



## AUCKLAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

P O Box 26599 Epsom, Auckland

Ph 09 6237900 Fax 09 6237920

E-mail [asainc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:asainc@xtra.co.nz)

[www.softballauckland.org.nz](http://www.softballauckland.org.nz)

### New policies 2011

This policy has been written to provide some certainty around terms for age/gender dispensation. Dispensations are intended to be used as a last resort – the policy has been designed to reduce consecutive applications for the same individuals which in some cases may hinder that individual's opportunity to develop. In addition, the onus is put back on clubs to increase their membership, rather than rely on dispensations as the only solution.

#### 1) Junior dispensations

- A dispensation for will be granted for a maximum of 2 seasons for each player for the duration of their junior playing career
- A maximum of 2 dispensations can be granted per team
- Acceptance of dispensation will be granted in order of the following priority – playing ability, no other junior or senior team available, to make up team numbers, personal circumstances
- Dispensated players cannot trial for representatives and cannot play in a higher grade including seniors.
- All dispensated players must be highlighted on the team card and cannot pitch or catch. Any team that fails to comply with this rule can automatically lose their points without negotiation.
- The timeframe for processing dispensation requests is 14 days. It is recommended that pre-season dispensation requests are filed with the office no later than the first Friday of October.

#### 2) Draws policy

- All senior grades with a maximum of 12 entries will play round robin
- All senior grades exceeding 12 entries will be split accordingly:

Each club is guaranteed one team entry per grade. Any club that enters multiple teams may be asked to re-grade the additional teams. The ASA reserves the final right to re-grade a team without consultation if it will improve the competitiveness of other grades.

If it is decided that a re-grade of some teams is not possible or not in the best interests of the competition, then the grade will be split into zones and crossovers will apply dependant on placings after zone round robin(s).

- Four team entries in a grade constitutes a competition. In circumstances where there are insufficient team numbers for 2 grades side by side, or less than 6 teams in each grade, then the grades may be combined to enhance the competition. They will complete round robin play and then split into separate grades dependant on their placing.