

SOUTHLAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (INC)

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Deferred Games As we are due to start on Saturday, there have been two requests for deferred games. This is fine, but there are some rules that go along with this request.

- The team requesting the deferred game must contact the drawn opposition and ask them to play on an alternative date.
- If the opposition agrees, the game must be played either on the same week it is drawn, or before the next drawn game. i.e. the deadline for the game to be played is within 10 days.
- If the opposition does not agree to defer the game, then the team requesting the deferred game must default.
- We can also point out that if you know that you will want a deferred game before the game is drawn, then you could organise this game prior to the draw coming out, if the opposition agrees.

Sportsmanship We would ask that all games be played in a sportsman like manner, as in some cases, the games could be one sided. Players should remain friendly and not get into any arguments with the umpires or the opposition players. If everyone is flexible and considerate, then we are in for a remarkable and great season. With some very young teams, we will all do what we can to help them, as they are our future players.

Time Limit Games Please remind your teams that all afternoon games will be 1 and 3/4 hour time limit games, not 1 and 1/2 hours as played other seasons. Once the time is up, the game stops, regardless of where the innings is. If the innings are uneven, then the score will go back to the last completed innings. The scorer will be the official time keeper.

Draw Requests Each Club needs to co-ordinate draw requests from their teams and send them in in one email. One email is more likely to be acted on than several one request emails. These requests should be sent to the Draw Convenor, Grant Smith at Grant@smithsnz.com, with copies going to Russell Finlay, finmort@xtra.co.nz and to Elaine Karsten, karstenz@xtra.co.nz Thank you.

Bar Support We do need all teams to support our Bar in the Clubrooms. The more we can take over the Bar, the more we can do to help everyone. The Bar will be opening at 3-00pm each Saturday. For the younger players in your team, we have a good range of non-alcoholic drinks. The Bar is a great place for teams to socialise after games are completed. We are the envy of many Associations throughout NZ, as we have all games in the one area and the Bar right there as well.

Training where diamonds are going to be marked It has been noted that, even although they have been asked not to, teams are training where D21 and D23 are to be marked. These are the standby diamonds for the Premier grade if D1 and D2 are out. These were the worst diamonds as far as being cut up around and in the batter's boxes last season, purely because teams were training there. We ask again please do not train where you know diamonds are to be marked. You must train inbetween the diamonds. All nets will be up after tomorrow, so please avoid when training.

Under 11 Slingshot Machines If your team is the last to play on the Under 11 diamond where the slingshot machine is provided, then could you please bring the machine back to the porch in the Pavilion. Thank you.

Morning Scorecards These will be put on the table in the porch for collection. Once your game is complete, could you please put back in the porch with the result beside each team. Thank you.

Games Starting on Time To keep games flowing and on time, the scorer will be at the diamond ¼ of an hour before the afternoon games are scheduled to start. This means that the first duty of the coach or team representative is to fill out the names on the provided team sheets. Time and time again the teams are warming up and not within calling distance. Please make the filling in of the team sheets your first priority. The scorer does not mind if you give them a piece of paper with the batting order and the position each person is playing. **PLEASE GIVE CHRISTIAN AND SURNAMENAMES TO THE SCORER.** Also, please advise your player umpires to do everything in their power to start on time.

Representative Coaches Vacancies We have two representative coaching and managing vacancies for the 2012/2013 season. They are:

Development Team (Boys) This team is made up young development players, assisted by two or three older players. This team travels to Christchurch on the first weekend of December to take part in the Jefferies Cup Tournament. We require a coach, an assistant coach, and a manager.

Under 17 Girls Like the Under 19 Boys, both Otago and Central Otago have asked Southland to go in with them to create a Lower South Island Under 17 Girl's team. Each Association has between four or five core players to make up this team., so it makes sense to combine and send the strongest team we can. There is a big difference between Under 15 SI and Under 17 National Tournaments.

Return of Bases Lastly, don't forget that the winning team brings in the bases from the last played game on the diamond where their game is played.

We seem to be full of demands, don't we, but when you think about it, the more everyone co-operates, the easier the season will be.

Thank you all and good luck to everyone this season in the local competitions, as we have to have all of these club players to get to the next level. We all hope that the weather is kind to us and we have a great season.

Regards
Elaine