*7/8 ORTHODOX SOFTBALL – SOUTH*

**A. Tournament Format**

1. Boys and Girls team, 2 teams maximum per gender
2. Separate North and South Tournaments, with no Cross-over Championship
3. Tournament approximate date: 2nd week of June

**SOFTBALL CANADA RULES APPLY- WITH THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS:**

[Softball Canada](http://www.softball.ca/english/about/regulations/rules.html)

**B. Game Format:**

1. Official Ball- Worth RED Dot Softball 12” (supplied by convener)

2. Pitching & Baseline distance

BOYS: 40ft pitching plate and 60ft baseline

GIRLS: 38ft pitching plate 60ft baseline

3. Games and Play-offs format

4. Games consist of 5 innings or 1 hour 30min duration, whichever comes first.

5. No new innings after 1hr20min. Score reverts back to last full inning played.

6. 10 run mercy rule after 3 innings.

7. Max of 6 run cap per inning or 3 outs, whichever comes first. The last inning will have no capping on number of runs.

8. Score sheets to be used to keep track of score and proper substitution/playing time. Coaches must confirm score after every at bat.

9. Banners go out to the winning team

10. Ribbons given to Champions and Finalists.

11. The Convener has the final decision on the game time factor

12. Entry fee is $75 per team to cover the cost of the umpires, diamond rentals and game balls (provided)

**C. Game specific rules and scenarios:**

1. All players MUST wear long pants. Shorts are permitted if they are wear knee socks with proper sliding shorts underneath. **(A NON-NEGOTIABLE FOR SAFETY REASONS).**

2. Helmets and chin straps must be worn by batters and base runners

3. Catchers wear full equipment (chest protector, full face mask/helmet, shin guards)

4. Base runner must touch home plate on a run

5. Bunting is not permitted

6. Batting order must consist of whole team; however 10 players can only be on the field defensively (at discretion of the coach)

7. No advance of a batter being hit by a pitch (time to get out of the way)

8. Pitchers must pitch underhand only (no windmill pitches permitted).

ONE foot must be on the pitching plate to begin the pitch.

9. Base runners can lead off when ball leaves pitcher’s hands, however NO stealing is permitted. Base runners can advance on a hit, NOT on a passed ball by the back catcher.

10. A batter can run on a passed ball on a 3rd strike ONLY when 1st base is not occupied

11. Infield fly rule is in effect (Runners on 1st and 2nd with less than 2 outs) – batter pops up in the infield results in an automatic out for batter)

12. Four fielders will be allowed in the field (to add an additional player to line-up). This additional player must be in an outfield position.

13. Safety base will be used – batter must touch orange base, 1st baseman must touch white base

14. When there is a play at first base, the base runner must touch the orange half of the base while the first baseman must touch white half of the base.

**D. Playoffs**

* Play-offs –International tie breaker rule will be in effect during games in play-offs.
* To break ties in standings, win/loss record and points for and against will be used