UPDATED - Highlights of changes for the 2025 Operating Rules (Dec. 19, 2024)

"A" Centre Application deadlines for Associations

For 2025 Minor Associations must apply to register "A" teams in all age categories U13 and above by the following application deadline dates:

Feb. 1st U17 Girls and U19 Women's

March 1st U15 Girls
April 1st U13 Girls

Associations selected to register "A" teams in each age category will be notified within two weeks of the application deadline. These will be the only teams allowed to register in the U13 and above "A" categories of Provincial Championships.

Provincial Championship Categories

- We changed the U20 Women's "C" age category to be U19 "C" Women's
- In U13 Girls there will now be a U13 B Girls North and South Provincial and a U13 c Girls North and South Provincial. This was done to try and spread the number of teams out to avoid 20 and 30+ team draws in some categories.
- In U15 B Girls there will now be a U15 B North and U15 B South Provincial Championship.

Section 5: N.C.C.P. Coaching Certification Requirements

The coach certification requirement for U13 A Girls and U13 Open Boys teams has been changed so that teams must have a minimum of one (1) coach who is Comp. Intro. TRAINED and on the bench at the championship.

Section 6: MINOR Provincial Championship Team Formation

Minor Player Evaluations/Tryouts. Minor Softball Associations and their teams cannot start their player evaluation/tryouts until:

Minor Female

December 15th – U19 A category

January 15th – All remaining A categories

February 15th – All B and C categories

Minor Male evaluations can be held anytime.

In U17 C Girls the population and community limits were changed so that Associations are allowed to have players on teams from a maximum of 6 communities and a maximum of 25,000 population.

In U13 B Girls the population and community limits were changed so that Associations are allowed to have players on teams from a maximum of 5 communities and a maximum of 15,000 population.

Determining the North/South Provincial Championships

The dividing line for North/South Provincial Championships is a horizontal line across the province through Davidson and Yorkton. Davidson is in North and Yorkton is in South.

Section 12: Multiple Participation

U23 Men's Players can also register with one (1) other Men's team.

Section 13: Minor Player Releases and District Transfers

(must obtain every year if necessary)

For participation in the Provincial Championships, players must follow the following process:

NOTE: all minor players must register and if a team is available, tryout with their local or nearest recognized minor softball association within their district.

- A. Before trying out or evaluating in another association a player must have a release from their home or nearest association and provide this signed release to the Association they are trying out with and to the Softball Saskatchewan Executive Director.
 - Further, if an association has a player registered for a tryout/evaluation from outside their district it is their responsibility to ensure the player has an approved release and or district transfer if required.
- B. Player releases must include written approval from the Board/Executive of the Association or League the team, player/coach is a member of, and signed by the President.
- C. District Transfer Dates:

Feb. 15th U19A Women's
April 1st U17A Girls

April 15th U15A, U13A and U11A Girls

May 1st All Minor B and C Girls categories and all Minor Boys categories

Applications will be reviewed and approved shortly after being received.

- D. Players residing in a community with a recognized minor softball association must obtain a release from this association. Players who reside in a non-center or rural residence where there is no minor association must obtain a release from their nearest recognized minor association that had a team registered in that age category the previous year. If released, these players can register where they choose to within the district.
- E. For players wanting to register with an association U19 A, U17 A, U15 A, U13 A or U11 A team outside the district they must also obtain releases from all Associations who have an A team within the district and apply for a district transfer.
- F. Players who are non-residents of Regina and Saskatoon may register in Regina or Saskatoon if they attend a softball academy or school in Regina or Saskatoon during the February June education period. These players will still require only a district transfer. Proof of school attendance, signed by the principal, must be provided with the District Transfer. Players will be placed on teams according to Regina or Saskatoon minor softball league rules/policies.
- G. Players who are released to register on an A team outside their local or nearest association and or District and are not successful in making that A team must return to their home or next closest association that has a B or C team (if available) within the District. Players can only tryout/evaluate for one (1) A Team. However, if there is no B or C team available in their home or closest association, players may tryout for another A team and another release and transfer is required.

Section 15: Inter-Provincial Player Transfer

Before trying out or evaluating in another association a player must have a release from their home or nearest association and provide this signed release along with an Inter-Provincial Application to the Softball Saskatchewan Executive Director.

Any "A" player or coach who is a permanent resident of Saskatchewan and wants to register on a team outside the province must apply in writing for an Inter-provincial transfer by the January 15th deadline. The deadline for all other categories is May 1st. Applicants must demonstrate what efforts were made to register on an "A" team within or outside their District of residence in Saskatchewan. Any player or coach who is not a permanent resident of Saskatchewan and wishes to register on a Saskatchewan team must have a written letter of permission from the provincial/territorial softball association they reside in. This letter of permission must be received by Softball Saskatchewan by January 15th if registering on an "A" team and by May 1st if registering on any other team. The inter-provincial transfer application form is available on our website.

Final approval of applications will be complete upon review by the Softball Saskatchewan Board of Directors.

Section 24: Umpires

Provincial Championship umpire fees shall be paid at a rate of \$50 per game for base/plate umpire in all age groups U15 and older. The reimbursement for travel expense was increased to \$0.50/km.

There are other minor changes to the Operating Rules that should be reviewed once the 2025 Handbook is published in late January.