



1. SOFTBALL IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP

1.1 The Softball Ireland National Club Championships will be played ordinarily between the winners of the 2019 Softball Leinster Premier Division Winners and the Softball Ulster League Winners as nominated by their respective Committees.

1.2 Player Eligibility

- 1.2.1 A player is eligible to represent a club in the SINCC if they meet the following Criteria:
- The Player is a paid-up member of his/her Region and is registered with Softball Ireland through their Region
 - At the date the Player registered with the Club there was at least three games (excluding playoffs) still to be played
 - The Player has played in at least Four (4) League Games for the Club in the 2019 Season (these appearances may be shared across teams within the club)
- 1.2.2 Each club must submit a roster with a maximum of 30 Players listed by no later than **1700 on Friday September 6, 2019** – this roster will then be circulated to both Teams (and Regional Chairpersons on September 7, 2019)
- 1.2.3 60 minutes before the start of the SINCC Tournament, each Captain will be required to complete a roster of all Players (to a maximum of 18) to the Tournament Commissioner and Umpire.
- 1.2.4 The Captain will sign the Roster and confirm each Player is eligible to participate in SINCC
- 1.2.5 If a Player takes the field who is not eligible to participate and subsequently the opposition Team submits a successful protest, the offending team will be penalized by the awarding of a 7-0 Win to the opposition.
- 1.2.6 If a Player suspects the eligibility of a Player, a formal protest must be lodged with the Tournament Commission prior to the completion of the Game, any protest must be accompanied by €50 protest fee which is returnable if the protest is upheld.

1.3 Playing Rules

- 1.3.1 Home team will be decided by the toss of a coin
- 1.3.2 WBSC Slow Pitch Rules - <http://www.wbsc.org/wp-content/uploads/ENGLISH-2018-2021-Slow-Pitch-Softball-Playing-Rules-A4.pdf>
- 1.3.3 In SINCC competitions, teams may opt to play with a gender split of 5&5 or 6&4 (or 6&6 or 7&5 if applying the extra player rule), This allows 6 men and 4 Women or 6 Women and 4 Men, under the conditions as listed in **APPENDIX ONE**.
- 1.3.4 The Runs Ahead Rule will be applied, for the avoidance of any doubt the Runs Ahead Rule is set out as follows:
- **20 Runs after Four Innings**
 - **15 Runs after Five Innings**
- 1.3.5 Bases will be set at 65 Feet
- 1.3.6 Fences will be 275 Feet
- 1.3.7 Balls – 12 Inch .52/300 for men & 11".44/375 for women



1.4 Playing Uniforms

- 1.4.1 All Players must wear identical playing tops
- 1.4.2 All Players must have a number on their jersey

APPENDIX ONE

- a) When playing equal ratio of Men and Women or with more men, Women must alternate through the batting order. For example, playing 5 men and 5 women batting at either: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 or 1, 3, 5, 7, 9. When playing 6 men and 4 women they must play in the spots 2, 4, 6, 8 or 1, 3, 5, 7.
- b) When playing with more women than Men, Men must alternate through the batting order. When playing 6 women and 4 men the Men must play in the spots 2, 4, 6, 8 or 1, 3, 5, 7.
- c) When playing the extra player rule players must continue to alternate in similar manner to (a) and (b).
- d) When fielding there must be at least two females in the outfield and two in the infield, unless a team plays under the short hand rule and the missing player is female. In this case the team must play with two females in the infield, one female in the outfield and one vacant position in the outfield.
- e) Any substitute must be of the same gender as the substituted player.
- f) If a player is playing under the shorthand rule then the missing player becomes an automatic out in the last position for that gender in the batting order.
- g) When playing 6 Men and 4 Women the catcher must be male but there is no requirement that the pitcher must be female. Pitcher counts as an infield position.
- h) A male batter who is walked will be awarded only 1 base if another male follows him in the batting order.
- i) When playing under the short hand rule, a male batter who is walked will be awarded only 1 base if he is followed by an automatic out (even if the automatic out should have been a female player).
- j) A team must complete the game with the same gender split it started with

Colum Lavery
Softball Ireland President
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