior to the start of the game. Uniform numbers must be whole numbers chosen from 0 to 99.
- C1.3. Uniform design and appearance must fulfil with the WBSC Baseball5 World Cup Uniform Guidelines. Uniforms will be checked by the Game Officials upon arrival of that team in the host country.

*NOTE: Uniform design must be shared with the WBSC for approval no later than sixty (60) days prior to the event. Non-authorized emblems, logos and/or marks will not be allowed and subject to removal.*

### 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 WBSC Competitions.

Refer to the *WBSC Official Baseball5 Rulebook* to see specific field dimensions for Baseball5 World Cups.

### 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. These rules shall be printed in both English, Spanish and the language of the host country and distributed to all coaches and Game Officials and discussed thoroughly at the Pre-tournament Technical/Organisational 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/Organisational Meeting.

#### **C4. DUGOUT**

- C4.1. For all games the home team will be located in the 3rd base dugout and the visiting team in the 1st base dugout.
- C4.2. Only credentialed personnel (staff, delegation members, translators, uniformed players, uniformed coaches and ball boys/girls) will be allowed to stay in the dugout. The maximum amount of people allowed in the dugout in the WBSC Baseball5 World Cup is ten (10). There will be no exceptions to this rule. It shall be the responsibility of the Game Officials assigned to the match to make sure that unauthorized persons do not occupy the dugout and that all the authorized persons stay inside the dugout during the match. 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 Director.

*NOTE: all members shall be accredited and properly uniformed or in appropriate team apparel in order to be allowed in the dugout.*

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

##### Pre-Tournament Official Practice:

- C5.1. The LOC in conjunction with WBSC Event Staff, shall set up a Pre-Tournament Practice schedule for all teams. Each team shall have a sixty (60) minute session at least once at the competition venue. If more than one competition venue is to be used, teams will 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 Warm-up:



- C5.2. The WBSC Event Department shall determine the site(s) of the Pre-Game Warm-up together with the LOC and the Technical Director. a dedicated area which is available from at least 60-minutes prior to the start of the game. Should the time allow, each team will be given a 5-minutes to finalize the warm up on the competition field immediately prior to the start for the opening game ceremony.

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

- C6.1. Delegation Leader shall compulsorily fill the line-ups for Set 1 and Set 2 through a device provided by the Table Official between sixty (60) and forty five (45) minutes before the scheduled start of the game. Through the same device, the Delegation Leader shall sign a document that certifies that the information entered is correct. These line-ups are available as a preview on the Event page of the WBSC website. These line-ups shall include the full name, uniform number, gender of each player in the batting order and all the reserve players. The opposite team will have the line-ups shown on a screen placed directly in the dugout.

### Gender Balance:

During the first 2 sets each team must alternate the gender ratio of its line-up. Specifically, should a team start the first set with 3 male athletes and 2 female athletes, that gender ratio shall be maintained for the whole set. Conversely, the same team shall compulsory start the second set of that game with 3 female athletes and 2 male athletes, the gender ratio shall again be maintained for the whole second set. The alternate gender ratio may be applied irrespectively to either of the first or second set. Failure to respect the required gender ratio will result in the forfeiture of the set, with a score of 5–0 awarded to the opposing team. If, at the moment of the infraction, the existing score reflects a run differential greater than five, the existing score shall stand. The offending team will also be subject to sanctions.

The submitted line-up(s) is final and cannot be changed before the game starts; in the event of an injury a substitution is allowed provided the gender ratio initially indicated in the line-up is respected. The injured athlete cannot take part in the game when he/she was substituted before the start.

Should the game reach the third and decisive set, a new lineup will be filled using the same procedure as the previous two sets. While the male/female composition of the line-up is free for the third set, the standard rule of minimum 2 athletes per gender on the field at all times only applies to the third and decisive set.

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

### WBSC Official Baseball5 Rules:



C7.1. All games will be played under the event year of the WBSC Official Baseball5 Rules.

Run difference Rule:

C7.2. A game is over if a team leads by 15 runs at the end of the third inning (two and half if home team is leading) or by 10 at the end of the fourth (three and half if home team is leading). Should a team reach a 10 or more run lead during the top of the fifth inning the game shall be completed by playing the bottom part of that inning to completion.

Protective Equipment:

C7.3. Only Kneepads and elbow sleeves are permitted as protective equipment. Some type of protecting finger taping can be allowed by the Game Officials under certain circumstances and must be announced prior to the start of the match

Extra-Inning Regulations:

C7.4. In case of a tie game, the teams shall play and complete extra inning(s) until one team scores more runs than the opponent.

- The first extra inning will start with a runner on first base.
- The second extra inning will begin with runners on first and second base.
- Runners on all bases from the third extra inning onwards.
- Runners must be placed on base(s) without modifying the batting order.
- Latest batter of the previous inning goes to first base.
- Second to last batter of the previous inning goes to second base.
- Third to last batter of the previous inning goes to third base.

## **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 Executive Director, who is the only person entitled to sanction an amendment, after consultation 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 or the Tournament Director in his absence. The new game schedule shall officially be approved in writing by the Executive Director or the Tournament Director, before being released to all participants.



## **C9. SUSPENDED GAMES**

In case a game is stopped for any reason:

- C9.1. Before a contest becomes a regulation game, it is not an official game and shall be resumed at the exact point of suspension.
- C9.2. After it becomes a regulation game, it is ruled a complete.
- C9.3. Regulation game is when at least the third inning of the second set has been completed when the team that won the first set is leading also in the second; and in case the game goes to the third set, a regulation game is when at least the third inning has been completed and the score is not tied.
- C9.4. When it is tied or when the visiting team takes the lead in an uncompleted inning, and after it has become a regulation game, it shall be ruled a suspended game and shall be resumed at the exact point of suspension and played to completion. The scheduling of completion of the suspended game shall be given priority by the Technical Director in order to complete it as soon as possible.

## **C10. HOME/VISITOR ASSIGNMENTS**

- C10.1. Opening Round Home and Visitor game assignments are decided by WBSC once all participating countries are known. An attempt is made to ensure the number of Home and Visitor games is as equitable as possible.
- C10.2. Establishing home and visitor teams in the Round of Sixteen shall be done in the following order:
- C10.3. Based on the standings of the Opening Round. Teams with higher seed after the Opening Round will be home team (i.e. 1st from A vs 4th from B from B, then 1st from A will be home team).
- C10.4. By the drawing of lots if the seeding after the Opening Round is equal (i.e. 1st from pool A vs 1st from pool B).
- C10.5. Establishing home and visitor teams in the Quarter Finals, Semifinals and Finales shall be done by the drawing of lots during the PTOM.



## C11. TIE BREAKING

All ties after a Round Robin stage will be settled as follows (in order):

The standings of the teams after a Round Robin shall be according to the win-loss record of all the games played. All ties after any Round Robin shall be settled in the order of the following criteria 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.

*NOTE: If two teams are tied, the team that won their game shall be placed in the higher position. If three or more teams are tied, the team(s) that has(have) a better win-loss record between the tied teams will be placed in the higher position(s).*

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, the team with the highest TQB will be placed in the first spot. The TQB is calculated as follows: (runs scored / innings played at bat) – (runs allowed / innings playing on defense). For a three-way tie and when the TQB is needed to break the tie, the TQB will place all three teams from highest to lowest placing. To calculate innings in defense or offence, also fractions of innings are taken into account.*

3. A coin flip.

**\*The TQB is calculated as follows:**

**(runs scored / innings played at bat) – (runs allowed / innings playing on defence).**

## C12. ALTERNATE DETERMINATION OF CHAMPION

C12.1. In case of extreme weather conditions or any other force majeure that prevent the smooth completion of the Opening Round, Round of Sixteen, Quarter Finals, Semi Finals or Finals, play shall proceed as follows:

### Groups Stage:

- a) The Opening Round shall in all cases be completed at least to the extent required to produce a valid standing in each group.



- b) To this purpose the format may be adjusted to guarantee the minimum number of games required to establish standings.

#### Round of Sixteen:

- a) If inclement weather (or force majeure) prevents the completion of the Round of Sixteen, this phase may be cancelled. In case of cancellation, the top two (2) teams of each group from the Opening Round shall advance directly to the Quarter Finals.
- b) The eight (8) eliminated teams are placed in the 9th–16th Placement Bracket.

#### Placement Bracket:

- a) If Placement Brackets cannot be played, standings are determined by the Opening Round:
  - 9th: 3rd-place finishers in the Opening Round
  - 13th: 4th-place finishers in the Opening Round

#### Quarter Finals:

- a) If inclement weather (or force majeure) prevents the completion of the Quarter Finals only, the winners of the Round of Sixteen will be placed in order based on their standing in the Opening Round (group winners above runners-up, etc..).
- b) If a) cannot define the four teams advancing to the Semi Finals, all efforts will be made to play the games that will define the Semi Finalists.
- c) The eliminated teams (5th–8th) will be ranked according to their Opening Round standings.

#### Semi Finals:

- a) If inclement weather prevents the staging of the Semi Finals, the four Semi Finalists are ranked according to their Opening Round results, with group winners above runners-up etc..
- b) If a) cannot define the teams playing for the championship game and bronze medal game all efforts will be made to play the games that will define the finalists.

#### Finals (Gold Medal & Bronze Medal Game):

- a) If the Bronze Medal Game cannot be played, both losing Semi Finalists shall be awarded 3rd place (two bronze medals).



- b) If the Gold Medal Game cannot be played, both Finalists shall be declared Co-Champions, with no 2nd place awarded.
- c) If neither Gold nor Bronze Medal Game can be played, the four Semi Finalists are ranked 1st–4th according to their Opening Round results (group winners above runners-up, etc..).



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

- D1.1. 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) Each team is requested to inspect the accommodation upon arrival and, if applicable, prepare a written inspection report highlighting any broken item or missing parts from the premises at Official Team Delegation disposal (i.e. rooms, common areas, restaurant etc..) which shall be sent to the LOC with a copy to the WBSC Office, within forty-eight (48) hours from arrival.
  - b) Each team may request to the LOC a certificate in writing to 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.
  - c) Should any damage or disappearance of property be registered by the LOC, a written invoice 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.
- D1.2. In the event of a claim for damages and/or disappearance of property against a team, the LOC and the WBSC will conduct a complete investigation of the events and propose the corresponding steps to be taken.
- D1.3. Failure to fulfill the stipulations of this Regulation (within forty-eight hours from the end of the competition) shall mean that the LOC loses the right to make any claim for damages or disappearance of property against any offending team and the WBSC.



## **E. OTHER MATTERS**

### **E1. TEAM PRESENTATION**

All team members must wear at all times official game uniform or non-uniform official apparel provided by their National Federation (“team apparel”) at the competition venues. In particular, players and coaches 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 and coaches in dugout during the games, they must wear official team apparel provided by their respective teams or organisations. 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.

### **E2. MEDIA OBLIGATIONS**

On game and workout days, players and coaches shall be present at media interviews and press conference if so requested by the 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 WBSC.

### **E3. NO SMOKING, SMOKELESS TOBACCO OR DRINKING ALCOHOL**

No team member is permitted to smoke tobacco in any form, smoking or chewing, including vaping and e-cigarettes, or drink alcohol, in places that are visible to the public, including audiences on media outlets such as TV, social media and internet streaming, etc. It is the responsibility of the Delegation leader to ensure such smoking or drinking is not seen by the public as long as they are in competition venues and practice facilities as well as other competition official activities. Any violation will be taken seriously, and violators would be subject to disciplinary action as WBSC may deem appropriate. The use of smokeless tobacco is prohibited for team members during televised interviews or appearances. While spectators are permitted into the competition venue, the Delegation leader must ensure that such tobacco or alcohol products (including tobacco tins or packages) are not visible to the audience.



## **F. FINAL DISPOSITIONS**

- F1.1. The Hosting Agreement 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 Agreement.
- F1.2. 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.
- F1.3. Any unforeseen circumstances which arise and are not specified in the WBSC 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 Baseball5 Rules will serve as the primary source of guidance for all WBSC Game Officials and will be interpreted and applied by the WBSC Executive Director.