

# AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS



**BASEBALL**  
AUSTRALIA

## TECHNICAL NORMS

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## 1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1. In general, these Australian Championships will be played under the Official Australian Baseball Rules 7th Edition and Baseball Australia (BA) Australian Championships Technical Norms.
- 1.2. Special regulations (e.g. pitching allowances, time-saving rules, etc.) have been introduced to apply to the Australian Championships. In applying the rules and procedures they should be read as referring to the particular Events being staged
- 1.3. Where ever the word State is used, it is taken to mean State, Territory or Participating Team.

## 2. TITLES

- 2.1. BA's Australian Championship series:
  - 2.1.1. The Under 16 National Youth Championship (Keith Cant Trophy)
  - 2.1.2. The Under 18 National Youth Championship (Jim Brown Shield)
  - 2.1.3. The National Youth Women's Championship (Simone Wearne Trophy)
  - 2.1.4. The National Women's Baseball Championship (Baseball Australia)

## 3. OBJECTIVE

- 3.1. The objective of the BA's Australian Championships is to provide men and women of all ages the opportunity to compete in an annual competition to be crowned the Australian Champions.

## 4. CHAMPIONSHIP VENUES

- 4.1 The Championships will be played at a venue determined by BA.

## 5. CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

- 5.1. The various Championships will commence at different times
- 5.2. BA will determine championship dates.
- 5.3. Teams are to advise BA of their preferred arrival and departure dates via the appropriate form.
- 5.4. The nominated venue and the starting date of an Australian Championship shall be advised BA.

## 6. LODGEMENT OF ENTRIES

- 6.1. States should advise BA of entry into Championships no later than:
  - 6.1.1. October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for Under 16, Under 18;
  - 6.1.2. December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for the Youth Women's and Women's

## 7. CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIAL MEETING & FUNCTIONS

- 7.1. At the appropriate time prior to the commencement of the event, the Championship Team Official's Meeting, chaired by the BA Championship Director, will be conducted. Decisions altering the Technical Norms will not be made at this meeting.
  - 7.1.1. Failure to attend this meeting by the appropriate personnel will incur a penalty of \$350 to the offending state.
- 7.2. Attendees are restricted to the Managers (Head Coaches) and Executive Officers of the competing teams, Baseball Australia personnel, and other relevant persons subject to the Chairman's approval. The business of the Officials' Meeting will be limited to decisions in regard to the training program, ground arrangements, meals, accommodation and social functions.
- 7.3. A session on clarification of Championship Rules including a re-emphasis of the penalties for any rule's transgression will be included within this meeting.

- 7.4. The Championship Meeting date/time, venue and agenda is to be issued to all concerned at least one week prior to the commencement of the Championships. The agenda is just a guideline of items, which needs to be covered at the meeting.
- 7.5. Head Coaches will be reminded that all game balls are returned back into the game and the penalty invoked should pilfering of baseballs occur.
- 7.6. Mention must also be made of team uniforms and any potential clashes.
- 7.7. BA Championship Director (CD) at this meeting will formally comment upon aspects of conduct relating to participants, with particular reference to attitudes, image and damage to property:
  - 7.7.1. Participants' on-field behaviour will be monitored.
  - 7.7.2. Visual or verbal expressions of disagreement with any umpire's decision(s) will not be tolerated.
  - 7.7.3. Penalties exist and will be invoked for behaviour and conduct not in accordance with the Players Code of Conduct.
  - 7.7.4. Any consumption of alcohol by players or by adult personnel while in team apparel or at the Championship venue is not permitted.
  - 7.7.5. There will be no consumption of alcohol for any coach or official that is in a supervisory role of minors for the duration of the tournament (defined as the port of departure and arrival of the team's home state).
  - 7.7.6. Excessive consumption of alcohol by any team personnel is strongly discouraged and may result in sanctions.
  - 7.7.7. There will be no tolerance on the use of tobacco products on field, while in uniform or within any Championship Venue.
- 7.8. At this meeting, each team will be reminded that all official paperwork must be available if required by the CD (as signed off via the submission of the Statement by Team Executive Officer, submitted at the time of the roster nomination). This Statement confirms that all team personnel have completed the relevant paperwork and that this paperwork is in the possession of the EO. Failure to produce such forms upon request during the Championship will be deemed a breach under Championship.
- 7.9. The Umpires Manager shall outline all ground rules.
- 7.10. Minutes from the Officials Meeting must be prepared by the meeting secretary and signed by the Chairman of the meeting. Copies of the minutes are to be submitted to the Head of Australian Championships by no later than one month after the completion of the Championship.
- 7.11. Team and/or individual players/staff will be required to attend any official function at a pre-determined time and date prior to, during, or following the conclusion of the competition.

## 8. TEAM ROSTERS AND ROSTER SIZES

- 8.1. Official team rosters are to be completed online, as per instructions from BA staff by XX days prior to the event.
  - 8.1.1. All Rosters need to be submitted to BA no later than the notified date for each Championship.
- 8.2. Any changes made at any time to rosters need to be submitted to BA in writing.
- 8.3. Any final changes that are required to rosters need to be submitted to BA, Championship Director, Scorer's Coordinator and Umpire Coordinator at least two days before the Pre-Championship meeting.

- 8.4. Each National Youth State team shall consist of 20 players per team in Under 18 and Under 16 Championships.
- 8.5. Each Open Women's Team shall consist of up to 20 players but not less than 15 players (not including non-playing captains or coaches).
- 8.6. Each Youth Women's Team shall consist of, a minimum 16 players and a maximum 18 players.
- 8.7. All players must be properly attired in the uniform of their team.
- 8.8. Teams that do not meet roster requirements will not be eligible for ranking in the championship pool.
- 8.9. Should there be an unavoidable late withdrawal of a player then a team may make a submission to BA requesting eligibility for ranking in the championship pool.
- 8.10. Each team must show proof that all avenues to find a replacement player/s have been exhausted. In the event of extraordinary circumstances that prevent a team from fielding a full roster and after approval by BA a reduced roster can be accepted
- 8.11. Rosters are final after their lodgement at the pre-Championship Meeting.

## 9. ACCOMMODATION

- 9.1. Teams participating at the Australian Championships can make their own accommodation arrangements except in the following instance:  
Where BA has a hosting arrangement in place with a local authority that obliges participating teams to make all accommodation arrangements through a designated channel if such an agreement is in place, restrictions will usually exist.
- 9.2. A Risk Management Plan for the Management of Player Welfare must be put in place by all participating states.
- 9.3. At Youth Championships, it is a requirement that two adult members of the team staff be always in attendance at the place of accommodation at all times when the team is in residence.
- 9.4. If a female is selected in a team then an adult female must be appointed chaperone.
- 9.5. A female participant shall not share a room with a male participant.
- 9.6. All officials shall be accommodated together but separate from any competing Team to the extent that this is possible. Where teams and umpires are co-located, every effort should be made to ensure there is some degree of separation between the two groups.

## 10. MEALS

- 10.1. At all Championships - All team delegation members will be provided with lunch during the championships. Where a team plays a scheduled night game, they may receive a meal following that game in lieu of lunch. It is the responsibility of each team delegation to organise all other meals as well as suitable snack foods and drinks for between meals.

## 11. FIRST AID

- 11.1. BA will ensure that a qualified and dedicated First Aid attendant is present during all games of the Championship.

## 12. AGE QUALIFICATIONS

- 12.1. Each Championship has specific age qualifications for its participants.

- 12.1.1. Under 16, Under 18: Competing players must be under the specified age for the particular program being staged at 31st December of the preceding year. Example: Under 16 players who turns 16 on 31st December is not eligible, whereas a player who turns 16 on 1st January is eligible for the Under 16 AYC.
- 12.1.2. Women: Competing players must be 15 years of age prior to the commencement of the Championship
- 12.1.3. Youth Women: Competing players must be at least 12 years of age prior to the commencement of the Championship but not have turned 16 years of age as of 31st December of the preceding year. Example: Under 16 player who turns 16 on 31st December is not eligible, whereas a player who turns 16 on 1st January is eligible for the Under 16 AYWC.
- 12.2. It is the responsibilities of all teams that contain Under Age Players to ensure all adult team personnel comply with their states Child Protection Legislation. In addition, please refer to the section relating to the taking of images of children.

### 13. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

#### 13.1. Residential Qualifications

Any player properly registered with a State including a non-national, who has been a bona-fide resident of such State for a continuous period of not less than 3 months prior to the first game of the Championship, shall be eligible to represent such State provided he or she meets the provisions of section 13.2.

#### 13.2. Status Determination

- 13.2.1. If a State or team in an Australian Championships perceives that a determination of eligibility for one of its players is required, such a request must be submitted no later than two months before the Championships to BA General Manager – Development & Governance.
- 13.2.2. These requests will be replied to within the next week after submitting. This refers specifically to the following types of issues:
  - 13.2.2.1. Non-national players who do not meet the requirements of 13.1 and wish to represent State Teams at any Australian Championship;
  - 13.2.2.2. Players who seek to cross State boundaries, by mutual agreement between the parties, to represent a State that they are not domiciled in
  - 13.2.2.3. Any other anomaly or questionable player eligibility issues
- 13.2.3. No player eligibility determinations will be considered after two months before the Championship is scheduled to take place unless they arise out of the need to make emergency replacements.
- 13.2.4. All players must be properly registered with a BA Affiliated State or Territory or their National Federation (in the case of invited teams).
- 13.2.5. Players must have played at least six (6) games during the season 'preceding the Championship within the State that they wish to play for. The six (6) games must be completed by the submission of the Final Team Rosters at the Championship Meeting.
- 13.2.6. Players competing in the Senior Women's Australian Championship must be Australian Citizens; **exception:** a maximum of two (2) roster spots may be occupied by non-citizens

13.2.7. Should a player be registered with, and/or played with two or more affiliated teams during the season prior to the dates of the Championship then the team in the state/territory in which the player has lived for the three months prior to the Championship shall have the first call on that player for selection.

### 13.3. Medical Authority

A Medical Authority Form must be signed by a parent or guardian of each competing under-age player or any other under-age person (e.g. batboys/girls) participating with the team, in which an authority is given in respect of any medical or hospital attention (including an operation) which may be required as a result of any injury or illness sustained. This Form is not to be amended under any circumstances. All adult players must also complete the Medical Authority Form. These forms must be in the hands of the EO at the required time in order for the EO to submit the "Statement by Team Executive Officer" when submitting the roster to BA. A copy of the Medical Authority must be available at all times while the team is participating.

### 13.4. Friendship Players: U16, U18, Women's and Youth Women's

It is a fundamental assumption of this policy that a team exhausts all possible avenues to secure as many players of Australian Championship standard as possible from within their own boundaries. If the team is unable to field a team of adequate strength from within its own boundaries, it is then entitled to make a request to General Manager – Team Australia to secure players of an adequate standard from other participating states. All requests for friendship players will be made through State High Performance Managers (HPM). The General Manager – Team Australia in consultation with the respective National Team Head Coach and requesting State HPM will determine the friendship player requirement.

#### 13.4.1. Friendship Player Eligibility

In order to be eligible to become a friendship player for another state, players must have registered and trialled unsuccessfully for their respective home state. Players who choose NOT to trial for their respective home states will be ineligible to be considered as friendship players. Players wishing to be eligible as friendship players are required to register their interest online within the specified time frames as set forth by BA. At the completion of the registration process registered players will form the friendship player selection pool. In making themselves available, those players are committing themselves to represent the relevant state and the costs associated with that representation.

#### 13.4.2. Friendship Player Selection

The General Manager – Team Australia will liaise with the requesting team's HPM in regard to friendship player requirements. Once established the General Manager – Team Australia will consult with State HPM's and gather relevant information about players listed within the friendship player selection pool. The General Manager – Team Australia and respective National Team Head Coach will complete selection of friendship players. If considered for a friendship position, players will be contacted directly by BA. Once a friendship player is selected, they are able to come back to represent their home state up until a reasonable date set by BA prior to the tournament. This date will take into consideration being able to find a player to replace the original appointed player and make any necessary changes to flights and other relevant details. The relevant State Associations will be notified of the selections and provided two (2) days to lodge a valid objection for not providing a clearance. Should an objection not be forthcoming

within the specified timeframe, players shall be regarded as cleared. Should the State Association refuse clearance, BA will seek the reasons for such a refusal and seek to resolve any issues to the satisfaction of all parties. BA retains the right to ultimately provide clearance or refuse clearance to any players making themselves available as Friendship Players.

#### 14. PLAYER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS

- 14.1. Player Participation Agreements are to be completed by all players. Team Executive Officers are required to retain a hard copy at the Championship.

#### 15. CODE OF CONDUCT - PLAYERS

- 15.1. BA Code of Conduct is to be adhered to by all players (and where an under-age player is involved, by their parents) in order to participate in the all BA Australian Championships.
- 15.2. Where there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct, irrespective of whether on-field or off-field, such breaches must be reported to the CD. Such reports are to be kept in the strictest confidence between the CD and team personnel.
- 15.3. The use or possession of any form of tobacco, tobacco products, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol of any description is banned. Team and Championship officials shall have the right to conduct a search of a player's room, bags, clothing or personal belongings if he or she has a reasonable suspicion that a serious breach of the code of conduct has occurred. This must be conducted in the presence of the player and an independent adult witness
- 15.4. BA is committed to ensuring that each Championship is run in an environment that is free of sexual harassment from players, coaches, umpires, and any one attending. Anyone who breaches this policy of zero sexual harassment will be removed from the event and banned for at least one-year subject to a decision from the Tribunal Committee. Sexual Harassment is defined as: any unwanted, unwelcome or uninvited behaviour of a sexual nature which makes a person feel humiliated, intimidated or offended. Sexual harassment can take many different forms and may include physical contact, verbal comments, jokes, propositions, and the display of offensive material or other behaviour, which creates a sexually hostile working environment. Sexual harassment is against the law and will be punished accordingly.
- 15.5. BA Anti-Doping Policy supports a drug free environment in the sport of baseball for its players, coaches and officials. All participants are directed to [www.asada.gov.au](http://www.asada.gov.au) to check all medications and have a clear understanding on the implications of drugs in sport.
- 15.6. All players in the championship must have completed the Australian Sport Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) online level 1 course prior to the event.  
<https://elearning.asada.gov.au/enrol/index.php?id=86>

#### 16. COACHES

- 16.1. BA's Participation Package will provide travel and (accommodation as per in 9.1), for three (3) coaching staff. A fourth coach, if approved by BA is travelling with the team, shall travel and be accommodated at each individual team's expense. At least two (2) and at most four (4) coaches shall accompany all participating teams. Managers/Coaches are to be provided with and sign a copy of BA Team Officials Participation Agreement and acknowledge abiding by the conditions disclosed.



- 16.2. The approval of a fourth coach must be requested by teams to BA prior to the submission of team lists. The role of such a coach from February 2019 shall be for coach development purposes, with a requirement that the individual nominated has not coached at a previous Australian Championship.
- 16.2.1. Where there has been a breach in any of the Participation Agreement, irrespective of whether on field or off field, such breaches must be reported to the CD. Such reports are to be kept in the strictest confidence between the CD and team personnel.
- 16.2.2. If a team official is found to have a case to answer the matter will be referred to the Championship Tribunal for assessment and subsequent imposition of penalties where appropriate (see Section 41 – Reported Players/Coaches for further details).
- 16.3. All coaches at the Championship will be attired in the same team uniform as the players. On-field coaches will remain in the coaches' boxes at all times and will not talk to members of the opposing team, nor make comments relating to umpires or their decisions.
- 16.4. Base coaches are required to wear "skull cap" style helmets (i.e., without ear covers);
- 16.5. All Championship Managers/Head & Assistant Coaches must be accredited to at least Level Three (3) standard under the current National Coach Accreditation Scheme (NCAS), introduced 1st January 2011.
- 16.5.1. The use or possession of any form of tobacco or alcohol of any description by coaches, players or any team official while participating in the game, moving onto and off the playing grounds including batting practice areas, on the field, in the dugouts, bullpens, whilst in uniform or anywhere in the vicinity of the Championship Venue is banned.
- 16.5.1.1. Penalty: Ejection from the game and appropriate follow-up as a breach of the Participation Agreement.
- 16.6. All coaches in the championship must have completed the Australian Sport Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) online level 1 course prior to the event.  
<https://elearning.asada.gov.au/enrol/index.php?id=86>
- 16.6.1.1.

## 17. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

- 17.1. Executive Officers will manage all off-field activities of the Team and are not to wear playing uniforms unless they are in a dual Coach role. They will be allowed in the dugout but are not to venture onto the playing field at any time unless requested to do so by the Chief Umpire.
- 17.2. They are not to direct comments to, or about, umpires and their decisions.
- 17.3. Executive Officers are to be provided with and sign a copy of BA Team Officials Participation Agreement and acknowledge abiding by the conditions disclosed.
- 17.4. Where there has been a breach in any of the Participation Agreement, irrespective whether on field or off field such breaches must be reported to the CD.
- 17.5. **Dual Role - Executive Officer/Coach**
- 17.5.1. To allow teams to bring a fourth coach it is permissible to combine that role with the EO under the following conditions.
- 17.5.2. The first priority at all times is fulfilment of the role of Executive Officer.

- 17.5.3. Should there be occasion where duties coincide then those of the Executive Officer must take precedence.
- 17.5.4. If required by a BA or a Championship Official, (CD etc.) require an EO's presence, even during or after a game, an EO must forgo his or her coaching duties if necessary, to comply.
- 17.5.5. It is not permissible to postpone urgent Executive Officer duties until after the game.
- 17.6. All officials in the championship must have completed the Australian Sport Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) online level 1 course prior to the event.  
<https://elearning.asada.gov.au/enrol/index.php?id=86>
- 17.6.1.

## 18. UMPIRES

### 18.1. The Panel

- 18.1.1. The appointment of umpires to an Australian Championship is the responsibility of BA.
- 18.1.2. Head of Technical Officials drawing from a National Panel of Accredited Umpires. BA will accept nominations from all participating States for positions on each Championship Umpiring Panel. From these nominations, a panel of appropriately qualified and experienced umpires (including an Umpires Coordinator) will be appointed. Such umpires shall be Nationally Accredited and of a standard acceptable to the Head of Technical Officials.
- 18.1.3. The use or possession of any form of tobacco or alcohol of any description by umpires on the field, in the dugouts, bullpens, whilst in uniform or in the vicinity of any Championship venue is banned.
- 18.1.4. All umpires shall be accommodated together but separate from any competing team to the extent that this is possible. Where teams and umpires are co-located, every effort should be made to ensure there is some degree of separation between the two groups.
- 18.1.5. No visiting umpires shall seek or use alternative accommodation without the consent of the Manager, who will decide the issue after consultation with the CD.
- 18.1.6. No fees shall be payable to any umpire.
- 18.1.7. Uniform to be worn shall be as approved by BA.
- 18.1.8. BA Game Officials Participation Agreement must be signed by all Umpires in order to participate in any Australian Championship. A copy of the code can be found in the Appendices. Signed copies of the Participation Agreement are to be presented to the Umpires Manager prior to the Championships.

### 18.2. The Umpires Coordinator

- 18.2.1. For each Championship BA's Head of Technical Official's shall appoint a Coordinator for the umpiring panel. The Coordinator may be a member of the panel.
- 18.2.2. The duties of the coordinator shall include:
  - 18.2.2.1. Full control of the umpiring discipline of the panel both on & off the field.
  - 18.2.2.2. Liaison with the CD for application of their requirements.
  - 18.2.2.3. Duties associated with the appointment of umpires.
  - 18.2.2.4. The appointment of a Crew Chief to each team of umpires in each game.
  - 18.2.2.5. To make a written report to the Head of Technical Officials and BA office no later than one month after the Championships. A copy of the final appointments shall be included.

- 18.2.3. BA may appoint an Umpires Liaison Officer to work in conjunction with the Umpires Manager.
- 18.2.4. The Umpires Manager must sign BA Game Officials Participation Agreement. A copy of the code can be found in Appendices. Signed copies of the Code of Ethics are to be presented to the Head of Technical Officials prior to approval of the appointment to the position of Umpire Coordinator.

### 18.3. Appointments

- 18.3.1. The Umpires Coordinator shall make appointments for the first round on a reasonable "Equal Share" basis where possible.
- 18.3.2. In the second and subsequent rounds, the Umpires Coordinator may appoint any umpire to any games as they see fit.
- 18.3.3. Appointments for the second and subsequent rounds shall be on a daily basis, with as much notice as is possible, considering game schedules and other issues that may arise.
- 18.3.4. The Three Umpire System will apply to all Championships. However, the schedule and personnel number allow, then a Two Umpire System can be applied to these games, only should game schedule require this to be amended.

### 18.4. Protests

- 18.4.1. The Umpires Manager shall resolve all protests against baseball rulings only, during a game at the time of the protest.
- 18.4.2. Protests must be lodged immediately and be accompanied by a written submission and a \$50.
- 18.4.3. Should the protest be upheld, then the \$50 Protest Fee will be refunded to the protesting team.
- 18.4.4. The CD shall settle all disputes on Championship Rules. All disputes regarding the Championship Rules are to be directed to the CD in writing, as soon as is practical once the dispute arises. The CD is solely responsible for handling all such disputes and will use his/her discretion in deciding whether to refer the issue to the CMC for further adjudication. The CD shall provide to BA a copy of all Championship Rule disputes and the process by which these were handled at the conclusion of each day's play.
- 18.4.5. Decisions of the Umpires Coordinator and the CD are final and binding.

### 18.5. Pitching Eligibility

- 18.5.1. The CD will be responsible for the delivering to the Chief Umpire, 30 minutes before the start of each game, a list of players who are ineligible to pitch. A copy of this list will also be supplied as early as possible prior to the game to the opposing Managers/Head Coaches.

## 19. SCORERS AND OFFICIAL RECORDER

### 19.1. The Panel

- 19.1.1. The appointment of Scorers is the responsibility of BA's Head of Technical Officials drawing from drawing from the CABS membership of suitably accredited scorers. BA will accept nominations from all participating States for positions on the Scorers Panel. From these nominations, a panel of appropriately qualified and experienced Scorers (including a Scorers Coordinator) will be appointed. Such Scorer's shall be Nationally Accredited to a standard acceptable to the Head of Technical Officials, and CABS.

- 19.1.2. The use or possession of any form of tobacco or alcohol of any description by Scorers on the field, in the dugouts, bullpens, whilst in uniform or in the vicinity of any Championship Venue is banned.
- 19.1.3. All Scorers shall be accommodated together but separate from any competing State to the extent that this is possible. Where teams and scorers are co-located, every effort should be made to ensure there is some degree of separation between the two groups.
- 19.1.4. No visiting Scorers shall seek or use alternative accommodation without the consent of the Coordinator.
- 19.1.5. The list of Nationally Accredited Technical Officials recommended for appointment should be forwarded to BA Office for final approval.
- 19.1.6. No fees shall be payable to any scorer.
- 19.1.7. BA Game Officials Participation Agreement must be signed by all Scorers in order to participate in any Australian Championships. Signed copies of the Participation Agreement are to be presented to the Scorer's Coordinator prior to the Championship.

**19.2. The Scorers' Coordinator**

For each Championship BA's Head of Technical Official's shall appoint a Coordinator for the scoring panel. The Coordinator may be a member of the panel. The duties of the manager are outlines in the position description and can include:

- 19.2.1. Full control of the discipline of the scoring panel at all times.
- 19.2.2. Liaison with the CD for application of their requirements.
- 19.2.3. Duties associated with the appointment of scorers.
- 19.2.4. To make a written report to the Head of Technical Officials and BA office no later than one month after the Championships. A copy of the final appointments shall be included.

**20. STATISTICS OF A CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 20.1. BA will provide scorers with the program/s used at all BA Australian Championships. This package is to be used in conjunction with the official BA Scorebook.
- 20.2. All players eligible to play in a game must be listed on the line-up card handed to the Plate Umpire at the home plate meeting. However, in the event of an oversight in which an eligible player is omitted from the original line-up card will not prevent that player from entering the game.
- 20.3. In listing each team in the scorebook, scorers must place both the team's batting and pitching lists and stats on the same page.
- 20.4. Statistics for all teams will be posted on the BA website as soon as possible following the conclusion of each game.
- 20.5. Each team is to receive a copy of their statistics on a daily basis.

**21. THE PLAYING FIELD**

21.1. Ground dimensions for Australian Championships are:

	Youth Women	Under 16	Under 18	Women	Senior Men
Pitching Distance	54'	60'6"	60'6"	60'6"	60'6"

<b>Base paths</b>	80'	90'	90'	90'	90'
<b>Back stop</b>	45' set	A minimum of 45' or as approved by BA			
<b>Foul Line</b>	270' (min) 290' (max)	300' (min)	300' (min)	270' (min)	300' (min)
<b>Centre Field</b>	320' (min) 340' (max)	360' (min)	360' (min)	300' (min)	300' (min)
<b>Recommended Height</b>	4' Min	6' (min)	6' (min)	6' (min)	6' (min)

(Use pitching plate as pivot point to allow for a correct arc for the home run fence).

21.2. These dimensions may only be varied with the prior authority of the Championship Director or BA representative.

21.3. A home run fence is mandatory on all fields used for BA Australian Championships.

### Pitching Mounds

	Youth Women	Under 16	Under 18	Women	Senior Men
<b>Diameter</b>	15'	18'	18'	18'	18'
<b>Height</b>	8"	10"	10"	10"	10"

## 22. FIELD AND FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum field requirements have been developed by the BA and vary according to the event.

### 22.1. Number of Fields Required

Minimum number of diamonds required for Australian Championships are:

	Women's and Youth Women's	U16 and 18
<b>Diamonds</b>	3	3
<b>With Lights</b>	1	2

#### 22.1.1. Under 16 and Under 18 National Youth Championships

Minimum of three (3) diamonds including two (2) with lights are to be provided that conform to BA's Championship Rules.

#### 22.1.2. National Women's and Youth Women's Australian Championships

Minimum of three (3) diamonds including one with lights are to be provided that conform to BA's Championship Rules.

### 22.2. FACILITIES STANDARDS

The following minimum facility standards have been developed by BA and vary according to the event.

22.2.1. Boundary, Back net, Foul and Home Run Poles are to be of a material that does not present a danger to players.

22.2.2. All materials to be used for Home Run fences shall be inspected by the CD or his/her representative for the particular series prior to the commencement of the NYC.

22.2.3. Back nets are to be a minimum of 45 feet distance from home plate or as approved by BA for the series, prior to the Championship.

- 22.2.4. Where a lit field is provided the lighting shall be to Standards Australia document AS 2560.1— 2018 (Minimum 500 Lux for the Infield and 300 Lux for the Outfield, preferable 750 Lux for the infield and 500Lux for the outfield).
- 22.2.5. Wherever metal cleats are allowed, dirt mounds are required on the field and in the bullpen areas.
- 22.2.6. Protective screens are required to be supplied for batting practice: An L Screen (7x7 feet) and feed screen (8x8 feet) (mandatory) together with a 3rd screen (8x8 feet) if a 1st Baseman is receiving fielded balls from other infielders
- 22.2.7. Adequate batting practice areas are to be available at the field or in close proximity.
- 22.2.8. Any batting tunnels to be used must be equipped with an L Screen and impact netting.
- 22.2.9. Fields to be used for games and warm-up must be of good quality, with a level, even surface and without intrusions or holes, which may increase the injury risk for participants. Fields are to be maintained in good order throughout the event.
- 22.2.10. Adequate sun protection must be provided for all players and coaches at the fields. This includes the bullpen area.
- 22.2.11. Ready access to water and ice is to be provided.
- 22.2.12. Scorers and officials are to be provided with a covered area.
- 22.2.13. The scorers' area must be suitably positioned, providing a clear view of the entire field and good access to communication with the umpire. Access to electricity is required.
- 22.2.14. Bases used shall be anchored into the ground by a solid thick rod firmly and securely attached to the base and inserted into a pipe that is firmly and securely anchored in the ground. The use of spikes driven into the earth to anchor bases is not permitted.
- 22.2.15. Scoreboards are to be provided on all grounds used showing a minimum of the score, innings and number of outs.
- 22.2.16. Reasonable access to toilets must be available.

### 22.3. Maintenance

Each BA Championship shall have a Grounds Coordinator with SUFFICIENT crew to be available at all games during the pre-game phase and during all games.

### 22.4. Facilities

The following requirements are to be provided in regard to facilities for all Australian Championships:

- 22.4.1. Screens for the protection of players and coaches are to be provided at batting practice areas and within batting tunnels as referred to in "Playing Arena" above
- 22.4.2. A sufficient number of power points are to be made available at the ground
- 22.4.3. The principal venue must have access to phone, and Internet facilities to meet the daily requirements of the Championship.
- 22.4.4. Adequate toilet facilities are to be provided for competing teams, officials and spectators
- 22.4.5. There shall be ready access to ice supplies for players and for use in the first aid treatment of players
- 22.4.6. A qualified and dedicated First Aid officer must be in attendance at all times and a designated treatment area must be provided
- 22.4.7. Access to Doctors, Physiotherapists and Hospitals is to be advised to competing teams

- 22.4.8. Available Medical Services are to be advised to competing teams, which are available for use on a user pays basis.
- 22.4.9. The Official Recorder should have a dedicated room/area with a desk or table in which to compile game statistics suitable for a computer and laser printer.
- 22.4.10. BA will provide devices for the scoring of games.
- 22.4.11. It is strongly recommended that an isolated area be provided at all venues for use by Scorers in compiling game reports as well as use by the CD for meetings where privacy is required, e.g., tribunal or disciplinary meetings.

## 23. REGULATION GAME

- 23.1. The Under 16, Under 25, Youth Women's, and Women's will play 7 innings as a regulation game. The Youth Women will be limited to 2 hours or 7 innings, whichever comes first. The Under 18's Championships will play 9 innings for a regulation game; and for a double header a regulation game will be considered 7 innings.
- 23.2. It is a regulation game when:
- 23.2.1. The Home Team has scored more runs in 6 innings or 8 innings respectively than the Visiting Team has scored in 7 innings (for a 7-innings game) or 9 innings (for a 9-innings game).
- 23.2.2. The Home team scores the winning run in the 7th or 9th innings before the inning is completed. If a batter in the last half of the final inning of a game hits a home run over the home run fence or into the stand, all runners on base at the time of the hit as well as the batter, shall be entitled to score, but to legally score all bases must be touched in order by all runners. The final score of such a game shall be the total number of runs scored by each team.
- 23.2.3. The score is tied at the end of the 7th or 9th innings played, the game is continued until one team has scored more runs than the other in an equal number of innings, provided that if the Home team scores the winning run before the third man is out in any inning after the 7th or 9th the game shall terminate and be a regulation game.
- 23.2.4. The game is Terminated by the Umpire on account of weather, darkness or any other cause which makes further play impossible, provided 5 or more innings have been played, or the home team scores more runs in 4 innings, or before the completion of its 5th inning, than the Visiting team has scored 5 completed innings.
- 23.2.5. If the umpire terminates play after 5 completed innings, the score of such games shall be the score, at the end of the last completed inning. If, however, the Home team has scored more total runs than the Visiting team and the game is terminated while the home team is at bat, the score of such game shall be the total runs scored by each team. Also, when a game is terminated after 5 completed innings with the Visiting team at bat and the Home team ahead, the score shall be the total number of runs scored by each team at the time the game is terminated.
- 23.2.6. In a timed game the game will be deemed complete when the game was scheduled to conclude. (i.e. a two (2) hour game will finish at exactly 2 hours and a result will be determined).

## 24. REGULATION TIED GAME

- 24.1. It is a regulation tied game when the umpire terminates play on account of weather, darkness or any other cause which makes further play impossible and:

- 24.1.1. If at the end of 5 or more completed innings, for all Championships, the score is tied.
- 24.1.2. If the Home team shall score in its uncompleted 4th or 5th innings or any incomplete innings thereafter enough runs to equal the Visiting team's score

#### 24.1.3. Tie Breaker Rule

Where extra innings are required and any "extra inning" is about to commence, the Team at bat shall commence the TOP of the inning with runners on first and second base. The batter who leads off an inning shall continue to be the batter who would have normally led off the inning. The runner on first shall be the batter, (or substitute batter), immediately preceding the batter who leads off the inning. The runner on second base shall be the batter, (or substitute batter), immediately preceding the runner on first base. Any runner or batter removed from the game for a substitute shall be ineligible to return to the game, as would be the case with any substituted player pursuant to the Official Baseball Rules. For purposes of this Regulation, any "extra inning" is defined as the eighth inning or later in a seven-inning game, or the tenth inning or later in a nine-inning game.

### 25. SUSPENDED / RESCHEDULED GAME

- 25.1. It is a suspended game when the umpire terminates play on account of darkness, weather or any other cause which makes it impossible for further play in the game, and where less than 5 innings have been completed by each team.
- 25.2. When a number of games are suspended or not commenced, then these games shall be re-scheduled so that each team play as near as possible an equal number of games. Where the suspended or not commenced games that are to be re-scheduled include key games between teams vying for the championship, then these key games will be given precedence over other games. Games can be re-scheduled on rest days if the CD desires. If re-scheduled, suspended games will be re-commenced at the point where the games were halted.
- 25.3. If game(s) are rain delayed or rained out, they may be rescheduled on an alternate ground. This decision remains with the CD.

### 26. ABANDONED GAME

- 26.1. If the CD cannot re-schedule a suspended game, then that game will be considered as abandoned and competing teams will be awarded points as detailed in Rule 30.
- 26.2. Note: Any pitches thrown in an abandoned game shall be counted in pitch statistics and must be included in calculations concerning pitch limits and required rest.

### 27. STARTING TIMES OF GAMES

Where possible, all games will not begin before 8:30 am. The Championship Director (CD) must approve all earlier starts.

### 28. PLAYING CONDITIONS

The Championship Director (CD) will be responsible for the arrangements for the program of games, in consultation with BA, subject to the following conditions.

#### 28.1. Weather Interference:

- 28.1.1. The number of games to be played may be reduced where weather or other conditions prevent the completion of the program within the time available.



- 28.1.2. From the first game of any day of the Championship the decision to delay or abandon a game shall be made by the CD.
- 28.2. **Distribution of Game Schedule**  
BA must distribute the program of games no later than one month before the beginning of the Championship.
- 28.3. **First Day of Games**  
In contemplating the program of games, and where a bye is necessary on the opening day of the Championship, such a bye must be given to the State, which has travelled the greatest distance to compete.
- 28.4. **Double Header Games**  
When a State(s) is required to play a double header, at least 30 minutes is required between games.
- 28.5. **Final Series**  
Where the possibility of an additional game (or "Final") could be required to determine the Championship, the first game will be required to commence prior to 12 noon and the second game must be scheduled to commence 30 minutes after the prepared ground is available to the CD.
- 28.6. **Night Games**  
Night games may be played.
- 28.7. **Order of Benches and Batting**  
The first named team in the official schedule of games will be regarded as the Home Team, Field first and occupy the Third Base dugout or bench.
- 28.8. **Pre-game infield routine (if available)**
- 28.8.1. Twenty-five (25) minutes before the scheduled starting time of a game, the Home Team will commence their entitled seven (7) minutes warm up on the playing diamond.
- 28.8.2. Eighteen (18) minutes before the schedule starting time of the game the Away Team will commence their entitled seven-minute warm up.
- 28.8.3. The remaining ten (10) minutes will allow the ground crew to finalise ground preparation.
- 28.8.4. The supervision of the warm up before the game will be the responsibility of the CD or a designated official.
- 28.8.5. If facilities at or near the playing venue are to be made available for pre-game batting practice, then a standard schedule of batting practice and training will be drawn up by the CD and distributed at the Officials Meeting prior to the commencement of the series.
- 28.8.6. The opposing team is not to occupy the field at any time while the competing team is performing the warm up.
- 28.9. **One Sided Games**  
Provided that the losing team has completed its time at bat:
- 28.9.1. A 9-inning game shall be completed when one team is leading by
- 10 or more runs after 7 completed innings or
  - 20 or more runs after 5 completed innings or
  - 30 or more runs after 3 completed innings
- 28.9.2. A 7-inning game shall be completed when one team is leading by

- 10 or more runs after 5 completed innings or
- 20 or more runs after 3 completed innings

28.9.3. A scheduled 2-hour or 90-minute game shall be completed when one team is leading by

- 10 or more runs at the end of a completed innings where 20 minutes or less remain in the game

### 28.10. Local Youth Competitions Suspended (Youth Championships)

All local youth competitions are to be suspended during a NYC in any State hosting such a Championship.

## 29. POINTSCORE

29.1. The Points allocated to Teams will be as follows:

- TWO points for a win.
- ONE point for a Tied game.
- NO points for an abandoned game.

## 30. RANKING THE TEAMS

30.1. Under 16, Under 18, Under 25, Youth Women, and Women's Championship teams will be ranked by the points they have scored in the round robin games.

30.1.1. Where two or more teams score the same number of points, the "head to head" method will be used to separate them.

30.2. If this fails to separate the teams, the following method will be used:

30.2.1. The highest ranking will be awarded to the team which allowed the fewest runs in the game(s) contested by those teams (which are tied) will gain the highest ranking.

30.2.2. The remaining teams will then be ranked according to the results of "head to head" games between them. If remaining teams are tied then the tiebreaker reverts to the fewest runs allowed in the games contested by those teams (which are tied) method and then back to "Head to Head", and so forth.

30.2.3. If teams are still tied, ranking will be according to the lowest number of runs allowed by each of the tied teams against the highest ranked team in the competition, then the next highest team and so on. The team with the least runs allowed will be the higher-ranking team then the remaining teams will revert to the "Head to Head". If remaining teams are still tied, revert to using the fewest runs allowed in the games contested by those teams, and then back to "head to head" and so forth.

30.2.4. The "head to head" process will determine the ranking of the final two teams in the above situation.

### 30.3. The Champion State

30.3.1. The Champion state team will be the team who wins the Championship Final.

30.3.2. If the Championship Final fails to decide the Champion State team (e.g. game abandoned due to weather, light, etc.) then the team which finished the most recently completed round in the highest position will be declared Australian Champion.

### 30.4. Championships Affected by Abandoned Games

30.4.1. Where less than the total number of games scheduled for a Championship is completed as the result of "Abandoned Games", the Winning State will be determined as follows:

- 30.4.1.1. For a State which completed all of its scheduled games, the number of points which it has actually scored will be divided by the number of points which it could have scored if it had won all games in which it competed, and a percentage determined.
- 30.4.1.2. For a State which completed less than the number of its scheduled games the number of points actually scored by the State will be divided by the number of points it could have scored had it won all games in which it competed, and a percentage determined.
- 30.4.1.3. In comparing the percentages calculated in accordance with (32.3.1.1) and (32.3.1.2) above, the higher percentage is better than the lower percentage.
- 30.4.1.4. When highest percentages are equal then the highest points actually scored will determine the higher place.
- 30.4.1.5. When the highest points scored are the same then a "head to head" method will apply.
- 30.4.1.6. When the "head to head" result is equal, the "head to head" method will be used against the same teams finishing above or below the teams involved with the "head to head" method.
- 30.4.1.7. In the event two, three or more teams tie and the "head to head" method does not resolve the order of ranking, then the following method is to apply:
  - 30.4.1.7.1. The fewest runs allowed in the games played between the tied teams.
  - 30.4.1.7.2. The fewest runs allowed in the games played against teams above the tied teams.
  - 30.4.1.7.3. The fewest runs allowed in the games played against teams immediately below the tied teams

## 31. TIME SAVING RULES

### 31.1. Policy and Intent

The BA Board has resolved to speed-up the play of Australian Championship games. The intent of these rules is to encourage umpires, coaches and players to limit time wasting and to ensure that Australian Championship games proceed at a good tempo and thus present a more enjoyable spectacle.

### 31.2. Umpires Responsible for Enforcement

Umpires are responsible for enforcement of BA time saving rules and should wear a wrist-watch for this purpose. All violations of this Section should be reported to the Championship Director and referenced in the Umpires' Written Report to BA.

### 31.3. Pre-game Practice not to delay game

In no event should pre-game practice interfere with or delay the scheduled start of the game (with the exception of wet weather implications). The teams should comply with the Rules set forth herein regarding such matters.

### 31.4. 12 Second Pitch Rule

- 31.4.1. The 12-second rule for the pitcher shall apply whenever there are no runners on base. Official Baseball Rule 8.04.
- 31.4.2. If the pitch is thrown before the violation is called, the pitch shall be deemed a ball, regardless of its location.
- 31.4.3. If, in the Umpire's opinion, the pitcher is intentionally violating the Rule, the Umpire may eject the offending pitcher and/or manager from the game

### 31.5. Hitter to Remain in Batter's Box

- 31.5.1. The hitter shall be required to remain in the batter's box unless he makes a request for "time" and the umpire feels that the request is reasonable. Only then shall the umpire grant time out.
- 31.5.2. If no runners are on base, the batter should not be granted time and permitted to leave the batter's box unless, in the opinion of the umpire, unusual circumstances exist which make the request a reasonable one.
- 31.6. Limits on Warm-up Pitches**
- 31.6.1. Unless a pitcher is entering a game to replace a pitcher who has been injured or ejected, he shall be permitted a maximum 60 seconds to throw his or her warm-up pitches. This same time limit shall apply to pitchers warming up prior to the start of an inning.
- 31.6.2. Should either team take longer than 60 seconds to make the changeover between innings, penalties will be invoked. On the first such occasion in a game, the Home Plate Umpire will give the team's manager an official warning.
- 31.6.3. Any further transgressions shall result in a called strike (if it is the batting team which offends) or a called ball (if it is the pitching team which offends).
- 31.6.4. The sixty-second time limit commences immediately the third out of the previous innings is completed.
- 31.6.5. In order to facilitate this changeover, batting teams will be able to replace the catcher with a 'pinch runner' (such replacement will have no bearing on the participation statistics for either player) after two outs.
- 31.6.6. The active pitcher will be permitted to warm up prior to taking the mound by throwing in foul territory adjacent to their dugout.
- 31.7. Limits on Offensive Meetings**
- 31.7.1. Teams are allowed a maximum of three (3) "offensive meetings" per game. An offensive meeting shall be charged any time a coach delays the game for any length of time to talk with an offensive player, whether it be the hitter, a base-runner or an on-deck batter going to the plate, or to another coach. If the game goes into extra innings, one (1) additional "offensive meeting" shall be permitted for each three (3) extra innings.
- 31.8. Visits to the Mound**
- 31.8.1. Three (3) free visits will be allowed to the mound in a 7 or a 9-innings game. The fourth and any subsequent visit in a game will cause the removal of the pitcher. The second, and any subsequent visit in any one inning, will cause the removal of the pitcher.
- 31.8.1.1. All visits to the mound (including those by a manager or Coach between innings) be included as a visit in calculating the number of visits by a Manager or Coach has made.
- 31.8.2. No visit may be longer than 60 seconds to the mound (at the umpire's discretion). Time starts when the Coach / Manager crosses the foul line.
- 31.8.3. Should a game proceed into extra innings, then one (1) extra visit will be allowed for every three (3) innings or part thereof.
- 31.8.4. Pitching changes must be made by a visit to the mound. Any attempt to move the pitcher to a defensive position on a second visit by going directly to the Plate Umpire is a circumvention of the rule and is not permitted.
- 31.8.5. All substitutions must be made via the Plate Umpire and recorded by scorers. It is recommended that Managers send a runner to the scorer, where possible, with written advice of

substitutions to be made. NB: these substitutions do not come into effect until the umpire officially notifies the scorer.

## 32. PLAYER PARTICIPATION (UNDER-AGE ONLY)

For Under 16, Under 18, Youth Women's Championship there are mandatory participation requirements for all teams.

### 32.1. Mandatory play rules for Under 16, Under 18 and Youth Women NYC events

32.1.1. All players are required to meet minimum participation requirements.

32.1.2. Under 18 players can meet the requirements as a Pitcher only.

### 32.2. All games are to be included in meeting participation requirements

32.2.1. Participation requirements must be fulfilled by the completion of the championship, including any games played on the final day.

32.2.2. Failure to meet these requirements will result in the team concerned being deemed ineligible to record a win on the final day's play.

32.2.3. Medical grounds for failure to meet participation requirements must be verified to the satisfaction of the Championship Director.

### 32.3. Games

32.3.1. With the exception of Under 18 NYC pitchers, all players must play a minimum number of **COMPLETE GAMES**. A complete game is defined as one in which the player is part of the current line-up from start to the end of the 5th Inning of a 7 Inning Game, or the end of the 7th Inning of a 9 Inning Game, even if one or more of those innings was in a pitching capacity. (Please note below the regulations regarding a DH).

- In a championship consisting of 5 or 6 games, each player must play at least TWO (2) complete games
- In a championship consisting of 7 or 8 games, each player must play at least THREE (3) complete games.
- In a championship consisting of 9, 10 or 11 games, each player must play at least FOUR (4) complete games.
- In a championship consisting of 12, 13 or 14 games, each player must play at least FIVE (5) complete games.
- For the sake of this regulation, two (2) complete games as Designated Hitter is deemed to equate to one (1) complete game in any other position.
- Should any player pitch a Maximum assignment or a complete game, that assignment will constitute a complete game for the sake of this regulation, whether a DH was in use or not.
- The "complete game" requirement is reduced by one (1) game for a player who completes three (3) pitching assignments (as defined in Rule 33.1).
- In a series where the team plays at least 10 games, the "Complete Game" requirement is reduced by two games for a player who pitches at least three Substantial outings (as defined in Rule 33.1).

32.3.2. The "Complete Game" requirement cannot be further reduced by extra pitching duties.

### 32.4. Qualifying solely on the basis of pitching duties

32.4.1. Under 18's Pitchers may meet minimum participation requirements through their pitching duties alone by achieving specified minimums in both Batters Faced and assignments as a pitcher;

#### 32.4.2. Each pitcher must face a minimum number of hitters:

- In a championship of 6 or 7 games, each pitcher must face at least FIFTEEN (15) hitters.
- In a championship of 8 or 9 games, each pitcher must face at least EIGHTEEN (18) hitters.
- In a championship of 10, 11 or 12 games, each pitcher must face at least TWENTY-ONE (21) hitters.

#### 32.4.3. Additionally, a pitcher must have a minimum number of appearances.

- In a championship of 5, 6 or 7 days, each pitcher must make at least
  - ONE (1) appearance which qualifies as Maximum (as defined in Rule 33.1), or
  - TWO (2) appearances (unless one appearance qualifies as a Maximum, as defined in Rule 33.1).
- In a championship of 8, 9, 10 or 11 days, each pitcher must make at least
  - TWO (2) appearances which qualify as Maximum (as defined in Rule 33.1), or
  - THREE (3) appearances (unless two Maximum appearances are made).
- In a championship of 12 or more days, each pitcher must make at least
  - THREE (3) appearances which qualify as Maximum (as defined in Rule 33.1), or
  - FOUR (4) appearances, which qualify as Substantial (unless three Maximum appearances, as defined in Rule 33.1, are made).
  - FIVE (5) appearances (unless four Substantial or three Maximum appearances, as defined in Rule 33.1, are made).

#### 32.5. Professional Pitchers

State Associations must notify Baseball Australia of any professional pitchers with restrictions imposed by their employer, which may prevent them from meeting minimum requirements. Such notice is required two weeks in advance of the event's commencement date.

#### 32.6. Injury or illness

Should a player be rendered unavailable for a period of time due to illness or injury, the following shall apply.

32.6.1. The team is to provide the CD with written advice from a qualified medical officer detailing the period of time that the player is unable to participate.

32.6.2. Upon reactivation of the player, every endeavour must be made to have that player reach participation requirements. If this is impossible, the player's participation requirement will be at the discretion of the CD in consultation with the player's head coach.

32.6.3. It is the responsibility of team management to ensure that any medical documentation that a player is unfit to play must be supplied to CD.

#### 32.7. Monitoring participation

32.7.1. All substitutions must be made via the Plate Umpire and recorded by scorers. It is recommended that Managers send a runner to the scorer, where possible, with written advice of substitutions to be made. NB: these substitutions do not come into effect until the umpire officially notifies the scorer.

32.7.2. The scorers are required to provide participation information to the CD to enable the CD to monitor participation throughout the Championship.

32.7.3. As part of the duty to monitor participation, the CD will have the right to direct a manager to ensure that underused players are included in subsequent games if such inclusion is required for

that player to meet the participation minimum for the championship. Failure to adhere to this directive will be viewed as a very serious breach and will ordinarily result in the suspension of the manager for the remainder of the Championship.

### 32.8. Penalties for failing to adhere to participation regulations

Teams that do not meet participation requirements will have be deemed ineligible to officially record a win on their final day of competition and will be fined \$500.

## 33. PITCHING REGULATIONS – UNDER-AGE PLAYERS ONLY (AT ALL CHAMPIONSHIPS)

33.1. A pitcher's game contribution will be classified according to the number of pitches officially thrown:

Championship	Age	Daily Limit (Pitches)	Assignment (Pitches)				
			Short	Moderate	Substantial	Major	Maximum
AYWC	12	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
U16 NYC/AYWC		95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
U18 NYC		105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+

Exemption: If a pitcher reaches a threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs: (1) That batter reaches base; (2) That batter is retired; (3) The third out is made to complete the half inning or the game. The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendars day(s) rest of the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed, or the game is completed before delivering a pitch to another batter.

- 33.1.1. It will be the responsibility of the official scorer to notify the Chief Umpire and each team when a pitcher is within 10 pitches of the maximum allowable number (Maximum outings only).
- 33.1.2. A pitcher reaching his/her daily limit of pitches for a Maximum assignment is to be removed from the game once he/she has completed the batter or has been moved to Designated Hitter. However, if the pitcher retires that batter as the 3rd out of an inning, then that pitcher is entitled to take his place as a batter should he or she be due to hit in the next half inning.
- 33.1.3. The Umpire has the authority to police the pitching rule
- 33.1.4. Should any pitcher play out of their age group (for example, in the Women's Championships), the pitch limits and rest requirements relevant to that pitchers age must be adhered to, not those of the championship.
- 33.1.5. A Balk Pitch delivered to the plate whether it is hit safely or not shall be considered to be valid for the purpose of recording the "number of pitches".
- 33.1.6. A "no pitch", e.g., batter steps out of the batter's box and the pitcher delivers the pitch, shall not be included in the pitch count.

### 33.2. Rest Requirements

Assignment	Rest Period
Maximum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ One (1) days rest from any defensive role</li> <li>➤ An additional three (3), bringing the total to four (4) days rest from pitching</li> </ul>
Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ One (1) days rest from catching</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Three (3) days rest from pitching</li> </ul>
<b>Substantial</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ One (1) days rest from catching</li> <li>➤ Two (2) days rest from pitching</li> </ul>
<b>Moderate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ One (1) days rest from catching</li> <li>➤ One (1) days rest from pitching</li> </ul>
<b>Short</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Zero (0) days rest from pitching</li> </ul> <p>No rest days are required after a Short pitching assignment. However, for two (2) Short assignments on successive days or on the same day, one days'(1) rest are required from pitching and catching</p>

33.2.1. Any player pitching a Maximum assignment will be required to complete one day's rest before any playing participation except as a designated hitter or for pinch hitting and pinch running

33.2.2. For a Substantial/Major or Maximum Assignment

33.2.2.1. Once a pitcher has reached the above assignment, he or she is no longer eligible to play any other fielding position and must be removed from the game once the pitching assignment has been completed. If a player pitches a substantial in the first game of a double header, then he can only participate in the second game of a double header as a designated hitter, pinch hitter or runner.

33.2.3. No rest days are required after a Short pitching assignment. However, for two (2) Short assignments on successive days or on the same day, (1) One days' rest are required from pitching and catching

33.2.4. If a player is removed from pitching after completing a second Short assignment on the same day, he or she shall leave the game and may not participate any further on that day.

33.2.5. An "assignment" is any pitching role of any length in any game: the delivery of even one pitch shall be considered one assignment.

33.2.6. A player once removed, as a pitcher may not pitch again in the same game.

33.2.7. The scorers shall indicate in the scorebook the game contribution for each pitcher and when the pitcher may next play.

33.2.7.1. The Chief Umpire will be supplied, 30 minutes prior to the start of the game, a list of players who are ineligible to pitch. The CD will be responsible for the delivery of this information to the Chief Umpire and the two Managers/Head Coaches as soon as possible prior to the game.

33.2.8. The Umpire has the authority to police the pitching rule.

### 33.3. Penalties for failing to adhere to participation and/or pitching regulations

33.3.1. Using a pitcher who has not had the required rest in either a pitching or defensive capacity is considered a serious breach, as it exposes the player to an increased injury risk. In most cases, such use will be penalised by the suspension of the manager for at least one game, as well as the monetary penalty outlined below. In order to prevent managers flaunting this rule in the knowledge that the following game is a lesser priority, the duration of the suspension is at the discretion of the CD.



### 34. PITCHER/CATCHER RULE (For Under Age players at all Championships)

- 34.1. Any player you have played the position of catcher in four (4) or more innings, is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.
- 34.2. A pitcher exceeds a Short assignment in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of calendar day
- 34.3. **PENALTY: Immediate ejection from the game for first and subsequent offences. The offending team shall forfeit the game and the Manager/Head Coach shall be reported to the CD and dealt with by the tribunal.**

### 35. COLLISION RULE

#### 35.1. Collisions at home plate

- 35.1.1. A runner attempting to score may not deviate from his direct pathway to the plate in order to initiate contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate). If, in the judgment of the Umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the Umpire shall declare the runner out (even if the player covering home plate loses possession of the ball). In such circumstances, the Umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.
- 35.1.2. Rule of Baseball 7.13 Comment: The failure by the runner to make an effort to touch the plate, the runner's lowering of the shoulder, or the runner's pushing through with his hands, elbows or arms, would support a determination that the runner deviated from the pathway in order to initiate contact with the catcher in violation of Rule 7.13. If the runner slides into the plate in an appropriate manner, he shall not be adjudged to have violated Rule 7.13. A slide shall be deemed appropriate, in the case of a feet first slide, if the runner's buttocks and legs should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. In the case of a head first slide, a runner shall be deemed to have slid appropriately if his body should hit the ground before contact with the catcher.
- 35.1.3. Unless the catcher is in possession of the ball, the catcher cannot block the pathway of the runner as he is attempting to score. If, in the judgment of the Umpire, the catcher without possession of the ball blocks the pathway of the runner, the Umpire shall call or signal the runner safe. Notwithstanding the above, it shall not be considered a violation of this Rule 7.13 if the catcher blocks the pathway of the runner in order to field a throw, and the Umpire determines that the catcher could not have fielded the ball without blocking the pathway of the runner and that contact with the runner was unavoidable.

### 36. DESIGNATED HITTER RULES

- 36.1. A designated hitter may be used at all BA Championships.
- 36.2. For the purposes of meeting minimum participation levels, two complete games as a DH are required to equate to one complete game in any other role.
  - 36.2.1. This applies only to complete games as a designated hitter. Part games as a DH or pinch-hitting duties do not contribute to the assessment of participation levels.
- 36.3. No participation will be recognised for pinch runners.

- 36.4. The following is an option for under age Australian Championships only and should be read in conjunction with the Designated Hitter Rule.
- 36.4.1. A team may move the pitcher to the designated hitter's role and introduce a new pitcher anytime in the game, subject to Rule 36.4.3
- 36.4.2. Where the designated hitter has started the game, a once-only switch in roles between the pitcher and the designated hitter is allowed subject to Rule 36.4.3.
- 36.4.3. The manager may only initiate these changes directly with the plate umpire on the first visit to the pitcher during a defensive innings, or during an offensive innings.
- 36.4.4. A designated hitter that becomes the pitcher, or a pitcher who becomes the designated hitter may not participate in the game in any other way.
- 36.4.5. In any subsequent substitutions or positional changes following the once-only switch mentioned above, when a player comes from a defensive position or designated hitter to the mound, the designated hitter may not be used for the remainder of the game.

### 37. BALLS

- 37.1. For all Championships, BA will approve one brand to be used in games
- 37.2. BA will notify the competing States of the type of baseballs to be used one month before the event is to take place.
- 37.3. One match baseball shall be given to each team (30) thirty minutes before the scheduled starting time of each game to enable pitchers to warm up with the match baseball. These baseballs are to be handed to the Chief Umpire before the start of the game.
- 37.4. Warm-up balls will not be provided for relief pitchers.

### 38. EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

Each Championship has certain specifications for equipment and uniforms

#### 38.1. Face Masks

- 38.1.1. All catchers must wear a mask, attached-type throat protector and a catcher's helmet during infield/outfield practice, pitcher warm-up and games (this includes catcher's helmets with built in face mask). Any player or coach warming up a pitcher shall wear a face mask and a helmet no matter whether in the bull pen or on the playing field.

#### 38.2. Baseball Caps

- 38.2.1. Baseball caps are regarded as part of the playing uniform and must be worn by all coaches and players, including catchers, at all times during a game unless where substituted by a protective helmet.

#### 38.3. Warm-up Jackets

- 38.3.1. When his team is on offence, a pitcher or a relieved pitcher may wear a team warm-up jacket once he reaches base.

#### 38.4. Bats

- 38.4.1. Bats for use in all U18 and U25 Australian Championships must be wood, or wood composite/laminated, as approved by BA.
- 38.4.2. The use of "Blast Motion" sensors, or similar are permitted throughout the Championship.

- 38.4.3. Bats for Youth Women, and Women's may be wood, wood composite/laminated, aluminium, ceramic or carbon graphite. In accordance with IBAF rules, 1.15 decibels will be the sound emission limit standard for non-wood bats.
- Youth Women - a bat may be no more than 34 inches in length; nor more than 2 5/8th inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than 15/16ths inches in diameter at its smallest part. The minimum diameter for a bat, which is less than 30" long, is 7/8ths of an inch at its smallest part.
- 38.4.4. Under 16 Composite & aluminium bats are permitted provided they meet the following standards:
- It shall not be more than 36 inches in length, nor more than 2 5/8 inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part.
  - The bat shall not weigh, numerically, more than three ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 33-inch-long bat cannot weigh less than 30 ounces).
  - All bats not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be so labelled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification mark.
  - The certification mark shall be rectangular, a minimum of a half-inch on each side and located on the barrel of the bat in any contrasting colour.
  - Aluminium and composite bats shall be marked as to their material makeup being aluminium or composite. This marking shall be silkscreen or other permanent certification mark, a minimum of one-half-inch on each side and located on the barrel of the bat in any contrasting colour.

### 38.5. Uniforms

The Rules of Baseball in relation to uniforms shall apply to all Championships.

- 38.5.1. All players on a team shall wear numbered uniforms identical in colour, trim and style.
- 38.5.2. Each State shall register, by notification to BA no less than 2 months prior to any Australian Championship, the design and colour of uniforms to be worn by its State team and no changes will be allowed to such uniforms without first obtaining the consent of the Federation. All uniforms must be numbered.
- 38.5.3. White undershirts will not be approved as part of a team's uniform.
- 38.5.4. All members of competing teams, including coaches, will wear the same colour uniforms.
- 38.5.5. If there are any clashes in uniform colours, the Away team is to change their choice of uniform colour for that game. It is the responsibility of the Away team to contact the Home team to ensure that no such clashes occur.
- 38.5.6. All teams are required to provide numbered warm-up tops/batting practice tops for all players at National Youth Championships. Players must participate in these tops with their number clearly visible during all warm-ups. If these tops are not provided then players must warm-up in their playing tops with numbers clearly visible.

### 38.6. Footwear

- 38.6.1. In Youth Women's only shoes with flexible, soft stops or dimple type soles can be worn. In all other Championships, the use of nylon and rubber stop soles is permitted and metal cleats can be worn.
- 38.6.2. No colour is specified for footwear, but to project a professional image of the game it is recommended that a team's footwear be uniform in colour.
- 38.6.3. Host Venues may make further restrictions on footwear to protect artificial surfaces or to meet local ordinance conditions.

### 38.7. Protective Helmets

- 38.7.1. Each team must provide an adequate number of protective helmets as approved by BA. Double-eared helmets will be mandatory in all Championships for the hitter, the hitter on deck, the base runners and the batboy. Base coaches are required to wear 'skull cap' style helmets (i.e., without ear covers).
- 38.7.2. All catchers are required to wear protective headgear and shall wear a protective throat guard.
- 38.7.3. All helmets are required to comply with the International Safety standard endorsed by NOCSAE (National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment) - Standard Performance Specification for Newly Manufactured Baseball/Softball Batter's Helmets. ND022-10m10b
- 38.7.4. All helmets worn must have the safety logo on the helmet. Each Championship Director will randomly check one team's helmets for safety purposes.

### 38.8. Line-Up Cards

- 38.8.1. All players eligible to play in a game must be listed on the line-up card handed to the Plate Umpire at the home plate meeting. However, in the event of an oversight in which an eligible player is omitted from the original line-up card will not prevent that player from entering the game.
- 38.8.2. Copy of Line-up will be issued to Scorers 60 minutes prior to the commencement of each game. On a day where a team is playing back-to-back double-header the line-up for the second game will be due with the scorers 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the game.

## 39. SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Selection Committee for National Programs will operate under the guidance of the BA's Head of High Performance, or an appointed representative, who shall act as Chairman.

## 40. TROPHIES

No trophies will be made available or awarded to teams or individuals winning the Championship without prior reference to and prior approval from BA.

### 40.1. Winning State

- 40.1.1. A perpetual trophy is awarded to the winning team of each Australian Championship
- 40.1.2. It is the responsibility of the State winning the Championship to have the team trophy suitably engraved, and to be responsible for the proper care of the trophy during the period until the next Championship. It must also ensure that the trophy is available at the venue conducting the next Championship for further presentation. Any damage or need for maintenance of a trophy should be reported to the Federation.

### 40.2. Medallions for First, Second and Third-placed teams

Players, manager, assistant coaches, executive officer, are to receive a suitable medallion, such medallions to be supplied by BA. Umpires from the winning state do not receive medallions.

#### 40.3. Individual Trophies and Awards

For Australian Championships, the following individual awards may be recognised at the discretion of the National Team Head Coach:

- Most Valuable Player
- Golden Bat
- Golden Glove
- Golden Arm

### 41. REPORTED PLAYERS/ OFFICIALS

#### 41.1. Championships will Govern Players, Coaches, and officials in this manner

41.1.1. Once the player/official has been ejected from the game, the umpire writes an official report and delivers the report to the Umpires Coordinator, who will then discuss the offence/s with the Championship Director and BA Representative to determine if a tribunal is warranted.

41.1.2. Should any player, coach or manager be ejected by an umpire for the person concerned will receive a mandatory game suspension plus time served.

41.1.3. The tribunal is authorised to impose whatever penalty is deemed necessary.

41.1.4. Full details of the tribunal matter will be submitted to the Chief Operating Officer of BA within one month after the completion of the Championship.

#### 41.2. Tribunal procedures at Australian Championships

41.2.1. Any tribunal hearing during a Championship, whether related to an on-field or off-field incident, must be finalised prior to the next game in which the parties are involved.

41.2.2. The Tribunal will be composed of the CD, at least one BA Official (or his/her appointed representative) along with one member appointed by BA. It will not include any members of a competing team's staff or delegation. It is empowered to make determinations regarding rule infringements of BA Playing Rules.

#### 41.3. Tribunal Process

41.3.1. Once the CD is made aware of any matter for which the Championship Tribunal is required, he/she sets the tribunal hearing date/time and venue. The CD shall then personally make contact by telephone or in person with tribunal members (and minutes secretary) and the relevant parties (player /coach/official to be advised via their Executive Officer) to advise the particulars of the Tribunal meeting.

41.3.2. The CD shall clearly indicate to all parties the reason for the tribunal hearing (e.g. player ejection, purported breach of BA playing rules).

41.3.3. The tribunal shall be held in closed session whilst being cognisant of the principles of natural justice and will determine any matters in accord with the following procedural steps:

41.3.3.1. The CD shall assume the role of Tribunal Chairperson and will preside over the Tribunal proceedings, which shall be minuted by a minute secretary appointed by BA.

41.3.3.2. The umpire concerned shall present his version of the facts to the tribunal in the presence of the ejected person and his or her Executive Officer. The Executive Officer shall be entitled to then ask questions in a reasonable manner to clarify matters in dispute.

- 41.3.3.3. The umpire may at his or her discretion present other evidence (scorebook, other umpire etc.) for corroborative purposes. The other evidence shall be made available during the tribunal sitting to the Executive Officer for examination/questioning.
- 41.3.3.4. The Tribunal Chairperson and/or any Tribunal Member shall be entitled at any time during the hearing to ask questions of the parties to clarify any evidence where such clarification assists in the tribunal's deliberations.
- 41.3.3.5. Upon completing the presentation of their evidence, the umpire and his or her witnesses shall be asked to leave the room but remain in the general area in case they are needed for any points of clarification.
- 41.3.3.6. The Executive Officer (EO), (or in the case of a breach regarding an adult, the alleged perpetrator) is then invited to put forward the case for the alleged offender/or their team.
- 41.3.3.7. The player/coach/official shall be given a reasonable time to explain his position when presenting their version of the incident. The EO may ask questions of his team member to assist in presenting his version of the facts and to clarify any points.
- 41.3.3.8. The Tribunal Members only shall be entitled to cross-examine the player/coach/official in regard to the facts presented.
- 41.3.3.9. The EO may present any written evidence (e.g. Scorebook) and/or call a reasonable number of other witnesses for corroboration. Such witnesses may be subject to questions in cross-examination by tribunal members.
- 41.3.3.10. The EO is then invited by the Tribunal to add any comment in summary relating to the facts presented. At the conclusion of their evidence, the EO, the ejected individual and any witnesses are to leave the confines of the room whilst the members of the tribunal consider the facts.
- 41.3.3.11. Once a decision has been reached, the EO and ejected individual are re-called in order to be presented with the Tribunal's decision by the Chairperson.
- 41.3.3.12. Where a discretionary penalty is to be applied, the EO and ejected individual are given the opportunity to speak in mitigation of this penalty.
- 41.3.3.13. After making such a plea, they shall once again leave the room whilst the facts are summarised objectively by the CD and a determination of any discretionary penalty is finalised.
- 41.3.3.14. The EO and ejected individual are then recalled, and the Tribunal Chairperson shall announce penalty and close the hearing.
- 41.3.3.15. At the conclusion of the hearing, the minute secretary shall prepare the minutes of the proceedings, which shall be signed by the Chairperson as a true and correct record. The EO shall be advised in writing (notice prepared by minute secretary) of the penalty as announced by the Tribunal Chairperson and the Chairperson shall sign such notice.
- 41.3.3.16. The penalty and any other relevant matters are then enacted.
- 41.3.3.17. The minutes of the tribunal hearing are to be submitted to the Chief Operating Officer of BA within one month following the Championships for validation of penalty; for example, where discretionary fines are applicable.

41.3.3.18. Note: Whilst, for the sake of thoroughness and due process, there are a number of steps depicted above, every effort should be made to carry out the Tribunal proceedings in an informal manner.

## 42. PENALTIES FOR INFRINGEMENT OF RULES

- 42.1. A field rule violation is defined as the breaking of any rule in a game. The penalty for a breach of BA playing rules, unless otherwise specified in BA Operations Manual for Championships, may be a fine of up to a maximum of \$500 – levied against the State body.
- 42.1.1. The penalty for breaching BA Procedural Regulations (pre/post program) is a fine of up to \$500 for any one offence.
- 42.1.2. The penalty for breaches of Code of Conduct agreements is also a fine of up to \$500 for any one offence, possible ejection from the game and, at the discretion of the tribunal, suspension or dismissal from the Championship.
- 42.2. When an offending team in breach of the pitching rules has won the game, then that team loses the game on a forfeit. The non-offending team will be awarded the game on a 9-0-forfeit basis and will be awarded the points. If the offending team loses the game, the violation shall be reported to the CD for consideration of imposition of penalty. Where the non-offending team wins the game with a score more favourable than 9-0, then the actual score shall stand.
- 42.3. If there are breaches of the Rules where there are no penalties prescribed, then the CD is to rule on the matter in the best interests of the game. Such penalties may be levied as financial penalties or include suspension from a number of games or even the whole Championships.
- 42.4. If a team is presented with a situation where they run out of eligible players to field a team or enter the game, it is grounds for forfeit. Forfeiting the game is sufficient punishment in this situation if it is unpreventable.

<b>Women's (Baseball Australia)</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Winner</b>
2000	Victoria
2001	Victoria
2002	Victoria
2003	New South Wales
2004	Victoria
2005	Victoria
2006	New South Wales
2007	Victoria
2008	Victoria

2009	Victoria
2010	Western Australia
2011	Victoria
2012	Western Australia
2013	Victoria Blue
2014	New South Wales
2015	New South Wales
2016	New South Wales
2017	Victoria Blue
2018	New South Wales

<b>Yth Women (Simone Wearne Trophy)</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Winner</b>
2012	New South Wales
2013	New South Wales

2014	New South Wales
2015	New South Wales
2016	Western Australia
2017	New South Wales
2018	Victoria



<b>U16 (Keith Cant Trophy)</b>		1991	Western Australia	2006	New South Wales
<b>Year</b>	<b>Winner</b>	1992	Victoria	2007	Country NSW
1978	South Australia	1993	New South Wales	2008	Western Australia
1979	South Australia	1994	Victoria	2009	Victoria
1980	Victoria	1995	New South Wales	2010	Victoria Blue
1981	New South Wales	1996	Country Baseball NSW	2011	Queensland
1982	New South Wales	1997	New South Wales	2012	New South Wales
1983	New South Wales	1998	New South Wales	2013	Western Australia
1984	Queensland	1999	Western Australia	2014	New South Wales Country
1985	Victoria	2000	New South Wales	2015	Victoria Blue
1986	Western Australia	2001	Victoria	2016	South Australia
1987	New South Wales	2002	New South Wales	2017	Victoria
1988	New South Wales	2003	Queensland	2018	New South Wales
1989	Victoria	2004	Victoria		
1990	Western Australia	2005	Western Australia		
<b>U18 (Jim Brown Shield)</b>		1971	Victoria	1995	New South Wales
<b>Year</b>	<b>Winners</b>	1972	New South Wales	1996	Queensland
1938	South Australia	1973	New South Wales	1997	New South Wales
1939	New South Wales	1974	Victoria	1998	New South Wales
1940	New South Wales	1975	Victoria	1999	New South Wales
1947	South Australia	1976	Victoria	2000	Victoria
1948	South Australia	1977	Victoria	2001	New South Wales
1949	South Australia	1978	Victoria	2002	New South Wales
1950	Victoria	1979	Victoria	2003	Victoria
1951	New South Wales	1980	Victoria	2004	Victoria
1952	South Australia	1981	South Australia	2005	New South Wales
1953	South Australia	1982	Victoria	2006	Western Australia
1954	South Australia	1983	South Australia	2007	Western Australia
1955	Victoria	1984	Victoria	2008	Queensland
1956	South Australia	1985	Victoria	2009	Queensland
1957	Victoria	1986	Queensland	2010	New South Wales
1958	South Australia	1987	New South Wales	2011	New South Wales
1959	South Australia	1988	South Australia	2012	New South Wales
1960	South Australia	1989	Victoria	2013	New South Wales
1961	Victoria	1990	New South Wales	2014	Queensland
1962	South Australia	1991	Western Australia	2015	New South Wales
1967	Victoria	1992	Victoria		New South Wales Country
1968	New South Wales	1993	Victoria	2016	Country
1969	Victoria	1994	New South Wales	2017	Western Australia
				2018	South Australia







# BASEBALL

## AUSTRALIA