



General Rules Book

2018

BC Seniors Games Society
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Terminology

Definitions:

1. **“Host Committee”** is a committee within a community which is formed to prepare and submit a bid application to host the 55+ BC Games. When a community is awarded a Games, the committee registers as a Society.
2. **“Host Society”** is the registered Society consisting of a Board of Directors elected by the Host Community to administer the 55+ BC Games. “Host Society” is also referred to when relating to Games financial and/or community matters.
3. **“Host Community”** is the overall community which has been awarded to host the 55+ BC Games. “Host Community” is a general term and may be used interchangeably with “Host Society”. Where joint communities are awarded to host the Games, they will be referred to as “Host Communities”; however, only one Society will be registered and formed, which will encompass joint communities.
4. **“A Zone”** refers to any of the 12 BCSGS Zones pertaining to geographical regions of British Columbia as established by the BC Seniors Games Society (see map and Zone descriptions on our website).
5. **“Host Zone”** is the geographic location of the community which is hosting the 55+ BC Games.
6. **“BCSGS”** refers to BC Seniors Games Society.
7. A **“team”** consists of two (pair) or more persons.
8. **“Games”** refers to the 55+ BC Games.

General Rules

1. Membership

Membership in the BC Seniors Games Society is open to all permanent residents of British Columbia who are 19 years and older. The membership year is from January 1st to December 31st with the annual membership fee being \$20 which is non-refundable under any circumstances.

To compete in the 55+ BC Games each year, a resident would sign up and pay a participant fee to the zone in which they make their permanent residence. Participants will fall into the age category as of December 31st of the year of the Games (the exception being in Track & Field where the participant must be their correct age, i.e., as of the first day of competition).

The Province has 12 zones plus isolation areas. Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 are considered large zones, while zones 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 12 are considered small. Large and small zones come under different rules in some situations. Isolation areas have been declared in four areas of the province: Bella Bella (zone 2); Haida Gwaii (zone 10); Atlin* and Dease Lake* (zone 11), and Fort Nelson (zone 12). * These communities have been given the option of transferring to the Yukon Seniors Games Society. (*considered as two separate areas).

Participants from isolation area:

- (1) Are eligible to compete for their isolation area but are considered as part of the geographical zone.
- (2) May advance directly to the 55+ BC Games from their isolation area.
- (3) Register as for a regular zone, but the number of their registered participants will not count against the eligible numbers for the geographical zone.
- (4) Five-Pin bowlers from isolation areas must compete as part of the overall zone team.

2. Participation and Categories

(a) Each Participant shall compete only for the zone in which they make their permanent residence. Exceptions to this rule may be considered for completing a team. Please refer to Policies and Procedures, cross zone information for further explanation.

(b) Participants are allowed to compete in only ONE sport at the Games, but may compete in more than one event within that sport, i.e. tennis singles and doubles.

(c) Some sports have more than one age category. A person must **not be displaced** by someone wishing to play in a younger or more competitive category.

(d) It is possible to play down in age category in all sports, except Pickle ball where you may only play up.

(e) Giving false information on your registration form may result in disqualification of yourself or your team.

(f) Prior to their first competition, participants may be required to show photo I.D. and should be wearing their accreditation badge to show to the Sport Chair.

(g) Every team with more than 5 participants must have a UNIQUE and different name (maximum two words). This name must be entered on the sports form e.g. Hunting Eagles

(h) Membership in a Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) is **not a requisite** for participation in the 55+ BC Games. Participants are however encouraged to look into/join membership in PSO's for other benefits that might accrue.

(i) Individuals or teams that cancel for reasons other than illness or injuries, shall not be refunded any fees by the Society or Zone. Sport cancelled by the Society will result in a refund of participation and sport fees. Supporters of participants affected by competition being cancelled by the Host Society are also eligible for a refund of their supporter fees. Membership fees are non-refundable under any circumstances.

(j) In team sports with 5 or more players, a participant can play on one team only, the exception being Dragon Boat Racing where a woman can compete in both a women's team as well as in a mixed team.

(k) All participants must be members in good standing of the BC Seniors Games Society before competing in any Zone playoff/tryouts or being named to compete in any sport.

3. Zone Playoffs

(a) Zone playoffs will be held in all sports for which there are entries sufficient enough to require eliminations to meet zone entry quotas.

(b) Zone playoffs are held for the purpose of determining which eligible zone participants qualify to represent the zone at the annual 55+ BC Games. Medals shall not be awarded at zone playoffs in any playoff sport.

(c) Zone playoffs should be completed at the discretion of the zones so that a participant's registration paperwork is completed and submitted to the registrar so as to meet the zone's registration deadline.

4. Accreditation

All participants and supporters should report to the Accreditation Centre at the 55+ BC Games either on Tuesday or Wednesday (according to the start date for their sport). Exact accreditation times will be posted on the 55+ BC Games and Host Society websites. Accreditation badges, sport schedules and other information will be in the participants package available at the Accreditation Centre.

If unable to attend in person, participants must arrange to have their accreditation package picked up for them. A designated person may pick up a team's package, or a partner's package, or two individual's packages using the Accreditation Package pick up Form. The designated individual must show I.D. and sign for the package/s. Those not picked up will be classified as 'no shows'. 'No show' means that the participant will not be allowed to compete in the 55+ BC Games.

5. Spares, Replacements and Cross Zone Participants

(a) Spares:

"Spares" shall be defined as the currently registered extra participant referred to in the rules of a specific sport. (Bocce, 5-Pin Bowling, Carpet Bowling, Floor Curling, Ice Curling). When and how a spare may be used will also be governed by those specific sport rules, or those rules as amended for the 55+ BC Games. When a team plays more than one game a day, the spare must play one of the games. Spares register as participants and must be assigned to one team only as shown on the sport form.

(b) Replacements:

Replacements shall be defined as a currently registered or new member who is willing to be upgraded to replace a participant on a team.

(c) Cross zone participant:

A cross zone participant is a registered member who is willing to participate on a team for another zone.

- (1) No requests by name
- (2) Only current members may place their name on the list
- (3) Members not placed until 10 days before registration closes
- (4) Gold medal winners may not have the same cross zone partner the following year, or be on the same gold medal team the next year.

(d) The Host Society is asked to have a list of possible replacements, in case they are needed once the 55+ BC Games have begun. These names are to be forwarded to the Rules Committee Chair.

6. Teams / Individuals not completing competition

(a) Where a team/individual, once the 55+ BC Games have begun, is unable to complete a full competition schedule due to illness, injury or like cause, to one or more members of the team or to an individual, then:

(1) the results/points already scored shall stand and be recorded in the final results of the competition;

(2) the results/points scored by opponents shall likewise stand and be recorded in the final results of the competition;

(3) the pre-arranged schedule of events shall not be altered to accommodate such a withdrawal, and scheduled opponent(s) shall be accorded a forfeit, which shall be recorded as a win;

(4) if this happens in a gold/silver medal play-off round, the opponent(s) shall be awarded the gold medal and the team/individual affected shall receive the silver medal. Bronze medal finalists shall not be elevated to contest for the silver/bronze medals, but will continue to play-off for the bronze medal.

(b) Where a team/individual, once the 55+ BC Games have begun, makes a decision to withdraw from competition for reasons other than illness, injury or like cause (e.g. a losing record, disagreement with the conduct of the competition, etc.), then:

(1) all accrued results/points will be forfeited, and such withdrawal may result in the Zone team/individual being barred from competing in the next 55+ BC Games;

(2) rules (a) (2) and (a) (3) above, will apply;

(3) if the withdrawal takes place in a gold/silver medal play-off round, the opponent(s) shall be awarded the gold medal and the bronze medal finalists shall play-off for the silver and bronze medals.

7. Rules, Draws, and Schedules

(a) The Host Society must stage the sports in accordance with the rules as determined in the individual sports organization rules documents, except for the adjustment as noted in the rules books. Any deviations can only be permitted with the approval of the Chair of the Rules Committee.

(b) In those events where a draw is necessary, the Host Sport Chair shall (if possible) avoid scheduling players from the same zone competing against each other early in the draw.

(c) In order to balance a schedule the Host Society may be asked by the Rules Committee to add competitors to an event. Competitors would pay the BCSGS Membership fee and the cost of the Friday night social event would be optional. These competitors would be eligible for medals if they choose to pay the registration fee and sports fee (if applicable).

(d) Draws and schedules will be completed within one week prior to accreditation day. Copies of schedules will be included in each participant's accreditation package for their respective sport showing the venue location, time of competition and the name of opponent and zone, where applicable. (These schedules will be posted on the website within one week prior to the start date of the 55+ BC Games, or earlier if all schedules have been completed.) All are subject to change, if necessary.

(e) The prepared Track and Field schedule is within the Track and Field rules and if changes are needed because of the venue, they must be given to the BCSGS Rules Chair by January 15, year of the 55+ BC Games.

(f) At the close of registration, sport categories with FEWER than 3 entries will be cancelled. The affected participants will be notified and given 3 days to enter a different sport or category, or to place their name on the cross zone list, being assured of a refund. 80+ participants are not affected by this rule.

8. Grace Period

(a) Participants in individual events who have not reported to begin the event at the scheduled start time could be subject to disqualification. (See specific sport rules.)

9. Zone Standings

Under review – to be referred to the Development Committee

10. Disputes or Protests

1) Games Level

(a) Prior to the Games:

(1) Any disputes in terms of the application of these rules to the eligibility/numbers of participants from zones, or any other matter raised

by zones shall be referred to the Chair of the Rules Committee, whose ruling shall be final in such matters.

(b) At the Games:

(1) Disputes or protests are to be made in writing, signed and given to the Host Sport Chair within one hour of the incident.

(2) The time, date and location of the incident must be noted.

(3) In the case of a team event, only the manager (or captain if there is no manager) of the team may sign the protest.

(4) A Dispute Resolution Committee will rule on the incident.

(5) The decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be given in writing within 24 hours to the person who signed the protest and to the Host Sport Chair.

(6) The decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee is final.

(7) The Dispute Resolution Committee shall be composed of:

a) Host Sport Chair

b) Competition official in charge (chief referee or umpire)

c) Chair or member of the Rules Committee.

Communication procedures should be arranged for members of this committee to follow in case of disputes or protests (i.e. cell phones).

(8) The Host Sport Chair and/or the Head Official is in charge of play and no person is allowed to create a disturbance by claiming procedure is incorrect. Protest procedure, as outlined, shall be followed or person causing such disturbance may be asked to leave.

(9) Default rule: Any team or individual that defaults a scheduled game (including exhibition games) may be disqualified from the event.

2) Zone Level Playoffs

(1) Disputes or protests are to be made in writing, signed, and sent to the Zone Director within three days of the incident in question.

(2) The time, date and location of the incident must be noted and all significant circumstances surrounding the dispute.

- (3) In the case of a team sport, only the manager (or captain, if there is no team manager) may sign the protest.
- (4) The Zone Dispute Committee will rule on the incident.
- (5) The decision of the Zone Dispute Committee will be given in writing to the person who signed the protest with a copy to the Zone Director.
- (6) The decision of the Zone Dispute Committee is final.
- (7) The Zone Dispute Committee will consist of 3 to 5 persons knowledgeable in the Games rules and familiar with all the Games sports. The Zone Dispute Committee will be selected by the Zone Director and the Zone Sport Chair.

11. Rules Committee

- (a) The Rules Committee for the BC Seniors Games Society shall be composed of the Vice President, six Directors and a Chair who is appointed by the President of the Society.
- (b) Any request for a change to a sport rule or sport format should be sent in writing to the Rules Chair within 30 days after completion of the Games. Support from other zones for the change would be expected. The suggested rule change form is at the end of this document. It can also be found online under governance on the BCSGS website.
- (c) The Rules Chair will be responsible for a roster of committee members during the 55+ BC Games. Duties will include presence at the Corrections Table during Accreditation and solving problems and disputes during the 55+ BC Games. The Chair will be responsible for providing clear guidelines to committee members and cell phones, etc. for communication.
- (d) All Host Society schedules are checked and approved by the Rules Committee prior to posting on the Host Society website within one week prior to the 55+ BC Games date.
- (e) The Rules Committee in consultation with the Host Sport Chair, may change any sports rule to cover adequate participation. Any changes that affect partnerships/names must be forwarded in writing to the BCSGS Event Manager who will then inform the Results and Registration Director to immediately have the changes made.
- (f) The Rules Committee may adjust any PSO rules given to them after the November Board Meeting has finalized and passed all rule changes for the next year's 55+ BC Games.

12. Medals

(a) Medals shall be awarded each year:

- 1st place finish - Gold Medal
- 2nd place finish - Silver Medal
- 3rd place finish - Bronze Medal

(b) The medals should be presented at a formal ceremony at the event. The time(s) should be included in the published schedule of each sport. Multi-age group sports may have more than one ceremony in a day or days.

(c) The Host Society will arrange to have unclaimed medals, with a list of intended medal recipients, delivered to the appropriate BC Seniors Games Zone Director by October 1st. The Zone Director will present or deliver the medals to the participant.



Suggested General Rules Change Form

(fillable form available on website)

Note: this form must be used to request a general rule change, it is not to be used for specific sport rule changes.

***This form must be submitted within 30 days after the completion of the Games to:
BCSGS President and the Administrative Assistant, BCSGS
president@55plusbcgames.org and info@55plusbcgames.org
or mail 203-2453 Beacon Avenue, Sidney, BC V8L 1X7 or fax 778-426-2941***

General Rules changes are reviewed by the Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Only suggested changes made in writing on this form will be considered. Forms can be submitted by mail or electronically sent (e-mail) or fax.

Submitted by: _____ E-mail _____

Proposed General Rule amendment: Please use one form for each suggested change.

Section: _____ Page No: _____ Bullet No: _____

Change -or- new rule to read as follows:

Reason for suggested change/comments:

(Use back of form if necessary)

Date: _____ Printed name: _____

Zone: _____ Signature: _____



Suggested Sport Rule Change Form

(fillable form available on website)

Vote Results: Yes ____ No ____ Abstained ____

Note: This form must be used to request a rule change; suggested changes should take into account the rules of the National or Provincial Organizations and any Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with that body.

This form must be submitted within 30 days after the completion of the Games to:

Administrative Assistant, BC Seniors Games Society

203 - 2453 Beacon Avenue, Sidney, BC V8L 1X7 or

info@55plusbcgames.org or fax 778-426-2941

Rule Changes are reviewed by the Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Only suggested changes made in writing on this form will be considered. Forms can be submitted by mail or electronically sent (e-mail) or fax.

Meeting Chair: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Proposed Rule Amendment: Please use one form for each suggested Rule Change.

Sport: _____ Page No.: _____ Rule No.: _____

Change -or - New Rule - to read as follows:

Reason for suggested change/comments:

(Use back of form if necessary)

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Meeting Participants' Signatures:

Zone 1 Signature: _____ Zone 7 Signature: _____

Zone 2 Signature: _____ Zone 8 Signature: _____

Zone 3 Signature: _____ Zone 9 Signature: _____

Zone 4 Signature: _____ Zone 10 Signature: _____

Zone 5 Signature: _____ Zone 11 Signature: _____

Zone 6 Signature: _____ Zone 12 Signature: _____