

MEMORANDUM

for SE Competitions

2024

The games of SE Competitions shall be played in accordance with “WBSC Official Rules of Softball 2022 – 2025” unless otherwise stated here or in SE Competitions Regulations. The Appendices provide additional information on Bats, Disciplinary Regulations and Streaming.

Particular attention is drawn to the following:

1. **ID Control:** As soon as possible after the ID control, each team’s Final Team Roster (containing full names and all uniform numbers) will be posted on the WBSC Europe Competition website.
2. **Contact information:** Each team must provide comprehensive contact details so they can be contacted when necessary.
3. **Schedule:** The Technical Committee reserves the right to change the game schedule during the Competition as appropriate, e.g. in case of problems concerning the weather. The precise order of games in the final Round Robin may be adjusted to reflect TV requirements. TC will publish such changes via the SE website and will promptly refer affected teams to those changes. Visiting teams are shown first in the list of games of the Competition Schedule.
4. **Teams are expected to acknowledge receipt of any notification of schedule changes.**
5. **Submitting Line Ups:** The TC will designate where lineups must be delivered to the SE Official responsible 60 minutes prior to the game. Any change to the line-up between its delivery prior to the game and final confirmation at the plate meeting will be regarded as a substitution unless necessitated by illness or injury during the intervening warm-up period according to **WBSC Official Rules of Softball 2022 – 2025 art.3.2.3.c**
6. **Pitcher Warm-Ups after entering the field:**
Pre-game: A Receiver must always wear a mask when receiving warm-up pitches from a pitcher.
During the game: When it is not possible outside the field, the pitcher and receiver (in FP, with mask) may warm up in foul territory, beyond the dugouts, throwing away from Home Plate. During any IN-GAME warm-ups in foul territory, a safety player (spotter) with a glove must protect them from being hit by a ball.
7. **Team Uniform:** Specific uniform rules are included in **WBSC Official Rules of Softball 2022 – 2025 art. 2.5 and 2.6** and in the **Competitions Regulations art 12..**
 - 7.1. Home team: dark *shirt*, 3rd base dug-out. Visitor team: white / light *shirt*, 1st base dug-out. Teams should bring a sample of each shirt to the TC meeting.
 - 7.2. *Only shirt numbers 1 to 99 are allowed.*
8. **Playing Rules**
 - 8.1. *Only one informal conference between infielders is allowed per inning. Any further conference which delays a pitch will result in a ‘ball’.*
 - 8.2. *Umpires will monitor and control the 60-second period allowed between innings by the use of stopwatch or timer. The plate umpire will indicate as the time expires.*
9. **Communication Equipment**, including mobile phones, computers, tablets, smartphones and smartwatches, may only be used by managers, coaches and players in the dugout for scorekeeping purposes.
10. **Protests:** Protests concerning a game, if not resolved at the field by the UiC / TC, must be handed to the TC in writing no later than 15 minutes post-game. **(CR 13.1 et seq.)**

Appendix 1: Bats used in SE Competitions



Bats used in SE Fastpitch Competitions must have the 2005 ISF Certified Logo or the new WBSC Certified Logo **AND** must appear on the WBSC Approved Batlist:

https://www.wbsc.org/en/documents/se_arch?keyword=bat

SE Slowpitch Competitions Bats may either comply with the WBSC list **or** have an ASA 2013 or USA Softball 2019 Certification Mark **AND** must appear on the ASA Approved Bat list, and **NOT** on the Banned List:

<https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Certified-Equipment/Equipment-Bats>

Slowpitch players are particularly reminded that currently all WBSC World Competition Regulations only allow bats which have an ISF / WBSC stamp **AND** which appear on the WBSC Approved Bats list. We must presume, until informed otherwise, that these Regulations will continue to apply at any future WBSC Slowpitch event.

All players should please carefully check their bats against current lists in advance of each event.

All participating teams must bring to the TC Meeting all the bats they desire to use, listed on a prenumbered Bat Control Form. Each bat should be marked with the number which corresponds to the list (A marker pen or simple paper sticker is sufficient to identify the bat's number) to facilitate an efficient Bat Control process, which will **NOT** commence until the completed list is available to the Bat Check group. All previous SE Approved labels should be removed, any dirt including pine-tar residue must be removed, the model number must be clearly visible and attention should be paid to the taping of the grip.

Bats will not be tested unless on the WBSC Approved Bat List (or the ASA equivalent for Slowpitch). Bats will not be tested if they fail visual inspection for damage, or rattle when shaken. Bats which have a correctable defect (e.g. removal / replacement of an illegal grip or accessory), may be pressure-tested. If they pass this they will be failed only on the defect, which when repaired must be inspected by a TC member, who can authorize the issue of an Approved sticker and amend the Bat List accordingly.

TR 6.2.1: A bat not approved may be retained by the team but must not be brought into the Dugouts at any time during the Competition. Any batter detected using an unlabeled bat will be called OUT and ejected. A bat (other than a warm-up bat) found in the dugout without a label will be considered an Altered Bat and will be removed from the game and the Head Coach will be ejected.

Appendix 2: Disciplinary Procedures

SE Disciplinary Regulations extract:

- 3.1. Infractions during tournaments:
 - 3.1.1. By players, coaches, managers or other team members on the playing field during a game.
 - 3.1.1.1. **Only the umpire crew** can take decisions for infractions on the field during a game. In the case of any ejection of a team member, the umpire will submit a completed SE Ejection Report to the game TC member, who will then determine what minimum sanction, if any, is required by **Table of Game suspensions**.

A technical ejection – for illegal re-entry etc. – will not be grounds for further sanctions under para 3.1.1.

An ejection falling under the category ‘Other Infractions’ may not require further sanction.

The TC member will as soon as possible inform the Manager that the ejected player is subject to the minimum penalty as required by the Appendix and that the incident will be reported to the Technical Commission to determine whether any further sanction is to be applied.

The Report, with a note of the minimum sanction already applied, will then be promptly submitted to the Technical Commission to consider whether any further sanction should be imposed.

(The Commission will take into account the actions of the ejected player/manager following the incident, including reluctance or refusal to go to the specified area upon ejection, or returning to confront the umpire(s) after the game. They will also note whether this was the first or further such incident involving the individual(s) concerned).

If the Commission decides that no further sanction is required, the Manager of the ejected player’s team will be so informed. If a further sanction has been determined, then a written Statement of that sanction will be provided to the manager and player involved.

Within two hours of receiving the Statement, they may request a hearing to appeal against the further sanction applied. This hearing will be chaired by the Executive Commissioner, or SE Commission member present in their place. They may hear from the Technical Commissioner(s), and the ejected player / manager, who may be accompanied by a representative,

There is no appeal against the decision of the Executive Commissioner.

Table of game suspensions:

	Number of games suspension:	
	Minimum	Maximum
Player, coach or team member to another:		
Verbal		
Indecent language	1	2
Insulting language	1	3
Threats	1	4
Inciting spectators to abuse another player	1	3
Physical		
Deliberate contact	1	2
Fights:	2	3
Fights: Actual injury	3	6
Throwing material	1	2
Spitting	2	4
NOTE: Fights during bench clearing will be handled as fights mentioned above		

Player, coach or team member to official:		
Verbal		
Indecent language	1	2
Insulting language	2	3
Threats	2	4
Inciting spectators to abuse officials	1	3
Physical		
Deliberate contact	1	2
Attempted injury	2	3
Actual injury	3	6
Throwing material at a person	2	4
Spitting	2	4

Other infractions		
Disputing judgement calls, Late delivery of line-up, <i>Displaying influence of alcohol, etc.</i>	0	2

If in the TC's judgement the Umpire's Report indicates that the ejection itself was sufficient AND there are no previous incidents on record, OR if the SiC Report on the late delivery of line-ups is the first recorded, an 'Official Warning' may be issued. For repeat infringement(s), the penalty may be increased.

Appendix 3: Streaming Appendix

Electronic Recording of Games at Softball Europe Competitions

1. No person may record a game at a Softball Europe (SE) Competition, whether or not for profit, by any means than in conformity with the provisions of this CR.
2. The Federation of a participating club or national team may receive permission to record one or more games at a Softball Europe Competition. The permission is provided by the Organizers and WBSC Europe if the games are not streamed by them.
3. The following conditions apply to every license granted under this provision:
 - 3.1. Recording equipment may be operated only by accredited personnel called a Team Camera Operator (TCO).
 - 3.2. WBSC Europe shall provide the procedure of accreditation. Chair of TC at such competitions must be informed about the procedure. The Organizer has to provide a list of all accredited media to EC or Chair TC, if EC is not present.
 - 3.3. Recording may be used solely for training and scouting purposes and not broadcast, published, transmitted or used for any other purpose (for example YouTube, TV, Internet, etc.) without written permission of WBSC Europe.
 - 3.4. Videotaping is possible to make from wherever the Organizer permits to do so.
 - 3.5. Videotaping with a tripod is not allowed behind the backstop, behind home plate between 1st and 3rd base and must not cause any disturbance to spectators. Only TC SE can make an exception for electronic broadcasting behind the backstop for National TV, special recording provided by SE or for any other special reason.
 - 3.6. SE or TC at a SE Competition may impose other requirements to ensure compliance with this provision and the Competition Regulation in general.
4. Each violation of the provision shall result in a fine of not less than Euro 2.000 payable by the Affiliated Federation of the team involved or, if the situation warrants, further disciplinary action as appropriate.

=====