

Softball is a team-based sport where one team pitches the ball and fields whilst members of the other team individually attempt to hit the ball and run between bases in a diamond configuration to reach home plate. One run is scored when the player reaches home base. The team with the highest score after a defined number of innings is deemed the winner.

HIERARCHY						
Element	State	Regional	Local - Category A	Local - Category B	Notes	
Total Site Area	9 ha	7.5 ha	6 ha	2 ha		
PLAYING AREA						
Orientation	Home and first base running north to south, alternatively third and home base running north to south (accepted).		E		Refer to Notes	E The low angle of the late afternoon sun must not be allowed to impair the vision of the batter, the pitcher or the defensive player in that order of priority. May develop additional fields in a clover leaf pattern.
No. and size of playing areas	Minimum 4 senior diamonds	E	Minimum 4 senior diamonds with additional slow pitch diamonds preferable	E	1 diamond or back-net on a multipurpose field	E Fastpitch Men – Bases 18.29m, pitching 14.02m, outfield fence 76.2m Fastpitch Women – Bases 18.29m, pitching 13.11m, outfield fence 67.06m Slowpitch Men - Bases 19.81m, pitching 15.24m, outfield fence 91.44m Slowpitch Women - Bases 19.81m, pitching 15.24m, outfield fence 83.82m Slowpitch Co-ed - Bases 19.81m, pitching 15.24m, outfield fence 83.82m Number of diamonds required depends on age groups and access to lights, which enables more games per diamond. 120 participants per diamond based on 5 time slots per day (without lights). Additional diamonds at a regional level would be determined based on membership numbers.
Coaches boxes (2)	Coaches box line marked in diamond as part of the diamond line marking		E		-	
Player interchange benches (2)	2 enclosed dugouts per diamond		E		-	Shaded dug outs with bench seating for 12 people on both baselines on all diamonds.

**HIERARCHY**

Element	State		Regional		Local - Category A	Local - Category B		Notes
Playing area surfaces	Min. 1 fully skinned infield		E			Grass diamond	E	Requirements for skinned areas depends on age group. May be full skinned infield with grass outfields, skinned running track or base areas with remaining areas grassed.  Wintergreen couch is the recommended turf for grass playing areas.
Playing area drainage	Falling in all directions away from pitcher's zone at 1 to 1.5%		E			Flat to single cross-fall 1% max. gradient, swale drains on perimeter of total playing area	E	
Playing area marking	Line marking in white chalk for skinned infields skinned base paths or white line paint for grass diamonds		E			Yes	NE	Coaches box On deck circle Foul lines (1st & 3rd) Pitching circle Batters boxes Home plate Bases
Playing area perimeter/ run-off	Minimum 7.62m max 9.14m from infield diamond to back nets		E			Refer to Notes	E	Minimum 7.62m max 9.14m from infield diamond to back nets.
Scoreboard	Electronic	CR	Electronic	CR		-		On main diamond only and located either left or right field behind the outfield fence and not blocking any spectator views.
LED sports lighting (average minimum lux)	650 lux infield 450 lux outfield open age comp; 530 lux infield 320 lux outfield for underage comp	E	530 lux infield 320 lux outfield (2 main diamonds) 250 lux infield 150 lux outfield (remaining diamonds)	E		250 lux infield 150 lux outfield	E	A-Grade club with national standard athletes playing requires State standard lighting for safety.
Playing area fencing	Refer to Notes		E			Back stop only	E	Backstop to home plate minimum 7.62m max 9.14m. 2 x 4.57m high foul posts. Side fencing and outfield fencing (1.2-2.0m high).  Outfield fencing for slow pitch diamonds at all levels is not preferred as it allows more flexibility for use.

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Element	State		Regional	Local - Category A	Local - Category B	Notes
Irrigation	Sprinklers in line across the outfield and additional sprinklers around the outside and corners of the diamond.		E		Sprinklers in line across the outfield.	E Irrigation of the playing area must be provided to ensure continued growth of the turf. An automatic watering system is required. The preferred controller is Toro Custom Command Series and the preferred rotors are Toro T-7 Series stainless steel. Refer to Recommended Sport Field Construction Specifications for Logan City.
SURROUNDS						
Storage (grounds maintenance)	45m <sup>2</sup>		E		45m <sup>2</sup> , if responsible for grounds maintenance	Multiple secure areas for tractors, mowers, screeds and other equipment used to maintain the infield surface (skinned/deco) and grassed outfields (7.5m x 3m bay).
Storage (playing equipment)	22.5m <sup>2</sup>		E		Included in clubhouse	Secure space for team equipment such as team kits containing helmets, softballs and bats, and other training aids (7.5m x 3m bay).
Spectator seating/ grandstand	Bench seats or tiered seating for 150 persons for main diamonds, bench seating or area for foldable chairs for 20 persons per diamond	NE	Bench seats or tiered seating for 100 persons for main diamonds, bench seating or area for foldable chairs for 20 persons per diamond	NE	-	

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