

# Terminology

## Definitions:

1. **“Host Committee”** is a committee within a community which is formed to prepare and submit a bid application to host the BC Seniors 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 BC Seniors 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 BC Seniors 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 BC Seniors Games.
6. **“BCSGS”** refers to BC Seniors Games Society.
7. A **“team”** consists of two or more persons.

# General Rules

## 1. Eligibility

- (a) The BC Seniors Games are open to all permanent residents of British Columbia who are 55 years of age or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year of the Games. After turning 55 years of age, Participants will fall into the age category as of December 31 of the year of the Games (with the exception of Track and Field, which is the first day of the competition). “Permanent Resident” is defined as a person who has a principal residence in B.C. The manager/coach of a team may be under 55 but must be registered as a Non-Participant.
- (b) Participants must be permanent residents of the Zone in which they are participating, with the following exceptions: in Zones 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, if the Zone is unable to register enough players to complete a team, it may obtain participants from any other Zone. A person wishing to compete for another Zone may apply to the “player pool” or observe the following procedures.
  - 1) Contact both Zone Directors
  - 2) The non-resident Zone Director must be satisfied that no in-Zone Participant would be displaced by the “transfer”

- 3) The home Zone Director must be satisfied that the participant does not have an opportunity to compete in their own Zone.

40% of the participants MUST be from the home zone.

If Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are unable to register enough participants to complete a team they may ask the Rules Committee to obtain participants from any other zone.

Participants without a place to compete in their home zone may place their name on a waiting list in the event another zone is looking for someone.

All zones may export, and all zones may import, just the procedure is different.

All cross zone participation must be approved by the Rules Committee.

- (c) Participants must have competed in Zone Playoffs in the category for which they are registered in the Seniors Games, unless the Zone Committee determines that a playoff is not necessary in their particular sport.
- (d) ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE MEMBERS OF THE BC SENIORS GAMES SOCIETY BEFORE COMPETING IN ANY ZONE PLAYOFFS / TRYOUTS OR BEING NAMED TO COMPETE IN ANY SPORT. (All persons trying out for the Games at any level and prior to Zone playoffs, eliminations, etc. must be members in good standing of the BC Seniors Games Society.)
- (e) Isolation Zones have been declared in four areas of the Province: Bella Bella (Zone 2), Queen Charlotte Islands (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.

Participants from Isolation Zones:

- (i) are eligible to compete for their Isolation Zone rather than for their geographical Zone;
- (ii) may advance directly to the Games from their Isolation Zone playoffs;
- (iii) can register as for a regular zone, but the number of their registered Participants will not count against the eligible numbers for the geographical Zone;
- (iv) Five-Pin Bowlers from Isolation Zones must compete as part of overall Zone Team.

#### ***Isolation Policy***

- (i) Seniors in some areas of the province have difficulty participating in Zone Playoffs because of distance or transportation restrictions. These areas have been given Isolation Status and will not represent any Zone in the Games but will be eligible for medals.
- (ii) Participants will normally travel to the Games with the Zone in which their area falls.
- (iii) Participants from an isolation status area must register for the Games through the Zone in which they reside. The Zone will send the

Registration Forms and Fees to the Host Society, but the forms must be marked "Isolation Status".

- (iv) All Isolation Zones will be classified as Zone 13 for participation at the Games. Where two or more communities are involved in hosting the Games, both or all communities will be treated as a single unit for the purpose of this rule.
- (v) Medals won count towards the Zone they live in.

## **2. Membership**

- (a) All registered Participants and Non-Participants must be members of the BC Seniors Games Society.
- (b) Memberships are available throughout the Zones from Area or Zone Representatives at any time during the year but must be obtained before competing in any Zone Playoff or Area Playoffs.
- (c) As a requirement of our Risk Management, the waiver form is a condition of entry into the BC Seniors Games and must be filled out by all participants prior to entry of Zone Playoffs. The waivers should be kept within the Zone as part of the membership records for that Zone and would be available if requested. (see sample of Application Form on the BCSGS website, under "Downloads")
- (d) Membership in a Provincial Sport Association is not a requisite for participation in the BC Seniors Games. Participants are encouraged to join such Provincial Sport Associations to be eligible for benefits other than those, which may stem from their participation in the Seniors Games.

## **3. Participation and Categories**

- (a) Participants are allowed to participate in only one Medal Sport at the BC Seniors Games.
- (b) In some Medal Sports, the Participant may compete for more than one Event at the Games, i.e. Tennis - Singles and Doubles.
- (c) Participants may compete in more than one Medal Sport at the Zone Level providing that Zone Playoff scheduling enables this.
- (d) Prior to competing at Zone Level, Participants should inform the Zone Sport Co-ordinator whether or not they will compete in the Games should they qualify in the Zone Playoff.
- (e) Some Medal Sports have more than one age category, e.g. 55-59, 55-61, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94 or 55+, 60+, 62+, 65+, 70+, 75+, or 95+. Participants must compete in their own age category unless specific rules or regulations in a Medal Sport state otherwise. Participants competing in a younger or more competitive category must not displace a Participant in the younger or more competitive category.

- (i) Participants who attain the following age by December 31st (with the exception of Track and Field, which is the first day of competition) in the year of the Games will compete in the respective age category unless otherwise stated:

<u>AGE</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>
55	55 - 59
60	60 - 64
65	65 - 69
70	70 - 74
75	75 - 79
80	80 - 84
85	85 – 89
90	90+

- (ii) Registrants for Zone Playoffs or the Games may be required to produce proof of age in the form of a birth certificate or similar document. Where the age of a Competitor is questioned in protest, such a Participant shall be required to show proof of age.
- (iii) In team sports of more than 5 players, a participant may play on one team only, except in Dragon Boat Racing.

#### **4. Zone Playoffs**

- (a) Zone Playoffs will be held in all Medal Sports for which there are entries sufficient enough to require eliminations to meet Zone entry limits.
- (b) Zone Playoffs are held for the purpose of determining which eligible Zone Participants qualify to represent the Zone at the Annual BC Seniors Games. Medals shall not be awarded at Zone Playoffs in any Playoff Sport. Some other form of recognition for performance may be considered such as ribbons, gift certificates, etc.
- (c) Participants in the Games must have competed in Zone Playoffs, except where these are determined not to be necessary by the Zone Committee.
- (d) Zone Playoffs must be completed by June 30.

#### **5. Medical**

- (a) It is highly recommended that all Participants in a physically active sport have a medical examination prior to competing in Zone Playoffs or at the Games.
- (b) All Participants with a health problem, e.g. diabetes or heart disease, should include this information, together with medication or treatment being taken, on the Registration Form.

## **6. Registration Fees and Accreditation**

### **(a) Participants**

- (i) All Participants must register with the Zone Committee prior to the Zone Playoffs.
- (ii) Those Participants going to the Games must register with the Zone Committee using the approved Registration Form whether or not there has been a Zone Playoff. No person will be allowed to compete who has not registered with his/her Zone.
- (iii) Those Participants in an isolation status must register with the Zone Committee in the Zone in which their community is located.
- (iv) All participants, including substitutes and replacement, are required to pay a Seniors Games Membership Fee. This fee must accompany the Registration Form.
- (v) Registration Deadlines  
Participants must be registered by submitting the Registration 'A', 'B' Form (if required), Registration Fees and Medical Forms to their Zone Coordinator by a date set by the Zone.

The Zone Coordinator must submit them to the Zone registrar by July 15.

By noon on July 29, the Zone Registrar must have sent an email to the Event Manager, with cc to BCSGS President, stating the zone entries are complete and that an error check has been carried out.

The Event Manager shall submit all registrations to the Host Society by 4 pm on July 29.

- (vi) Games registration fees for both participants and non-participants are non-refundable except when a person has been injured or because of some other unexpected circumstance, which prohibits the person from attending the Games. Request for a refund must be submitted to the Zone Director.

Zones will use the 'Zone Record of Withdrawals and Replacements' form to compile a list of withdrawals and replacements made after the date the zone Registrar signs off on the entries. This list will be sent to the BCSGS Treasurer:

before September 24, 2010.

Zones cannot request refunds after September 24, 2010.

The BCSGS is not responsible for any refunds after the above dates. Any request for refunds not sent in by a Zone by the above dates is the responsibility of the Zone.

- (vii) Requests for the refund of fees should be made in writing to the BC Seniors Games Society Secretary/Treasurer using a single listing of all Participants involved. Upon receipt of the refunded fees, the Zone will either return them to the Participant, if originally paid by the Participant, or to the Zone funds, if paid by the Zone.

**(b) Non-Participants**

- (i) Non-Participants, upon payment of the fee established by the Board of Directors, may participate in designated activities at the BC Seniors Games.
- (ii) Completed forms and fees shall be forwarded to the Zone Registrar to arrive by July 15. Non-Participants will not be allowed to register after this date. Refunds of Non-Participant fees shall be subject to the same conditions, and follow the same procedures, as for Participants. A non-participant whose partner has to withdraw and is eligible for a refund shall also be given a refund.

**(c) Accreditation**

- (i) All Participants and Non-Participants may report to the Accreditation Centre at the Games either Tuesday or Wednesday (according to their sport). Exact Accreditation times will be posted on the BC Seniors Games Society and Host Society websites. Identification tags, registration kits, and other information will be available at that time.

If unable to attend in person, registrants 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, or an individual's. The designated individual must show I.D. and sign for the package. Those not picked up will be classified as "No Show". No Show means that the participant will not be allowed to compete in the Games.

Prior to their 1<sup>st</sup> competition, participants may be required to show photo I.D. and competition badge to the Event Chair.

- (ii) Draws and schedules will be completed 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 one week prior to the start date of the Games, or earlier if completed.) All are subject to change, if necessary.

## **7. Spares**

**(a) Spares:**

"Spares" shall be defined as the registered extra player referred to in the rules of a specific sport. (5-pin Bowling, Carpet Bowling, Dragon Boat

Racing, Floor Curling, Lawn Bowling). When and how a spare may be used will also be governed by those specific sport rules, or those rules as amended for the BC Seniors Games.

When a team plays more than one game a day the spare must play at least one of the games.

## **8. Teams / Individuals Not Completing Competition**

- (a) Where a team/individual, once the 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:
  - (i) the results/points already scored shall stand and be recorded in the final results of the competition;
  - (ii) the results/points scored by opponents shall likewise stand and be recorded in the final results of the competition;
  - (iii) 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;
  - (iv) 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 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:
  - (i) all accrued results/points will be forfeit, and such withdrawal may result in the Zone team/individual being barred from competing in the next Seniors Games;
  - (ii) rules (a) (ii) and (a) (iii) above, will apply;
  - (iii) 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.

## **9. Rules, Draws, and Schedules**

- (a) THE HOST COMMUNITY MUST STAGE THE SPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS, AS DETAILED IN THIS RULES BOOK. 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 Event Coordinator must 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 to add competitors to an event. Competitors would pay the BCSGS Membership fee and the cost of the banquet would be optional.

## **10. Grace Period**

- (a) With the exception of Bocce, in all team competitions (including pairs and fours), any team, which has not reported to begin to play within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time, shall be deemed to have scratched from that round and shall forfeit that particular game. The opponents shall be accorded a forfeit, which shall be recorded as a win.
- (b) 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.)

## **11. Zone Standings**

- (a) While participation is the objective of the Games, an unofficial Zone standing will be based on the total medals won by each Zone.
- (b) Team events (where teams, including relay teams, consist of 4 or more players) will be awarded the value of one medal in calculating Zone standings.
- (c) Medals won by each Zone will be updated on a timely basis each day and shown on the "results board" in a central and highly visible location.

## **12. Disputes or Protests**

### **1) Games Level**

#### **(a) Prior to the Games:**

- (i) 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 with the Registration Committee of the Host Community, shall be referred to the Chair of the Rules Committee, whose ruling shall be final in such matters.

#### **(b) At the Games:**

- (i) Disputes or protests are to be made in writing, signed and given to the Event Chair within one hour of the incident.
- (ii) The time, date and location of the incident must be noted.
- (iii) In the case of a team event, only the Manager (or Captain if there is no Manager) of the team may sign the protest.
- (iv) A Games Dispute Committee will rule on the incident.
- (v) The decision of the Games Dispute Committee shall be given in writing within 24 hours to the person who signed the protest and to the Sport Chair.

- (vi) The decision of the Dispute Committee is final.
- (vii) The Games Dispute Committee shall be composed of:
  - a) Event Chair
  - b) Competition Office in charge (Chief Referee or Umpire)
  - c) Chair or member of the Rules Committee.

(c) Rules Committee Chair of the BC Seniors Games Society, or another 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).

- (i) The Sport Coordinator 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.
- (ii) Default rule: Any individual or team that defaults from a game shall be disqualified from the event.

## **2) Zone Level Playoffs**

- (i) Disputes or protests are to be made in writing, signed, and sent to the Zone Chair within three days of the incident in question.
- (ii) The time, date and location of the incident must be noted and all significant circumstances surrounding the dispute.
- (iii) In the case of a team sport, only the Manager (or Captain, if there is no Team Manager) may sign the protest.
- (iv) The Zone Dispute Committee will rule on the incident.
- (v) 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 Chair.
- (vi) The decision of the Dispute Committee is final.
- (vii) The Zone Dispute Committee will consist of 3 to 5 persons knowledgeable in the Games Rules and familiar with all the Games Sports. The Dispute Committee will be selected by the Zone Chair and the Zone Sport Chair.

## **13. Rules Committee**

- (a) The Rules Committee for the BC Seniors Games Society shall be composed of a Chair who is appointed by the Chair of the Development Committee and at least two other Directors or members of the Society who are interested in and knowledgeable about Games Rules. There shall be representation from at least three Zones on the Committee.
- (b) With the assistance of the BC Games Consultant, and taking into consideration recommendations submitted on the "Suggested Rule Change" forms printed in the Seniors Games Rules Book, this Committee shall prepare any necessary revisions to the Rules and Regulations of the BC Seniors Games.

- (c) All suggested rule changes must be given to the Zone Sport Coordinators or their alternate. Suggested rule changes from individuals will not be accepted. Suggested rule changes will be agreed upon at the meeting of the Zone Sport Coordinators or their alternates during the Games. Information regarding the meeting will be sent out one month prior to the Games. Rule changes will be ratified by the Board of Directors before being instituted.

#### **14. Medals**

- (a) Medals shall be awarded each year:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place finish - Gold Medal
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish - Silver Medal
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish - Bronze Medal
- (b) The medals should be presented at a formal ceremony. The time(s) and location should be included in the published schedule of each event. Multi-age group sports may have more than one ceremony in a day.
- (c) The Host Society will send unclaimed medals directly to the Zone Directors, with a list of intended medal recipients, immediately following the Games.