

**SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL
NATIONAL INTER-SCHOOL SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017**

1. Rules and Regulations

- 1.1 All matches shall be played according to the current Official Softball Rules as adopted by the International Softball Federation (ISF)(2014-2017) except where otherwise stated and the Rules and Regulations of the Singapore Schools Sports Council.
- 1.2 All games shall adhere to the Baseline Safety Standards for National School Games

2. Competition Organising Committee

2.1 Composition

2.1.1 The Competition Organising Committee shall consist of the following:-

The National Convenor,
The Game Adviser,
The Zone Convenors,
The Tournament ICs, and
Any other co-opted members deemed necessary.

2.1.2 The Competition Organising Committee and the Zone Convenors are empowered to appoint sub-committees and individual members to assist in the organisation and running of the competitions as and when required.

2.2 Duties

The Championship Organizing Committee shall have the following roles and responsibilities:-

- 2.2.1 to draw fixtures
- 2.2.2 to fix venues, dates and times
- 2.2.3 to arrange for equipment and facilities, and perform any other tasks for conducting the championships
- 2.2.4 to conduct RAMS for the championships (for the identified 6 sports/games viz. basketball, judo, football, rugby, taekwondo and hockey, RAMS must be conducted twice a year)
- 2.2.5 to ensure that venue managers' conduct RAMS for the respective championships venues
- 2.2.6 to appoint judges/referees/umpires/linesman
- 2.2.7 to organize training/upgrading officiating courses for judges/referees/umpires/linesman
- 2.2.8 to incur expenditure within the allocated budget approved by the SSSC
- 2.2.9 to select players to represent SSSC in approved local and overseas championships; and also to appoint coaches to take charge of the teams
- 2.2.10 to nominate players for SSSC's Colours Award
- 2.2.11 to deal with matters pertaining to discipline, protest and other aspects of the championship; and
- 2.2.12 to source for coaching and officiating courses to upgrade the technical knowledge and expertise of teachers

2.2.13 to implement the Baseline Safety Standards in the organization of the National School Games.

2.2.14 **Tournament ICs have to ensure that the umpires/officials are present to fulfil their duties as scheduled.**

3. Division

3.1 All students shall compete in their respective divisions according to their year of birth as follows:

A Division* -

2 Jan 1995 - 31 Dec 1995

1 Jan 1996 - 31 Dec 1996

1 Jan 1997 - 31 Dec 1997

1 Jan 1998 - 31 Dec 1998

1 Jan 1999

Requires input from
PESOEB

B Division* -

2 Jan 1998 --- 31 Dec 1998

1 Jan 1999 --- 31 Dec 1999

1 Jan 2000 - 31 Dec 2000

1 Jan 2001

C Division* -

2 Jan 2001 - 31 Dec 2001

1 Jan 2002 - 31 Dec 2002

1 Jan 2003

Except for the following conditions:

3.1.1 All students in the Junior Colleges and Centralized Institute must compete in the 'A' Division.

3.1.2 Year 1 to Year 4 students in the Integrated Programme (i.e. Through-Train Programme) and International Baccalaureate Programme will compete in their respective age group. Those in Year 5 (equivalent to JC 1) and Year 6 (equivalent to JC 2) must compete in the 'A' Division.

3.1.3 All students in Secondary Schools must compete in the 'B' or 'C' Division according to their year of birth.

3.1.4 All students in Secondary Schools not born in the stipulated year for 'B' or 'C' Division must compete in the 'A' Division.

3.1.5 All students in the 'C' Division will not be able to opt to represent the school in the 'B' Division, in all individual and team sports/games from 2012.

4. Entries

4.1 Each school is eligible to enter one boys'/girls' team for:

- i the A Division
- ii the B Division
- iii the C Division

- 4.2 The game of softball will be organised at National Level.
- 4.3 All entries must be received by the National Convenor concerned on or before the stipulated closing date. Entries may be faxed to the National Convenor.
- 4.4 The registration forms of players must be received by the Convenor concerned on or before the stipulated closing date which must be at least three (3) working days before commencement of the competition. Registration forms should be submitted together with clear photo-copy of students EZ link or any identification documents with photos. Schools are required to submit a scanned copy of the ezlink/ identification documents via email or by hand to ensure that the documents can be easily verified.
- 4.5 The registration forms must be **type written** and include the following particulars:
- a) Full Name as in NRIC / Student pass
 - b) Date of Birth
 - c) NRIC No. or Student Pass No.
 - d) Race
 - e) Nationality
 - f) Baseline Acknowledgement Form

5. Registration of Players.

- 5.1 **Each team shall register a minimum of 9 and up to a maximum of 17 players.**
- 5.2 The date of posting in the Joint Admission Exercise (JAE) of students announced by MOE shall be the day in which a student would be deemed as a bona fide member of the school or JC or CI.
- 5.3 Students requesting for a transfer after the Joint Admission Exercise may not represent their new school until the transfer has been officially effected.
- 5.4 **Only** in the event that any of the player(s) registered is/are transferred or has/have to leave school during the preliminary rounds, schools shall be allowed to replace the affected player(s).
- 5.4.1 Schools (At least a HOD) must write in to inform the Tournament IC of the replacement **at least one (1) working day before the next match.** Players can only be fielded once approval is given by the Tournament IC.
- 5.4.2 However, no replacement of player is allowed once the competition reaches the semi-final stage or after 2 games have been played by a team in a single group round robin league.
- 5.5 If a school chooses not to register the maximum number of players allowed at the time of submitting the registration form to the Convenor, the school shall not be permitted to register additional players subsequently.
- 5.6 International students can only be registered to play for their school after they have been issued with the student passes by the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority.

- 5.7 International students who are in the schools/junior colleges/centralised institute on exchange programme are not allowed to represent the school.
- 5.8 Students granted Leave of Absence (LOA) by MOE will be allowed to represent the school.
- 5.9 Registration constitutes representation, that is, once a student is registered to play for a school/junior college/centralised institute, he or she is deemed to have represented his or her school/junior college/centralised institute. Hence, the student is not allowed to represent another school/junior college/centralised institute in the game of softball.
- 5.10 Before the start of all games, teams are to exchange registration and photocopies of EZ link. The documents will be returned to teams at the end of the game. All players are required to produce valid identification documents with photos when required.**

6. Competition Format

- 6.1 There must be a minimum of **three (3)** registered **teams** from **three (3) different schools** before a team competition can be organised.
- 6.2 The competitions at the preliminary rounds shall be organised on an inter- school league. Where entries are grouped, each group shall have a minimum of **four (4)** teams.
- 6.3 For the semi-finals, the champion and runner-up of each group shall enter into a criss-cross competition. The winner of group 1 will meet the runner-up of group 2 and vice-versa.
- 6.4 The winners of the two semi-finals shall then play at the final to decide the champion and runner-up. The losers of the two semi-finals will play for 3rd and 4th positions.
- 6.5 Any deviation from the competition format requires approval from the Council or the Standing Committee.

6.6 Pitching Distance

DIV	A	B	C
BOYS	46 ft	46 ft	40 ft
GIRLS	43 ft	40 ft	38 ft

6.7 Equipment

- 6.7.1 **Game Ball** - All Official Softball (**ISF or ASA approved, White or Yellow (leather) or SBSA yellow leather all**) shall be used. Each team shall provide a new game ball at the start of each game.
- 6.7.2 **Helmets** - All batters and base-runners must wear protective helmets. **Batting Helmet to include face guard.** **Fielders are to put on masks.** Exception is made for Sikh

- students with turbans. All students who act as base coaches in the Coach Box must also wear helmets.
- 6.7.3 **Catchers** - All catchers must use the Catcher's Helmet, Body Protector, Throat Guard and Leg Guards.

- 6.7.4 *Bats* - *Bats to have the stamp of ISF 2005.*

6.8 **Playing Attire**

- 6.8.1 All teams must play in proper Softball attires. The attire should bear the school logo/badge or name.
- 6.8.2 Each player of the same team must wear the same kind and same colour of jerseys and slacks or shorts. Players without numbers will not be allowed to play.
- 6.8.3 Footwear with metal cleats or studs is not allowed.
- 6.8.4 No player may play bare-footed or without proper socks.
- 6.8.5 Playing uniform must be numbered. Only numbers 1 / 01 to 99 shall be used. The number must be at least 6 inches high and must be worn on the back of all uniform shirts.
- 6.8.6 Caps are strongly encouraged.

6.9 **Number of Innings & Games Rules**

- 6.9.1 No new inning shall start after 1hour 50 minutes. If an inning is on-going at 1h 50minutes and the bottom batting team is leading, the game will be stopped after the top batting team has completed batting. If the bottom batting team is lagging, the game will be stopped after the bottom batting team has taken the lead. The result will be based on the score after the game is stopped.
- 6.9.2 All National Level Semi-Final games shall be played up to the 5th Innings with no time limit except under 6.9.5 when the run ahead rule is applied.
- 6.9.3 In the event of weather disruption, the one hour OR three innings rule will apply. For example, if the teams completed 3 innings after 40 minutes before being called off, the result will stand. Similarly, if the teams could only complete 2 innings but have played more than 1 hour before being called off, the result will also stand. In this situation, result will be based on the last completed innings. The ONLY EXCEPTION will be if the team batting during the bottom 3 order takes the lead, then the winning score will stand. However, this rule will not apply for finals and semi-finals.
- 6.9.4 In the event of weather disruption and the game has not met the one hour OR three innings rule, the maximum official waiting time is 60 minutes before the umpire can call off the game.
- 6.9.4.1 **Both Hosting and Visiting Team must have someone in their team who has the NEA apps on lightning alert.** In the case of lightning alert, the game should be stopped immediately if the alert is activated. If the game is resumed and there is a 2nd lightning alert, the game will be called off.

- 6.9.4.2 In other cases such as ground condition, the umpire will make the decision of stopping or calling off the game. If there is any dispute, the venue manager should consult the tournament IC to make the final decision.
 - 6.9.4.3 The score, innings, batting line-ups from both teams, runner(s) position, pitch counts and outs are to be recorded for disrupted games. The games to be replayed will continue from the scores, innings, and batting line-ups from both teams, runner position, pitch counts and outs recorded from the disrupted games.
 - 6.9.4.4 The waiting time for semi and finals will be at the discretion of the tournament ICs.
- 6.9.5 The 'run ahead rule' will apply in the spirit of sportsmanship when the difference in score is at least 20 runs at 2nd inning or at least 15 runs at 3rd inning or at least 10 runs at 4th inning.
- 6.9.6 In the event of a draw after the time limit, a tie breaker will be played the following inning after 1 hour 50 minutes.

6.10 Hosting and Visiting Teams.

- 6.10.1 The first named team shall be the Hosting Team and shall provide the Official Scorer. The Hosting Team shall provide the playing field for the game. If the Hosting Team does not have a proper playing field in their school, then the Visiting Team (the second named team) shall provide the playing field in their school. If both Hosting and Visiting Team does not have a playing field in their schools, the Hosting Team will have to look for an alternative playing field (in another school).
- 6.10.2 The Hosting Team shall provide pitch that is **safe and fit for play**. The Hosting Team shall be responsible for the proper layout of the Diamond and shall provide the full set of bases, the Pitcher's Plate and the Home Plate. The Hosting team shall make the necessary arrangement for information on the **Lightning Warning System** at the venue.
- 6.10.3 The Hosting Team shall inform the Tournament IC the results of the game immediately after the match via sms and shall fax in the Official Score sheet to the Tournament IC by the next working day.
- 6.10.4 Schools and Colleges that are without a home-ground must look for one on their own. However, they could have the option to play at the opponents' ground.
- 6.10.5 The Visiting Team shall be given at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time of the game for warming-up on the Diamond. **No warming-up on Diamond if there is no permanent markings.**
- 6.10.6 The choice of the first or last to bat shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
- 6.10.7 Teams are to make their own arrangements for refreshments.

6.11 Umpires

6.11.1 The Tournament ICs will assign umpires for all games. Schools do not have the option of selecting umpires to referee their games.

6.11.2 The umpire shall submit the Game Report to the Convenor directly or through the Umpire Coordinator for abandoned games not due to weather or ground conditions.

6.11.3 The Plate Umpire can decide whether the game should be suspended or terminated. The teacher IC may request for game suspension if there are safety concerns. If there are disputes between the teams, the umpire will make the decision based on majority from input from umpire and the 2 teachers in-charge from 2 teams.

6.11.4 “On deck batters” are to be behind the batter in the box for safety reasons

6.12 Venue for the Semi-Finals and Finals.

All National Level semi-finals and finals will be played off at venues and dates decided upon by the National Softball Sub-Committee.

6.13 Violation and Penalties

6.13.1 If a fielder with deliberate unsportsmanlike intent, act in a manner to distract the batter, he/she shall be EJECTED from the game/ premise (ISF Rule 6 Sec 4).

6.13.2 External Instructors who make disparaging, or insulting remarks to, or about, opposing players, umpires, officials, or spectators or commits other acts that could be considered unsportsmanlike conduct shall be

- a) For the first offence, the offender may be warned.
- b) For the second offence, or if the first offence is considered serious enough by the umpire, the offender is EJECTED from the game. (ISF Rule 10 Sec 9)

7. Grace Period

Fifteen minutes (15 min) grace is allowed with approval from the convenor. The Convenor or his representative may at his discretion extend this grace period if he/she thinks the extension of grace period is justifiable (eg. in special cases when delay may be caused by traffic jams, floods, etc). However, the team concerned must contact the Convenor or his/her representative at the venue concerned to inform him/her of the delay. Teams must abide by the decision of the Convenor or his/her representative.

8. Postponement

8.1 The National Convenor or his representative shall at his/her discretion decide to postpone a match if he/she thinks the venue is unfit for play or for any other valid reasons for which he deems a postponement is in order.

9. Withdrawals and Walk-over

9.1 Any withdrawal or walk-over is considered contrary to the spirit of the game.

9.2 Schools participating in the competition should not withdraw or give walk-over.

9.3 For each withdrawal or walk-over, a written explanation duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Convenor within two (2) working days. A copy is to be sent to the Softball Adviser.

9.4 In play-off for top 4 placing, any walk-over will disqualify the team from placing.

9.5 In any withdrawal or walk over situation, the team concerned will be disqualified from the whole tournament and the results for previous games involving the team will not be taken into account

10. Abandoned Games

10.1 The umpire/match manager is required to submit a written report on an abandoned game within one (1) working day to the Convenor directly or through the Umpire Coordinator.

10.2 If, after the game has begun, one side refuses to continue to play which results in an abandoned game, the team will be disqualified as stated in Section 9.

10.3 When the Plate Umpire decides to abandon a game due to ground or weather conditions, the **games should be played within 2 days of the actual game**. If the game is postponed again or teams are scheduled to play a game on that day, the game will have to be played on the following day where there are no other games arranged. For example, if a game is postponed on Mon, the game will have to be played on Wed. If the game is postponed again or teams have a game on Wed, the game will have to be played on Thur followed by Fri, Sat (1/2 Day) and so on. No games will be played on Sun or Public Holiday.

10.4 For any postpone games, the Home Team will inform the Tournament IC and the umpire coordinator of the change immediately after the postponement via sms.

11. Protests

11.1 Any clarification on points of laws/rules, must be lodged immediately by the teacher-in-charge **only** to the referee/umpire. Any decision taken by the referee/umpire will be final.

11.2 All protests shall be referred to the Championship Organizing Committee. The protest(s) must reach the Tournament IC within **one (1)** working day following the match to which it relates unless stipulated otherwise in the respective games rules.

The protest must be in writing and duly signed by the principal. Copies must also be sent to the Softball Advisor and National Convenor. A protest fee of one hundred and fifty dollars plus GST* will be charged. If the protest is upheld, the protest fee will not be required. If it overruled, the protest fee of \$150 plus GST* will be deducted from the protesting school's account, via IFAAS.

- 11.3 If a team decides to protest, a Notice of Protest shall be made known to the Umpire concerned as well as the opposing team at the time of the protest. The team protesting is required to inform the tournament IC immediately on the intent to protest via phone. Protests shall not be received, or considered, if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire, or if the team lodging the protest won the game (ISF Rule 11 sec 1). Please refer to Annex E for examples of protest that will not be received or will be received.
- 11.4 All necessary information (Time of Protest, Brief Description of Issue) must be noted at the back of the the Official Score-sheet and signed by both teacher in charge of the teams making the protest as well as the umpire. The umpire will put up games irregularity report at the end of the game and forward the report to the umpire coordinator.
- 11.5 The Competition Organising Committee will meet to deliberate on the protest within **seven (7)** working days. The decision will then be made known in writing to the school concerned.
- 11.6 In the event that the National and Zonal Championship Organizing Committees are involved in a protest, the affected school concerned will inform the SSSC Secretary and shall not be involved in any further deliberations on the matter.

12 Appeal

- 12.1 Upon the release/disclosure of the decision of the Competition Organising Committee, **only** schools may appeal to the Council.
- 12.2 Notice of appeal shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Zone/Main Council within **two (2)** working days upon receiving the Competition Organising Committee's Decision. The appeal must be in writing duly signed by the principal and accompanied by an appeal fee of \$300.
- 12.3 Upon receiving the notice of appeal from the school, the appeal fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) plus GST* will be deducted from the school's account via IFAAS.
- 12.4 The Board of Appeal will deliberate on the appeal. The decision of the Board of Appeal shall be final. (Please refer to Annex)

13. Suspension

A player suspended by any of the following bodies is barred from participating in any capacity for the period of suspension.

- i. The school
- ii. The Zone Sports Council

- iii. The Singapore Schools Sports Council
- iv The Singapore Softball Association.

14. Award of League Points

14.1 Ranking shall be decided by the number of league points scored.

14.2 The following scoring system shall apply:

- i 2 points for a win
- ii 1 point for a loss
- iii 0 point for conceding a walk-over

15. Tie in League Points

15.1 In the event of a tie in league points between two teams, the team which had won the match between the two teams concerned would be ranked higher.

15.2 When there is a tie among 3 or more teams, the teams will be ranked in order of the runs against record in the games among themselves, the team with the lowest run against record is ranked first. (Runs against record is the total number of runs scored by the specified opponents of that team). If there is still a tie, the rank order will be based on run for among the 3 teams.

15.3 *If the three teams remain tied in their records among themselves, the teams will then be ranked in order of the total run against record in the group, followed by the total run for record in the group, i.e. their overall performance with other teams within the group will be taken into consideration.*

16 Prizes

The number of prizes and plaques (for team championships only) to be awarded shall be as follows:

3 teams	-	2 Team Prizes
4 teams	-	3 Team Prizes
5 teams	-	4 Team Prizes

17. Teacher in charge of team.

17.1 Each participating team must be accompanied by a teacher who shall remain with the team throughout the game.

17.2 Teachers-in-charge are not allowed to interfere with the final decision taken by the umpire on points of laws/rules after clarification has been sought. If such interference results in disruption of any match/game, a report shall be made by the Convenor and the matter brought to the attention of the Competition Organising Committee for appropriate action.

- 17.3 The teacher-in-charge shall be an Education Officer or a Contract Adjunct Teacher only.

18. External Instructors

- 18.1 External instructors are expected to conduct themselves with decorum during competitions.
- 18.2 External instructors are not allowed to approach the game officials to query their decisions. Only teachers-in-charge are allowed to approach game officials to seek clarifications.
- 18.3 Schools must ensure that their external instructors adhere to the SSSC Rules and Regulations.
- 18.4 External instructors may be dismissed from the game for unacceptable conduct at the discretion of the umpires.
- 18.5 External instructor who has breached any of the rules and the school which engaged him/her, will be referred to the respective Competition Organising Committee by the respective convenors for appropriate action to be taken.

19. Supporters

- 19.1 Schools sending supporters to any competition shall ensure that there are sufficient teachers on duty to maintain discipline and ensure cleanliness of their respective areas.
- 19.2 Student supporters should be in their school approved attire.
- 19.3 Supporters are barred from the team bench.

20 Disqualification

A school will be disqualified if it commits any of the following:

- a) fielding overaged student
- b) fielding unregistered player
- c) fielding student without a valid student pass
- d) fielding a non-bona-fide student
- e) team/participant not accompanied by teacher
- f) team/participant which caused a game/match to be abandoned

All results involving the team which has been disqualified will be considered null and void.

21. Matters not provided for

All matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be dealt with by the National Softball Sub-Committee.

22. Amendments

The Singapore Schools Sports Council shall have the right to delete, add or amend the Rules and Regulations laid down herein.

**SOFTBALL SUB-COMMITTEE
SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL**

SN	EFFECTIVE DATE	AMENDMENTS	REMARKS
1.	12 Jan 10	3.1, 5.4.1, 5.11, 6.9.1, 6.9.4, 6.9.5, 6.10.2, 12.2, 20.3	
2.	20 Jan 10	6.9.1	
3.	1 Jul 2010	3.1, 4.4, 6.9.2, 6.9.4 and 6.9.5 Removal of 5.11	
4.	13 Jan 2011	1, 3.1, 6.6, 6.8.6, 6.9.3, 6.9.5, 6.9.6, 6.11.4	
5.	13 Sep 2011	1.1, 1.2, 2.1.1, 2.2.11, 2.2.12, 3.1, 3.15, 4.5f, 6.9.4, 6.11.4, 9.5, 10.4, 11.3, 11.4, 11.6, 11.7, 12.3, 15.2, 17.3, 20.1, 20.2	
6.	9 Jan 2013	3.1, 6.9.4, 11.2, 11.4, 12.3	
7.	11 Dec 2013	2.2.14, 5.1, 6.7.1, 6.7.2, 6.10.5, 10.3, Annex A (3 to 7 teams)	
8.	24 Oct 2014	1.1, 6.7.1, 6.9.4, 6.9.5, 6.9.6, 6.11.2, 6.13.1, 20.2, 20.3	
9.	6 Jan 2016	6.7.2, 6.7.4, 15.3, (19, 20, 21, 22 – re-numbering)	
10.	4 Jan 2017	6.7.2, 6.11.4	

- *New changes in red. Items in blue are items to be highlighted.*

Link to ISF Rule :

<http://www.internationals softball.com>

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

- 6.3 The championships at the preliminary rounds for Team Sports/Games shall be organized on an inter-school league. Where entries are grouped, **each group shall have a minimum of four (4) teams.**

Groupings for 3 to 11 participating teams

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B	Remarks
3 to 7 teams	3 to 7		The championship will be played in a one group round robin format. The top 4 teams will qualify for page system*.
8 teams	4	4	Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
9 teams	4	5	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
10 teams	5	5	Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
11 teams	5	6	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.

Groupings for 12 to 15 participating teams

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B	Remarks
12 teams	6	6	Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
13 teams	6	7	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
14 teams	7	7	Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.

15 teams	7	8	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
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OR

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B	Group C	Remarks
12 teams	4	4	4	Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
13 teams	4	4	5	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
14 teams	4	5	5	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
15 teams	5	5	5	Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.

Groupings for 16 or more participating teams

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Remarks
16 teams	4	4	4	4	Convenor may draw to determine the number of teams per group. Except for the seeded teams, grouping will be determined by drawing of lots. The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the next round.
17 teams	4	4	4	5	
18 teams	4	4	5	5	
19 teams	4	5	5	5	
20 teams	5	5	5	5	
21 teams	5	5	5	6	
22 teams	5	5	6	6	
23 teams	5	6	6	6	
24 teams	6	6	6	6	
25 teams	6	6	6	7	
26 teams	6	6	7	7	
27 teams	6	7	7	7	
28 teams	7	7	7	7	

SEEDING

For two-group championship format

The champion and the fourth teams of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group A. The runner-up and the third teams of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group B.

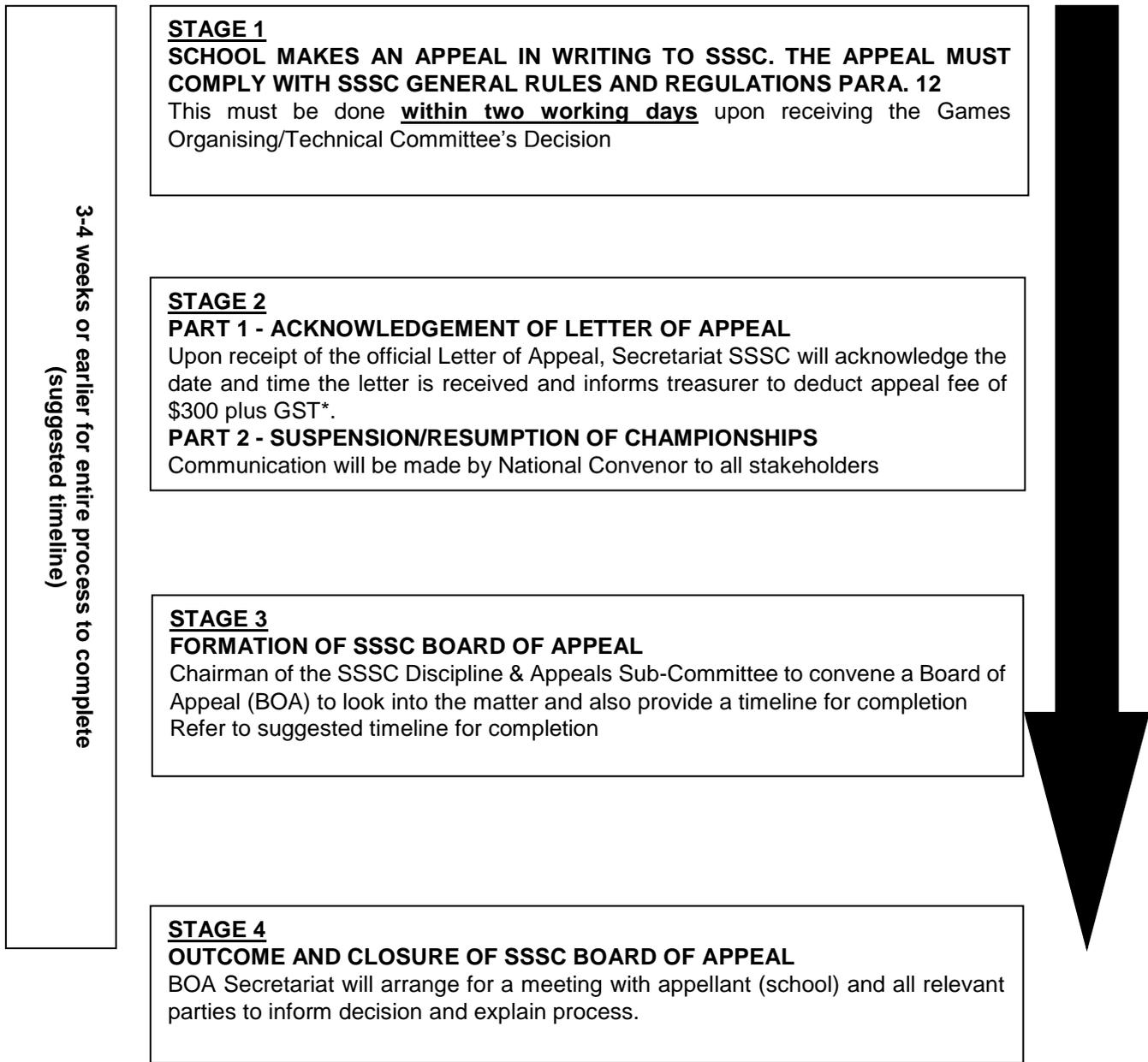
For three-group championship format

The champion of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group A, the runner-up and third placed teams in Group B and Group C respectively. In the event that one of the seeded team withdraws from the tournament, the fourth placed team of the preceding tournament will be seeded.

For four-group championship format

The champion of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group A, the runner-up, third placed and the fourth placed teams in Group B, Group C and Group D respectively.

**SSSC PROCEDURE FOR APPEALS
WORKFLOW**



As in accordance with the SSSC General Rules and Regulations under para.12, the decision of the Board of Appeal or the Standing Committee shall be absolute.

ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN-CHARGE

The teacher in-charge will represent the school on all matters pertaining to the administration and organisation of the tournament. He/She will do the following:

- to ensure good attendance during practice
- to take follow-up actions on absenteeism of members
- to co-ordinate training sessions with the external instructor
- to monitor and take stock of sports equipment
- to attend meetings called by the game convenor
- to submit team list
- to be responsible for the accuracy of the players' particulars in the entry forms and ensure that the pupils are not placed in the wrong division.
- to liaise between the Organising Committee (convenor school) and the Principal (school)
- to check the fixtures and schedules
- to make transport arrangements for the teams
- to accompany the schools teams for all competitions
- to remain with the team throughout the duration of play
- to be responsible for the conduct and behaviour of the external instructor, players and supporters
- to represent the school in matters pertaining to appeals/protests (as required by the sport/game)
- to accompany pupils at disciplinary board meeting
- to ensure that the team is medically covered e.g. first aid kit

External Instructors Employed by Schools

- a) External instructors are expected to conduct themselves well in carrying out their duties.
- b) They are to observe the rules and regulations of the school.
- c) They should not replace the role of the teacher in-charge.
- d) They will prepare the training schedule for the team, in consultation with the Principal and the teacher in-charge (i.e. 30-week programme)
- e) They are not allowed into the competition area except where the rule of the game requires the presence of the instructor e.g. Softball.
- f) They cannot represent the school in any matters.
- g) They must not interfere with the organisation of the tournament.
- h) They are not allowed to approach the game officials to query their decisions. Only teachers' in-charge are allowed to approach game officials to seek clarifications.
- i) External instructors violating the above rules will be asked to leave the competition arena.
- j) Action will be taken against the school if the external instructors fail to comply with the tournament rules.
- k) The onus for the external instructors to adhere to the above rules and to be well versed with the competition rules amended to meet the needs of our pupils' lies with the school concerned.
- l) Ensure that the team has adequate rest and given water breaks.
- m) Instructors should refrain from using foul language or in a tone not becoming of proper behaviour.

ISF Rule on Protest

Sec. 1. PROTESTS THAT WILL NOT BE RECEIVED.

Protests shall not be received, or considered, if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire, or if the team lodging the protest won the game.

Examples of protest that will not be considered are

- a. Whether a batted ball was fair, or foul.
- b. Whether a runner was safe, or out.
- c. Whether a pitched ball was a strike, or a ball.
- d. Whether a pitch was legal, or illegal.
- e. Whether a runner did, or did not, touch a base.
- f. Whether a runner left the base too soon on a caught fly ball.
- g. Whether a fly ball was, or was not, caught legally.
- h. Whether it was, or was not, an Infield Fly.
- i. Whether there was, or was not, an interference.
- j. Whether there was, or was not, an obstruction.
- k. Whether a player, or live ball, did or did not, enter a dead ball area, or touch some object or person in a dead ball area.
- l. Whether a batted ball did, or did not, clear the fence in flight.
- m. Whether the field is fit to continue, or resume, play.
- n. Whether there is sufficient light to continue play.
- o. Any other matter involving only the accuracy of the umpire's judgment.

Sec. 2. PROTESTS THAT WILL BE RECEIVED.

Protests that shall be received and considered include matters of the following types

- a. Misinterpretation of a playing rule.
- b. Failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule to a given situation.
- c. Failure to impose the correct penalty for a given violation.

NOTE: 1. Protests for the above must be made before the next pitch, or before all infielders have left fair territory or, if on the last play of the game, before the umpires leave the playing field.

2. After one pitch has been thrown (legal or illegal), no change can be made on any umpire's ruling.

- d. Eligibility of a team roster member.

NOTE: Protests for the above are to be submitted to the appropriate authority (not the umpires) and may be made at any time, subject to the provisions of Rule 11 Section 5.

Sec. 3. PROTESTS INVOLVING JUDGEMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF RULE.

Protests may involve both a matter of judgment and the interpretations of a rule.

An example of a situation of this type follows:

With one out and the runners on second and third bases, the batter flied out. The runner on third tagged up after the catch, the player on second did not. The runner on third crossed the plate before the ball was played at second base for the third out. The umpire did not allow the run to score. The questions as to whether the runners left their bases before the catch and whether the play at second was made before the player on third crossed the plate are solely matters of judgment and are not protestable. The failure of

the umpire to allow the run to score was a misinterpretation of a playing rule and was a proper subject for protest.