



# Minor Advisory Council Agenda March 12, 2026

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## Attendance

- Council members (see Appendix A)
- Darren Simpson, Board Liaison
- Shaquille Gilbert, Umpires & Championship Director (Staff Liaison)
- Diane St-Denis, Executive Director (Staff)
- Kelli Tibbles, Member Services & Communications Manager (left at 7:10 p.m.)

## 1. Territorial Acknowledgement and Opening Remarks

B. Edamura (chair) was called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a brief territorial acknowledgement and a few opening comments. Brief introduction for Coordinators to Kelly Tibbles, Member Services & Communications Manager.

## 2. Quorum

Quorum (Appendix A) was present.

## 3. Approval of the Agenda

- 7.f - Addition - [Roster Size Exceptions – U17 and Under](#) (file is in the folder)

**Moved by B Hawkins, seconded by S. Maion, to approve the agenda as circulated.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 4. Approval of Minutes

Minutes to be amended to note that the meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

**Moved by S. Maion, seconded by B. Hawkins, to approve the minutes of February 12, 2026, as amended.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 5. Email Votes

Email votes conducted since the last meeting were included in the documentation under Business Arising.

## 6. Business Arising

### a. Outcome of motions sent to the Board

D. St-Denis reviewed the document, noting that the Board approved all motions (Appendix B). She highlighted that 8.3.2. Registered Minor Player was edited by the Board but retained the same intent.

### b. Outcome 8.5.13 Classification Change

**Moved by B. Hawkins, seconded by P. Beckerton, to approve the change to 8.5.1 as follows:**

**8.5.13. CLASSIFICATION CHANGE - Any team placing 1st in a Provincial Championship must move **s** up **on** **in** classification, if playing in the**

same category and having six (6) or more returning players to the team in the following year.

**Exception:**

**The following applies only to the women's U20C category.**

**Any team placing 1st in a Provincial Championship returning the following year with six (6) or more returning players, must either**

- a. Move to the women's division;**
- b. Move to the U19B; or**
- c. Remain at U20C and be ineligible for the first year they return as a U20C team.**

~~EXCEPT AT U20C and when players from teams placing first, second or third in a Provincial Championship in the previous year, amalgamate into one team the following year, that team must move to the women's category up one classification if playing in the same category and having a combination of six (6) or more players returning from the former teams that placed first, second or third in the previous Provincial.~~

~~EXCEPT AT U20C, any team placing first or second in a Provincial Championship will remain in the same or higher classification if playing in the next higher category when having six (6) or more players returning to the team, or when amalgamated into one team and having a combination of six (6) or more players from the former teams that placed first or second in the previous Provincial.~~

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**c. Outcome 8.5.6 Pro Rata**

**Moved by S. Maion, seconded by M Kirkbright, to approve the change to 8.5.6 as follows:**

**8.5.6. PRO RATA SYSTEM**

- a) If a Championship specified to contain 16 teams (one per District plus Host Team) is not filled to 16 teams by District Representation, then each District shall be allocated by weighted lottery, with each District receiving one opportunity for each team placing second or lower for the Pro rata spot. This determination process will repeat in multiple rounds until all Provincial Championship sports are filled.**
- b) The pro rata draw for a given classification and category will take place five (5) business days before the first scheduled districts are held for said classification and category, and no earlier than the first Friday in June.**
- c) Per 8.5.2, District Coordinators will submit the list of teams that intend to participate in the provincials if they secure a berth via district qualification.**
- d) Once completed, the pro rata list will be confidentially shared with the District Coordinators, who in turn may share the information with district members at an agreed-upon time/schedule.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**d. Outcome 8.1.22 Maximum Games**

Motion was tabled to the next meeting. The 2025 language will remain in effect. Note was made that an edit for 2027 should be put on people's radar in late July / early August.

e. **8.1.24 Field of Play**

Moved by S. Maion, seconded by B. Hawkins, to approve the change to 8.1.24, as follows:

**8.1.24. FIELD OF PLAY**

The field of play includes all of: the area on the playing field side of the backstop fence bounded by the backstop fence, side fences, extended to the outfield fence of the Playing Field, including the Dugouts.

**At Softball BC District Playdowns, Regionals (including Celebrations and Showcases) and Provincials:**

a. **Playing Field:** The playing field is defined as the fair territory within which the ball may be played and fielded. **Only those individuals listed on the Approved Softball BC roster and approved pickups may access the playing field.**

b. **Dugout:** The dugout is dead-ball territory for ~~those who are registered~~ **those individuals listed** on the Approved Softball BC roster **and approved pickups only.**

**Regular Season Play:**

a. **Playing Field:** The playing field is defined as the fair territory within which the ball may be played and fielded. **Only individuals listed on the team's roster and pickups may access the playing field.**

b. **Dugout:** The dugout is dead-ball territory for those individuals listed on the team's roster and pickups. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

f. **8.1.25 Bat Person**

Moved by M. Kirkbright, seconded by P. Beckerton, to approve 8.1.25 as follows:

**8.1.25 Bat Person**

A bat person is allowed as long as they:

1. Wear an approved helmet with a facemask on the field and in the dugout; and
2. Received training from the coaching staff before each game as to when they are allowed to enter the field of play; and
3. Remain inside the dugout and only leave the dugout when the play has concluded, and
4. Remain fully inside the dugout. They cannot stand in the dugout entryway.
5. Cannot be younger than 8 years of age.
6. Maximum of one bat person per team per game.
7. The bat person must be registered with Softball BC as a player or bat person.

The umpires must also check the bat person's helmet when they are conducting the pre-game equipment check. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Move by B. Hawkins, seconded by S. Maion, to reconsider the motion on Bat Person and table it to the next meeting. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

K. Weston to prepare a revised motion to address

- Coaches' meeting - what they need to bring to the meeting.
- Registration and the approval process.

g. **Working group update on Tryout Policy for Rep Ball**

The townhall will be held on March 25th. The bulletin was circulated in January. D. St-Denis confirmed during the meeting that staff made an error and did not circulate the full bulletin (pages 2 and 3 were missing). She would have the staff resend the complete bullying (Appendix C) first thing on March 13th.

h. **Rural Participation Pilot Updates**

i. Rural Overage Pilot

D. St-Denis shared a copy of the bulletin circulated to the membership (Appendix D).

ii. Grassroot Classification Pilot

D. St-Denis shared a copy of the bulletin circulated to the membership, targeting registrars (Appendix E).

iii. U15C Regionals

Have yet to secure a host for this event. If a host is not confirmed by the end of March, the Board may elect to cancel the pilot.

i. **Revised Official Roster**

i. Confirm the request made at a previous meeting to revise the content of the roster

D. St--Denis shared a copy of the revised "official roster" RAMP will produce for coaches to take to regional and provincial events. The council has requested the removal of some information considered confidential (Appendix F).

ii. As of March 15, once a registrar submits a team for approval, they won't be allowed to add or delete without the minor coordinator getting an email for approval.

**7. New Business**

a. Boys on Girls Teams

**Moved by P. Beckerton, seconded by H. Maleki, to approve the following edits to the following SORs.**

Girls Fastpitch Rules

**8.1.19. MALE PLAYER – Male players may play in the female programs, but must adhere to the following limitations.**

**i. LTP to U13C categories, excluding U11R: The number of male players must not exceed 50% of the roster; however, this can be reviewed by the Minor Coordinator and Umpires & Championship Director on a case-by-case basis.**

**ii. U11R category: Up to 2 male players are permitted on the roster.**

**iii. U13B & U13A: Male players are not permitted in female programs.**

**iv: U15C category: Up to 2 male players are permitted on the roster.**

**v: U15B above: Male players are not permitted in female programs.**

~~8.1.19. MALE PLAYER—A minor male player may play in the girls program at LTP up to and including U15C. The U15C category will be permitted to have up to 2 male players on a girls team. LTP to U13C categories, no limit to the number of boys on a girls team.~~

Boys Fastpitch Rules

~~9.1.17. MALE PLAYER—A minor male player may play in the girls program up to and including U13C. Two male players may play at U15C on a girls' team.~~

9.1.25. FEMALE PLAYERS **may play** on a **boys male** team. **The number of female players** must not exceed 50%; however, this can be reviewed by the Minor Coordinator and Umpires & Championship Director on a case-by-case basis.

b. Forms

Due to time constraints, the council did not discuss the following forms. S. Gilbert will share the following forms via email for feedback.

- i. Minor Provincial Player Pick-Up Approval Form in District
- ii. Minor Provincial Player Pick Up Approval Form out of District
- iii. Minor Playing With/ Against Men's and Women's Consent Form
- iv. Minor Team Application to Play Men's and Women's Team Consent Form
- v. Add and Delete Form for All Teams
- vi. NEW - Waiver Application Exception from Playing with SC Rules
- vii. NEW - Reclassification Form (for coordinators)
- viii. NEW - Application Waiver for Exemption from 20 Games Maximum
- ix. NEW - Overage Players (Done)
- x. NEW Minor Coordinator District Participation Confirmation form
- xi. NEW U15C regional participation form

c. K. Weston proposal on motion

This item was pushed to the next meeting.

d. Identifying clubs that are struggling

This item was pushed to the next meeting.

e. Jays Care Foundation

D. St-Denis shared the bulletin sent to the members (Appendix G).

f - Addition - Roster Size Exceptions – U17 and Under

**Moved by P Berkerton, seconded by K. Weston, to approve the following edits to SOR 8.3.6.1.**

**8.3.6.1 Maximum Players**

- i. For teams U17 and under, **a** maximum of 15 players.
  - ii. For U19 A & B and U20C teams, a maximum of 17 players.
- Exceptions may be granted **for the regular season only** under extraordinary circumstances with the approval of the District Minor Coordinator and the **Umpires & Championships Director.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- g. 8.4.4 Minor Players playing with or against men's and women's  
**Moved by K. Weston, seconded by B. Hawkins, to approve the following edits to SOR 8.4.4.**

**8.4.4 A team of Minor Players wishing to play ~~league or exhibition games~~ against Men's or Women's team must have written consent from the Appropriate Minor and Men's & Women's Coordinators**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- h. District review committee update  
D. St-Denis will request a written report for the next meeting.

- i. Assignr  
A few coordinators shared feedback regarding the recent update from the PUIC. D. St-Denis will request a written report for the next meeting.

## **8. Reports**

- a. Minor Development Fund  
K. Weston confirmed the committee would be meeting on March 24th.

b. 2026 Championships Update

- i. Locations  
S. Gilbert provided an update on host allocation.
- ii. Supervisor Assignments  
S. Gilbert is still looking for supervisors. D. St-Denis suggested that
- iii. Proposed changes to Prizing Program  
S. Gilbert presented the proposed changes to the prizing program. After some discussion, the council reached consensus to recommend that the Board of Directors consider eliminating prizing, other than medals and a champion's banner, at all regional and provincial events in favour of increasing hosting grants.

c. **Board of Directors**

- Approved Terms of Reference  
The terms were circulated to the council (Appendix H). It will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Adherence to Softball Canada Rulebook  
D. Simpson reviewed the bulletin circulated to the members (Appendix I).

## **9. Round Table Check-in**

A brief sound table was held.

## **10. Next Meeting and Adjournment**

Next meeting: Thursday, April 9, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting adjourned at 10:38 pm

**APPENDIX A**  
List of attendees

		<b>Weight</b>	<b>In attendance</b>	<b>Votes</b>	
1	Bill Hawkins	6	1	6	
2	Al Charlesworth	3	1	3	
3	vacant				
4	Houtan Maleki	3	1	3	
5	Baukje Edamura	3	1	3	
6	Liz Lee	4	1	4	
7	Shannon Maion	4	1	4	
8	Kathy Weston	7	1	7	
9	Michelle Kirkbright	5	1	5	
10	Margaret MacDonald	3		0	
11	Amy Douthwright	3		0	
12	Andy Ferguson	3	1	3	
13	Patrick Beckerton	3	1	3	
14	Chris Young	3	1	3	left at 9:05 p.m.
15	Gord Johnson	3		0	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>		<b>44</b>	
	<b>31.8 votes is 60%</b>		11	<b>83.02%</b>	



## Appendix B - Outcome of motions Sent to the Board of Directors



### 8.3.2. Registered Minor Player

Moved R. Benson, seconded by D. Simpson, to replace 8.3.2 with the following rewrite

**8.3.2 REGISTERED MINOR PLAYER is a player listed on a team roster approved by their District Minor Coordinator. The player remains affiliated with that team until competition for their age category and classification has concluded at the highest level of play, including Regionals, Provincials, Western Canadians, or Canadian Championships, even if their own team has finished competing earlier.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Council had recommended**

8.3.2 REGISTERED MINOR PLAYER is on a Team Roster approved by their District Minor Coordinator. ~~This~~ **Their team** affiliation concludes when **all** the teams in their category/classification have ~~completed competition at the~~ **been eliminated from further post-season competition which includes Regionals,** Provincial, Western Canadian or Canadian Championship. ~~level.~~

### 8.5.2 District Minor Coordinator Duty

Moved L. Larson, Seconded by D. Simpson, to approve the following edits to 8.5.2.

8.5.2. DISTRICT MINOR COORDINATOR DUTY - A form will be provided for District Coordinators to notify the Softball BC Office of **their** his/her District Teams' intent to participate **in the provincials if they secure a berth via district qualification. in each category of Provincial Championships. Failure by a coordinator Failure** to submit the form **seven (7) business days before districts prior to the deadline** will result in **the** disqualification of that District in further Provincial play

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 8.5.12 Coaches Meeting

Moved D. MacKenzie, Seconded by R. Allan, to replace "8.5.12 Coaches Meeting" with this NEW section

#### In-Person Meeting Protocol

The head coach from each team must provide the following to the Softball BC Representative at the designated pre-Provincial Championships coaches meeting:

- a. A copy of your Approved Softball BC Team's Roster (from RAMP).



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- b. A copy of the Team's Roster for Provincials, which reflects the players attending provincials.
- c. Provide NCCP qualifications for all coaches.
- d. The signed Softball BC Minor Provincial Player Pick-up Approval form for each pick-up. **EFFECT:** Pick-ups without documents are ineligible.
- e. Proof of age in the form of a photocopy of birth certificate, baptismal certificate or other recognized government identification for all players and pick-ups. **EFFECT:** A player is ineligible until suitable proof of age is provided to the
- f. Proof of participation of each player or pick-up in a minimum of three league, exhibition or tournament games with their Registered Minor Team, in the form of game score sheets, on request. **EFFECT:** disqualification of a player or team following a review by the appointed protest committee. **EXCEPTION:** National Team Players

### Virtual Meeting Protocol

Should the Coaches Meeting be held virtually in the week before the championship, coaches will be required to provide the following information in electronic format within 24 hours of the meeting having concluded:

- a. A copy of your Approved Softball BC Team's Roster (from RAMP).
- b. A copy of the Team's Roster for Provincials, which reflects the players attending provincials.
- c. Provide NCCP qualifications for all coaches.
- d. The signed Softball BC Minor Provincial Player Pick-up Approval form for each pick-up. **EFFECT:** Pick-ups without documents are ineligible.
- e. Proof of participation of each player or pick-up in a minimum of three league, exhibition or tournament games with their Registered Minor Team, in the form of game score sheets, on request. **EFFECT:** disqualification of a player or team following a review by the appointed protest committee. **EXCEPTION:** National Team Players

**Note:** Proof of age, in the form of a birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or other recognized government identification, must be provided in person to the Softball BC Representative no less than 3 hours prior to the start of the first game for all players and pick-ups.

**EFFECT:** A player is ineligible until suitable proof of age is provided to the Softball BC Representative.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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### 8.3.4 Minor Registration

Moved by J. Hawes, seconded by L. Larson, to edit 8.3.4 Minor Registration Deadlines with the addition of 8.3.4.3.

#### **8.3.4. MINOR REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**

**8.3.4.1. 'A' team rosters must be uploaded and marked confirmed by the registrar by May 1st of the current year. Additions/deletions under extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 1st of the current year. After June 1st, only the Programs & Championships Director may authorize additions/ deletions to an approved roster.**

**8.3.4.2. All "B" classification team rosters and Executive rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed May 15th of the current year. All "C" classification team rosters are to be uploaded and marked confirmed by May 31st of the current year. Additions/ deletions under extraordinary circumstances will be determined by the designated Minor Coordinator up to and including June 5th of the current year. After June 5th, only the Programs & Championships Director may authorize additions/deletions to an approved roster.**

**8.3.4.3 The Executive Director can, on an annual basis, extend the above deadlines for an association or district due to exceptional circumstances. When possible, the application for an extension must be made by the association or, in the case of the district, by the Minor Coordinator, 7 days before the deadline in question. Deadlines cannot be extended beyond 7 days before the first provincial event, including the U11 Celebration of Softball, U11 Showcase, 13C Regionals, or Provincials. The approval of an extension will be communicated to the member associations, including the Minor Coordinator, with the district where the extension has been granted.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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SOR 8.4.1 Minor on M & W team

Moved by D. Mackenzie, Seconded by D. Simpson to edit to 8.4.1

**8.4.1. ~~A player 18 years of age or younger A minor player other than a second-year U19A or B player or a second or third-year U20C player~~, may only play with or against Men's or Women's teams as a pickup or registered player with the written consent of the player's parents and the District Minor Coordinator.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Staff were directed to update the forms on the website.

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### Transfer, Release and Abandon

Moved by R. Benson, Seconded by J. Hawes to replace 8.3.2.3 Release/Abandon, 8.3.2.4 Release and 8.3.5 Transfer with a new 8.3.2.3. Release

#### 8.3.2.3. Release

##### 8.3.2.3.1. Prior to the Team Roster Being Approved by the District Minor Coordinator

A release for a player who has been duly registered by an association and has paid their registration fees shall only be considered if:

- a. The player submits a written release request to the District Minor Coordinator, which must include a rationale for the release.
- b. The player's team will not be jeopardized or put in a position of collapse due to the player's release, as confirmed by the player's head coach.
- c. And the District Minor Coordinator agrees that a release is in the player's and their association's best interests.

Once approved, the District Minor Coordinator shall instruct the Association's registrar to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form. The Coordinator shall also inform the Softball BC Member Services & Communication Manager of the player's release.

##### 8.3.2.3.2. After the Team Roster Has Been Approved by the District Minor Coordinator

A release for a player who has been duly registered by an association, has paid their registration fees, and whose Team Roster has been approved by the District Minor Coordinator, shall only be considered if:



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- a. The player submits a written release request to the District Minor Coordinator no less than seven (7) days before the start of any District playdown. The request must include a rationale for the release.
- b. The player's team will not be jeopardized or put in a position of collapse due to the player's release, as confirmed by the player's head coach.
- c. The player's head coach agrees to the request to remove them from the team's roster, and the player's association registrar agrees to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form.
- d. The coach and association's registrar from any other team agree to accept the player's registration on their team without affecting the registration of any other player already listed on the approved roster of that team.
- e. And the District Minor Coordinator and Umpires & Championships Director agree that a release is in the player's and the association's best interests.

Once approved, the District Minor Coordinator shall instruct the Association's registrar to strike the player's name from the team's Softball BC Team Registration form. The Coordinator shall also inform the Softball BC Member Services & Communication Manager of the player's release.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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### 8.1.9 Minor Girls - Definition - Footwear (2nd vote)

Moved by L. Larson, Seconded by J. Hawes, to edit to 8.1.9 as follows:

- 8.1.9. FOOTWEAR - Players may choose to wear metal cleats beginning in the U15A, U15B, U17A, U17B, U19A, U19B, and U20C age categories and classifications. ~~Not C players, U13A or U13B.~~ **Metal cleats are not permitted in any other category or classification.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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### SOR 8.5.14 Pick-Ups

Moved by L. Larson, seconded by D. Simpson, to edit 8.4.14 PicUps as follows

- 8.5.14.1 Teams may use up to three pickups for Provincial Championships, one or more of which may be coaches, provided that **the** total number of registered players and coaches on the **approved** team **roster**, together with **their** pickups, **does** ~~may~~ not exceed the maximum number permitted in these Special Operating Rules.

- 8.5.14.2 Pickup players are not position specific. If a team needs to pick up a player, it must first ask everyone in its district who is eligible whether they are willing to be picked up. This means all players must be asked to be a pickup, not just



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for a specific position, before a team can go out of district. ~~The Programs & Championships Director may authorize out of district pickups under extreme and unusual circumstances.~~

8.5.14.3 “A” teams may pick up from any District **for Provincial Championships.** ~~No~~ priority is given to teams within a given District. **However, “A” teams must refrain from contacting “B” or “C” players until they have completed their district playdowns.**

8.5.14.4 The following ~~applies~~ to “B” and “C” teams picking up players for Provincial Championships:

- a. Within a given District, teams will be permitted to pick up in the following order:
  - i. The team that places first at District Championships.
  - ii. The team that is hosting the Provincial Championships.
  - iii. Teams that earned pro rata spots in the Provincial Championships, in the order in which they **finished at Districts earned those spots.**
- b. Each team will be given 48 hours to select their pickups before the next team is given their turn.
- c. In-District pickups must be approved in writing by the District Minor Coordinator.
- d. Teams must pick up from within their District where there are players available ~~in the same category and classification or one lower category or classification (but not both)~~ **as defined in the Pick-Up Chart located in Annex E.**
- e. A player that declines an invitation to be a pickup for a team within her or his ~~her or his~~ **their** District may subsequently accept an offer to be a pickup for another team within her or his ~~her or his~~ **their** District, but may not be a pickup for any team outside her or his ~~her or his~~ **their** District for any Provincial Championship that season.

8.5.14.5 In “C” Provincial Championships, only one of a team’s pickups may be a pitcher, and such pickup will be declared at the commencement of the Championship. No other pickup may be used as a pitcher once this declaration is made.

8.5.14.6 Out-of-district pickups, where permitted by this section, must be approved in writing by the Minor Coordinators of the District of the team picking up the player and the District of the player.

**8.5.14.7 As per 8.5.1.2, the head coach must provide a copy of all approved pickup forms to the Softball BC Representative at the coaches' meeting held prior to the Provincial Championship. Teams are not required to add their pickup players or coaches to their official team roster.**

8.5.14.8 A player who is requested to be a pickup and whose team is participating in a Western or National Championship after the Provincial Championship for



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which they are being picked up must have written permission from their coach before they ~~agree to may~~ be picked up. Permission may be indicated by providing a copy of the team's approved Softball BC roster to the coach of the team picking the player up.

**CARRIED (6-0-1)**  
**K. Langley abstained**



# **BULLETIN**

**Bulletin #: 2026-05**

**Date: March 13, 2026**

**To: Minor Associations**

**CC: Board of Directors, Minor Coordinators, and Staff**

**From: Diane St-Denis, Executive Director**

**Subject: Townhall - Proposed Policy on Rep Ball Tryouts**

The Minor Advisory Council has tasked a working group to develop a proposed policy on Rep Ball Tryouts. As the implementation of a policy that dictates when tryouts can start and how offers to players are administered is considered a significant change in practice, the working group has

elected to provide an opportunity for member associations to share their feedback with the group through a town hall meeting on Wednesday, March 25th, at 7:00 pm.

The working group will speak to the attached proposal and take questions during the townhall. There will also be a post-event feedback form for members to add information that was not addressed during the townhall meeting.

We ask that associations limit their participation to two representatives.

**Call Instructions:**

Time: Mar 25, 2026 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457355806?pwd=3Q0TVWbWxNNpBqCSYz0cZPrDtwNvK0.1>

Meeting ID: 864 5735 5806 Passcode: 526522



# Rep Ball Tryout Proposal

## Goal

Create a fair, transparent policy for rep team tryouts across Softball BC.

## Current Issues

- Tryouts are starting earlier each year; the first teams get first picks.
- “Private” tryouts and camps used to secure players early.
- Players are pressured to accept offers immediately, often before leaving the field. • No clear funnel from ‘A’ to ‘B’ tryouts; players risk losing spots if they wait. • Coaches hold too much power; players need time to make decisions that are right for them.
- Coaches and associations can do anything they want; there are no rules.

## Key Recommendations

- **U11 Tryouts:** Begin in **March**; fall/winter skill camps still allowed.  
*Rationale:* Early evaluations don’t align with child development.
- **Early Signing:**
  - Allowed for **U15–U19 A/B** only.
  - Up to **6 returning players** can sign during the week before Labour Day
  - Offers must be **written** and accepted by Friday before Labour Day.
- **Looking for feedback on a set tryout start date:**
  - **Option 1:** Sunday of Labour Day weekend
  - **Option 2:** Saturday after the first school week.
- **Offer Rules:**
  - Written offers are valid until **4 PM on day 3** after the official start day and accepted in writing. Players can accept the offer anytime up to the deadline (this is two full days of tryouts plus a school day in both schedule options)
  - Players cannot accept multiple offers, but can entertain multiple offers. ○ Additional offer rounds are allowed if spots remain, but players are always given until the next day at 4 pm to make a decision.

## Benefits of a policy

- Players get time to consider offers.
- Reduces the pressure and influence by private camps.
- Promotes transparency and loyalty.
- Aligns with Long-Term Player Development principles.

## Implementation

- Education for parents, players, and coaches.
- Standardized forms for early signing and offers.
- Annual timeline announcements by Softball BC.
- Phase-in implementation approach:
  - **2027:** U11 & U13
  - **2028:** U15
  - **2029:** U17
  - **2030:** All rep age



# Rep Ball Tryout Proposal

## SAMPLE CALENDAR

24	25 Early signing starts U15A/B - U19A/B	26 Early signing U15A/B-U19A/B	27 Early signing U15A/B-U19A/B	28 Early signing U15A/B-U19A/B	29 Early signing U15A/B-U19A/B deadline 4pm	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

### SEPTEMBER - TIMELINE SAMPLE 1

/ 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 Rep A Tryouts start U13-U19 Day 1	1 Labour Day Rep A tryouts cont. U13-U19 Day 2	2 Rep A first offer deadline 4pm Day 3 Tryouts continue as necessary	3 Rep A second offer deadline 4pm Tryouts continue as necessary	4 All subsequent offers have deadline of 4pm next day. Tryouts continue as necessary	5	6 Rep B tryouts start U13-U19 Day 1
7 Rep B tryouts cont. U13-U19 Day 2	8 Rep B first offer deadline 4pm Day 3 Tryouts continue as necessary	9 Rep B second offer deadline 4pm Tryouts continue as necessary	10 All subsequent offers have deadline of 4pm next day. Tryouts continue as necessary	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

### SEPTEMBER - TIMELINE SAMPLE 2

/ 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2 First Day of School	3	4	5	6 Rep A tryouts start U13-U19 Day 1
7 Rep A tryouts continue U13-U19 Day 2	8 Rep A first offer deadline 4pm Day 3 Tryouts continue as necessary	9 Rep A second offer deadline 4pm. Tryouts continue as necessary	10 All subsequent offers have deadline of 4pm next day. Tryouts continue as necessary	11	12	13 Rep B tryouts start U13-U19 Day 1
14 Rep B tryouts continue U13-U19 Day 2	15 Rep B first offer deadline 4pm Day 3 Tryouts continue as necessary	16 Rep B second offer deadline 4pm. Tryouts continue as necessary	17 All subsequent offers have deadline of 4pm next day. Tryouts continue as necessary	18	19	20



# **BULLETIN**

**Bulletin #:** 2026-12

**Date:** February 19, 2026

**To:** Registrars & Presidents - Minor Softball Associations

**CC:** Board of Directors, Minor Coordinators and Staff

**From:** Diane St-Denis, Executive Director

**Subject:** Rural Overage Exemption Pilot

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The Board of Directors approved a Rural Overage Exemption Pilot for the 2026 season to support the inclusion of overage players in rural or remote associations who face roster shortages, particularly at the U15C, U17C and U20C. In these communities, one or two additional players can mean the difference between fielding a team or having no program at all.

### **Definition of "Rural" or "Remote"**

The burden of defining "Rural" or "Remote" will fall firstly to the association's District Minor Coordinator and secondly to the Minor Advisory Council, who will ultimately determine whether to approve or deny the Overage Exemption.

### **Approval Process**

1. Requests for approval will be entertained from April 1 until May 15th. The player in question cannot play until the request is approved.
2. Associations must submit their request
  - a. To their District Minor Coordinator for approval. The coordinator will review the request and, if approved, submit it for final review to the Minor Advisory Council Chair.
  - b. The Minor Advisory Council Chair shall facilitate the review of the request by the Minor Advisory Council.

Note: In the case of a district that does not currently have a Minor Coordinator in place (District 3), the association shall submit its request directly to the Minor Advisory Chair ([d5minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca](mailto:d5minorcoordinator@softball.bc.ca)).

### **Annual Review**

Rural Overage Exemption can only be granted for one (1) season.

### **Participation of Overage Player in Post-Season**

Approved overage players may participate in league and tournament play. It is each head coach's responsibility to proactively inform their opponents or the tournament directors of their overage players.

Overage players are not eligible to compete in District Playdowns, Provincials or Western Canadians or Canadian Championships EXCEPT as a pick-up for a team in an age-appropriate category.

# ABOUT THE PILOT

## 1. Roster Exception Model

- Rural U15C, U17C and U20C teams may apply to roster **overage players** when needed to form a viable team OR when an association does not have enough players to form an age-appropriate/gender-appropriate team for the overage players.
- Regardless of how many overage players are on a team's roster, **only 2 overage players** may participate in any given game.
- Roster spots for overage players are IN ADDITION to existing roster limits. Teams may roster a maximum of 15 players (U15C, U17C) or 17 players (U20C) who meet the age-group requirements, and additional roster spots are provided for overage players.
  - **Intent:** Overage players cannot take roster spots away from age-appropriate players
- Overage players:
  - May participate in **league and tournament**. Head coaches are responsible for proactively informing their opponents or the tournament directors of their overage players.
  - Are **not eligible** to compete in District Playdowns, Provincials or Western Canadians or Canadian Championships EXCEPT as a pick-up for a team in an age-appropriate category.

## 2. Overage Exemption Application Process

- An Overage Exemption request will be entertained from **April 1 until May 15th**. An overage player cannot play until the request is approved. The application form can be found here - <https://www.softball.bc.ca/content/resource-forms>
- **Associations** must apply for an exemption for their team(s) through their **District Minor Coordinator**.
- **The District Minor Coordinator** will review the application to determine whether to support it. If approved by the District Minor Coordinator, the application is then forwarded to the **Minor Advisory Council Chair** for consideration at the next Minor Advisory Council Meeting.
  - In the event the next Minor Advisory Council Meeting is more than 7 days away, the **Minor Advisory Council Chair** will convene a short, virtual **Overage Exemption** meeting with all the **District Minor Coordinators** meeting within 7 days of receiving the application.
  - When considering **Overage Exemptions** at a Minor Advisory Council meeting or an Overage Exemption meeting:

- Each Overage Exemption application will be presented by the **District Minor Coordinator** where the request originates.
  - The **District Minor Coordinator** will explain the rationale for why they support this Overage Exemption.
  - The **Minor Advisory Council** will vote on whether to approve or deny the application.
- All **Minor Coordinators** are responsible for communicating the approved Overage Exemptions and rationale with their Associations in order to minimize the possibility of conflict at diamonds where Overage players are participating.
- All teams with approved Overage Exemptions must disclose any Overage Players on their roster when they attend tournaments or exhibition games.

### **3. Safeguards**

- Overage players are **restricted to pitching** a maximum of 2 innings per game.
  - This rule applies to all tournament games.
  - With the agreement of both coaches, this rule can be ignored in league/exhibition games
  - **Intent:** to encourage the development of age-appropriate pitchers and to avoid overpowering younger players.
- Overage players are **restricted to catching** a maximum of 2 innings per game.
  - This rule applies to all tournament games.
  - With the agreement of both coaches, this rule can be ignored in league/exhibition games
  - **Intent:** to encourage the development of age-appropriate catchers.
- Associations found to be using overage exemptions in a way that denies roster spots for age-appropriate players will be ineligible to apply for future overage exemptions for a period of 2 years.



# **BULLETIN**

**Bulletin #:** 2026-11

**Date:** February 18, 2026

**To:** Registrars - Minor Softball Associations

**CC:** Board of Directors, Minor Coordinators and Staff

**From:** Diane St-Denis, Executive Director

**Subject:** G Grassroots Classification Pilot

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The Softball BC Board of Directors approved a Grassroots Classification Pilot for the 2026 season with the following limitations.

- The G classification is a PILOT
- **It is ONLY available in District 10**
- It applies only to U15 and U17
- All other districts should continue using existing classifications as published in the

To ensure a consistent understanding, please review the attached document, which was approved by the board.

The registration fee for the G classification is the same as the C category for the applicable age group.

Further instructions will be sent directly to District 10 registrars.



Association	Team Name
ABBOTSFORD MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION	OUTLAWS 2013A

Level	Age Group	Team Gender	Date Approved	Date Printed
A	U13 (A BALL)	FEMALE	NOT APPROVED	2/17/2026

**PLAYER DETAILS**

	NAME		GENDER	DOB		
	SURNAME	GIVEN NAME		MO.	DAY	YEAR
1						2013
2						2013
3						2013
4						2013
5						2013
6						2013
7						2013
8						2013
9						2013
10						2013
11						2013
12						2013
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						

**TEAM OFFICIALS**

ROLE	NAME		GENDER	PHONE #	NCCP
	SURNAME	GIVEN NAME			



# BULLETIN

**Bulletin #:** 2026-09

**Date:** February 13, 2026

**To:** All Minor Associations

**CC:** Board of Directors, Minor Coordinators, and Staff

**From:** Diane St-Denis, Executive Director

**Subject:** Jays Care Foundation

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I recently met with representatives from the [Jays Care Foundation](#). The purpose of our meeting was to clarify which of their programs are open to the softball community.

The Jays noted that they are working on edits to their site to make their content more inclusive. In the meantime, I'm highlighting a few programs that might be of interest to your association, your local schools, or community/municipal partners.

- **[Pitch, Hit and Run](#):** This free event offers boys and girls ages 7 to 14 an opportunity to showcase their baseball and softball skills and earn a chance to attend and perform at the MLB World Series! Athletes are tested, and their measurements are recorded. Based on their scores, they advance from a local event to a Team Championship held in MLB stadiums. Top scores qualify for an all-expenses-paid trip for two to compete in the Finals, which are hosted at the World Series.
- **[Jays Care Affiliate Schools](#):** The Jays Care Foundation seeks to build a roster of dedicated educators across Canada committed to making a meaningful impact on their students' lives. It's FREE and easy to become a Jays Care Affiliate School: (i) Join a virtual training session; (ii) Find at least 10 students interested in participating in introductory softball programming; and (iii) Commit to at least 8 weeks of extracurricular programming (1-2 hours a week).
- **[Community Partners](#):** An opportunity to partner with the Jays, especially for your learn-to-play programs and potentially access additional resources to introduce softball to more children and youth - especially those facing significant barriers.
- **[Field of Dreams](#):** The program provides funding to design, refurbish, and build local diamonds (including softball) in communities across the country. Field Of Dreams diamonds are designed to be safe, inclusive spaces where communities can connect, and kids can grow. Jays Care has proudly invested nearly \$20 million into more than 230 Field Of Dreams diamonds across 10 provinces and two territories.

Regards,



## Minor Advisory Council Terms of Reference

### **Purpose**

The Minor Advisory Council shall provide the Board of Directors with written recommendations regarding the standard operating rules for the youth categories in softball, along with formats and regulations for the delivery of provincial championships.

### **Core Values for Guiding the Council**

The Minor Advisory Council is guided by Softball BC's values, as stated in the strategic plan. The Committee recognizes that the culture we set at the Committee level should reflect Softball BC's culture and expectations.

### **Advisory Function**

The Council will provide advice on the following areas, including but not necessarily limited to:

- Develop plans to grow the minor fastpitch game, including how to market and promote fastpitch in BC, as well as outreach methods to non-member teams in BC.
- Modifications to the standard operating rules for the youth categories.
- Guidance and direction on the format of Provincial Championships for minor categories and classifications.

### **Authority**

The Council will exercise its authority in accordance with the Bylaws and such additional provisions as set out in these Terms of Reference.

As an Advisory Council to the Board of Directors, the Council makes recommendations or provides guidance on the areas listed in the advisory function of these terms of reference. The Council is not empowered to make any final and binding decisions. The Council is not authorized to consider policies or bylaws for the Society or to make recommendations to those documents.

The Council, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may establish Working Groups or Task Forces to address specific issues related to the Council's mandate.

### **Documents the Council Provides Recommendations to**

- Standard Operating Rules.

### **Composition**

The Minor Advisory Council will be comprised of 15 Minor District Coordinators elected in accordance with the bylaws. The term of service for Minor Coordinators is outlined in the bylaws. Following the AGM, the coordinators will elect one coordinator from within the group to serve as chair and one to serve as vice-chair.

The President or designee may serve as an ex officio member of the Committee.

The Committee will be supported through the Executive Director or their designate.

The Board of Directors will consider removing the chair if at least 60% of the total weighted vote of elected minor coordinators is in favour of removal.

### **Meetings**

The Council will meet by videoconference or in person, as required. The Chair will call meetings. There will be no fewer than four (4) and no more than twelve (12) meetings annually. A quorum for a meeting requires no less than 60% of the total weighted votes to be present.

### Weighted Vote:

Each Minor District Coordinator will have one vote plus one additional vote for every 20 teams registered in their respective district at the time of the Softball BC Annual General Meeting.

An example of vote allocation would be:

- A district with nine (9) teams will have one vote.
- A district with 18 teams will have one vote.
- A district with 21 teams will have two votes
- A district with 59 teams will have three votes.

The formula to calculate teams is as follows:

1. LTP, U7 and U9 - The total number of registered participants in the district divided by 20 equals the number of teams in that district for this group. The number is rounded to the nearest integer.
2. U11 to U20C - The total number of teams registered in the district.
3. Add the teams from lines 1 and 2 for the total number of teams in the district.

Decisions require at least 60% of the total weighted votes present to pass. Members may cast their vote in person at a meeting or by email if the chair requests an electronic ballot. Proxies are not permitted. The Softball BC staff support representative does not have a vote.

### **Resources or Support**

The Council will receive the necessary resources from Softball BC to fulfill its mandate. The Council may, from time to time, receive administrative support from Management.

### **Responsible to**

The Council reports to the Board of Directors through the Chair and/or the assigned staff liaison.

### Preparing recommendations for rule modifications

The Council will include in the proposal: the current rule, the rationale for the change, the desired outcome, the consequences for non-compliance, any budgetary impact created by the change, and the potential risk to the association if the proposal fails. The Council shall forward draft motions to the Men's & Women's Advisory Council and the Umpire Advisory Council for feedback, if they have the potential of impacting those groups. For example, a rule change would be shared with the Umpire Advisory Council.

### **The process for recommended motions is as follows:**

- Members will receive communication and a link to submit recommendations/motions to the Council between March 2nd and July 31st, annually. See Appendix A for the SOR Editing Cycle.
- The Council will review motions between August 1st and September 30th.
- Any motions receiving an affirmative vote of 60% or more (weighted vote) will be considered approved and shared electronically with all minor association presidents for feedback to their Minor District Coordinators. Members will receive no less than 15 days to provide feedback.
- Minor Coordinators will report on and discuss the feedback they have received and, if appropriate, make amendments to the motion before proceeding to a second vote. If defeated, there will be no further discussion or action on the motion. If approved, the motion will be submitted to the Board of Directors as a recommendation for consideration at the next Board of Directors meeting. If the recommendation pertains to a change to a standard operating rule (SOR), the recommendation must clearly indicate the additions and or deletions to be made to the SOR in question. All recommendations captured in the minutes will serve as written notification to the Board of Directors.

If a final recommended motion is rejected by either the Council or the Board of Directors, the same or a similar recommendation may not be considered again by the Council until the conclusion of the following competition season.

**Evaluation**

The Board of Directors and the Council's Chair will evaluate the Committee's performance. The Council's performance will be assessed against the achievement of yearly objectives/deliverables and the fulfillment of the key duties outlined in these terms of reference.

**Review and Approval of Terms of Reference**

The Board of Directors will review these Terms of Reference regularly, with input from the Council as required.

**Other**

All members of the Council shall be members in good standing of Softball BC and shall abide by Softball BC policies with respect to code of conduct, privacy and confidentiality.

Date of Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Review: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX A

### Policies and Standard Operating Rules Editing Cycle

*(Approved by the Board of Directors on June 17, 2025)*

<b>Time</b>		<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>
March 2 to July 31	151 days	Motions	Members
Aug 1 to Sept 30	60 days	Formulate edits to SORs - Cross portfolio consultation *	Council / Office
Oct 1 to Oct 31	30 days	Review language and alignment	Governance/ Board of Directors
Nov 1 to Nov 30	30 days	Member Consultation - Town Hall(s)	Office/ Governance
Dec 1 to Dec 31	30 days	Rewrite SORs	Councils / Office
Jan 1 to Jan 31	30 days	Final Approval	Governance/ Board of Directors
Feb 1 to Feb 28	30 days	Document production (online)	Office
March 1	New SORs available		

\* If it has the effect of altering a playing regulation, it must be discussed with the Umpire Advisory Council. If it involves minor and senior players, both councils have to support it.



# ***BULLETIN***

**Bulletin #:** 2026-15

**Date:** February 27, 2026

**To:** All Members

**CC:** Board of Directors, ALL Coordinators, DUICs, PUIC and Staff

**From:** Rachel Allan, President

**Subject:** Adherence to Softball Canada Rulebook

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You will recall receiving notification on January 20th of a townhall meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 4th, to discuss the mandatory adherence to the Softball Canada Rulebook starting this season (original bulletin is attached).

Having heard the feedback from participants and received additional feedback following the meeting, the Board of Directors has decided to postpone mandatory adherence to the 2027 season. The Board realizes that mandating these changes for 2026 will prove challenging, if impossible, as tournament directors have already promoted their tournament package and most leagues have already confirmed their operating and playing procedures for the upcoming season.

Our staff will continue to work with our Advisory Councils to align our Special Operating Rules (SORs) with the Softball Canada Rulebook for the upcoming season. While leagues and tournaments may choose to alter playing regulations for this season, members are reminded that the Softball BC SORs apply to all district playdowns, regionals (including Celebrations and Showcases) and provincials.



# **BULLETIN**

**Bulletin #:** 2026-04

**Date:** January 20, 2026

**To:** Minor Associations

**CC:** Board of Directors, Minor Coordinators, and Staff

**From:** Diane St-Denis, Executive Director

**Subject:** Townhall - Adherence to Softball Canada Rulebook

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The Board of Directors recently discussed concerns raised by the Softball BC Umpire Advisory Council regarding the lack of adherence by Softball BC members to the rules of the games as published in the Softball Canada Rule book (Official Fast Pitch Softball Rules and Official Slo-Pitch Softball Rules). Our umpires believe that adopting the rules as written will facilitate umpires' training and development and minimize the possibility of confusion at events/games, which often leads to conflict between coaches and umpires.

## **Mandating the use of Softball Canada and Softball BC rules**

It is an acceptable practice for a Provincial Sport Organization to require its members to follow the official rules set by the National Sport Organization. Leagues or associations (for tournaments) that choose to play outside the rules may be subject to disciplinary action and, at a minimum, lose their insurance coverage and other benefits.

While leagues or associations (for tournaments) must adhere to the core provincial framework, there are examples, such as in soccer, where a league is permitted to establish its own specific rules with BC Soccer's approval. For instance, a league's rules may specify details such as unlimited substitutions in league games or weather protocols for a coastal league. Some examples for Softball BC could include no time limits on league play, or the option to play one more inning in a run-ahead rule situation.

## **Townhall and Feedback**

Softball BC will host a townhall meeting on at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, February 4th, to hear feedback from minor association members on the following topics:

1. For categories U15C and Up:

Softball BC will remove from its Special Operating Rules (SORs) all rules that alter the rules found in the Softball Canada Rule book (Official Fast Pitch Softball Rules and Official Slo-Pitch Softball Rules).



# **BULLETIN**

- i. We may allow the replication of a Softball Canada Rule in the Softball BC SORs when it is deemed a tool for managing our risk (i.e., player equipment).
  - ii. We will articulate the procedure for a league or association (for tournaments) to request an exemption to a Softball Canada rule. Approval of all exemptions will be at the discretion of the Softball BC Office in consultation with the PUIC.
2. For categories U13A down:
  - b. Using the Recommended Minor Softball Rules contained in the Softball Canada Rule book (pages 248 to 260 of the 2024-2025 book), Softball BC will review its SORs to ensure rules of play for the U13, U11 and U9 categories are clear for consistent application within BC.
3. Consequence for non-compliance

Leagues or Associations (including tournament directors) or teams (in the case of an exhibition game) who do not adhere to the Softball Canada Rule book (Official Fast Pitch Softball Rules and Official Slo-Pitch Softball Rules), or where appropriate and approved, Softball BC exemption, are subject to progressive disciplinary measures which can range from a written warning, disqualification from provincial events, removal of insurance benefits, to potential loss of membership with Softball BC.

## **Calling Instructions**

Time: Feb 4, 2026 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84764498372?pwd=qkYizvm9nvjluyYpq7jJiPVYO4wRpK.1>

Meeting ID: 847 6449 8372      Passcode: 130119

The call will be recorded.