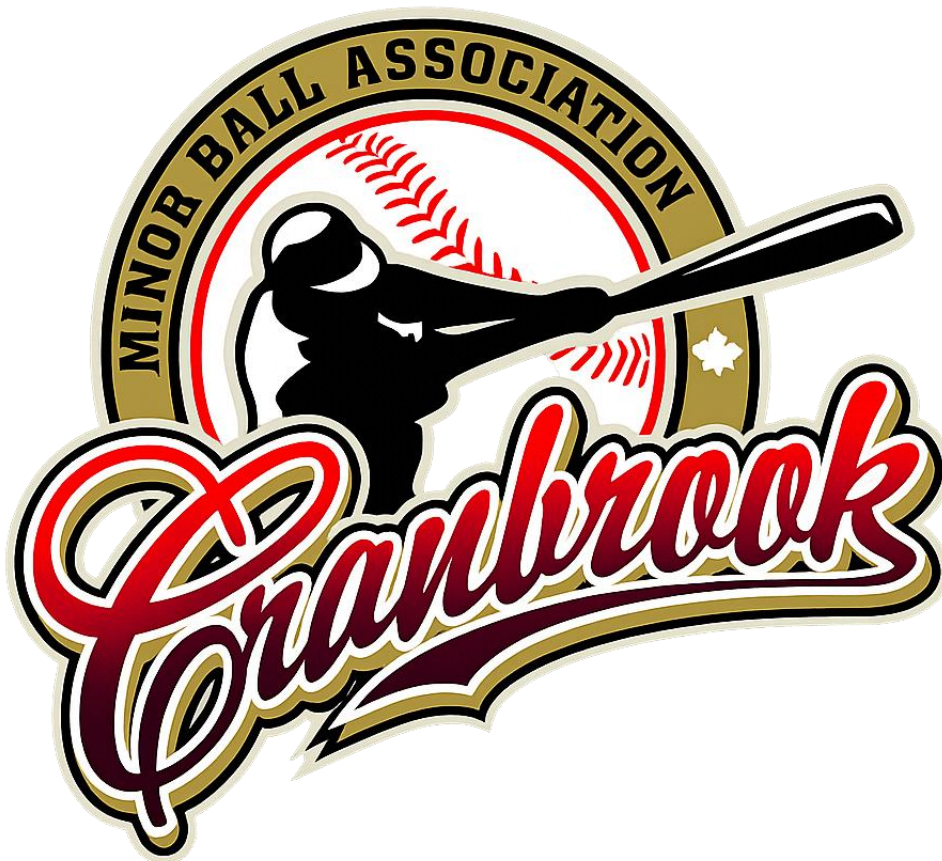




HANDBOOK

Version 2027.01

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Welcome to CMBA

Building Character Through Baseball & Softball

"Every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, compete, and develop a lifelong love of baseball and softball in a safe, welcoming, and supportive environment."

Welcome to the CMBA Family

Welcome to the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association (CMBA).

Whether this is your family's first season stepping onto the diamond or you have been part of our Association for many years, we are delighted to welcome you to another exciting season of baseball and softball.

CMBA is much more than an organization that schedules games and practices. We are a community of players, coaches, parents, officials, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters who believe that sport has the power to shape lives.

Every season, hundreds of young athletes come together to learn new skills, build friendships, develop confidence, and experience the excitement of being part of a team.

We believe the lessons learned on the baseball and softball field extend far beyond the game itself. Through participation in sport, young athletes develop respect, responsibility, perseverance, teamwork, leadership, resilience, and sportsmanship—qualities that help them succeed both on and off the field.

Whether your child is picking up a glove for the first time or pursuing opportunities at the highest levels of youth baseball and softball, CMBA is committed to providing a positive, safe, and enjoyable experience where every player has the opportunity to grow.

This handbook has been prepared to help players, parents, coaches, managers, volunteers, and Board members understand how our Association operates and what is expected throughout the season. It serves as a practical guide to our programs, services, and the values that define who we are.

We encourage every family to read this handbook before the season begins. The more we all understand how CMBA operates, the more successful and enjoyable the season will be for everyone.

Welcome to the CMBA family.

A Message from the President

Welcome to another exciting season with the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for choosing CMBA as part of your family's sporting journey. Whether you are joining us for the first time or returning for another season, we are grateful to have you as part of our baseball and softball community.

Our Association exists because of the dedication of an incredible group of volunteers who believe in creating opportunities for young athletes to learn, grow, and succeed. Every coach, manager, umpire, scorekeeper, Board member, parent volunteer, sponsor, and community partner plays an important role in making our programs possible.

At CMBA, we believe that player development extends well beyond the skills of throwing, hitting, catching, or pitching. We strive to build confident young people who demonstrate respect, teamwork, perseverance, integrity, leadership, and sportsmanship both on and off the field.

Our commitment is to provide safe, inclusive, and well-organized programs where every participant has the opportunity to enjoy the game, improve their abilities, and build lasting friendships. While competition is an important part of sport, we believe the greatest victories are measured by the positive experiences our athletes have and the lifelong lessons they carry with them.

I encourage every family to become involved in our Association. Volunteer where you can, support our teams, encourage our players, respect our officials, and help us continue building an organization that reflects the very best of our community.

Thank you for your continued support of the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association. I wish every player, coach, volunteer, official, and family a safe, enjoyable, and memorable season.

I look forward to seeing you at the ballpark.

David Lacasse

President

Cranbrook Minor Ball Association

Who We Are

The Cranbrook Minor Ball Association (CMBA) is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to providing quality baseball and softball opportunities for children and youth throughout Cranbrook and the surrounding communities.

We offer recreational and competitive programs designed to introduce players to the game, develop their skills, encourage healthy competition, and promote a lifelong appreciation for baseball and softball.

Working in partnership with Baseball BC, Softball BC, local schools, sponsors, community organizations, volunteers, and the City of Cranbrook, CMBA provides opportunities that help young athletes develop both on and off the field.

Every season, hundreds of families come together with one shared purpose:

To create positive experiences that inspire a lifelong love of baseball and softball.

Our Vision

To be recognized as a leading community baseball and softball association that inspires participation, develops confident young athletes, and creates lifelong opportunities for personal growth through sport.

Our Mission

The Cranbrook Minor Ball Association is committed to providing safe, inclusive, and development-focused baseball and softball programs that foster sportsmanship, teamwork, leadership, and respect.

Through dedicated volunteers, quality coaching, and strong community partnerships, we strive to create positive experiences that help every participant grow as an athlete, teammate, and individual while developing a lifelong appreciation for the game.

Our Core Values

Everything we do at CMBA is guided by a common set of values.

Respect

We treat every player, coach, official, volunteer, parent, and spectator with dignity, fairness, and courtesy.

Sportsmanship

We compete with honesty, integrity, humility, and respect for our teammates, opponents, officials, and the game itself.

Player Development

Every player deserves the opportunity to learn, improve, and enjoy baseball and softball while developing confidence and character.

Inclusion

We welcome participants of all backgrounds, abilities, and experience levels. Every child deserves the opportunity to participate and feel they belong.

Safety

The physical and emotional well-being of every participant is our highest priority.

Teamwork

Strong teams and strong communities are built through cooperation, encouragement, communication, and shared responsibility.

Community

We proudly serve Cranbrook and the surrounding area by providing opportunities that strengthen families, friendships, and community spirit.

Excellence

We continually strive to improve our programs, leadership, facilities, and member experience while acting with integrity and accountability.

CMBA in Action

What Makes CMBA Different?

CMBA believes that youth sports should focus on developing the whole athlete, not simply winning games.

Our programs are designed to:

- Build confidence and self-esteem.
- Teach respect and responsibility.
- Encourage teamwork and leadership.
- Develop fundamental baseball and softball skills.
- Promote healthy lifestyles.
- Create lifelong friendships.
- Strengthen our community.
- Inspire a lifelong love of the game.

When players, coaches, parents, officials, and volunteers work together toward these goals, every child benefits.

Our Commitment to Our Members

When you become part of CMBA, you become part of a community committed to helping young athletes succeed both on and off the field.

We Will

- Provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment.
- Deliver organized, high-quality baseball and softball programs.
- Promote sportsmanship, respect, and fair play.
- Support our coaches and volunteers.
- Communicate openly, honestly, and professionally.
- Treat every participant fairly and with dignity.
- Encourage lifelong participation in baseball and softball.
- Continually improve our Association through thoughtful planning and member feedback.

We Ask That You

- Treat everyone with respect.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Support coaches, officials, volunteers, and fellow participants.
- Encourage every player to do their best.
- Volunteer when possible.
- Represent CMBA with pride both on and off the field.
- Help us create an environment where every child can enjoy the game.

Together, we will continue building an Association that makes our community proud.

CMBA Principles

Character Before Championships

"The strength of our Association is not measured by championships won, but by the positive experiences we create, the character we help develop, and the lifelong love of the game we inspire in every player."

Baseball & Softball at CMBA

Every Player's Journey Begins Somewhere.

"Every player follows a different path. Our role is to provide opportunities, encouragement, and a positive experience at every stage of that journey."

Discover the Game

Baseball and softball are games that teach far more than how to throw, catch, or hit a ball. They build confidence, friendships, leadership, resilience, and a lifelong appreciation for teamwork and healthy competition.

At the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to participate in a program that matches their age, ability, and personal goals. Whether a player is stepping onto the field for the very first time or preparing for more competitive opportunities, our programs are designed to encourage development in a fun, safe, and supportive environment.

Our focus is on long-term athlete development. We recognize that every player develops at their own pace, and we celebrate improvement, effort, and enjoyment just as much as success on the scoreboard.

CMBA proudly offers programs for players of all ages and skill levels, providing opportunities to learn the game, develop new skills, compete with confidence, and create lasting memories.

Our Programs

CMBA offers a variety of baseball and softball programs designed to meet the needs of players as they progress through different stages of development.

Each program emphasizes age-appropriate instruction, skill development, sportsmanship, teamwork, and having fun.

BlastBall

BlastBall introduces our youngest athletes to the excitement of baseball.

Designed for children who are new to organized sport, BlastBall focuses on developing fundamental movement skills while introducing the basic concepts of throwing, catching, hitting, running, and teamwork in a fun, energetic environment.

The emphasis is always on participation, encouragement, and building confidence.

Players leave BlastBall with smiles on their faces and excitement for continuing their baseball journey.

Baseball

CMBA offers baseball programs for players as they progress through age divisions.

Each division introduces new skills and game concepts while continuing to build confidence, teamwork, sportsmanship, and a love of the game.

As players advance, practices and games become increasingly structured while remaining focused on player development and enjoyment.

Players have opportunities to:

- Learn the fundamentals of baseball.
 - Develop individual skills.
 - Understand game strategy.
 - Build teamwork and leadership.
 - Experience healthy competition.
 - Develop confidence both on and off the field.
-

Softball

CMBA is proud to offer softball programs that provide opportunities for girls and young women to develop their skills in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Our softball programs emphasize:

- Fundamental skill development.
- Teamwork and leadership.
- Sportsmanship.
- Confidence.
- Fitness and healthy lifestyles.
- Positive competition.

Every player is encouraged to challenge themselves while enjoying the game alongside teammates and friends.

Challenger Baseball

The Challenger Baseball program provides children and youth living with cognitive or physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in baseball in a fun, safe, and welcoming environment.

The program focuses on inclusion, participation, friendship, and creating positive experiences for every athlete.

Games are adapted to meet the needs of participants, and volunteers work alongside players to ensure everyone has the opportunity to succeed and enjoy being part of the team.

CMBA is proud to support Challenger Baseball as part of our commitment to making baseball accessible for everyone.

All-Star Program

For players seeking additional competitive opportunities, CMBA offers an All-Star program in selected age divisions.

Participation in the All-Star program is optional and provides athletes with the opportunity to compete against teams from across British Columbia while continuing their development in a more competitive environment.

Selection to an All-Star team is based on player evaluations and the needs of each team.

Because the All-Star program operates differently from our regular season programs, complete information regarding evaluations, expectations, travel, player commitments, fees, and team operations is provided in the **CMBA All-Star Handbook**.

Our Development Philosophy

Regardless of age or ability, every CMBA program is built around the same philosophy:

- Provide a safe and positive environment.
- Encourage participation by every player.
- Focus on skill development.
- Teach sportsmanship and respect.
- Build confidence.
- Foster teamwork and friendships.
- Help every player develop a lifelong love of baseball and softball.

Success is not defined solely by wins and losses. Success is measured by the growth, confidence, and enjoyment experienced by every participant.

CMBA in Action

Every Player Has a Place

One of CMBA's greatest strengths is the variety of opportunities available to young athletes.

Whether your child is:

- Holding a glove for the first time,
- Learning to hit a softball,
- Playing recreational baseball with friends,
- Participating in Challenger Baseball,
- Or representing CMBA in an All-Star competition,

every player is an important member of our Association.

There is a place for everyone at CMBA.

CMBA Principles

Every Player Belongs

"Every child deserves the opportunity to participate, develop, and enjoy the game. Our responsibility is to create an environment where every player feels welcomed, valued, and supported—regardless of age, ability, or experience."

Membership

Being a member of CMBA means becoming part of a community built on respect, teamwork, and a shared love of baseball and softball.

"Membership is more than registration—it is a commitment to creating a positive experience for every player, every family, and every volunteer."

Membership in CMBA

When you register with the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association, you become part of an organization dedicated to providing positive baseball and softball experiences for young athletes.

Membership is more than simply participating in practices and games. It means joining a community of families, volunteers, coaches, officials, sponsors, and community partners who work together to provide opportunities for children and youth to learn, compete, and grow.

Every member contributes to the culture of our Association. By treating others with respect, demonstrating good sportsmanship, and supporting one another, we help create an environment where every participant feels welcomed, valued, and encouraged to succeed.

Who Can Become a Member?

Membership in CMBA is open to individuals who meet the eligibility requirements established by the Association and its governing bodies.

Membership generally includes:

- Registered players.
- Parents or legal guardians of registered players.
- Approved coaches.
- Team managers.
- Umpires.
- Board members.
- Approved volunteers.
- Life Members (if applicable).

All members are expected to support the mission, vision, and values of CMBA.

What Membership Means

Membership carries both opportunities and responsibilities.

As a member of CMBA, you become part of an organization committed to:

- Providing safe and enjoyable baseball and softball programs.
- Promoting sportsmanship and fair play.
- Supporting player development.
- Encouraging volunteerism.
- Building a positive community for all participants.

Membership also means supporting the Association by acting respectfully, following CMBA policies, and contributing to a positive environment for everyone involved.

Member Expectations

Every member plays an important role in creating the culture of CMBA.

We ask all members to:

- Treat everyone with courtesy and respect.
 - Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
 - Follow Association policies and procedures.
 - Respect coaches, officials, volunteers, and fellow participants.
 - Support a positive and inclusive environment.
 - Help resolve concerns respectfully and constructively.
 - Represent CMBA with pride both on and off the field.
-

Parents and Guardians

Parents and guardians are among the Association's most important partners.

Your encouragement, positive attitude, and involvement play a significant role in your child's experience.

CMBA encourages parents and guardians to:

- Support every player, not just their own.
- Allow coaches to coach and officials to officiate.

- Encourage effort, improvement, and teamwork.
- Volunteer whenever possible.
- Communicate respectfully.
- Celebrate participation as much as performance.

Positive parental involvement helps create an environment where children enjoy the game and develop confidence.

Players

Every player contributes to the success of their team and the Association.

Players are expected to:

- Attend practices and games whenever possible.
- Listen to coaches and teammates.
- Respect officials and opponents.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Give their best effort.
- Encourage teammates.
- Care for Association equipment.
- Represent CMBA proudly.

Winning is never more important than respect, effort, and teamwork.

Coaches and Volunteers

CMBA relies almost entirely on volunteers.

Coaches, managers, team parents, Board members, scorekeepers, tournament volunteers, and many others generously donate their time to make our programs possible.

All volunteers are expected to:

- Lead by example.
- Put player development first.
- Foster a safe and inclusive environment.
- Treat every participant fairly.

- Communicate respectfully.
- Support the values of CMBA.

Without volunteers, youth baseball and softball simply could not exist.

Membership in Good Standing

Members are considered to be in good standing when they:

- Follow CMBA policies and procedures.
- Respect the Association's Code of Conduct.
- Meet their responsibilities as participants or volunteers.
- Support the mission and values of CMBA.
- Conduct themselves in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner.

The Board of Directors may review membership status when serious violations of Association policies or Codes of Conduct occur.

Safe Sport Commitment

Every member shares responsibility for creating a safe environment.

CMBA is committed to providing programs that are free from bullying, harassment, discrimination, abuse, and misconduct.

All members are expected to:

- Respect personal boundaries.
- Promote inclusion.
- Report concerns appropriately.
- Support Safe Sport principles.
- Help create an environment where every participant feels safe and respected.

Additional Safe Sport information is provided later in this handbook.

CMBA in Action

Every Member Makes a Difference

Strong associations are not built by Board members alone.

They are built by:

- Coaches who encourage every player.
- Parents who cheer positively.
- Volunteers who give their time.
- Umpires who help teach the game.
- Players who respect teammates and opponents.
- Community partners who believe in youth sport.

Every positive interaction contributes to the experience of every child.

Together, we build something much greater than baseball and softball—we build community.

CMBA Principles

Respect Builds Community

"Every member has the ability to influence another person's experience. By choosing respect, kindness, and sportsmanship in every interaction, we build an Association where every child, family, volunteer, and official feels valued and supported."

Registration

Every great season begins with a simple first step.

"Registration is more than signing up for a season—it is the beginning of another opportunity to learn, grow, compete, and create lasting memories."

Registering with CMBA

The Cranbrook Minor Ball Association is committed to making registration as simple and accessible as possible for all families.

Registration is completed online through the CMBA registration system and opens prior to the start of each season. Information regarding registration dates, fees, deadlines, and important announcements will be published on the CMBA website and official communication channels.

Families are encouraged to register as early as possible to assist the Association in planning teams, scheduling practices, ordering equipment, and recruiting coaches and volunteers.

Early registration also helps ensure players are placed in the appropriate division and allows CMBA to effectively prepare for another successful season.

Registration Periods

To assist with planning, CMBA offers several registration periods throughout the year.

Early Registration

Early Registration provides families with the lowest registration fees while allowing CMBA to begin preparing for the upcoming season.

Regular Registration

Regular Registration is available following the Early Registration period and remains open until the published registration deadline.

Late Registration

Late Registration may be accepted if space remains available within a division.

Late registrations may be subject to increased fees and cannot always be guaranteed placement on a team.

Registration Fees

Registration fees are reviewed annually by the Board of Directors and approved prior to each registration season.

Registration fees help support the operation of CMBA programs, including:

- Field rentals and maintenance.
- Equipment purchases and replacement.
- Uniforms and team equipment.
- Insurance and affiliation fees.
- Coach education and development.
- Umpire education and development.
- Program administration.
- Facility improvements.
- Player development initiatives.
- Special events and Association programming.

Current registration fees are published annually on the CMBA website and registration portal.

Volunteer Commitment

CMBA is a volunteer-driven organization, and the success of our programs depends on the support of our member families.

To encourage participation, a volunteer commitment fee may be included as part of player registration.

Families who complete the required volunteer commitment during the season will receive a refund of their volunteer commitment fee in accordance with the Association's Volunteer Policy.

Volunteer opportunities may include:

- Tournament operations.
- Field preparation and maintenance.
- Team volunteer positions.
- Opening Day and Closing Day activities.
- Equipment distribution and collection.
- Association fundraising initiatives.
- Special events.

Complete details regarding volunteer requirements and refund eligibility will be communicated each season.

Payment & Financial Assistance

CMBA believes every child should have the opportunity to participate in baseball and softball regardless of financial circumstances.

Payment Options

To make registration as convenient as possible, CMBA offers a variety of payment methods.

Available payment options may include:

- Online payment by credit card through the CMBA registration system.
- Electronic Funds Transfer (e-Transfer) using the payment instructions provided by CMBA.
- Approved payment plans for eligible families.
- Alternative payment arrangements approved by the Association.

Families requiring additional time or assistance with registration fees are encouraged to contact the CMBA Administrator before registration deadlines.

All requests will be treated respectfully and confidentially.

CMBA is committed to working with families whenever possible to ensure financial circumstances do not become a barrier to participation.

Payment Plans

Recognizing that registration fees can represent a significant investment for families, CMBA may offer payment plans to assist with spreading registration costs over a period of time.

Payment plans must be approved by the Association and completed in accordance with the established payment schedule.

Financial Assistance

CMBA believes that financial circumstances should never prevent a child from participating in organized sport.

Families may be eligible for financial assistance through community organizations, provincial funding programs, or other available resources.

Where possible, CMBA will work with families to identify available funding opportunities and assist with the required documentation.

All financial discussions will be handled respectfully and confidentially.

Refund Policy

Registration fees are used to prepare for the season well before Opening Day.

As a result, refunds may be limited once teams have been formed, uniforms ordered, or Association expenses have been incurred.

Refund requests will be considered in accordance with the CMBA Refund Policy.

Families are encouraged to review the current Refund Policy before registering.

Registration Cancellation Insurance

CMBA may offer optional Registration Cancellation Insurance through its registration provider.

This optional coverage allows families to purchase protection for eligible circumstances that may prevent participation during the season.

Coverage details, eligibility requirements, exclusions, and claims procedures are determined by the insurance provider.

Participation in the insurance program is optional.

Wait Lists

If a division reaches capacity, additional registrations may be placed on a wait list.

Placement from the wait list depends on several factors, including:

- Available roster space.
- Coaching availability.
- Volunteer support.
- Field availability.
- Overall program capacity.

CMBA will make every reasonable effort to accommodate players whenever possible.

Player Placement

Following registration, CMBA works to place every player in the most appropriate program and team based on the needs of each division.

Player placement may consider:

- Player age and eligibility.
- Balanced team composition.
- Player safety.

- Player development.
- Coaching availability.
- League requirements.
- Player evaluations, where applicable.

Our objective is to provide every player with a positive, enjoyable, and development-focused experience while maintaining balanced teams and supporting the long-term success of all participants.

After You Register

Once your registration has been completed, you will receive confirmation through the CMBA registration system.

As the season approaches, families will receive additional information, including:

- Team placement.
- Coach and team manager contact information.
- Practice schedules.
- Equipment distribution dates.
- Opening Day information.
- Volunteer opportunities.
- Important Association announcements.

To ensure you receive all communications, please keep your contact information current throughout the season.

As your season begins, your primary source of information will become your team coach or manager through the RAMP Team App and email.

CMBA in Action

Preparing for a Successful Season

Before Opening Day, every family should:

- Complete registration before the published deadline.
- Read the CMBA Member Handbook.
- Confirm emergency contact information.

- Ensure medical information is current.
- Review equipment requirements for your player's division.
- Watch for communications from your coach or team manager.
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities.
- Download and become familiar with the RAMP Team App.
- Mark important dates on your family calendar.

A little preparation before the season begins helps create a smooth, organized, and enjoyable experience for everyone.

CMBA Principles

Preparation Creates Opportunity

"A successful season begins long before the first pitch. By preparing early, communicating openly, and working together, we create the best possible experience for every player and every family."

Communication & Staying Connected

Strong communication builds stronger teams, stronger relationships, and a better experience for every member.

"Respectful communication creates positive experiences. Every conversation is an opportunity to strengthen our Association."

Communication at CMBA

Effective communication is essential to the success of every team and every program.

The Cranbrook Minor Ball Association (CMBA) is committed to providing timely, accurate, and respectful communication with all members. Open communication strengthens relationships between players, parents, coaches, volunteers, officials, and the Association while helping everyone work toward a common goal.

Communication is a shared responsibility. While CMBA strives to provide accurate information in a timely manner, members are encouraged to stay informed by checking official communication channels regularly and responding promptly when information or action is required.

By communicating openly, respectfully, and constructively, we create an environment where everyone feels informed, supported, and valued.

Official Communication Channels

CMBA communicates with members through several official channels throughout the season.

RAMP Team App

The RAMP Team App is the primary communication tool for individual teams.

It is used for:

- Practice schedules
- Game schedules
- Tournament information
- Weather cancellations
- Team announcements
- Volunteer sign-ups
- Player availability

- Last-minute updates

Families are encouraged to download the app before the season begins and enable notifications.

Email

Email is CMBA's primary method of official Association communication.

Members will receive information regarding:

- Registration
- Association announcements
- Policies
- Program updates
- Volunteer opportunities
- Annual General Meetings
- Special events
- Important reminders

Please ensure your email address remains current in the registration system.

CMBA Website

The CMBA website serves as the official source for permanent Association information, including:

- Registration
- Program information
- Policies and handbooks
- Tournament information
- News and announcements
- Contact information
- Frequently Asked Questions

Families are encouraged to visit the website regularly throughout the season.

Social Media

CMBA uses social media to celebrate our members and promote Association activities.

Social media is intended to:

- Celebrate player achievements
- Highlight team accomplishments
- Promote registration
- Share community events
- Recognize sponsors
- Showcase Association news

Social media is **not** monitored for complaints or urgent matters. Concerns should always be communicated through CMBA's official communication channels.

Who Should I Contact?

Most questions can be resolved quickly by contacting the appropriate person first.

Question	First Contact
Practices, games or schedules	Coach or Team Manager
Team communication	Coach or Team Manager
Registration	CMBA Administrator
Payments	CMBA Administrator
Volunteer commitment	CMBA Administrator
Equipment	Director of Equipment
Coaching concerns	Division Director
Umpiring or playing rules	Division Director or Umpire-in-Chief
Serious concerns	CMBA Administrator or President

Whenever possible, concerns should first be addressed at the team level before being referred to the Association.

Communication Pathway

Working Together to Resolve Questions

The vast majority of questions can be answered quickly by speaking with the person closest to the situation. Following this pathway helps ensure concerns are addressed efficiently and respectfully.

STEP 1

Coach or Team Manager

Contact them for:

- Practices
- Games
- Schedules
- Team communication
- Attendance
- Team expectations
- General team operations

Most questions are resolved at this level.

STEP 2

Division Director

If additional assistance is needed, contact your Division Director regarding:

- Coaching support
 - Division operations
 - Player development
 - Division concerns
 - League-specific questions
-

STEP 3

CMBA Administrator

Contact the Administrator regarding:

- Registration
- Payments

- Volunteer commitments
 - Insurance
 - Policies
 - Complaints
 - General Association administration
-

STEP 4

President / Board of Directors

Board involvement is generally reserved for:

- Governance matters
 - Appeals
 - Formal complaints
 - Matters requiring Board review
 - Issues affecting the Association as a whole
-

Our Goal: Resolve questions at the lowest appropriate level through respectful, open, and constructive communication.

The 24-Hour Rule

Competitive sport can be emotional.

If you have concerns regarding:

- Playing time
- Coaching decisions
- Team strategy
- On-field situations
- Game-related decisions

Please allow at least **24 hours** before discussing the matter with your coach. This brief cooling-off period promotes respectful and productive conversations.

The 24-Hour Rule does **not** apply to concerns involving:

- Player safety
- Harassment
- Bullying
- Discrimination
- Abuse or misconduct
- Any issue requiring immediate attention

These concerns should be reported immediately through the appropriate channels.

Respectful Communication

Every member deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

CMBA expects communication to be:

- Respectful
- Honest
- Professional
- Solution-focused
- Constructive

Harassment, abusive language, bullying, intimidation, or personal attacks—in person, by telephone, email, text message, or online—are inconsistent with CMBA's values and will not be tolerated.

Resolving Concerns

Most concerns are resolved through respectful conversation.

Members are encouraged to follow these steps:

1. Speak directly with the individual involved, when appropriate.
2. Contact your Coach or Team Manager.
3. Contact the appropriate Division Director.
4. Contact the CMBA Administrator.
5. Matters requiring formal review will proceed through CMBA's Complaint and Discipline procedures.

CMBA believes that open, respectful communication resolves most concerns while maintaining a positive environment for everyone involved.

Photography & Social Media

CMBA encourages families to celebrate the accomplishments of our players and teams.

When sharing online:

- Respect the privacy of others.
- Celebrate achievements positively.
- Never criticize players, coaches, officials, volunteers, or other families online.
- Follow Safe Sport expectations.
- Remember that your online conduct reflects on the Association.

Positive social media helps showcase the outstanding work happening throughout CMBA while maintaining a respectful and welcoming environment.

Quick Reference

Need Help?

If you have a question about... Contact First

Practice or Game	Coach or Team Manager
Team Communication	Coach or Team Manager
Coaching Concern	Division Director
Registration	CMBA Administrator
Payments	CMBA Administrator
Equipment	Director of Equipment
Umpiring	Umpire-in-Chief
Volunteer Commitment	CMBA Administrator
Complaint	CMBA Administrator
Appeal	President / Board of Directors

CMBA in Action

Good Communication Starts With Everyone

Successful communication begins with simple habits.

Every family can help by:

- Reading team messages promptly.
- Responding when requested.
- Keeping contact information up to date.
- Asking questions respectfully.
- Following the Communication Pathway.
- Supporting coaches and volunteers.
- Being patient during busy periods.
- Assuming positive intent.
- Working together to create the best possible experience for every player.

Communication is everyone's responsibility, and together we create a stronger CMBA community.

CMBA Principles

Communication Builds Community

"Every conversation has the power to strengthen our Association. When we communicate with honesty, respect, patience, and kindness, we build stronger relationships, stronger teams, and a stronger community."

Player Development

Helping every player become the best athlete, teammate, and person they can be.

"Every player has the ability to learn, improve, and succeed. Our role is to provide the opportunity, encouragement, and support to help them reach their full potential."

Our Development Philosophy

At the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association (CMBA), player development is at the heart of everything we do.

Our goal is to provide every player with opportunities to learn, improve, and enjoy the game in a safe, positive, and supportive environment. Whether a player is picking up a glove for the first time or preparing for higher levels of competition, every athlete deserves quality instruction, encouragement, and the opportunity to grow.

Success is measured by more than wins and championships. We believe true success comes from building confidence, developing skills, fostering teamwork, and creating a lifelong love of baseball and softball.

Every player develops at their own pace. CMBA is committed to providing age-appropriate instruction and meaningful opportunities that allow every athlete to reach their potential while enjoying the game.

Learning Through Play

Especially at younger age divisions, children learn best by playing.

Our practices are designed to be:

- Fun
- Active
- Inclusive
- Age appropriate
- Skill focused
- Engaging

Players are encouraged to try new skills, make mistakes, ask questions, and continue learning in an environment where effort, improvement, and enjoyment are celebrated.

Learning should always be a positive experience.

Building Fundamental Skills

Strong fundamentals are the foundation of every successful player.

Throughout each season, players develop skills such as:

- Throwing
- Catching
- Hitting
- Baserunning
- Fielding
- Game awareness
- Communication
- Teamwork

As players progress through the divisions, these skills continue to develop through quality coaching, regular practice, and game experience.

Developing the Whole Player

CMBA believes that great athletes are also great teammates and positive members of the community.

Along with baseball and softball skills, our programs encourage players to develop:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Confidence
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Resilience
- Integrity
- Sportsmanship

These qualities help players succeed both on and off the field and prepare them for challenges throughout life.

Practice Leads to Progress

Improvement comes through consistent practice and positive coaching.

Players are encouraged to:

- Attend practices regularly.
- Arrive prepared and on time.
- Listen to coaches and ask questions.
- Practice skills outside of scheduled team activities.
- Support and encourage teammates.
- Learn from both successes and mistakes.
- Give their best effort every day.

Every practice is another opportunity to improve.

Positive Coaching

CMBA coaches are teachers, mentors, and role models.

Our coaches strive to:

- Teach the fundamentals of the game.
- Encourage effort over perfection.
- Build confidence.
- Create a safe and welcoming team environment.
- Demonstrate respect and sportsmanship.
- Help every player reach their potential.

Positive coaching creates positive experiences that players remember long after the season ends.

Multi-Sport Participation

CMBA encourages children to participate in a variety of sports and recreational activities throughout the year.

Participating in multiple sports can help young athletes:

- Develop a broader range of athletic skills.
- Reduce the risk of burnout.
- Build confidence.
- Prevent overuse injuries.
- Enjoy a healthy balance between sports, school, family, and recreation.

We believe a well-rounded athlete often becomes a stronger athlete.

Defining Success

Success looks different for every player.

For some, success may mean learning to catch a fly ball or making solid contact with the ball for the first time. For others, it may be building confidence, supporting a teammate, or simply looking forward to coming to the ballpark each week.

At CMBA, success is measured by:

- Personal improvement.
- Positive attitude.
- Good sportsmanship.
- Teamwork.
- Respect for others.
- Confidence gained through participation.
- Enjoyment of the game.

Every achievement—large or small—is worth celebrating.

CMBA in Action

Helping Players Grow

Players can get the most from every season by:

- Arriving on time and ready to participate.
- Bringing the proper equipment.
- Listening to coaches and asking questions.

- Practicing at home whenever possible.
- Encouraging teammates.
- Showing respect to coaches, officials, volunteers, opponents, and spectators.
- Giving their best effort every day.
- Remembering that improvement happens one practice, one game, and one experience at a time.

Every player develops differently, and every season provides new opportunities to learn and grow.

CMBA Principles

Development Before Results

"Winning games is rewarding, but developing confident, respectful, and resilient young people is our greatest success. By focusing on learning, effort, teamwork, and enjoyment, we help every player build skills that last far beyond the final inning."

Safety & Well-Being

Every player deserves to participate in an environment where they feel safe, supported, respected, and included.

"Safety is more than preventing injuries—it is creating an environment where every participant feels physically, emotionally, and socially secure."

Our Commitment to Safety

The Cranbrook Minor Ball Association (CMBA) is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every player, coach, official, volunteer, parent, and spectator.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. From preparing fields and equipment to promoting respectful behaviour and positive relationships, every member plays an important role in creating an environment where participants can learn, compete, and enjoy the game.

CMBA supports the principles of Safe Sport and is committed to maintaining programs that are free from abuse, bullying, harassment, discrimination, and misconduct.

Safe Sport

CMBA proudly supports the Safe Sport principles promoted by Baseball BC, BC Minor Baseball, Softball BC, and Sport BC.

Safe Sport means creating an environment where every participant is treated with dignity, fairness, and respect while enjoying the game.

Every participant has the right to:

- Feel safe.
- Be treated with respect.
- Participate free from bullying or harassment.
- Learn in a positive environment.
- Be included regardless of background or ability.
- Have concerns taken seriously.

Safe Sport is a shared responsibility, and everyone has a role in protecting our participants.

Physical Safety

Player safety begins before the first pitch.

CMBA promotes safe participation by encouraging:

- Proper use of equipment.
- Age-appropriate instruction.
- Safe practice environments.
- Regular field inspections.
- Proper warm-ups and stretching.
- Hydration during practices and games.
- Following weather safety guidelines.
- Adherence to Baseball and Softball playing rules designed to protect participants.

Players, coaches, volunteers, officials, and families all contribute to maintaining a safe playing environment.

Positive & Inclusive Environment

A positive experience is just as important as physical safety.

CMBA strives to create an environment where every participant:

- Feels welcomed.
- Is treated with respect.
- Is encouraged to try their best.
- Learns from mistakes.
- Builds confidence.
- Supports teammates.
- Celebrates effort as well as achievement.

Every participant deserves to feel that they belong at the ballpark.

Respect and Inclusion

Baseball and softball are games for everyone.

CMBA welcomes participants from all backgrounds and is committed to providing an environment that is:

- Inclusive.
- Respectful.
- Accessible.
- Supportive.
- Free from discrimination.

We believe diversity strengthens our Association and enriches the experience for every member.

Concussions & Injuries

Player health always comes first.

If a player is injured or is suspected of having sustained a concussion:

- Play should stop immediately.
- The player should be assessed by an appropriate adult.
- Emergency medical assistance should be sought when necessary.
- Return-to-play decisions must follow current medical guidance and governing body requirements.

No game, practice, or tournament is more important than a player's health.

Weather & Environmental Safety

Weather conditions can change quickly.

Practices and games may be delayed, suspended, or cancelled due to:

- Lightning.
- Poor air quality.
- Extreme heat.
- Heavy rain.
- Unsafe field conditions.
- Other environmental hazards.

Families should always follow the direction of coaches, officials, facility staff, and CMBA regarding weather-related decisions.

Medical Information

Parents and guardians are responsible for providing accurate and current medical information during registration.

This includes:

- Allergies.
- Medical conditions.
- Emergency contact information.
- Medications that may affect participation.

Keeping this information current allows coaches and volunteers to respond appropriately if an emergency occurs.

When in Doubt, Speak Up

Creating a safe environment means looking out for one another.

If you are concerned about the safety or well-being of a player, coach, official, volunteer, parent, or spectator, do not assume someone else will report it.

Speaking up allows CMBA to respond appropriately and helps protect everyone involved.

No concern is too small when it involves the safety or well-being of a participant.

Reporting Concerns

If you witness or experience behaviour that threatens the safety or well-being of any participant, report it promptly.

Concerns may be brought forward to:

- A Coach or Team Manager.
- A Division Director.
- The CMBA Administrator.
- A member of the Board of Directors.
- Any other appropriate Association representative.

CMBA takes all reports seriously and will respond in accordance with its Safe Sport, Complaint, and Discipline policies.

Emergency Preparedness

CMBA works with coaches, volunteers, officials, and facility partners to help ensure appropriate emergency procedures are in place during practices, games, tournaments, and Association events.

Families can help by:

- Knowing the location of first aid supplies.
- Being aware of emergency access points.
- Keeping emergency contact information current.
- Informing coaches of relevant medical concerns.
- Following emergency instructions when required.

Preparedness helps everyone respond effectively when emergencies occur.

CMBA in Action

Everyone Plays a Role in Safety

You can help create a safe and positive environment by:

- Wearing the required protective equipment.
- Arriving prepared and hydrated.
- Reporting injuries immediately.
- Respecting coaches, officials, teammates, opponents, volunteers, and spectators.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Following field and facility rules.
- Speaking up when something doesn't seem right.
- Looking out for one another.

Creating a safe environment is everyone's responsibility.

CMBA Principles

Safety Comes First

"Every child deserves to enjoy baseball and softball in an environment where they feel safe, respected, included, and supported. When safety comes first, confidence grows, friendships flourish, and every participant has the opportunity to succeed."

Volunteering with CMBA

Our Association is built by volunteers, strengthened by families, and supported by our community.

"Many hands make light work. Every volunteer, no matter the role, helps create opportunities for our players."

A Volunteer-Driven Association

The Cranbrook Minor Ball Association (CMBA) is a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization. Every season, hundreds of volunteers contribute their time, skills, and enthusiasm to provide baseball and softball opportunities for children and youth in our community.

From coaching teams and preparing fields to organizing tournaments and serving on the Board of Directors, volunteers make everything we do possible.

Volunteering is more than completing a requirement—it is an investment in our players, our families, and the future of CMBA.

Volunteer Commitment

CMBA asks every family to contribute to the success of the Association through volunteer service during the season.

Volunteer opportunities are designed to be flexible and accommodate a variety of schedules, interests, and abilities.

Families who fulfill the Association's volunteer commitment may be eligible to receive the return of their volunteer commitment fee in accordance with the CMBA Volunteer Policy.

The goal of the volunteer program is not simply to complete volunteer hours—it is to build a stronger Association through shared involvement, teamwork, and community spirit.

Why Volunteers Matter

Every successful season depends on the support of our members.

Volunteers help create:

- Safe and enjoyable playing environments.
- Well-organized practices and games.
- Memorable tournaments and special events.

- Quality player development opportunities.
- Strong community connections.
- Positive experiences for every family.

Whether you volunteer for a few hours or throughout the entire season, your contribution makes a meaningful difference.

There's a Place for Everyone

Not everyone can coach—and that's okay.

CMBA is successful because volunteers contribute in many different ways. Some coach teams, while others prepare fields, organize tournaments, distribute equipment, manage teams, coordinate fundraising events, take photographs, serve on committees, or assist behind the scenes.

Whether you have a few hours to give or are looking to become more involved, there is a place for everyone at CMBA.

Every contribution, regardless of size, helps create a better experience for our players and families.

Ways to Get Involved

There are many ways to become involved with CMBA throughout the season.

Team Support

Help your team by serving as a:

- Coach
 - Assistant Coach
 - Team Manager
 - Scorekeeper
 - Pitch Counter
 - Team Parent
-

Association Events

Support CMBA events by helping with:

- Opening Day

- Closing Day
 - Tournaments
 - Fundraising events
 - Community outreach activities
 - Special events
-

Operations

Behind-the-scenes volunteers are essential to the success of our programs.

You can assist with:

- Field preparation
 - Equipment distribution
 - Facility maintenance
 - Concession support (where applicable)
 - Grounds clean-up
 - Tournament set-up and take-down
-

Leadership

Help shape the future of CMBA by serving in leadership roles such as:

- Board of Directors
- Committees
- Special projects
- Event planning
- Policy development
- Strategic initiatives

Every role, whether on the field or behind the scenes, contributes to the success of the Association.

Volunteer Expectations

CMBA values volunteers who:

- Demonstrate respect and professionalism.

- Put players first.
- Promote sportsmanship.
- Support Safe Sport principles.
- Communicate positively.
- Follow Association policies and procedures.
- Work collaboratively with others.
- Serve as positive role models for our players.

Volunteers represent CMBA and help shape the experience of every participant.

Screening & Training

To help provide a safe environment for all participants, certain volunteer positions require additional screening, certification, or training.

Depending on the role, volunteers may be required to complete:

- Criminal Record Checks.
- Respect in Sport or other approved training.
- Coaching certification.
- Safe Sport education.
- Additional training required by CMBA or its governing organizations.

These requirements help ensure a safe, positive, and supportive environment for everyone involved.

Recognizing Our Volunteers

CMBA is grateful for the dedication of every volunteer.

Whether you coach a team, prepare a field, organize a tournament, keep score, serve on a committee, or sit on the Board of Directors, your time and commitment make a lasting difference.

Every practice held, every game played, every tournament hosted, and every player who steps onto the field benefits from the generosity of volunteers.

Thank you for helping make CMBA a place where young athletes can learn, grow, build friendships, and create lifelong memories.

CMBA in Action

Every Family Can Make a Difference

Getting involved is easier than you might think.

You can help by:

- Volunteering with your child's team.
- Assisting at tournaments or Association events.
- Helping prepare fields before games.
- Joining a committee.
- Coaching or managing a team.
- Sharing your professional skills with the Association.
- Supporting fundraising initiatives.
- Welcoming new families to CMBA.
- Encouraging other families to get involved.

When everyone contributes a little, the entire Association benefits.

CMBA Principles

Volunteers Make It Possible

"Every game played, every field prepared, every tournament hosted, and every smile on a player's face is made possible by volunteers. By giving our time, talents, and energy, we create opportunities that inspire young athletes, strengthen our Association, and build a lasting sense of community."

Playing the Game at CMBA

Every practice, every game, and every season is an opportunity to learn, compete, and have fun.

"The scoreboard tells the result of the game. Character, teamwork, and sportsmanship tell the story of the season."

What to Expect During the Season

Every season at CMBA is an exciting opportunity to learn, improve, build friendships, and enjoy the game of baseball or softball.

While each division is a little different, families can expect a season that includes:

- Regular practices.
- Scheduled games.
- Skill development.
- Team activities.
- Special events.
- Tournament opportunities, where applicable.

Every season is designed to provide a positive experience that encourages learning, teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun.

Before the First Pitch

Starting a new season can be exciting, especially for new players and families.

Before your first practice or game:

- Read all team communications.
- Confirm the practice or game location.
- Arrive early.
- Bring all required equipment.
- Dress appropriately for the weather.
- Bring plenty of water.

- Introduce yourself to coaches and teammates.
- Ask questions if you are unsure about anything.

Remember—everyone was new once. Coaches, teammates, and volunteers are there to help make your first season enjoyable.

Practices

Practices are where players learn and improve.

Coaches use practices to develop:

- Individual skills.
- Teamwork.
- Game awareness.
- Confidence.
- Sportsmanship.

Players are encouraged to:

- Arrive on time.
- Bring the proper equipment.
- Listen carefully.
- Ask questions.
- Encourage teammates.
- Give their best effort.

Improvement happens one practice at a time.

Game Days

Game days are an opportunity to put learning into action.

Players should:

- Arrive early.
- Participate in warm-ups.
- Listen during team meetings.
- Encourage teammates.

- Respect opponents.
- Respect officials.
- Play with enthusiasm and integrity.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship before, during, and after every game.

Whether your team wins or loses, every game is an opportunity to improve.

Attendance

Regular attendance helps players develop skills, build confidence, and strengthen team relationships.

If your player is unable to attend a practice or game, please notify your coach or team manager as early as possible.

Timely communication helps coaches plan practices, organize lineups, and ensure player safety.

Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is one of CMBA's core values.

Every participant is expected to:

- Respect teammates.
- Respect opponents.
- Respect officials.
- Respect coaches.
- Respect volunteers.
- Respect spectators.
- Win with humility.
- Lose with dignity.

The way we conduct ourselves is just as important as the outcome of the game.

Respect for Officials

Officials are an essential part of baseball and softball.

Many of our umpires are young people who are developing their knowledge, confidence, and experience.

Just like players and coaches, officials continue to learn with every game.

CMBA expects all players, coaches, parents, and spectators to treat officials with courtesy and respect at all times.

Respecting officials helps create a positive environment and encourages more people to become involved in officiating.

Teamwork

Great teams are built on trust, communication, and encouragement.

Players are encouraged to:

- Support one another.
- Celebrate teammates' successes.
- Encourage one another after mistakes.
- Communicate positively.
- Work together toward common goals.

Every player contributes to the success of the team.

Parents on Game Day

Parents and guardians play an important role in creating a positive game-day experience.

Families can help by:

- Encouraging all players.
- Cheering respectfully.
- Allowing coaches to coach.
- Respecting officials and volunteers.
- Supporting positive sportsmanship.
- Focusing on effort, learning, and enjoyment rather than the final score.

Positive encouragement creates confident athletes.

Winning & Losing

Competition is an important part of sport, but it is only one part of the experience.

Winning teaches confidence and teamwork.

Losing teaches resilience, perseverance, and growth.

Both provide valuable lessons that help players develop as athletes and as people.

At CMBA, success is measured not only by the scoreboard but also by the character displayed throughout the season.

Game Day Checklist

Before leaving for the ballpark, remember to bring:

- Glove
- Bat (if applicable)
- Batting helmet
- Protective equipment
- Uniform
- Hat or visor
- Proper footwear
- Water bottle
- Healthy snack (when appropriate)
- Sunscreen
- Positive attitude

A little preparation helps every game get off to a great start.

The CMBA Game Day Promise

Every member of our Association contributes to the atmosphere at the ballpark.

As a CMBA player, parent, coach, volunteer, or spectator, I will:

- Treat everyone with respect.
- Encourage players and teammates.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Respect officials and their decisions.
- Support coaches and volunteers.

- Play and compete fairly.
- Represent CMBA with pride.
- Help create a welcoming environment for everyone.

Together, we create an experience that every player can enjoy.

CMBA in Action

Making Every Game a Great Experience

Every game is an opportunity to learn, compete, and create lasting memories.

You can help make every game a positive experience by:

- Arriving prepared and on time.
- Giving your best effort.
- Supporting teammates.
- Respecting coaches and officials.
- Encouraging all players.
- Demonstrating good sportsmanship.
- Leaving the field and facilities better than you found them.
- Remembering that fun and development come first.

When everyone contributes positively, everyone benefits.

CMBA Principles

Play With Purpose

"Every practice and every game is an opportunity to learn, compete with integrity, support teammates, and represent CMBA with pride. The lessons learned through baseball and softball—respect, perseverance, teamwork, and character—will last long after the final out."

Equipment, Uniforms & Team Apparel

Being prepared helps every player participate safely, confidently, and successfully.

"The right equipment doesn't make a great player—but being prepared allows every player to focus on learning, improving, and enjoying the game."

Being Ready for the Season

One of the best ways to start the season is by arriving prepared.

Having the appropriate equipment allows players to participate safely, confidently, and comfortably while helping practices and games begin on time.

As players progress through the divisions, equipment requirements may change. Coaches will communicate any division-specific requirements before the season begins.

The goal is simple: **arrive prepared, stay safe, and enjoy every day at the ballpark.**

Player Equipment

Every player should arrive with the appropriate equipment for their division.

Typical equipment may include:

- Baseball or softball glove
- Bat (where applicable)
- Batting helmet
- Protective equipment
- Baseball or softball pants
- Belt (where applicable)
- Socks
- Cleats or appropriate athletic footwear
- Hat or visor
- Water bottle
- Equipment bag

Some divisions require additional protective equipment based on age or level of play.

Players should ensure all equipment fits properly, is in good condition, and meets the standards established by Baseball BC, BC Minor Baseball, Softball BC, and applicable leagues.

Uniforms

CMBA provides uniforms appropriate for each division in accordance with Association policies.

Uniforms represent more than a team—they represent the Association, our community, and the pride we take in playing the game.

Players are expected to:

- Wear their uniform properly.
- Keep uniforms clean and presentable.
- Care for all Association-issued equipment.
- Return uniforms and equipment when requested at the end of the season.

Uniform distribution and return information will be communicated before the season begins.

Team Apparel

Many teams choose to offer optional team apparel throughout the season.

Examples may include:

- Hoodies
- Jackets
- T-shirts
- Hats
- Toques
- Backpacks

These items help build team spirit and create lasting memories.

Participation in optional apparel purchases is always voluntary and is never required to participate in CMBA programs.

Bats, Helmets & Protective Equipment

Player safety is CMBA's highest priority.

All equipment used during CMBA activities must comply with the standards established by Baseball BC, BC Minor Baseball, Softball BC, and any applicable league or tournament regulations.

Players should:

- Inspect equipment regularly.
- Replace damaged equipment promptly.
- Wear all required protective equipment.
- Follow coach and umpire instructions regarding equipment use.

Safe equipment protects everyone and helps ensure a positive playing experience.

Caring for Equipment

Proper care helps equipment last longer and keeps everyone safe.

Players are encouraged to:

- Clean equipment regularly.
- Allow equipment to dry after wet weather.
- Store equipment in a cool, dry place.
- Report damaged Association equipment immediately.
- Respect shared equipment.
- Return borrowed equipment promptly.

Taking care of equipment demonstrates respect for teammates, volunteers, and the Association.

Equipment Assistance

CMBA believes every child deserves the opportunity to play.

Families requiring assistance obtaining equipment are encouraged to contact the CMBA Administrator confidentially.

Depending on availability, assistance may include:

- Equipment lending programs
- Community equipment donations
- Financial assistance programs
- Equipment exchanges

No player should miss the opportunity to participate because they do not have the equipment they need.

Weather Considerations

Baseball and softball are played outdoors in a variety of weather conditions.

Players should come prepared with:

- Appropriate outerwear
- Extra clothing
- Rain gear when appropriate
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Water bottle

Being prepared helps players remain comfortable, healthy, and focused throughout practices and games.

Lost & Found

Equipment occasionally gets misplaced during the season.

To improve the chances of recovering lost items:

- Clearly label all personal equipment.
- Check with your coach or team manager.
- Contact the CMBA Administrator after Association events or tournaments.

A simple name label often makes all the difference.

Equipment Tips for New Families

If this is your first baseball or softball season, these simple tips can make the experience much easier.

- Buy a glove that fits your player today—not one they'll "grow into."
- Label every piece of equipment.
- Break in a new glove before Opening Day.
- Pack your equipment bag the night before.

- Keep an extra pair of socks in the bag.
- Bring more water than you think you'll need.
- Pack sunscreen, bug spray, and a small towel for tournament weekends.
- Keep healthy snacks available for long days at the ballpark.
- Ask your coach if you're unsure about equipment requirements.

Every experienced baseball and softball family was once a first-time family. Never hesitate to ask questions—we're always happy to help.

Equipment Care at a Glance

A few simple habits can keep your equipment in great condition all season.

Glove

- Keep it dry.
- Store it with a ball inside the pocket.
- Avoid leaving it in extreme heat.

Helmet

- Inspect regularly for cracks.
- Clean the inside padding.
- Replace if damaged.

Bat

- Check for dents or cracks.
- Keep it clean.
- Store away from excessive heat or cold.

Uniform

- Wash promptly after games.
- Hang to dry when possible.
- Repair minor tears before they become larger.

Cleats

- Remove dirt after each game.
- Allow them to air dry.

- Replace worn laces as needed.

Equipment Bag

- Empty it regularly.
- Remove garbage and wet clothing.
- Restock supplies before each game.

A few minutes of care after each practice or game can help equipment last for many seasons.

CMBA in Action

Equipment Checklist

Before leaving for the ballpark, make sure you have:

- ☐ Glove
- ☐ Bat (if applicable)
- ☐ Batting Helmet
- ☐ Protective Equipment
- ☐ Uniform
- ☐ Hat or Visor
- ☐ Cleats or Athletic Shoes
- ☐ Water Bottle
- ☐ Equipment Bag
- ☐ Healthy Snack
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Positive Attitude

Being prepared allows players to focus on learning, improving, and enjoying every moment on the field.

CMBA Principles

Prepared Players Enjoy the Game

"Preparation builds confidence. When players arrive equipped, organized, and ready to participate, they can focus on learning, competing, supporting their teammates, and enjoying every moment on

the field. Being prepared is one of the simplest ways to show respect for yourself, your team, and the game."

Tournaments, Events & Celebrating the Season

Some of the best memories in baseball and softball are made beyond the regular season.

"Championships are remembered, but friendships, teamwork, and shared experiences are what players carry with them for a lifetime."

More Than Games

CMBA is about much more than practices and league games.

Throughout the season, players and families have opportunities to participate in tournaments, special events, celebrations, and community activities that help create lifelong memories.

These experiences strengthen friendships, build confidence, encourage teamwork, and celebrate the accomplishments of every player.

Whether it's a player's first game, a hometown tournament, or the final celebration of the season, every event is an opportunity to learn, grow, and enjoy being part of the CMBA community.

Tournaments

Tournaments are an exciting part of the baseball and softball experience.

Depending on their division and level of play, teams may participate in:

- Home tournaments
- Away tournaments
- Exhibition games
- Festival-style events
- League playoffs
- Championship events

Tournament participation varies by division and program.

Families will receive schedules, travel information, and team expectations from their coach or team manager well in advance whenever possible.

Tournaments provide players with opportunities to compete against new opponents, strengthen team relationships, and continue developing their skills in a fun and challenging environment.

Hosting Tournaments

CMBA is proud to welcome teams from across British Columbia and beyond to Cranbrook.

Hosting tournaments allows us to:

- Showcase our community.
- Support local businesses.
- Welcome visiting athletes and families.
- Provide memorable experiences for participants.
- Develop leadership among volunteers.
- Generate revenue that supports CMBA programs.

Tournament weekends require the support of many volunteers and are among the most rewarding experiences of the season.

Special Events

Throughout the year, CMBA may organize or participate in a variety of special events, including:

- Opening Day celebrations
- Skills clinics
- Player development camps
- Community events
- Sponsor appreciation activities
- All-Star events
- Volunteer recognition
- Closing Day celebrations
- Equipment exchange opportunities

These events strengthen our Association while creating opportunities for families to connect beyond the ball field.

All-Star Baseball & Softball

Players may have opportunities to participate in CMBA's All-Star program.

The All-Star program provides additional opportunities for player development and competitive play while representing CMBA throughout British Columbia.

Selection is based on criteria established by CMBA and our governing organizations.

Families interested in the All-Star program should refer to the **CMBA All-Star Handbook**, which provides detailed information regarding evaluations, selection, expectations, travel, player commitments, and program requirements.

Travel Expectations

Many teams travel throughout the season.

Whether travelling across the East Kootenays or elsewhere in the province, every member of CMBA represents both our Association and our community.

Families are encouraged to:

- Arrive on time.
- Support team schedules.
- Respect hotel and facility rules.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Encourage all players.
- Represent CMBA with pride.

Positive experiences away from home help build lifelong friendships and create lasting memories.

Team Celebrations

Celebrating the season is an important part of the CMBA experience.

Teams often recognize the season through:

- Wind-up celebrations
- Team barbecues
- Pizza nights
- Awards presentations
- Volunteer appreciation
- Community service activities

These events celebrate improvement, friendships, teamwork, and everyone's contribution throughout the season.

Community Partnerships

CMBA is fortunate to receive support from many organizations throughout our community.

Our Association is strengthened through partnerships with:

- Sponsors
- Local businesses
- Schools
- The City of Cranbrook
- Baseball BC
- BC Minor Baseball
- Softball BC
- Community organizations
- Volunteers

These partnerships help provide quality facilities, equipment, programs, and opportunities for every player.

We are grateful to everyone who helps make youth baseball and softball possible.

Representing CMBA

Whenever you wear a CMBA uniform, hat, or team apparel, you represent something bigger than yourself.

Players, coaches, parents, volunteers, and spectators are ambassadors for the Association both at home and while travelling.

Everyone is encouraged to:

- Demonstrate respect.
- Display good sportsmanship.
- Welcome visiting teams.
- Support teammates.
- Respect officials.

- Leave facilities better than you found them.
- Represent Cranbrook with pride.

Every positive interaction helps build CMBA's reputation as an organization that values respect, integrity, and community.

Making Memories That Last

Long after the season ends, players rarely remember every score.

Instead, they remember:

- Their first practice.
- Their first hit.
- Their first catch.
- Their first home run.
- Their favourite tournament.
- Laughing in the dugout.
- Team bus rides.
- Celebrating with teammates.
- Coaches who believed in them.
- Parents cheering from the stands.
- Lifelong friendships.

These are the moments that define youth sports.

A Season to Remember

Every season tells a story.

Take a moment at the end of the year to reflect on your baseball or softball journey.

My Favourite Memories

First Practice: _____

First Game: _____

Favourite Tournament: _____

Favourite Team Memory: _____

Something New I Learned: _____

A Teammate Who Inspired Me: _____

A Coach or Volunteer I'd Like to Thank: _____

One Goal for Next Season:

Years from now, these memories may become your favourite part of the season.

CMBA in Action

Making Every Event Special

Every tournament, celebration, and community event is made possible by people working together.

You can help create memorable experiences by:

- Volunteering at tournaments and special events.
- Welcoming visiting teams and families.
- Supporting fundraising activities.
- Thanking volunteers and officials.
- Supporting our sponsors and community partners.
- Encouraging players from both teams.
- Including new families.
- Celebrating effort, improvement, and teamwork.

Together, we create experiences that players and families will remember for years to come.

CMBA Principles

Memories Matter

"The friendships formed, lessons learned, and experiences shared through baseball and softball become memories that last a lifetime. Every tournament hosted, every volunteer who gives their time, every family who cheers from the stands, and every player who steps onto the field helps make CMBA a place where young athletes grow in confidence, character, and community."

Staying Connected & Resources

Whether you're joining CMBA for the first time or returning for another season, we're here to support you every step of the way.

"The best teams communicate, ask questions, and support one another. CMBA is no different."

We're Here to Help

Whether you're new to baseball or softball or have been involved for many years, questions are a natural part of every season.

CMBA is committed to providing families with the information, guidance, and support they need to enjoy a positive experience.

If you're ever unsure about something, please ask. Our coaches, volunteers, Board members, and Administrator are always happy to help.

Every experienced baseball and softball family was once new to the game.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will I know if a practice or game is cancelled?

Weather updates, cancellations, and schedule changes will be communicated through the RAMP Team App and by email whenever possible.

Who should I contact if I have a question about my team?

Your first point of contact should always be your Team Manager or Head Coach. If additional assistance is required, your Division Director or the CMBA Administrator can help.

How do I volunteer?

Volunteer opportunities are available throughout the season.

Speak with your Team Manager, Division Director, or watch for Association communications describing upcoming opportunities.

Where can I find schedules?

Schedules, practice information, tournament details, and Association news are available through the RAMP Team App and the CMBA website.

What happens if my player is injured?

Notify your coach immediately.

Follow the advice of qualified medical professionals and provide any required medical clearance before returning to play if requested.

Can my child play with friends?

CMBA makes every reasonable effort to create positive team experiences while following player placement procedures and maintaining balanced teams.

Although requests may be considered where appropriate, they cannot always be accommodated.

How do I become a coach or team manager?

CMBA is always looking for enthusiastic volunteers.

Contact your Division Director or the CMBA Administrator to learn about coaching opportunities, volunteer requirements, and available training.

Who to Contact

If you have questions or need assistance, the following people can help.

Question or Topic	Contact
Registration	CMBA Administrator
Team Information	Team Manager or Head Coach
Division Questions	Division Director
Coaching	Director of Player & Coach Development
Equipment	Director of Equipment
Umpires	Umpire-in-Chief
Sponsorship	Director of Sponsorship
Safety Concerns	CMBA Administrator or President

Question or Topic	Contact
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Complaints or Concerns	CMBA Administrator or President
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General Information	CMBA Administrator
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Using position titles instead of names ensures this handbook remains accurate as volunteers and Board members change over time.

Stay Connected

CMBA shares important information throughout the season using its official communication platforms.

Families are encouraged to regularly check:

- CMBA Website
- RAMP Team App
- Association Email
- Official CMBA Social Media Channels

These resources provide information regarding:

- Schedules and field updates
- Registration information
- Tournaments and events
- Player development opportunities
- Volunteer opportunities
- Association news
- Special announcements

Staying informed helps everyone enjoy a smooth and successful season.

Our Governing Organizations

CMBA is proud to operate under the guidance and support of recognized provincial and national sport organizations.

These organizations help establish standards for:

- Player development

- Coaching education
- Officiating
- Safe Sport
- Governance
- Risk management
- Competition rules

CMBA works closely with:

- Baseball BC
- BC Minor Baseball
- Softball BC
- ViaSport British Columbia
- Respect Group
- Government of British Columbia Safe Sport initiatives

Together, these organizations help ensure that baseball and softball remain safe, enjoyable, and developmentally appropriate for every participant.

Thank You

Thank you for choosing the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association.

Whether your family is joining us for the very first time or returning for another season, we are grateful to have you as part of our baseball and softball community.

Youth sports create opportunities to learn, compete, develop confidence, build friendships, and make lifelong memories.

Every practice, every game, every volunteer, and every family contributes to making CMBA a special place for young athletes.

We look forward to seeing you at the ballpark.

CMBA in Action

Every Member Makes a Difference

You help strengthen CMBA every time you:

- Welcome a new family.

- Encourage a player.
- Thank a coach or volunteer.
- Respect an official.
- Volunteer your time.
- Support a fundraiser.
- Cheer positively from the stands.
- Represent CMBA with pride.

Together, we continue building a stronger baseball and softball community for future generations.

CMBA Principles

One Community. One Team.

"Every player, parent, coach, volunteer, official, sponsor, and community partner contributes to the success of CMBA. Together, we create opportunities, build lasting relationships, and inspire young athletes to become confident players, respectful teammates, and outstanding members of our community."

Our Commitment to Every Player

"Every child deserves the opportunity to play, learn, grow, and belong."

At the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association, every decision we make begins with one simple question:

"Is this in the best interest of our players?"

That question guides our programs, our volunteers, our coaches, and our Board of Directors.

We believe every child deserves:

- A safe and welcoming place to play.
- Coaches who teach with patience, respect, and encouragement.
- Teammates who support one another.
- Opportunities to learn, improve, and grow.
- Fair and respectful competition.
- Positive role models.
- The chance to build confidence and lifelong friendships.
- Memories that will last far beyond the final game of the season.

Whether a player joins us for one season or spends many years wearing a CMBA uniform, we hope they leave with more than improved baseball or softball skills.

We hope they leave with confidence.

With resilience.

With respect for others.

With an appreciation for teamwork.

And with memories that inspire a lifelong love of sport.

Thank you for trusting the Cranbrook Minor Ball Association to be part of your family's journey.

We look forward to welcoming you to the field.

Play Ball!