

SOCIAL 7s COMPETITION - TEAM TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Definitions

- (a) In these Terms and Conditions:

Competition means any Softball Australia sanctioned Social 7s competition.

Competition Coordinator means the person nominated by the relevant Softball Organisation to administer a Competition.

Equipment & Field Requirements mean the Social 7s equipment and playing field requirements document as published by Softball Australia and amended from time to time.

Game Coordinator means a person delegated authority by the Competition Coordinator to administer a particular game within a Competition.

Game Fees means the fees payable by a Team to the Softball Organisation in consideration for its participation in a Competition.

Participant Application and Declaration means the declaration that individuals must agree to when registering for a Competition.

Social 7s means the new version of softball developed by Softball Australia that provides for social mixed softball Competition.

Softball Organisation means the body conducting a Competition and includes but is not limited to Softball Australia, its Member States and softball clubs, associations, universities and other legal entities with an interest in softball.

Team means a team that intends to or has entered a Competition.

Team Contact means the person registered as such during the Team's registration process for the Competition.

Team Deposit means an amount (if required by the Softball Organisation in its absolute discretion) paid by or invoiced to a Team and payable to the Softball Organisation, prior to playing its first game in a Competition.

2. Team Entries

- (a) Each Team must pay Game Fees to play in a Social 7s Competition.

(i) The Game Fees are set at \$70 per Team per game.

(ii) Where a Softball Organisation incurs significant additional Competition costs, including but not limited to lighting, it may charge additional Game Fees to cover these costs, subject to the prior written consent of Softball Australia.

- (b) The Softball Organisation may, in its sole discretion, choose to capture a Team Deposit from a Team prior to the start of a Competition.

(i) The Softball Organisation has absolute discretion as to the amount (if any) it charges as a Team Deposit.

(ii) A Softball Organisation is not required to capture a Team Deposit.

(iii) Where a Team Deposit is paid by a Team, the Softball Organisation must deduct the amount of the Team Deposit from the total Game Fees payable by the Team for the Competition.

- (c) The Competition Coordinator will notify the Team Contact regarding the Team Deposit and the date Game Fees are due and the method of payment required.

(i) The Team must comply with all payment requirements outlined by the Competition Coordinator.

(ii) Where such payments are not made by the due dates specified by the Competition Coordinator, the Team will be prohibited from participating in any future games in the Competition until such payments are made.

(iii) The Softball Organisation may in its absolute discretion expel a Team from a Competition if it does not comply with this rule.

- (d) Each Team must register with their relevant Competition on the Social 7s website.

(i) A Team is only considered entered into the Competition once they have registered on the Social 7s website.

- (e) A Team may withdraw from a Competition by providing written notice to the Competition Coordinator.

(i) If a Team withdraws more than 7 days prior to the first game of the Competition, they are entitled to a full refund of any Team Deposit paid.

(ii) If a Team withdraws 7 or fewer days prior to the first game of the Competition, no refund of any Team Deposit paid by the Team will be provided.

- (iii) Where a Softball Organisation has invoiced a Team for a Team Deposit but the invoice has not been paid, and the Team withdraws from the Competition 7 or fewer days prior to the first game of the Competition, the Team remains liable to pay the invoice.
- (iv) If a Team withdraws once the Competition has begun, no refund of any Team Deposit paid will be given and no refund of any Game Fees paid for games already played will be given.
- (f) Team registrations may be accepted after the Competition has begun, at the sole discretion of the Competition Coordinator in consultation with Softball Australia.

3. Team Name

- (a) Team names deemed to be offensive or in poor taste (in written form or phonetically) by the Softball Organisation or Softball Australia will not be permitted to be used.
- (b) Where two or more Teams register for a Competition with the same or a very similar name, the Team who registered first will be given preference.
- (c) The approval of Team names is at the sole discretion of the Softball Organisation and Softball Australia.

4. Team Contact

- (a) The Team Contact is considered to be the person whose details are listed when the Team is registered on the Social 7s website.
- (b) The Competition Coordinator must be notified in writing within 3 days if the Team Contact is changed.
- (c) Competition notifications will be sent by the Competition Coordinator to the Team Contact, with email used as the primary form of contact. The Team Contact is required to regularly check their emails. Notifications may include items such as wet weather advice, financial details, disciplinary advice and game notifications.
- (d) The Softball Organisation and Softball Australia are not liable in any circumstances where the Team Contact has not reviewed a notification duly provided by the Softball Organisation or Competition Coordinator.

5. Team Uniforms

- (a) Team members must wear tops of a similar colour, unless otherwise advised by the Competition Coordinator or Softball Organisation (eg. if Social 7s bibs are provided). Clothing must not contain offensive words, slogans or images.

6. Competition Rules

- (a) Games will be governed by the Equipment & Field Requirements and the Competition format as determined by the Softball Organisation under paragraph 7(a).
- (b) The Competition Coordinator or Softball Organisation may amend the Competition format in their sole discretion.
- (c) Where the Competition Coordinator or Softball Organisation amends the Competition format, the Competition Coordinator will notify each Team of all changes prior to the start of the Competition, or if made during a Competition season, as soon as possible after the change is made.
- (d) The Competition Coordinator is responsible for interpreting the Equipment & Field Requirements and the Competition format. Any interpretation made by the Competition Coordinator is final and binding on all Teams in the Competition.

7. Competition Format

- (a) The overall format of the Competition will be as determined by the Softball Organisation and communicated to Teams by the Competition Coordinator, including in relation to:
 - (i) The structure and format of the Competition fixture.
 - (ii) The points awarded for a win, draw, loss, no result, cancellation or forfeit.
 - (iii) The ladder format including the number of Teams eligible to play finals, if finals will be played.
 - (iv) The structure and format of the finals (if any).
 - (v) The method of determining the winning team.
- (b) The Competition Coordinator will ensure that all games are played on a field in compliance with the Equipment & Field Requirements.

- (c) The Competition Coordinator will communicate the fields that will be used in the Competition to the Team Contact during the fixturing process.
- (d) Subject to paragraph 7(b) above, the Softball Organisation or Competition Coordinator may, in their sole discretion, impose rules or amend the Competition format specifically in relation to a particular field
- (e) Fixturing of games is the responsibility of the Competition Coordinator. Requests for the scheduling of games at a specific time may be made by a Team to the Competition Coordinator; however the Competition Coordinator is under no obligation to fulfil the request.
- (f) In the event of bad weather, prior to a game the Competition Coordinator will decide if the game proceeds. Once a game has commenced, the Competition Coordinator or, where delegated by the Competition Coordinator, a Game Coordinator may decide to suspend or cancel a game.
 - (i) Where a game has been cancelled due to bad weather, the Competition Coordinator may choose to reschedule a game, subject to agreement on the time and date from both Teams.
- (g) The Competition Coordinator in his or her absolute discretion may suspend, postpone or cancel a scheduled game at any time.
- (h) During a game, the Game Coordinator is the sole judge of interpretation and application of the Equipment & Field Requirements and the Competition format. The decisions of the Game Coordinator or Competition Coordinator about any fact connected with the game are final and cannot be disputed by either Team. There will be no protests of any decisions made. A Game Coordinator or Competition Coordinator may change a decision if he or she realises that decision is incorrect.

8. Forfeits

- (a) A minimum of two players are required for a Team to be eligible to play a game.
- (b) If a Team does not have at least two players ready to play within 10 minutes after the scheduled starting time of a game, they will forfeit.
- (c) A Team may forfeit a game prior to the start of the game, by notifying the Competition Coordinator in writing.
 - (i) If the Team advises the Competition Coordinator at least 48 hours' prior to the starting time of the relevant game, the Team will not be liable to pay game fees for that game.
 - (ii) If the Team advises the Competition Coordinator less than 48 hours' prior to the starting time of the relevant game, the Team will be liable to pay game fees for that game, at the sole discretion of the Competition Coordinator.
- (d) If a Team has two or more forfeits during a Competition, the Competition Coordinator may choose to remove that Team from the Competition. Where a Team is removed from the Competition, it shall have no recourse to appeal such a decision.

9. Player Eligibility

- (a) All participating players must be registered to play on the Social 7s website prior to taking the diamond, including agreeing to the Participant Application and Declaration.
 - (i) A Team who is found to have played an unregistered player will forfeit that game or games.
 - (ii) Unregistered players will not be covered by any Softball Australia insurance policy for that game or games.
 - (iii) Any player who has not agreed to the Participant Application and Declaration will automatically be deemed unregistered.
- (b) A player must not play for more than one Team in any single Competition, unless approved by the Competition Coordinator. Where a Team breaches this rule it will forfeit the relevant game or games.
- (c) The Competition Coordinator will determine the eligibility requirements for players to compete in finals for that Competition, at the sole discretion of the Competition Coordinator and Softball Organisation.
- (d) The Competition Coordinator has the right to determine the minimum age of a participant for a Competition.

10. Discipline

- (a) Teams are subject at all times to Softball Australia and Softball Organisation rules, regulations, policies and codes of conduct, as amended from time to time.
- (b) A Team shall be responsible for the conduct of its players and supporters at or in the vicinity of any game in which the Team is playing.
- (c) The Competition Coordinator has the right to enact disciplinary measures on a Team or individual, in accordance with any relevant Softball Australia policy.
- (d) During a game, the Game Coordinator has the right to enact disciplinary measures, including but not limited to ejecting a player from a game, or calling a game off and penalising the offending Team with a forfeit, in line with any relevant Softball Australia policy.

11. Safety

- (a) The Game Coordinator (or Competition Coordinator) must ensure that any player who suffers an injury or wound leaves the diamond immediately for the purpose of receiving medical attention.
- (b) The Game Coordinator (or Competition Coordinator) may allow the injured player to re-join the game if satisfied the wound has been safely covered and contained.
- (c) If a player is wearing any equipment that may endanger him or herself, or any other player, the player must remove such equipment where requested by the Game Coordinator (or Competition Coordinator).