



2009 CANADA SUMMER GAMES

SOFTBALL TECHNICAL PACKAGE

Technical Packages are a critical part of the Canada Games. They guide the selection of athletes by prescribing the age and eligibility requirements, assist the organizing committees by detailing tournament formats and scoring procedures, assist Chefs de Mission in verifying eligibility, help with budgeting by describing the number of participants permitted, advance coaching certification by stating minimum requirements and generally contribute to athlete development by identifying each NSO's version of prospective high performance athletes.

Every Games' coach, manager, Sport Chairperson and Mission staff has an obligation to read and understand every aspect of the Technical Package. Failure to do so could cost an athlete his or her eligibility for the Games or could affect final standings or the conduct of the competition. If someone does not understand an aspect of a Technical Package, he or she is to seek clarification from the Sport Committee of the Canada Games Council through his or her Chef de Mission or National Sport Organization.

Technical Packages are developed primarily by National Sport Organizations, following principles, guidelines and requirements of the Canada Games Council. As the overall governing body of the Games, the Council has the ultimate authority for Technical Packages, but this authority is exercised only with the knowledge and understanding of the NSO concerned.

If an individual wishes to initiate a change to a Technical Package leading up to a Games, the desired change should be first directed to the National Sport Organization or the Chef de Mission. The NSO or Chef will evaluate the merits of the change and will, if it has merit, submit the requested change to the Sport Committee of the Canada Games Council. The NSO or Chef will submit the rationale for the change. Changes to age groups, eligibility requirements, team sizes or staff complements will not be considered after three years prior to the Games. Substantive changes to events or competition formats will not be considered after 18 months before the Games. Minor corrections will be considered at almost anytime, but will be increasingly difficult to achieve within six months of the Games. These time frames reinforce the importance of complete understanding of the Technical Package early.

**2009 CANADA SUMMER GAMES
TECHNICAL PACKAGE**

1. SPORT: SOFTBALL

2. PARTICIPANTS:

2.1 Competitors: Female 15

2.2 Staff: 1 Manager 2 Coaches (one of the coaches must be female)

3. CLASSIFICATION:

Under 19 prior to January 1st, 2009 (Midget age category)

Date of Birth: 1990 or later

4. ELIGIBILITY:

4.1 Coaches:

Any staff listed as coaches on the official registration form must be fully certified (theory, technical and practical) under the National Coaching Certification Program to at least Level 3 in Softball, or the equivalent in the new NCCP Competition stream, Development context (Trained status). These coaches must be so certified not later than 90 days before the opening of the Games (May 17, 2009).

*Note: The certification requirements for head coaches in the new NCCP for the Games in 2013 and beyond will increase to Competition stream, Development context (Certified status).

4.2 Competitors:

There are no eligibility restrictions other than age and residency (see Appendix 1).

5. COMPETITION:

2009 Softball Canada official playing rules for the midget age category will be followed.

5.1 Seeding for Competition:

Seeding is based on the results of the Midget Canadian Championships in the year prior to the Canada Summer Games. When a Province/Territory does not compete in the Midget Canadian Championship in the year prior to a Canada Summer Games, their seeding will be determined by their placing in the last Canada Summer Games. They will be placed after the last determined position from the Midget Canadian Championship process.

1) Eleven Teams or More

When eleven (11) teams or more are entered in the Canada Summer Games, teams will be divided into two (2) sections with the seeds placed as follows:

Pool A: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

Pool B: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12

5.2 Competition Schedules:

1) Ten Teams or Less:

In the event of ten (10) teams or less, there will only be one section which will play a complete round robin competition. After the round robin, the top four teams will compete in a page playoff format. The top two teams will have two “lives” in the playoffs and the next two will have a single “life”. In the event of a tie between two or more teams, tie-breaking criteria will be used to determine all rankings. No tie-breaking games will be played.

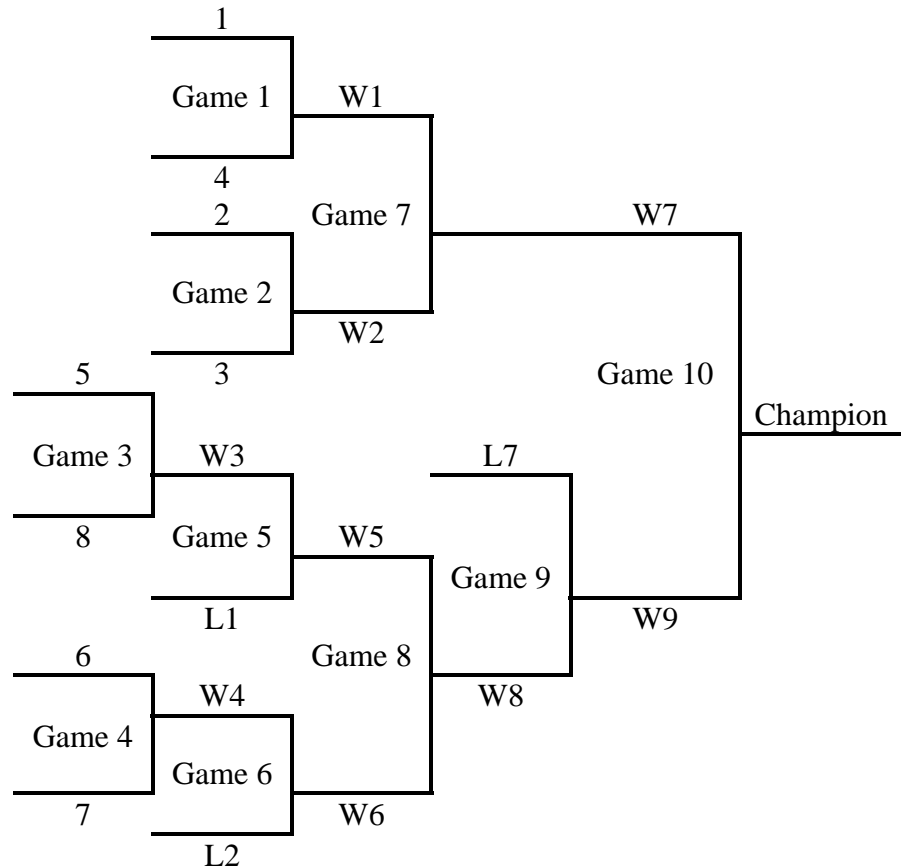
Playoffs:

Game #1	1 vs 2
Game #2	3 vs 4
Game #3	Loser Game #1 vs Winner Game #2
Game #4	Winner Game #1 vs Winner Game #3

2) Eleven Teams or More:

In the event of eleven (11) teams or more, two pools will be established. Each pool will complete a round robin, wherein each team plays all teams in their pool. Four teams from each pool will compete in an eight team playoff format. The top two teams in each pool will have two “lives” in the playoffs and the next two will have a single “life”.

Playoffs:



6. SPORT SCORING:

6.1 Mercy Rule:

A mercy rule shall result in the conclusion of the game when:

- 1) In all categories, games will end after 2 1/2, 3, 3 1/2 or 4 complete innings of play if there is a difference of fifteen (15) runs.

- 2) In all categories, games will end after 4 1/2, 5, 5 1/2 or 6 innings of play if there is a difference of seven (7) runs.

6.2 Points: Win - 2 Loss - 0

7. PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL RANKING (FLAG POINTS):

Following final rankings, points for the Games Flag will be distributed as follows:

1st place - 10 points	6 th place - 5 points	11th place - 1 1/2 points
2nd place - 9 points	7 th place - 4 points	12th place - 1 point
3rd place - 8 points	8 th place - 3 points	13th place - 1/2 point
4th place - 7 points	9 th place - 2 1/2 points	
5th place - 6 points	10th place - 2 points	

8. TIE BREAKING RULE - COMPETITION:

The Tie Breaker Rule shall be used in all tie games after seven (7) full innings have been played. All games will be played until a winner is declared. No ties occur in softball, and if for any reason a game is stopped, it shall resume from the exact point it left off.

9. PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL RANKING - TIE BREAKING (FLAG POINTS):

9.1 Ten Teams or Less:

Should ties occur between/among the provinces/territories, division standings or rankings will be decided according to the following priorities:

- 1) Won/lost records;
- 2) If 2 teams tied, winner of game between tied teams;
- 3) If 3 or more teams tied, won/lost record between tied teams only;
 - i) If teams still tied within 3), then Least Runs Against in games between tied teams only;
 - a) If two teams tied with Least Runs Against, revert to 2);
 - ii) If more than two teams are still tied after i), then Most Runs For in games between tied teams;
 - a) If two teams tied with Most Runs For, revert to 2);
- 4) If still tied, positions will be settled by a coin toss;

NOTE: When using criteria only 4, 5, 6, etc. FULL innings in 4½, 5½, 6½, etc. inning games, are to be used.

9.2 Eleven Teams or More:

- 1) The above criteria ranking will be used except to determine the last playoff position or where it represents the difference between one or two "lives". If a tie exists for the last playoff position or where it represents the difference between one or two "lives", it will be broken as follows:
 - a) If two teams are tied, they will play a sudden death playoff game.
 - b) If three teams are tied, a bye shall go to the team ranked highest, who will then play the winner of a game between the other two.
 - c) If four teams are tied, then rankings shall be used to determine pairings for two of the semi-final games. Teams will be ranked 1, 2, 3, 4 with team #1 playing team #4, and team #2 playing team #3. If four teams are tied for first or third place, two games are necessary. If four teams are tied for second place, four games are necessary. If four teams are tied for fourth place, three games are necessary.
- 2) All other positions will be settled by a coin toss.

10. MEDALS:

GOLD 15; SILVER 15; BRONZE 15

11. COMPETITIVE UNIFORM:

Provincial/Territorial colours must be worn. In the event that team uniform colours are similar and may cause confusion, the designated "Home" team must be prepared to change into an alternate set of uniforms. *It is highly recommended that players' names appear on the back of the uniform.*

12. EQUIPMENT (as per Softball Canada official rules):

No metal cleats are allowed. No hard plastic, nylon or polyurethane spikes similar to a metal sole and heel plate, or shoes with detachable cleats (unless detachable cleats are made of rubber) that could leave an exposed fastener are allowed.

13. APPENDIX:

The attached appendices form an integral part of this technical package.

APPENDIX 1

2009 Canada Summer Games

Competitor Eligibility

1. Competitors must meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the Technical Package.
2. The Canada Games are open to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants.
3. The Games are open to amateur athletes who are members in good standing of their provincial and/or national sport organization.
4. An athlete's permanent domicile or actual residence must be located, for at least the 180 days prior to the opening of the Games, within the recognized boundaries of the province or territory they are representing. An athlete can have only one domicile.
5. Students attending school on a full-time basis outside their province of permanent residence during the year of the Games shall be permitted to compete for either their province of permanent residence or the province in which the athlete attends school. To be eligible to compete for the province where the athlete attends school, the student must be enrolled on a full-time basis during the 2008-2009 academic year.
6. If a non-student athlete attends a recognized national training centre outside his or her province of permanent residence, the athlete is encouraged to represent his or her province of permanent residence; however, the athlete could represent the province where the centre is located under the terms of paragraph (7), below.
7. Exceptions to the domicile requirement will be possible if the athlete can demonstrate a commitment to the province or territory she or he wishes to represent by such means as having been a member of a club or provincial sport organization in that province for the entire previous competitive season, having represented that province or territory at a previous national or regional championship or having attended school full-time the previous academic year or a recognized national training centre full-time during the previous 12 months. Other similar circumstances may be considered.
8. An athlete is permitted to try out for only one province or territory per Games.
9. The eligibility of any athlete that is not clearly established by these rules and by the Technical Package shall be determined by the Sport Committee of the Council. Coaches or PSOs must bring forward any unclear cases to their Chef de Mission and to their NSO as early as possible before the competition for forwarding to the Sport Committee.

10. Where a team/province/Chef wishes to challenge the eligibility of an athlete on another provincial/ territorial team, it is expected that such a challenge will be made as soon as the protesting team knows that an athlete may be ineligible. Every effort must be made to ensure that protests on eligibility are lodged before an athlete competes.

OTHER

1. All teams are reminded of the Canada Games Council's regulations concerning advertising on uniforms: only the uniform manufacturer's name or trade mark logo may be worn on team competition uniforms to *a maximum size of 60 square centimetres*.
2. The only coaching permitted is by those accredited coaches identified in the Technical Package. Personal coaches of athletes or additional coaches of any type will not receive accreditation and will not have access to competition or training areas.
3. Canada Games rules do not allow team staff to practice as therapists, physicians or other medical or paramedical practitioners. The Host Society (organizing committee) is responsible for providing high quality medical care at a central clinic at the Athletes' Village and at competition and training venues. The Sport Medicine Council of Canada assists the Host Society by providing additional medical practitioners to ensure that French and English speaking and male and female persons are available, to ensure that sport specific medical expertise is available and to ensure that all regions of Canada are represented. Team staff will not be permitted to administer medical care to athletes.

APPENDIX 2

Provincial-Territorial Ranking - Tie Breaking

In the event of a five-way tie at the end of the round-robin competition, the following would occur:

- A. Criteria 9.1 and 9.2 would be applied to provide a provisional ranking of teams from 1 to 5.
- B. Tie breaker game #1: provisional #4 vs provisional #5; winner ranked #4, loser ranked #5.
- C. Tie breaker game #2: provisional #2 vs provisional #3; winner to tie breaker game #3; loser ranked #3.
- D. Tie breaker game #3: provisional #1 vs winner of tie breaker game # 2; winner ranked #1, loser ranked #2.
- E. Remainder of playoffs as specified in Technical Package.