



SOFTBALL NEW BRUNSWICK



2024 HANDBOOK

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A Non-Profit Provincial
Sport Organization
established in 1926



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ABOUT US

Softball New Brunswick is the official governing body of Fastpitch, Orthodox and Slo-pitch in the province and our mandate is to promote softball in all areas of the province for the enjoyment of all registered members from playground to podium. We are a not-for-profit Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) based in Fredericton, NB founded in 1926. As an organization, we are recognized and financially supported by the Government of New Brunswick Tourism, Heritage and Culture branch (Sport and Recreation branch).



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive

President

Scott Willis
Fredericton, NB

Vice President

Dan Mersereau
Tracyville, NB

Provincial Umpire in Chief

Ron Campbell
Willow Grove, NB

Treasurer (Non-Voting)

Ellen Fitzsimmons
Fredericton, NB

Coordinators

High Performance Coordinator

Matt Whipple
Fredericton, NB

Human Resource Coordinator

Gracelyn Kaine
Saint John, NB

Grassroots Coordinator

Vacant

Adult Coordinator

Vacant

Regional Directors

North Western Director

Charlie Chiasson
Saint Leonard, NB

Capital Western Director

Craig Clarkson
Killarney, NB

Fundy Director

Paul Bedford
Sussex, NB

South Eastern Director

France Bourque
Moncton, NB

North Eastern Director

Darleen Sobey
Maples Glen, NB



OFFICE STAFF

Office Hours (Monday to Friday 8:30–4:30)

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Hannah Walker

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SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS



WEBSITE: www.softballnb.ca



SOFTBALL NB: www.facebook.com/softballnb

SOFTBALL NB SLO PITCH: www.facebook.com/softballnbslopitch

NB SELECTS PROVINCIAL TEAMS: www.facebook.com/snbprovincialteams



SOFTBALL NB: @softballnewbrunswick

NB SELECTS PROVINCIAL TEAMS: @snbprovincialteams



SOFTBALL NB: @softballnb



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



On behalf of Softball New Brunswick, our Board of Directors and staff, welcome to the 2024 softball season. I want to thank our many local associations and all the volunteers involved for their tireless efforts and dedication to the game of softball. It would not be possible without you.

We look forward to another great season in 2024, and having our Provincial Championships, Eastern Canadian Championships, and sending our NB Selects Provincial Team Program and high performance officials to Canadian Championships across the country. We look forward to seeing new growth and development amongst both our minor programs ('A' and 'AA') and adult programs. We plan to prioritize recruitment and development of officials and coaches, through professional development and on field opportunities. As well, we look to implement our new Community Development Program and put an emphasis on the teaching of fundamentals.

In 2023, Softball New Brunswick rebranded by unveiling a new logo, along with a new website and registration platform through RAMP Interactive. We hope you have enjoyed the new look and content being generated. From grassroots to high performance, we look forward to showcasing our members through images and video content.

Finally, may all players, coaches and umpires have a successful and fun season of softball in 2024!

Sincerely,

Scott Willis
President



2024 IMPORTANT DATES

Date	Event
February 5th	Provincial Championship Host Applications Launch
February 15th	2024 Annual Membership Registration Launches
February 20th	Fast Pitch Canadian Championship Team Confirmation Deadline
March 31st	Provincial Championship Host Application Deadline
April 15th	Slo Pitch Canadian Championship Team Confirmation Deadline
April 20th	2023 Annual General Meeting
April 20th	2024 Coaching Symposium
April 24th - May 8th	Minor Regional Release Window
May 1st	2024 Eastern Canadian Qualifier Registration Launch
May 15th	2024 Provincial Championship Registration Launch
May 31st	2024 Eastern Canadian Qualifier Registration Deadline
June 1st	Hall of Fame Nomination Deadline
July 1st	Deadline For Individual & Team Registration Refunds
July 15th	Provincial Championship Registration Deadline (All Categories)
September 1st	Annual Awards Nominations Launch Memorial Award Nomination Deadline Janiva Willis Memorial Scholarship Application Launch
September 15th	Annual Awards & Memorial Award Deadline Janiva Willis Memorial Scholarship Applications Deadline
October 4th	Annual Awards Banquet Hall of Fame Banquet
<u>2024 MASTER SCHEDULE</u>	



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: April 20th, 2024
Time: 10:00 am Atlantic
Location: Fredericton Inn (1315 Regent Street, Fredericton, NB)

The Annual General Meeting of Softball New Brunswick Inc. shall be held the third Saturday of April. If the third Saturday of April falls on Easter weekend, the Annual General Meeting will then be held on the second or fourth weekend of April. Regional Association Meetings are required to be held prior to the Annual General Meeting. Please note: The Annual General Meeting may be held virtually if necessary.

All attendees are encouraged to pre-register for the AGM by completing the [RSVP form](#).

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

The constitution and bylaws of our organization serve as the foundational documents that outline our purpose, structure, and operations. Together, they establish the fundamental principles and guidelines that govern Softball New Brunswick's activities, functions, and decision-making processes. Copies of these documents are available below and on our [website](#) under the policy section.

[Constitution & Bylaws](#)

POLICIES

Softball New Brunswick recognizes its responsibility to foster environments that ensure positive, healthy, and fulfilling experiences. By prioritizing the welfare, safety, and rights of our members, Softball New Brunswick is able to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to address the needs of the softball community in relation to safety in sport.



To ensure policies remain current and continue to align with Sport Canada requirements, Softball New Brunswick, in partnership with Sport Law and Strategy Group (SLSG) has conducted an independent review. As a result of this review, Softball New Brunswick has adopted an updated suite of Safe Sport policies as of May 25th, 2021 including the integration of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS).

Softball New Brunswick commits itself to reviewing and revising these policies as often as necessary in order to ensure members can participate in a sporting environment that is free from harassment, discrimination and abuse.

[Safe Sport Policy Suite](#)
[Concussion Protocol](#)
[Discipline Guidelines](#)

[Membership Refund Policy](#)
[Transgender Policy](#)
[Softball Canada Inclusion Policy](#)
[Expense and Travel Policy](#)

For more information on Safe Sport and our Policies, visit our website at www.softballnb.ca.

SPORT ACCIDENT INSURANCE PROGRAM

Softball New Brunswick registered members and Directors & Operators fall under the Sport New Brunswick Insurance Program. For full details on the program coverage, go to the Sport New Brunswick website under Member Services and [Sport Insurance Program](#).

Claim Notification form must be submitted to canadaclaims@markel.com within 30 days of the injury.

NOTE: This insurance policy serves as a secondary provider that will cover members once their primary insurance plan is exhausted. Secondary insurance is billed when primary insurance plans are exhausted and may help cover additional health care costs.

Coverages

For more detailed information on insurance coverage please contact Softball New Brunswick or visit our website at www.softballnb.ca

[Sport NB Insurance Program](#)
[How To File A Claim](#)

[Claim Notification Form & Attending Physician's Report Form](#)



REGIONAL MAP & BOUNDARIES

Softball New Brunswick operates based on 5 regions (North Western, Capital Western, Fundy, South Eastern, and North Eastern).

NORTH WESTERN

- Edmundston
- Grand Falls
- Kedgwick
- Perth-Andover
- Plaster Rock
- Saint-Léonard
- Saint-Quentin
- Negotkuk (Tobique FN)

CAPITAL WESTERN

- Boiestown
- Cambridge-Narrows
- Chipman
- Doaktown
- Florenceville-Bristol
- Fredericton
- Gagetown
- Grand Lake
- Hartland
- Harvey
- Hoyt
- Keswick Ridge
- Keswick Valley
- Billijk (Kingsclear FN)
- McAdam
- Minto
- Nackawic
- Oromocto
- Welamukotuk (Oromocto FN)
- Sitansisk (St. Mary's FN)
- Stanley
- Taymouth
- Woodstock
- Woodstock First Nation

FUNDY

- Belle-Isle
- Black Harbour
- Campobello Island
- Grand Bay-Westfield
- Grand Manan
- Hampton
- Kingston
- Quispamsis
- Rothesay
- Saint John
- St. Andrews
- St. George
- St. Martins
- St. Stephen
- Sussex



SOUTH EASTERN

- Bass River
- Bouctouche
- Cap-Pelé
- Cocagne
- Dieppe
- Elsipogtog (Big Cove FN)
- Moncton
- Memramcook
- Petitcodiac
- Rexton
- Richibucto
- Riverview
- Sackville
- Saint Antoine
- Salisbury
- Shediac

NORTH EASTERN

- Bathurst
- Blackville
- Esgenoopetitj (Burnt Church)
- Campbellton
- Caraquet
- Dalhousie
- Natoaganeg (Eel Ground)
- Ugpi'Ganjig (Eel River Bar)
- Lamèque
- Metepenagiag (Red Bank)
- Miramichi
- Neguac
- Petit-Rocher
- Rogersville
- Shippagan
- Tracadie



OPERATING GUIDELINES

Section 1: General Overview

- a. Softball New Brunswick uses the Softball Canada Official Guide and Rule Book for its interpretation in playing the game of Softball. **Modifications to the official rules as stated herein take precedence over those in the Softball Canada Rule Book.** Specific League rulings take precedent for League play regarding:
 - i. Game variances may include but are not limited to:
 1. Pitching rules
 2. Batting order
 3. Substitution
 4. Game length
- b. All affiliated Leagues, Associations and teams will have complete charge over their own operations and business, except
 - i. In the case of a dispute, where any affiliated League, Association or team shall have the privilege of appealing to Softball New Brunswick in writing through their respective League or Association following the Softball New Brunswick Appeals Policy.
 - ii. In the case of Provincial Championships or Eastern Canadian Qualifiers which are governed by Softball New Brunswick.

Section 2: Definitions

- a. **Affiliate/Member:** An individual that has completed Softball New Brunswick annual registration and paid the associated fees.
- b. **Association:** A group of volunteers, whether incorporated as a Non-Profit Corporation or not, organized to administer the operation of softball within the Province of New Brunswick and in accordance with the Bylaws and Operating Rules of Softball New Brunswick. The group will be administering softball within a community or region. Associations that affiliate with Softball New Brunswick will have all rights allotted by Softball New Brunswick. A softball association may have players registered with it in one or more recognized divisions or categories and may operate one or more teams. All teams in an Association must have common signing officers for the purpose of registration and releases and provide this information to the Executive Director of Softball New Brunswick. Any changes in the officers of an Association set up must be forwarded to the Executive Director of Softball New Brunswick as they occur.



- c. **League:** A combination of teams affiliated with Softball New Brunswick through their respective Associations or with another Province that is a member of Softball Canada who compete among themselves based on a regular schedule of games established by an elected or appointed group of individuals affiliated with Softball New Brunswick.
- d. **Teams:** A group of registered players and coaches forming one side in a competitive game or sport.

1: RESIDENCY

- a. Players and Coaches registered on a team with Softball New Brunswick are required to be a resident of New Brunswick as of May 1st of the current playing year. Players and Coaches registered on teams in categories which lead to a Canadian Championship must adhere to the Softball Canada Residency Rule of May 1st .
 - i. The Softball NB staff reserves the right to review any residency requests past the May 1st deadline.
 - ii. Players must be able to produce a valid proof of residence (Ex. NB Drivers License, Utility Bill, Lease, etc.) if requested by the Softball New Brunswick.
- b. Regions
 - i. Minor - Players are required to play for teams within their regions. If no teams exist in the region in which a player resides, they can submit a request for release. See the minor regional release process below.
 - ii. Adult - Players can play with any team within any region.
- c. Service personnel and dependents such as penitentiary guards, mounted police or armed forces personnel transferred into New Brunswick after July 1st are to be allowed to play in provincials; subject to review by the Executive Director

2: AGE CLASSIFICATIONS

Age Group	Birth Years
U5 Timbits	2020, 2019
U7 Timbits	2018, 2017
U9	2016, 2015
U11	2014, 2013
U13	2012, 2011
U15	2010, 2009



U17	2008, 2007
U19 Women's	2006, 2005
U20 Men's	2004, 2005, 2006
U23 Men's	2001, 2002, 2003

3: PROOF OF AGE

- a. If not previously registered with Softball New Brunswick, a request for proof of age may be made in the form of a copy of Birth Certificate, Passport, or a valid form of New Brunswick identification by the Roster Registration Deadline Date.
 - i. Members should be prepared to present a valid proof of age at any time during Qualifiers or Provincial Championships.

4. RELEASES

Section 1: Minor Regional Releases

- a. A minor aged athlete is required to play within their region for the following events: Eastern Canadian Qualifiers and Provincial Championships, unless they are granted a release from their region.
- b. Requests for releases are required to be submitted to the Technical Director between April 24th to May 8th, 2024.

[Minor Regional Release Procedure and Requirements](#)

Section 2: Adult Provincial Releases

- a. Adults requesting a release to play outside of the province for Canadian Championships must submit a written request for release to the Technical Director for consideration. The individual's first priority is to any team from New Brunswick attending the event. The individual must be a registered member with Softball New Brunswick in order to be eligible for a release. Releases will be accepted between May 8th to May 22nd 2024 and decisions will be made no later than May 29th.
 - i. Softball NB holds the right to consider requests for release after the May 22nd, 2024 deadline.



5: MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Section 1: General Information

- a. Annual Membership Registration with Softball New Brunswick is done online through our website at www.softballnb.ca via RAMP Interactive.
- b. The term of membership shall begin upon registration and payment of annual fees and exist until the next registration date. The term of membership shall run from April 1st to March 31st.
- c. To be covered by the Softball New Brunswick Insurance Program, players, coaches, umpires, and managers on teams must be registered with Softball New Brunswick **prior to any indoor or outdoor softball activity.**
- d. The Affiliation/Membership Fee Structure is pre-determined by the Board of Directors and will be set by February 15th of the current playing year. Umpire fees are set by the Provincial Umpire in Chief (PUIC).

Section 2: Membership Fees

Individual Fees		Umpire Fees	
U5-U9 Player	\$15.00	Junior Development	\$35.00
U11-U20 Player	\$25.00	Level 1	\$70.00
Coach	\$10.00	Level 2	\$80.00
Team Fees		Level 3	\$90.00
U5-U9 Team	\$30.00	Level 4	\$100.00
U11-U20 Team	\$50.00	Level 5	\$110.00
Adult Team	\$75.00		

6: COACHES

Section 1: Coaching Minimum Requirements

- a. ALL coaches listed on the team roster are **REQUIRED** to be affiliated with Softball New Brunswick and must adhere to the following minimum coaching standards:
 - i. Safe Sport Training
 - ii. Foundations of Coaching Softball (FOCS) – Part 1



- iii. Foundations of Coaching Softball (FOCS) – Part 2
- iv. Vulnerable Sector Check (Required to be renewed every 3 years)

Section 2: Coaching Certification Pathways

- a. [Community Sport - Initiation](#)
- b. [Community Sport - Ongoing Participation](#)
- c. [Competition Introduction](#)
- d. [Competition Development](#)
- e. [Pitching Instruction - Beginner](#)

Section 3: Provincial Championship Coaching Requirements

TO TAKE EFFECT IN 2025

- a. U9 and U11 A Divisions
 - i. All coaches will be required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only (Section 1.a)
- b. U13-U19/20 A and U11 AA Divisions
 - i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Provincial Championship Roster is required to be a minimum of Community Sport - Ongoing Participation TRAINED.
 - ii. All additional coaches are required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only (Section 1.a)
- c. U13-U19/20 AA Divisions
 - i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Provincial Championship Roster is required to be a minimum of Competition-Introduction TRAINED.
 - ii. All additional coaches are required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only (Section 1.a)
- d. Adult Divisions
 - i. All coaches at the adult level are required to complete a minimum of Safe Sport Training.

Section 4: Eastern Canadian Softball Championship Coaching Requirements

- a. U13-U19/20 Divisions
 - i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Eastern Canadian Softball Championship Roster is required to be a minimum of Competition-Introduction TRAINED.
 - ii. All additional coaches are required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only (Section 1.a)



Section 5: Canadian Championship Coaching Requirements

- a. U15-U19/20 Divisions
 - i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Canadian Championship Roster is required to be a minimum of Competition-Introduction CERTIFIED.
 - ii. All additional coaches are required to be a minimum of Competition-Introduction TRAINED.

Section 6: Canada Games Coaching Requirements

- a. The Head Coach on the Canada Games Roster is required to be Competition-Development CERTIFIED.
- b. The Assistant Coach and Manager on the Canada Games Roster is required to be a minimum of Competition-Development TRAINED.

7: PLAYING RULES

Section 1: General Rules

- a. The Softball rules as outlined in the Softball Canada Rule book will govern in all Softball New Brunswick events (i.e. Provincial Championships, Eastern Canadian Qualifiers, etc), except where superseded by Softball New Brunswick’s Special Operating Rules (SOR’s).

(Note: We do not use the Minor Softball rules at the back of the Softball Canada Rule Book for select categories - U9, U11, U13)

- I. We highly recommend teams using these rules throughout the season during their exhibition play in preparation for the Eastern Canadian Qualifiers (if applicable), Provincial Championships, etc

Section 2: Age Categories and Distance Tables

Fastpitch Distance Table - Female

Age	Ball Type & Size	Pitching Distance	Baselines
U5	11" RIFF (27.95cm)	30' (9.14m)	45' (13.70m)
U7	11" RIFF (27.95cm)	30' (9.14m)	45' (13.70m)
U9	11" RIFF (27.95cm)	30' (9.14m)	45' (13.70m)
U11	11" Red Dot (27.95cm)	35' (10.06m)	50' (15.24m)



U13	11" Red Dot (27.95cm)	38' (11.58m)	55' (16.76m)
U15	12" Red Dot (30.50cm)	40' (12.20m)	60' (18.30m)
U17	12" Red Dot (30.50cm)	43' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
U19	12" Red Dot (30.50cm)	43' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
U23	12" Red Dot (30.50cm)	43' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
ADULT	12" Red Dot (30.50cm)	43' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
MASTERS	12" Red Dot (30.50cm)	43' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)

Fastpitch Distance Table - Male

Age	Ball Type & Size	Pitching Distance	Baselines
U5	11" RIFF (27.95cm)	30' (9.14m)	45' (13.70m)
U7	11" RIFF (27.95cm)	30' (9.14m)	45' (13.70m)
U9	11" RIFF (27.95cm)	30' (9.14m)	45' (13.70m)
U11	11" Red Dot (27.95cm)	35' (10.66m)	50' (15.24m)
U13	11" Red Dot (27.95cm)	38' (11.58m)	55' (16.76m)
U15	12" K-Master (30.50cm)	42' (12.80m)	60' (18.30m)
U17	12" K-Master (30.50cm)	46' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
U19	12" K-Master (30.50cm)	46' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
U23	12" K-Master (30.50cm)	46' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
ADULT	12" K-Master (30.50cm)	46' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)
MASTERS	12" K-Master (30.50cm)	46' (13.10m)	60' (18.30m)



Slopitch Distance Table - Female

Division	Ball Type & Size	Pitching Distance	Baselines
Women's Slopitch	11" Green Dot (27.95cm)	50' (15.2m)	65' (19.81m)

Slopitch Distance Table - Male

Division	Ball Type & Size	Pitching Distance	Baselines
Men's Slopitch	12" Hot Dot (30.50cm)	50' (15.2m)	70' (21.34m)

COED Slopitch Distance Table

Category	Ball Size	Pitching Distance	Baselines
COED	12" Hot Dot (30.50cm)	50-60'	65' (198.81m)

Section 3: Special Operating Rules (SOR's)

- a. [U9 Fastpitch Playing Rules](#)
- b. [U11 Fastpitch Playing Rules](#)
- c. [U13 Fastpitch Playing Rules](#)
- d. [U15 to Adult Fastpitch Playing Rules](#)
- e. [COED Slo Pitch Playing Rules](#)
- f. All other Provincial Championship rules not listed in the SOR's above will revert back to the Softball Canada Rule Book.

8: ELIGIBILITY

Section 1: Provincial Championship Team Eligibility

- a. **MINOR** Players aged up to and including U15, their second Provincial Championship may only be the next age group above theirs. A player's DOB is the starting point for playing in a Provincial Championship or playing up a Provincial Championship.
 - i. Ex. 2009/2010 fall within the U15 age group.
 - ii. Ex. A minor U13 'A' player may affiliate up to either U15 'A' or U15 'AA'. However, a minor U13 'AA' player may only be affiliated up to U15 'AA'.



- iii. Female athletes are eligible to attend male designated tournaments, but age group rules still apply.
- b. **MINOR** Players aged U17 and up are able to play as many Provincial Championships available to them. To be eligible to attend an **ADULT** Provincial Championship, the player's DOB must fall within the U17 age group (Ex. 2007/2008) and also receive permission from SNB before committing to play.

Section 2: Minor Player Eligibility

- a. Players aged U9 to and including U15, are eligible to play in their respective age category and the category above theirs. They are not eligible to play two or more categories above their age group.
 - i. Note: A 'AA' player can only play with 'AA' teams in the age category above. They cannot play with an 'A' team at the age category above.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP	U9	U11	U13	U15	U17	U19/20
U7 Age Group	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U9 Age Group	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
U11 Age Group	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
U13 Age Group	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO
U15 Age Group	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
U17 Age Group	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
U19 Age Group	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
U20 Age Group	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES

Section 3: Minor Player Eligibility - Adult Provincial Championships

- a. All U17 athletes and above are eligible to play in any adult provincials

Section 4: Minor Team Eligibility for SNB Provincial Championships

- a. If a team wants to play in a secondary Provincial Championships, they are required to play within their own age category first (or be registered and paid to do so should their respected provincials come afterwards)



- b. A team's secondary Provincial Championship may be only 1 age category and division above their own age, if available. Softball New Brunswick withholds the right to approve any teams wanting to play in a secondary Provincial Championship and determine if the team meets the 'AA' criteria.
- c. All Provincial Championship rostered players will need to abide by the individual Player eligibility rule for Provincial Championships.
- d. Teams wishing to play in a secondary Provincial Championship must request entry into a secondary Provincial Championship through the Softball New Brunswick office.

9: PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

All teams (players & coaches) registering for Provincial Championships must first be registered with Softball New Brunswick the Technical Director and/or the Executive Director, reserves the right to refuse any registration in Provincial Championships and has the authority to re-categorize teams, if deemed necessary.

Section 1: Dates and Locations

Age Category	Date	Location	Cost	Roster Size	Make-Up Date
U9 Girls	August 23-25th	St Leonard	\$350.00	8- 15 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U9 Boys	August 23-25th	TBD	\$350.00	8- 15 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U11 Girls A	September 6-8th	Quispamsis	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U11 Girls AA	September 6-8th	Quispamsis	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U11 Boys	August 23-25th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U13 Girls A	August 16-18th	Fredericton	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U13 Girls AA	August 16-18th	Oromocto	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th



Age Category	Date	Location	Cost	Roster Size	Make-Up Date
U13 Boys	August 9-11th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
U15 Girls A	August 9-11th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
U15 Girls AA	August 9-11th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
U15 Boys	September 6-8th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	September 13-14th
U17 Girls A	August 16-18th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
U17 Girls AA	August 16-18th	St Leonard	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
U17 Boys	TBD	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	TBD
Women's	July 26-28th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
Men's Fastpitch	August 9-11th	Taymouth	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
Men's Orthodox	July 26-28th	TBD	\$425.00	11- 17 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st
Co-Ed Slopitch	July 26-28th	TBD	\$425.00	11-20 players 5 coaches	August 30 - September 1st

Section 2: Provincial Championship Guide

a. [Guide Document and Hosting Responsibilities](#)

- i. Applications to host Provincial Championships are due March 31st of the year of the tournament. Hosts are asked to review the Guide Document & Hosting Responsibilities prior to submitting a bid.



10: EASTERN CANADIAN SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS (ECSC)

Section 1: 2024 Dates and Locations

Age Category	Date	Location
Qualifiers Registration	May 31st	Via RAMP Interactive
Qualifiers	July 5-7th	Fredericton, NB
U13 Girls	August 22-25th	Dartmouth, NS
U13 Boys	August 22-25th	Antigonish, NS
U15 Girls	August 22-25th	Fredericton, NB
U15 Boys	August 22-25th	East Hants, NS
U17 Girls	August 22-25th	Saint Leonard, NB
U17 Boys	August 15-18th	NB
Age Category	Date	Location
U19 Women's	August 15-18th	Portugal Cove, NL
U20 Men's	N/A	N/A
Intermediate Women's	August 9-11th	Aurora, ON
Intermediate Men's	September 6-8th	Brookfield, NS

Section 2: Qualifiers

- a. Teams interested in attending ECSC must qualify to attend.
- b. NB has two (2) positions in each division of ECSC. An additional team may be granted by the ECSC Committee on a case-by-case basis. (ex. If another province choses to only send 0-1 teams).
- c. Teams must make their intent to participate in the ECSC to Softball New Brunswick by May 31st, 2024 to the start of the championship
 - i. 2024 Qualifier Fee: \$425.00



- d. Teams must include their \$500.00 performance bond when they make their intent to participate in the qualifiers.
- e. By submitting their intent to participate in the qualifiers, teams are also committing to participate at the ECSC, should they qualify.
- f. Teams are required to play in their own age category. Athletes must fulfill their commitment to attend the qualifiers in their own age category.
- g. Teams are also required to play in a minor Provincial Championship of the current year, as per ECSC By-laws.
- h. Schedule
 - i. If there are 3 or more teams interested in attending ECSC, a tournament style qualifier will be held the first weekend in July each year.
 - ii. Schedule format will follow the same template as provincial championships with the exception of 3rd/4th place games will be played in all divisions.
 - 1. [Schedule Formats and Templates](#)
 - iii. If there are 2 teams interested in attending ECSC, one (1) game will be held as a qualifier to determine the higher the seed for ECSC.
 - iv. If only 1 team is interested in attending ECSC, no qualifier will be held and that team will automatically attend as NB1.
- i. Prizes and Awards
 - i. Prizes
 - 1. The top two (2) teams in each division will receive a prize donated by Rawlings.
 - ii. Individual Awards
 - 1. A plaque will be provided for each award winner.
 - 2. Individual awards will be awarded at each age category.
 - 3. The Softball New Brunswick Representative, in conjunction with the Tournament Chair, will determine the award winners based on the following criteria:
 - 4. Top Batter
 - a. Top Batter will be named based off of all round robin games only.
 - b. To qualify, a player must have an average of 2.5 plate appearances or higher per game their team plays in the round robin.
 - c. Factors that may be considered when determining top batter include but are not limited to: batting average, on-base percentage, number of hits, strike-outs and walks.
 - 5. Top Pitcher



- a. Top Pitcher will be named based off of all round robin games only.
 - b. U13: To qualify, a player must have pitched a minimum of 5 innings in the robin robin.
 - c. U15+: To qualify, a player must have pitched a minimum of 7 innings in the round robin.
 - d. Factors that may be considered when determining top batter include but are not limited to: Innings pitched, batting average against, ERA, WHIP, number of hits against, strikeouts and walks.
6. Most Valuable Player (MVP)
- a. MVP will be named based off of the entire tournament (Round Robin and Playoff Round)
7. The SNB Representative and Tournament Supervisor will have final say on the award winners.

Section 3: Pickups

- a. Teams qualifying for an Eastern Canadian Tournament are able to add up to two (2) pickups as per ECSC By-laws
- b. A player whose team does not play in the Eastern Canadian Qualifier may still be eligible to be picked up so long as they are a member in good standing with Softball New Brunswick.
- c. Procedure
 - i. The pickup process will begin at the U13 age category, followed by U15, U17 and U19/20
 - ii. Pick-ups are a one (1) at a time basis (e.g. Eastern Canadian Qualifier winner picks one (1); then next runner-up picks (1) and so on). If 3 teams are attending, the third team is added into the rotation for pick ups.
 1. A player refusing to play with the team that picks them shall lose their right to be picked up a second time.
 2. A player from a lower age category can be picked up by a team 1 age group higher.
 3. Pick-ups for Easterns will begin the first Wednesday following after the completion of the Eastern Canadian Qualifier. Pick-ups must be finalized no later than August 1st, at 11:59pm.

Section 4: Policies and Procedures

- a. All details surrounding the Eastern Canadian Softball Championships can be found within the [ECSC Operation and Policy Manual](#).



11: CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Section 1: Minor Categories

- a. On an annual basis, Softball New Brunswick will send one (1) team to Canadian Championships in each of the minor age divisions as part of the NB Selects Provincial Team Program.
 - i. U15 Boys and Girls
 - ii. U17 Boys and Girls
 - iii. U19 Women's
 - iv. U20 Men's
- b. Considerations may be made to send one (1) additional team in any minor category, depending on the location of the tournament (i.e. Maritimes) and overall needs of the NB Selects program.

Section 2: Adult Categories

- a. On an annual basis, Softball New Brunswick will authorize up to a maximum of one (1) club team to attend the Canadian Championships in each of the adult categories:
 - i. U23 Men's
 - ii. Women's
 - iii. Men's
 - iv. Master Men's
 - v. Women's Slo-pitch
 - vi. Men's Slo-pitch
- b. The date for adult teams to submit their intent to participate in the upcoming Canadian Championships to Softball New Brunswick are as follows:
 - i. Fastpitch - February 20th, 2024
 - ii. Slo Pitch - April 15th, 2024
- c. Considerations may be made to send one (1) additional team in any adult category, depending on the location of the tournament (i.e. Maritimes) quantity and quality of players.
- d. Pickups
 - i. See Softball Canada Fastpitch and Slopitch Special Operating Rules (SOR's) for more information.

Section 3: Softball Canada Resources

- a. All information regarding Canadian Championships can be found in the [Team Guide](#) and on the [Softball Canada website](#).



12: TRAVEL PERMITS

- a. All affiliated teams, players and umpires that travel outside of New Brunswick to a SANCTIONED competition or tournament must be in possession of a travel permit in order to be covered under the Softball New Brunswick Insurance program.
- b. All travel permits are obtainable by contacting the Softball New Brunswick Office or on our website at www.softballnb.ca.
- c. The deadline to submit Travel Permits is two weeks prior to departure.

13: TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING

- a. All tournaments must be sanctioned by Softball New Brunswick through the Executive Director. No tournament will be sanctioned unless the tournament committee or Association is an affiliated member of Softball New Brunswick.
- b. All Softball New Brunswick/Softball Canada rules & regulations shall apply.
- c. No sanctioned tournament shall accept entries from any team which is not an affiliated member of Softball New Brunswick or any other Provincial Softball Association. It will be the responsibility of the tournament organizers to ensure that all teams participating in their tournament are affiliated with Softball New Brunswick or another Provincial Softball Association.
- d. Any team, player, coach, or manager of an affiliated team taking part in an unsanctioned tournament will NOT be covered under the Softball New Brunswick insurance policy.
- e. All games in a sanctioned tournament shall be umpired by registered umpires in New Brunswick.
- f. Should any team withdraw from a sanctioned tournament after the entry has been accepted, the team shall be reported to Softball New Brunswick for disciplinary action if deemed necessary.
- g. No tournament sanctions will be issued that conflict with any Provincial Championships scheduled for the same dates.
- h. Tournaments must use provincial team classification when inviting teams to participate in their event. (i.e., U15 or Men's/Women's, 'A' or 'AA', etc.)
- i. All irregularities, problems, conflicts, etc., must be reported to the Softball New Brunswick Office no later than five (5) days after completion of the tournament.
- j. Application for a tournament sanction must be made at least two (2) weeks prior to the tournament date. Sanctioned tournaments will be posted on the Softball New Brunswick website.
- k. To apply to host a sanctioned club tournament, go to the [Softball NB website](http://www.softballnb.ca).



PROGRAMS

1: GRASSROOTS

Section 1: Timbits Softball Program

- a. Timbits softball is a way of introducing the sport of softball to children. The purpose of the program is to foster the involvement of ALL players, and families with high and low skills levels. The child will experience excitement, enjoyment and success. Activities and lead-up games are patterned after informal playground games that promise FUN and LOTS OF ACTION. Participants will go home at the end of the day happy and tired while improving their skills and having been physically active.
- b. The Timbits Softball website is your source for all information regarding the Timbits Softball program. This website contains resources for those already involved in Timbits Softball and for those who are seeking more information on the program and its benefits. Softball Canada offers a full Timbits Softball Manual for coaches equipped with practice plans for U5, U7, and U9 programs. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the manual.
- c. Follow Softball Canada on Social Media for updates and share your Timbits Softball photos with them by tagging @SOFTBALLCANADA or #TIMBITSSOFTBALL

Section 2: Community Development Program

- a. The Softball New Brunswick Community Softball Development Program, aims to foster youth engagement and promote the growth of softball across our province. The Community Softball Development Program aims to target the U9-U13 age categories (born in 2011-2016), providing an opportunity for young individuals to learn and develop their softball skills in a supportive and inclusive environment. By extending our reach to communities that may not have had access to softball before, we hope to connect the dots across the province and create a network of new passionate players, coaches, umpires, and supporters.
- b. **Goals:**
 - i. To assist in the promotion, development, and implementation of new community based softball programs around the province, with focus on the U9, U11, U13 age categories;
 - ii. To provide access to resources and qualified training for affiliated softball programs leaders;
 - iii. To see overall increased fundamental skill development amongst softball players across the province;



- iv. For Softball New Brunswick to have active programming in various communities in each of our 5 regions.
- c. For more information, contact timbitsoftball@softballnb.ca

Section 3: Resources

- a. Softball New Brunswick is committed to providing various resources to the membership for both on and off the field.
 - i. We are dedicated to providing our members with a bank of cutting-edge drills and resources, all at your fingertips and completely FREE. Whether you're seeking fresh inspiration or honing your skills, simply click on the link below to an always growing list of videos concise, informative videos showcasing each drill in action.
 - 1. [Drill Bank](#)
 - ii. Softball New Brunswick has a limited inventory of items at the office available at the office FREE to our members for pick up. Click on the link below for the current list of available items.
 - 1. [Free Items](#)
 - iii. Softball Canada has developed a simplified method on determining the best bat size by age for youth. Click on the link below for more information.
 - 1. [Recommended Bat Size By Age](#)

2: PROVINCIAL TEAM PROGRAM - NB SELECTS

- a. The NB Selects high performance program was designed to provide a competitive pathway for Softball New Brunswick's top male and female athletes in each age category (U15-U20). The teams will be made up of the best athletes from across the province of New Brunswick and they will regularly train together to attend the Softball Canada Canadian Championships on an annual basis. This model will help prepare athletes, coaches and officials for future high performance events (Canada Games, national teams, etc.).
- b. 2024 NB Selects Programs
 - i. U15 Girls/Boys
 - 1. Birth Years 2009-2010
 - ii. U17 Girls/Boys
 - 1. Birth Years 2007-2008
 - iii. U19 Women's
 - 1. Birth Years 2005-2006
 - iv. U20 Men's



1. Birth Years 2004-2006
 - c. Handbook
 - i. The NB Selects handbook is intended to provide clear information (Guiding Principles, Eligibility, Tryout Process, Coaching Selections, Team Selection, Selection Criteria, Fees, Code of Conduct, Policies, etc. to all stakeholders of the program (players, coaches, officials, parents/guardians and spectators).
 - ii. [2024 Handbook](#).
 - d. For more information on the NB Selects high performance program, visit our [website](#).

3: CANADA GAMES PROGRAM

- a. The Canada Summer Games is the largest multi sporting event in the country and the highest level of sport that many athletes may attain. Every 4 years, Men's and Women's softball is part of the event (pending sport selection by the Canada Games Council). Softball New Brunswick operates both a Men's and Women's team under the Team NB program.
- b. 2025 Canada Games Team Plan coming soon

4: UMPIRE PROGRAM

Section 1: Contact Information

Provincial Umpire-in-Chief

Ron Campbell
Willow Grove, NB
ronald.campbell@irvingoil.com

Technical Director

Cameron Rogers
Fredericton, NB
technicaldirector@softballnb.ca

ZONE ASSIGNORS INFORMATION

Zone 1

Paul Boulet
Saint Leonard, NB

Zone 2

Vacant

Zone 3

Rick Russell
Fredericton, NB

Zone 4

Carlos Avila
Saint John, NB

Zone 5

Jim Comeau
Moncton, NB



Zone 6

Carl Watters
Miramichi, NB

Zone 7

Vacant

Zone 8

Vacant

Zone 9

Vacant

Zone 10

Vacant

Zone 11

Barry Adams
Oromocto, NB

Section 2: General Information

Are you looking to become a Softball Canada Registered Umpire?

There are so many fantastic BENEFITS to becoming an umpire:

- Earn extra cash;
- Improve/maintain your physical activity level;
- Meet interesting people from across your province, country and/or the world;
- Learn to make snap decisions;
- Become a member of a fantastic team;
- Be involved in one of the most popular sports;
- Opportunity for travel;
- Work some high profile games;
- Serve as role models for all currently enjoying softball.

Section 3: Umpire Clinics

- a. Information on upcoming umpire clinics can be found on our website
 - i. [Umpire Clinics](#)

Section 4: Junior Development Program

- a. Our Junior Development Program is designed for youth under the age of 18 years old getting into the umpire program. With this program, the youth umpires will receive reduced registration rates, a shirt and hat, and mentorship opportunities by some of NBs finest umpires.
- b. For more information on getting started, contact the Softball New Brunswick Education Officer, [Ray Blanchette](#), today for upcoming umpire clinics, registration, special achievement opportunities, and more.



Section 5: Competitive Umpire Development Program

- a. Wondering how you can get from a Level I to working international competition(s)? It is certainly an exciting journey with lots of challenges and rewards. Follow these slides where they will help you understand the steps along the way. For any questions or guidance contact your [provincial UIC](#) or any member of the [ODC](#).
- b. [National Officials Certification Program](#)

Section 6: Umpire Apparel

- a. Looking to pick up some Softball Canada umpire apparel? Check out [Home Run Sports](#): The official umpire store of Softball Canada.

Section 7: Approved Bats

- b. Softball Canada does not currently have its own bat certification program, but endorses the following bat standards for Canadian Championships.
- c. Softball Canada recognizes bats certified by both USA Softball and the WBSC for use in Fast Pitch competitions and USA Softball, the WBSC and USSSA for Slo-Pitch play.
- d. [Approved Bats](#)

Section 8: Umpire Ejection Reports

- a. During a game, the umpire(s) may be required to eject a player, coach, or even a spectator from a game for various reasons (yelling, punching, spitting, throwing equipment, etc.). It is the responsibility of the umpire to then report the ejection directly to Softball New Brunswick within the appropriate timeline.
- b. Softball New Brunswick has a template for our umpires to report their ejections by which will ensure consistency across the province and that all details are included.
- c. Steps to reporting an ejection:
 - i. Ejection reports must be submitted by game official(s) no later than 24 hours after the ejections have occurred. Reports are to be emailed to the Regional Umpire In Chief (RUIC), SNB Regional Director, and copy on the email the Provincial Umpire in Chief (PUIC) and SNB Executive Director.
 - ii. Regional UIC and SNB Regional Director will administer the punishment based on SNB discipline policy's guideline. If the offence warrants more than the outlined minimum penalty, the PUIC and SNB Executive Director will be included in the process.
 - iii. If conflict of interest is declared by either the Regional UIC or Regional Director, their replacement will be appointed by the PUIC/ED



- iv. [Umpire Ejection Report Form](#)

AWARDS AND HALL OF FAME

1: ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year Softball New Brunswick strives to honor our most accomplished members. We proudly present awards to players, coaches, umpires and volunteers, thereby showing our appreciation for their contributions to the sport of softball. Consider nominating a deserving member this year. Nomination criteria can be found at the link below. For more information, check out our [website](#)

[Annual Award Nomination Criteria](#)

2024 Annual Award Details
Nomination Deadline: September 1st, 2024
Date: Friday, October 4th, 2024
Location: Fredericton Inn

2: MEMORIAL AWARDS

PURPOSE

Each year Softball New Brunswick presents three Memorial Awards in honour of Henry Kelly, Charlie O'Brien, and Paul Dawson. These awards are given to the individual that best exemplifies the traits and commitment to softball that Henry, Charlie, and Paul possessed. We proudly present these awards at the SNB Annual Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet to players, coaches, umpires and/or volunteers, thereby showing our appreciation for their contributions to the sport of softball. The criteria for these awards is available at the link below.

[Memorial Award Nomination Criteria](#)

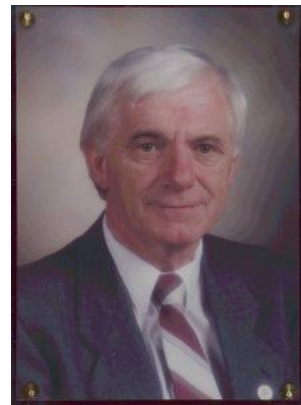
Deadline to apply is **September 1st** of the qualifying year



Charlie O'Brien



Henry Kelly



Paul Dawson

3: HALL OF FAME

Purpose

The Softball New Brunswick Inc. Hall of Fame recognizes the past achievements of athletes, teams, officials, coaches, and builders. Softball New Brunswick Inc. honours those individuals and teams who have participated, served, represented, and/or impacted the sport of softball. Hosted annually at the Fredericton Inn, the Softball New Brunswick Inc. Hall of Fame was established in 1994 recognizing the contributions of the many who have helped establish Softball New Brunswick Inc. as a leader in the sport of softball.

Application Submissions

All applications are to be forwarded to the Executive Director of Softball New Brunswick Inc. no later than the advertised **June 1st** deadline of the year you wish to submit the nomination for.

Attn: HOF Selection Committee
Softball New Brunswick Inc.
900 Hanwell Road, Suite 31
Fredericton, NB E3B 6A2
executivedirector@softballnb.ca



[Softball New Brunswick Hall of Fame Application Form](#)
[Softball New Brunswick Hall of Fame Application Criteria](#)



SPONSORS

We wish to take this opportunity to thank each of our major sponsors: Rawlings Canada, the Fredericton Inn, Kahunaverse, and the Government of New Brunswick.



RAWLINGS CANADA

A special thank you once again to Jason Shipley and all of Rawlings Canada for your continued support of our program. We have worked consistently with Jason and Rawlings for many years being the Official Equipment supplier of our Provincial Team Program, Canada Games Program, Provincial Championships, etc. Rawlings has been an excellent provider, and supporter of our PSO!



FREDERICTON INN

We also wish to recognize and sincerely thank the Fredericton Inn hotel. As the official home of the Softball NB Hall of Fame, the Fredericton Inn has continued to support Softball NB, and has provided top-notch accommodations for us.



GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK

A special thank you to the Government of New Brunswick for your continued support of Softball New Brunswick. They have been a tremendous partner and have supported our PSO greatly with various grants, partnerships, etc.