



2024-25

PLAYOFFS & TIEBREAKERS

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Australian Baseball League



A. CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON. In each year the ABL shall prepare and issue the official schedule for the ABL championship season. The ABL may, in its discretion, reschedule or postpone any game as the ABL may deem necessary, whether for reasons of inclement weather, unplayable field conditions or otherwise.

B. POST-SEASON SERIES. After the conclusion of each championship season, the ABL shall schedule and conduct post-season series. The Teams with the four highest winning percentages in the regular season, shall qualify to play in the Post-Season. The ABL Semi-Finals Series (ABLSF) and the ABL Championship Series (ABLCS). The Team that wins the ABLCS shall be declared the ABL Champion.

1. ABL Wildcard Game. (if applicable) The teams competing in the ABLWC shall be determined by the two lowest winning percentages of the following three teams;
 - i. The two 2nd Placed teams from each division (seed #3 and #4), and
 - ii. Next highest overall winning percentage (seed #5)

The ABLWC is a sudden death elimination game played between Seed #4 and Seed #5 two (2) days before the commencement of the ABLSF.

The ABLWC will be played at the home venue of Seed #4 by virtue of their 2nd place division finish, regardless of whether they had a worse overall winning percentage than Seed #5. The winner of the ABLWC advances to the ABLSF.

2. ABL Semi-Final Series. The winner of each division shall advance directly to the ABLSF and shall be seeded as Seed #1 and Seed #2 based on their overall winning percentages.

The 2024/25 ABLSFS shall be two (2) separate “best-of- three” game format series contested between the following Teams;

- i. Seed #1 (Home) vs Seed #4 (Away)
- ii. Seed #2 (Home) vs Seed #3(Away)

The format of the ABLSF shall be Home/Home/Home

3. ABL Championship Series. The two (2) winners of the ABLSF shall meet in a “best-of-three” format Game series known as the ABLCS. Game One of the series shall be played at one Team’s home venue, while Games 2 and 3 (if necessary) will be played at the other Team’s home venue. The highest ranked team shall have the choice of hosting either Game 1, OR Games 2 & 3. Teams must notify the ABL of their hosting preference by 12pm AEST on Wednesday January 26, 2024.

NOTE: The ABL reserves the right to determine the hosting format of any Post-Season Series independent of the team’s rankings if compelling circumstances such as field availability, team travel schedules, Covid-19, prohibitive flight availability and/or costs or other external circumstances arise. Such decisions will be at the absolute discretion of the ABL. All teams are bound by the provisions in the ABL Operations Manual regarding payment for travel and other matters referred to therein and any disputes thereunder shall be determined at the absolute discretion of the ABL and will not be appealable.

C. TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES. In the event that two or more Teams finish the championship season with identical winning percentages, the ABL shall determine the seeding of the Teams, by reference to Rule 9C (1) and (2), and any applicable protocols, and if that is not feasible in the opinion of the ABL, by such procedure as it deems fair and appropriate.



1. Two-Team Tie. If two Teams are tied with an identical winning percentage at the conclusion of the ABL season, including all rescheduled games, the ABL shall deem as the Team with the higher winning percentage, for purposes of determining qualification for a post-season series or scheduling within a post-season series, as follows:
 - i. to the tied Team with the higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition between the two tied Teams during the ABL championship season; or,
 - ii. if the Teams remain tied, then to the tied Team with the higher winning percentage only in the games each team played against teams within its own division; or
 - iii. if the Teams remain tied, then to the tied Team with the higher winning percentage only in the games each team played against teams within the opposing division; or,
 - iv. if the Teams remain tied then the Tied Team with the higher winning percentage against the Team with the highest overall winning percentage that is not one of the tied teams. If the Teams remain tied, this process will continue in descending order against each of the teams with the next highest winning percentages that is not one of the tied teams, until the tie is broken; or,
 - v. if the Teams remain tied, then to the tied Team that allowed fewer runs, divided by the number of innings playing in defence, in the games between the tied Teams only; or
 - vi. if the Teams remain tied, then to the Team that prevails in a coin flip that the ABL conducts, with all procedural aspects of the coin flip determined by the ABL in its absolute discretion.
2. Three-Team Tie. If three (3) Teams are tied for a place in the standings with an identical winning percentage at the conclusion of the ABL season, including all rescheduled games, the ABL shall deem as the Team with the higher winning percentage, for purposes of determining qualification for the Post-Season series or scheduling within the Post-Season series, as follows:
 - i. The Team with the higher winning percentage in head- to-head competition among the three tied Teams during the ABL championship season shall be deemed to be the Team with the higher winning percentage. If any two of the tied Teams have identical winning percentages in head-to-head competition among the three tied Teams during the ABL championship season, then the Team that would be deemed the higher-finishing Team in a Two-Team tie, according to the procedures of Rule 13(c)(1), shall be deemed to be the higher-finishing Team.
 - ii. If the three tied Teams have identical records against one another in the ABL championship season, then:
 - a. the Team that is deemed to have finished higher in the standings shall be the Team among the three tied Teams with the higher winning percentage against the highest placed Team during the ABL season that is not one of the tied Teams. After one of the three tied teams has been deemed to have either a higher winning percentage or a lower winning percentage, that team is removed from the tied-team equation and then the two remaining tied Teams shall be separated, according to the procedures of Rule 13(c)(1).
 - b. If the Teams remain tied, the procedures described in Rule 13(c)(1)(B) through Rule 13(c)(1)(E), shall be continued until one Team has been separated from the remaining Teams. After one of tied teams has been separated, that team is removed from the tied-team equation and then the two remaining tied Teams shall be ranked, according to the full procedures of Rule 13(c)(1).

