

Clubs/teams must be financial to compete in the Final Series. This will be confirmed by Baseball NSW administration.

Competition Manager

The CM has control of all games for this event and may make any decision as required by any circumstances that may occur during the event. This includes the relocation of games if necessary. That decision shall be final.

Ejected or Suspended players

Should any player be ejected or suspended at any time during the Final Series they shall remove themselves from the vicinity of the dugout, media box and clubhouse. This also relates to any suspended players and coaches. Any ejection will be dealt with by the CM immediately after the game. If a tribunal hearing is required, the CM will appoint the tribunal.

All Grades - Semi-Finals, Finals & Grand Finals

Semi-Finals:

- G1 - Major Semi (1v2) – the winner to advance to the Grand Final, the loser to the Final as the home team.
- G2 - Minor Semi (3v4) – the winner to advance the Final as the away team, the loser is eliminated.
- All games will be played.
- If weather affects the games, they will be rescheduled to be played on the next available day/date by the Competition Manager in consultation with appropriate parties. That decision will be final.
- If a game is stopped for any reason after the completion of 5 innings, and cannot be recommenced on the same date, then the result will stand (Per ORB).
- If a game is stopped for any reason before the completion of 5 innings, and cannot be recommenced on the same date, then that game will be suspended and resumed from the point of suspension on the next available opportunity, from where it was stopped. Any

NSW STATE LEAGUE FINALS SERIES RULES 2024-25

team refusing a rescheduled date, time or location/venue will be considered to have forfeited the game.

- (E.g., If Saturday night is washed out then games would be played on Sunday if the ground is open).
- 2 weekends have been allocated as spare in case of rain.

If on the resumption of the suspended game some players are not available, the following will apply.

- Players must have qualified for the finals. Any player from the bench or a lower grade can take the place of any unavailable player.

Extra Innings OBR Rule 7.01 (b) (1) (2) (3) will **NOT** be in effect during the finals series.

- The rule surrounds a runner starting on second base to begin the top of the 10th inning.

Rules relating specifically to a Grade.

- The Import Pitching Restriction for the Final Series is:
- Players classified as Import Players may only pitch a total of 14 innings during any one Series. This is regardless of the number of games played (2 or 3) or the number of innings played (extra innings).
- To be able to pitch in a lower Grade final series, a pitcher would need to pitch at least half the number of innings in the lower Grade during the season, as they did in 1st Grade, including Wednesday nights.
- If an Under 18 player has been doubling up into a 1st or 2nd Grade starting lineup, they may only start in the higher grade in which they have been playing. i.e., If a player continually plays 1st Grade midweek or weekends, and also qualifies for the Under 18 Finals, then they may not start in the 3rd or 2nd Grade playoff games.

Ball Distribution

NSW STATE LEAGUE FINALS SERIES RULES 2024-25

- The Baseballs approved by the SLSC are to be used as per the regular season.
- All Participating clubs are responsible for the recovery of foul balls
- The Competition Manager will be responsible for the distribution of baseballs.
- Initial Distribution: 1st Grade games = 6 balls,
- Lower grades = 4 balls to be given to the umpires.
- Throughout the games the Competition Manager will be available to distribute more balls if required.
- Umpires must return all balls (used & unused) to the Competition Manager after each game.

Rules Specific to the Final Series

1. All games are regulation games of baseball (9 Innings). All games will be played to a result if tied after 9 innings.
2. First Grade - The home team is the higher-ranked team and shall occupy the first base dugout. Lower Grades – The allocation of dugouts will be based on which teams are playing. Every attempt will be made to have the clubs in the same dugout for the day where possible.

Note: In 1st Grade, the higher-ranked team is home in Games 1 & 3, and away in Game 2.

3. For under-18s who double up during the season to qualify for playoffs, they must play more than 50% of available under-18 games.
4. In the event of bad light, umpires may ask the Competition Manager for the lights to be turned on.
5. 1st Grade Starting Eligibility – Game 2 will be considered the “Weekend Game”.
 - Semi-Final: If a player enters a game during the 1st 3 innings of Game 2, they may not play lower grade semi-final.

- Final: If a player enters a game during the 1st 3 innings of Game 2, they may not play lower grade final.
 - Grand Final: If a player enters a game in the 1st 3 innings of Game 2, they may not play lower grade, grand finals.
6. All line-ups should include players' full names, fielding position and uniform number. Fresh Bench players must be listed for all games.
- Weekend games may list 2nd, 3rd or U18 only if those teams have played in the corresponding round.
 - All clubs are to supply the CM with a complete list of players with full names & uniform numbers.
7. The run differential rule will apply in all games. (10 runs after 7 innings, 15 runs after 5 innings.)

Results

Result sheets will be provided to each team by the CM. All games on D1 will be scored from the booth. A phone will be provided in the booth for changes to be advised.

Award Presentations: Competition Manager to organize the game award presentations as scheduled after each Grand Final. Season awards will be presented at the State League Presentation Night.

The Competition Manager will organize suitable people to present the awards at the presentation ceremony.

Grand Final MVP: Baseball NSW representative will ask at least six knowledgeable people in attendance to vote for the Grand Final MVP for all Grades using a 3-2-1 method.