Approval for Rule Change Proposals 1 through 9 (Proposal #4 Withdrawn)
(Moved by Kareena Zanolli, seconded by Stéphane Drouin)

Motions 1 – 9 – Approved
Motion 10 – For reference only

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 1 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:** 2022 |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Alberta |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH |  | **SLO-PITCH** | **X** | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 2 | **Section:** | 4 | **Letter:** | d. | **Number:** |  | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | **REVISION**  Page – 57 |
| **CHANGE:** | d. BATTERS BOX The front line of the box shall be .91 m (3 ft.) in front of home plate and will extend past the foul lines on both sides. There is no inside, outside or back line to the batter’s box.(Official Diamond Dimension drawings on pages 39 and 40 will need to be updated accordingly.)Diagram  Description automatically generated |
| **RATIONALE:** |  Making the SP Batter's Box "Special Project" from 2019 a permanent rule, but removing the back line (12" behind the back of the strike mat). Positive feedback from players after using this rule Provincially in 2019 & 2021, and also Canadian Championships in 2019, but feel the back line is not needed. The front line preventing batter from running out of the box, and offering protection for the pitcher is effective. |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |
| PROPOSAL 2 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:** 2022 |
| **Submitted by:** SOFTBALL ALBERTA |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH |  | **SLO-PITCH** | **X** | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 4 | **Section:** | 11 | **Letter:** | a | **Number:** |  | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | **REVISION -** Page 70 |
| **CHANGE:** | It is optional except with two outs at which time it becomes mandatory  |
| **RATIONALE:**  | * Allows the teams to utilize their player’s ability.
* Does not penalize teams that has a pitcher that is a good base runner
* Continues to speed up the game but making it mandatory with 2 outs.
 |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 3 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:** 2022 |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Alberta |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH |  | **SLO-PITCH** | **X** | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 7 | Section: | 3 | Letter | b-d | Number: |  |  |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | **REVISION** Page 80 |
| **CHANGE:** | b. The batter must start and finish their at bat with both feet behind the front batter's box line.c. The batter may touch the line, but no part of their foot may cross or be in front of the line.d. If during play the line has been rubbed out, the umpire will use their judgement based on the dimension outlined in Rule 12, Sec. 4d |
| **RATIONALE:** | Making the SP Batter's Box "Special Project" from 2019 a permanent rule, but removing the back line (12" behind the back of the strike mat). Positive feedback from players after using this rule Provincially in 2019 & 2021, & also Canadian Championships in 2019, but feel the back line is not needed. The front line preventing batter from running out of the box, and offering protection for the pitcher is effective. |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 4 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR:** 2022 |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Alberta |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH |  | **SLO-PITCH** | **X** | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 8 | **Section:** | 7 | **Letter:** | f. | **Number:** | 4) | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | DELETION – Page 89 |
| **CHANGE:** | Remove “NOTE: Sec. 7 f: 2) a fair batted ball that goes directly off a fielder and over the home run fence, is considered a four base award and does not count as a home run toward the home run limit. |
| **RATIONALE:** |  Inconsistent fence heights within hosting facilities. Encourages attempts at athletic defensive plays without fear of penalty. Offensive team should not be rewarded for a ball that was going to leave the park anyways.  |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **WITHDRAWN**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 5 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2022** |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Alberta |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH | x | SLO-PITCH |  | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 3 | **Section:** | 5 | **Letter:** | g | **Number:** |  | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | REVISION Page 149 |
| **CHANGE:** | Change U16 to **U13** |
| **RATIONALE:** | Allow players to start using metal cleats at an earlier age (U15).Baseball allows 14U youth and above to wear metal cleats.  |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 6 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2022** |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Canada Board of Directors |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH | x | SLO-PITCH |  | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 3 | **Section:** | 6 | **Letter:** | b | **Number:** | 4 | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | REVISION Page 150 |
| **CHANGE:** | Protective Face Masks – pitchers in the U17 and below categories are required to wear a protective face mask. |
| **RATIONALE:** | Currently some P/Ts have this rule in place for U16 and below. With the current technology for bats and balls, the reaction time for some pitchers is still very slow at the younger ages. We are even seeing more and more adults, older kids wearing masks to pitch. This rule will help protect pitchers from severe injury.  |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 7 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2022** |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Canada Board of Directors |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH | x | SLO-PITCH |  | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 3 | **Section:** | 6 | **Letter:** | f | **Number:** | 4 | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | REVISION Page 151 |
| **CHANGE:** | For U17 and below, all on-deck batters, batters and baserunners must have an attached face mask. |
| **RATIONALE:** | Once again this is a safety measure we feel strongly about. It was at the U16 level and we feel it should be carried to the U17 level to allow for better protection to the younger athletes. |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 8 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2022** |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Québec |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH | x | SLO-PITCH |  | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 6 | **Section:** | all | **Letter:** | all | **Number:** | all | **Letter:** | all |
| **CHANGE IS:** | DELETION |
| **CHANGE:** | **Pitching Regulations (Fastpitch U14 and below)**Delete the entire Rule 6 – Pitching Regulations (Fastpitch U14 and below)Page 164-169 |
| **RATIONALE:**  | Uniformize the pitching rule for all categoriesNext motion will modify the categories from the Rule 6 – Pitching regulations to be applied to all categories of play, women and men fastpitch softball. |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 9 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2022** |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Québec |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH | x | SLO-PITCH |  | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** | 6 | **Section:** | **all** | **Letter:** | **all** | **Number:** | **all** | **Letter:** | **all** |
| **CHANGE IS:** | REVISION |
| **CHANGE:** | **Pitching Regulations (Fastpitch U16 and above)****Modify (page 164)****Title: “Rule 6 – Pitching Regulations (Fastpitch)”****Delete subtitle: “Fastpitch only: All categories above”** |
| **RATIONALE:**  | Uniformize the pitching rule for all categories |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **CARRIED**  |

|  |
| --- |
| PROPOSAL 10 |
| **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE FOR: 2022 (Minor Softball Rules) \*\*FOR REFERENCE ONLY\*\*** |
| **Submitted by:** Softball Canada Board of Directors |
| **TYPE:** | FAST PITCH |  | **SLO-PITCH** |  | ORTHODOX |  | ALL |  |
| **Rule:** |  | **Section:** |  | **Letter:** |  | **Number:** |  | **Letter:** |  |
| **CHANGE IS:** | Page 267-280 |
| **CHANGE:** | As everyone is aware, back in 2008 the minor softball rules/recommendations were created based on the LTPD implementation plan. These rules were shared to each Province/Territory with the hope that these rules be followed as a supplement to the standard rules found in the Softball Canada rulebook. Several years later, Softball Canada was asked to create a section at the end of the rulebook, separate to the voted in rules, so that minor rules could be found in one standardized area. With the Special Annual General Meeting that was held in the spring of 2021, age categories, pitching distances and ball sizes were all voted on and accepted by the Provinces/Territories. The remaining minor rules/recommendations will be shifted up by 1 year (U6 to U7, U8 to U9, U10 to U11 and U12 to U13) etc). Through the course of the 2022 season, Softball Canada will be reviewing these minor rules and encourage P/T’s to provide feedback based on how these rules are implemented at the Provincial/Territorial and Local levels.  |
| **RATIONALE:** |   |
| FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS: **Reference only.**  |