
Hong Kong Softball Association
61st Festival of Sport 2018
Playing Rules

The Rules and Regulations governing the Festival of Sport Tournament shall be the International Softball Federation (ISF) Rules, and subject to the Local Ground Rules of Hong Kong Softball Association where otherwise expressly stated or provided. The Hong Kong Softball Association, subject to prior notice, reserves the right to make alterations and amendments to any of the rules mentioned below.

1. Playing Rules

- 1.1. All teams registered in the Open League 2017-2018 season are entitled to join the 61st Festival of Sport (FOS) tournament.
- 1.2. ALL the FOS matches will be scheduled to play in March and April.
- 1.3. The playing format of FOS in each division shall be a single-elimination knockout series. The knockout brackets of the teams were decided by 'draw lots' in the Team Managers' Meeting.
- 1.4. There shall be seven divisions in the FOS tournament, including MA-Super + MA, MB-Gold, MB-Blue, MC, WA, WB-Gold and WB-Blue.
- 1.5. Trophies will be awarded to the Champion and runner-up in each division.
- 1.6. All the groups in MC will be combined into one MC division in this knockout tournament.
- 1.7. Any team under no circumstances is allowed to request for a game postponement in FOS. If a team has less than nine (9) uniformed players present on the field to start the game or continue the game, the game will be considered as a "walkover" by the opposing team. The **HK\$1000** deposit from the offended team will be forfeited when giving a "walkover". Any team, which gives a total of two "walkovers" in open league games and/or FOS tournament, will automatically be ejected from its league and associated competition for the remaining season.
- 1.8. The choice of Home or Away team shall be decided by coin-toss before the game.

2. The game

- 2.1. All scheduled games must be started on time and no delay is allowed.
- 2.2. The run-ahead rules for all divisions (MA-Super + MA, MB-Gold, MB-Blue, MC, WA, WB-Gold and WB-Blue.) are:
 - Fifteen (15) runs after three innings;
 - Ten (10) runs after four innings;
 - Seven (7) runs after five innings
- 2.3. In case of adverse weather condition, the rain-out games will be put off till the following weekends or during the following weekdays, week or day double-headers will be scheduled as needed.
- 2.4. MA-Super + MA, MB-Gold and WA Knockout Series
 - 2.4.1. No extra inning shall be stated after the game has been played for 1 hr. 25 min. (85 min.).

- 2.4.2. A regulation game shall be called after the completion of the top half of the inning when the game has been played for 1 hr. 25 min. (85 min.) and if when the home team is leading.
- 2.4.3. If a game is in a draw or if the away team is leading when the game has been played for 1 hr. 25 min. (85 min.), the game should be continued until the completion of the inning or when the home team turns the defeat.
- 2.4.4. The final game for MA-Super + MA, MB-Gold or WA shall consist of either seven (7) innings, or for a maximum of 1 hour and 40 min. (100 min), whichever comes first.
- 2.5. MB-Blue, MC, WB-Gold, WB-Blue Knockout Series
 - 2.5.1. The 9th batter rules shall be used in the MB-Blue, MC, WB-Gold, WB-Blue divisions.
 - 2.5.2. No extra inning shall be started after the game has been played for 1 hr. 20 min. (80 min.).
 - 2.5.3. A regulation game shall be called after the completion of the top half of the inning when the game has been played for 1 hr. 20 min. (80 min.) and if when the home team is leading.
 - 2.5.4. A game shall be called if one team leads the other by 10 runs or more when the game has been played for 1 hr. 20 min. (80 min.).
 - 2.5.5. If a game is in a draw or if the away team is leading (less than 10 runs) when the game has been played for 1 hr. 20 min. (80 min.), the game should be continued until the completion of the inning or when the home team turns the defeat.
 - 2.5.6. The final game for MC-Blue, MC, WB-Gold and WB-Blue shall consist of either seven (7) innings, or for a maximum of 1 hour and 40 min. (100 min.), whichever comes first.

3. Tiebreaker

- 3.1. A tiebreaker system shall be played in the FOS knockout series if the game is tied after the game has been played up to the time limit in all divisions.
- 3.2. In a tiebreaker situation, the offending team must place a base-runner on second base who is scheduled to bat ninth in that respective half-inning and play until the score is decided one way or the other.
- 3.3. The player(s) who is/are positioned as a runner/runners in tiebreaker can be substituted in accordance with the substitution rules.

Commissioner of League Affairs
(Revised on 25th October 2017)