

SOFTBALL
NEW BRUNSWICK
2026 HANDBOOK





Teams Featured on the cover: 1930-43 Ketepec Aces, 1949-53 Fredericton St Dunstons CYO Ladies Softball Team, 1945-52 Moncton Bradley Plumbers, 1966-68 Fredericton Neills, 1972-91 Petite-Rivière-de-l'Île Team Bradore, 1984-88 Hoyt Schooners, 1991 Notre-Dame et Memramcook Les Athletiques Seaside Chev-Olds, 1997-2001 Northrup Raiders, 2014 Moncton Rebels/ Étoiles Vallée-des-Rivières, 2025 NB Selects

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ABOUT US

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our 2026 season which marks a truly historic milestone as we celebrate 100 years of Softball New Brunswick. On behalf of the Softball New Brunswick Board of Directors and staff, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all past and present members for their dedication, passion, and commitment to the game.

This remarkable anniversary would not be possible without the countless volunteers, athletes, coaches, officials, and supporters who have shaped our organization over the past century. Your contributions have built a strong foundation and a vibrant softball community that continues to grow and inspire.

We look forward to an exciting season in 2026, highlighted by Provincial Championships, Eastern Canadian Championships, and our role as host of the U15 Women's Canadian Championships, just to name a few. We are also excited to see continued growth within our minor ('A' and 'AA') and adult membership across the province, U11 Jamboree and East Coast Showdown events. These tournaments provide meaningful opportunities for our athletes, coaches, and officials to showcase New Brunswick's talent, dedication, and competitive spirit.

This season, we have prioritized strengthening our Male Ball and Slo-Pitch membership, Umpire Program and Coach Development opportunities. As well, our Community Development Program will continue this season, targeting new communities across the province to help them get started and return to the diamonds year after year.

Finally, we wish all players, coaches, and umpires a successful, fun, and memorable softball season in 2026. Thank you for an incredible 100 years!!

Scott Willis

President



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive



President
Scott Willis
Fredericton



Vice President
Hillary Pineau
Grand Bay-Westfield



Treasurer
(non-voting)
Ellen Fitzsimmons
Fredericton

Coordinators



**Provincial
Umpire in Chief**
Ron Campbell
Willow Grove



**Human
Resource
Coordinator**
Charlie Chaisson
Saint Leonard



**High
Performance
Coordinator**
Dan Mersereau
Fredericton Junction



**Grassroots
Coordinator**
Vacant



**Adult
Coordinator**
Vacant

Regional Directors



**North Western
Director**
Eric Pelletier
St-Leonard



**Capital Western
Director**
Craig Clarkson
Killarney



Fundy Director
Paul Bedford
Sussex



**South Eastern
Director**
France Bourque
Moncton



**North Eastern
Director**
Darleen Sobey
Maples Glen



OFFICE STAFF

Office Hours (Monday to Friday 9am–4pm)
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Full-Time Staff



Executive Director / Performance Coach

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executivedirector@softballnb.ca
(902) 219-4797



Sport Development Director

Megan Diercks
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(647) 821-2115



Program Manager

c.innis@softballnb.ca
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2026 Summer Staff



learntoplaysoftball@softballnb.ca



[softballnb](https://www.facebook.com/softballnb)

NB Selects: [snbprovincialteams](https://www.facebook.com/snbprovincialteams)



www.softballnb.ca



@softballnewbrunswick
NB Selects: @SoftballNBselects



2026 IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
February 10 - March 31	Provincial Championship Host Application Window
March 30, 2026	Team Registration Opens (Adult and Minor)
April 14 - May 26, 2026	Provincial Championship Registration (Co-Ed, Women's, Men's Slo-Pitch)
April 8 - May 22, 2026	Adult Provincial Registration Window
April 14, 2026	2025 Annual General Meeting
April 15, 2026	Adult Canadian Championship Team Confirmation Deadline (Slo-Pitch)
April 15 - 22, 2026	Adult Release Window
April 22 - May 6, 2026	Minor Regional Release Window
May 1, 2026	2026 Eastern Canadian Qualifier Registration Launch Adult Canadian Championship Team Confirmation Deadline (Fast Pitch)
June 1, 2026	Hall of Fame Nomination Deadline
June 2, 2026	2026 Provincial Championship Registration Launch
June 5, 2026	2026 Eastern Canadian Qualifier Registration Deadline
July 1, 2026	Deadline For Individual & Team Registration Refunds
July 15, 2026	Provincial Championship Registration Deadline (All Minor & Men's Fast Pitch)
September 1 - 21, 2026	Annual Awards & Memorial Awards Window
October 2, 2026	Annual Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE Tuesday April 14th, 2026

TIME 7:00 PM

LOCATION ZOOM

Registration

You must [register for the AGM](#) so we can verify voting eligibility in advance.

Voting Eligibility

As per Softball NB Constitution & Bylaws: 5:02 Voting Members

1. Each member of the Board, per Bylaw 5:02.1 shall have one (1) vote each at all meetings, except any current Softball NB staff or appointed members.
2. Each registered team in good standing shall have one (1) vote each at each Annual General Meeting.
3. Each Registered League in good standing, whose teams are all members of S.N.B. Inc. shall have one (1) vote at the Annual General Meeting granted to the league designate.
4. Each elected director of a Regional Association is to have one (1) vote at Softball New Brunswick Inc.'s Annual General Meeting excluding Regional Umpire Associations. (See Umpires Constitution 2:02)
5. Members 18 years of age or older and a member in good standing, ordinarily a resident in New Brunswick, shall be entitled to vote as per Bylaw 5:02.5

[Previous AGM Meeting Minutes](#)



CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

The constitution and bylaws of our organization serve as the foundational documents that outline our purpose, structure, and operations. Together, they establish the fundamental principles and guidelines that govern Softball New Brunswick's activities, functions, and decision-making processes. If you have any questions please contact executivedirector@softballnb.ca

[Constitution & Bylaws](#)

POLICIES

Softball New Brunswick recognizes its responsibility to foster environments that ensure positive, healthy, and fulfilling experiences. By prioritizing the welfare, safety, and rights of our members, Softball New Brunswick is able to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to address the needs of the softball community in relation to safety in sport. If you have any questions please contact executivedirector@softballnb.ca.

[Policy Manual](#)

SPORT ACCIDENT INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

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

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

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

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

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



REGIONAL MAP & BOUNDARIES

Softball New Brunswick operates based on 5 regions.

Current Member Associations are listed on our website: softballnb.ca/content/associations

NORTH WESTERN

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

CAPITAL WESTERN

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

FUNDY

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

SOUTH EASTERN

- Alma
- Bass River
- Bouctouche
- Cap-Pelé
- Cocagne
- Dieppe
- Elsipogtog (Big Cove)
- Moncton
- Memramcook
- Petitcodiac
- Port Elgin
- Rexton
- Richibucto
- Riverside Albert
- Riverview
- Sackville
- Saint Antoine
- Saint Louis de Kent
- Salisbury
- Shediac

NORTH EASTERN

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



OPERATING GUIDELINES

1.1 General Overview

- a. Softball New Brunswick uses the 'Softball Canada Official Guide and Rule Book' for its interpretation in playing the game of Softball. **Modifications to the rules as stated herein take precedence over the Softball Canada Rule Book.** These Special Operating Rules (SOR's) will govern all Softball NB events (Provincial Championships and Eastern Canadian Qualifiers) and any Association/League disputes. Specific League rulings take precedent for League play regarding:
 - i. Game variances may include but are not limited to:
 1. Pitching rules
 2. Batting order
 3. Substitution
 4. Game length
- b. All affiliated Leagues, Associations and teams will have complete charge over their own operations and business, except in the case of:
 - i. A dispute, where any affiliated League, Association or team can appeal to Softball NB in writing through their respective League or Association following the Softball NB Appeals Policy.
 - ii. Provincial Championships or Eastern Canadian Qualifiers which are governed by Softball NB.

1.2 Definitions

- a. **Affiliate/Member:** An individual that has completed Softball New Brunswick current annual registration and paid the associated fees.
- b. **Association:** A group of volunteers, whether incorporated as a Non-Profit Corporation or not, organized to administer the operation of softball within the Province of New Brunswick and in accordance with the Bylaws and Operating Rules of Softball New Brunswick. The group will be administering softball within a community or region. Associations that affiliate with Softball New Brunswick will have all rights allotted by Softball New Brunswick. A softball association may have players registered with it in one or more recognized divisions or categories and may operate one or more teams. All teams in an Association must have common signing officers for the purpose of registration and releases and provide this information to the Executive Director of Softball New Brunswick. Any changes in the officers of an Association set up must be forwarded to the Executive Director of Softball New Brunswick as they occur.
- c. **League:** A combination of teams affiliated with Softball New Brunswick through their respective Associations or with another Province that is a member of Softball Canada who compete among themselves based on a regular schedule of games established by an elected or appointed group of individuals affiliated with Softball New Brunswick.
- d. **Teams:** A group of registered players and coaches forming one side in a competitive game or sport.



2. MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

2.1 General Information

- a. Annual Membership Registration with Softball New Brunswick is done online through our website at www.softballnb.ca via RAMP Interactive.
- b. The term of membership shall begin upon registration and payment of annual fees. The term of membership is from April 1st to March 31st.
- c. To be covered by the Softball New Brunswick Insurance Program, players, coaches, umpires, on-field helpers and managers on teams must be registered with Softball New Brunswick **prior to any indoor or outdoor softball activity**.
- d. Membership Fee Structure is determined by the Board of Directors by February 15th of the current season.

2.2 Softball NB Membership Fees

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES	
U5-U7 Player	\$25.00
U9-U20 Player	\$35.00
Coach	\$10.00
On-Field Helper	\$10.00
Off-Field Helper*	\$0
Manager*	\$0
* These are considered off-field positions and are NOT covered by Softball NB Insurance, if you will be on-field, you <u>must</u> register as a coach.	

TEAM MEMBERSHIP FEES	
U5-U7 Team	\$30.00
U9-U20 Team	\$50.00
Adult Team	\$100.00
UMPIRE MEMBERSHIP FEES *	
Junior Development	\$9.00
Level 1	\$20.00
Level 2	\$20.00
Level 3	\$20.00
Level 4	\$20.00
Level 5	\$20.00
* These are the Softball NB membership fees, there are additional registration fees for Umpires.	



3. COACHES, MANAGERS & VOLUNTEERS

3.1 Minimum Requirements

- a. **ALL Coaches** listed on the team roster for minor teams are required to be affiliated with Softball New Brunswick and must adhere to the following minimum coaching standards:
 - i. Safe Sport Training if 14 or older.
 - [Free via The Locker](#)
 - ii. Foundations of Coaching Softball (FOCS) – Part 1
 - \$20 [via The Locker](#)
 - iii. Foundations of Coaching Softball (FOCS) – Part 2
 - \$25 [via The Locker](#)
 - iv. Vulnerable Sector Check (To be renewed every 3 years) if 18 or older.
 - Submitted via RAMP Profile or to m.diercks@softballnb.ca
- b. **ALL Managers, on-field volunteers, off-field volunteers and Executives** are required to be affiliated with Softball New Brunswick and must adhere to the following standards
 - i. Safe Sport Training if 14 or older.
 - [Free via The Locker](#)
 - ii. Vulnerable Sector Check (To be renewed every 3 years) if 18 or older.
 - Submitted via RAMP Profile or to m.diercks@softballnb.ca

3.2 Provincial Championship Coaching Requirements

- a. **U9 and U11 Divisions**
 - i. All coaches will be required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only
- b. **U13-U19/20 A Divisions**
 - i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Provincial Championship Roster is required to be have completed Competition-Introduction Weekend #1
 - ii. All additional coaches are required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only
- c. **U13-U19/20 AA Divisions**
 - i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Provincial Championship Roster is required to be have completed Competition-Introduction Weekend #1 and Weekend #2
 - *Making Ethical Decisions only needs to be completed if attending Easterns or Canadians.*
 - ii. All additional coaches are required to meet the Coaching Minimum Requirements only

**d. Adult Divisions**

- i. All coaches must complete Safe Sport Training.
 - [Free via The Locker](#)

e. Team Managers and On-Field Helpers (those with direct athlete contact)

- i. Must complete Minimum Requirements (3.1.b)

3.3 Eastern Canadian Softball Championship Coaching Requirements

a. U13-U19/20 Divisions

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

3.4 Canadian Championship Coaching Requirements

a. U15-U19/20 Divisions

- i. A minimum of one (1) coach on the Canadian Championship Roster is required to be a minimum of Competition-Introduction [CERTIFIED](#).
- ii. All additional coaches are required to be a minimum of Competition-Introduction [TRAINED](#).

3.5 Canada Games Coaching Requirements

- a. The Head Coach on the Canada Games Roster is required to be Competition-Development [CERTIFIED](#).
 - i. Must achieve by February 1, the year of the Canada Games
- b. The Assistant Coach and Manager on the Canada Games Roster is required to be a minimum of Competition-Development [TRAINED](#).
 - i. Must achieve by February 1, the year of the Canada Games

3.6 Coaching Certification Pathways

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



4. PLAYING RULES

4.1 General Playing Rules

Softball New Brunswick uses the 'Softball Canada Official Guide and Rule Book' for its interpretation in playing the game of Softball. **Modifications to the rules as stated herein take precedence over the Softball Canada Rule Book.** These Special Operating Rules (SOR's) will govern all Softball NB events (Provincial Championships and Eastern Canadian Qualifiers) and any Association/League disputes.

Softball New Brunswick does NOT use the Minor Softball rules at the back of the Softball Canada Rule Book.

We highly recommend teams use the Softball NB Special Operating Rules throughout their season in preparation for the Eastern Canadian Qualifiers (if applicable), Provincial Championships, etc

4.2 Special Operating Rules (SOR's)

[U9 Fast Pitch Playing Rules](#)

[U11 Fast Pitch Playing Rules](#)

[U13 Fastpitch Playing Rules](#)

[U15 to U20 Fast Pitch Playing Rules](#)

COED Slo-Pitch Playing Rules -

coming soon

All other rules not listed in the SOR's will revert back to the Softball Canada Rule Book.

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1 Player Eligibility

- a. **MINOR** Players aged U9 to and including U15, are eligible to play in their respective age category and the one (1) age category above theirs only.
- b. **MINOR** 'AA' athletes can only play with 'AA' teams in the one (1) age category above theirs. 'AA' Athletes cannot play with an 'A' team at the age category above.
- c. All U17 athletes and above are eligible to play in any adult division. U17 athletes must receive permission from Softball NB before committing to play in an open adult division.



5.2 Residency

- a. Players and Coaches registered with Softball New Brunswick are required to be a resident of New Brunswick as of May 1st of the current playing year. Players and Coaches registered on teams in categories which lead to a Canadian Championship must adhere to the Softball Canada Residency Rule of May 1st.
 - i. Softball NB staff reserves the right to review any residency requests past the May 1st deadline.
 - ii. Players must be able to produce a valid proof of residence (Ex. NB Drivers License, Utility Bill, Lease, etc.) if requested by Softball New Brunswick.

- b. Athlete Releases
 - i. A minor aged athlete is required to play within their region for the following events: Eastern Canadian Qualifiers and Provincial Championships. If no teams exist in the region in which a player resides, they can submit a request for release.
 - 1. Requests for releases are required to be submitted between April 22 - May 6, 2026.
 - a. [Minor Regional Release Procedure and Requirements](#)

 - ii. **ADULT** Players can play with any team within New Brunswick. Adults may request a release to play outside of the province for Canadian Championships. An individual's first priority is to any team from New Brunswick attending the event. The goal of the adult release policy is to allow additional opportunities for New Brunswick athletes to compete at a Canadian Championship, while ensuring New Brunswick teams have first priority to New Brunswick athletes.
 - 1. [Adult Athlete Release Policy](#)

- c. Service personnel and dependents such as penitentiary guards, mounted police or armed forces personnel transferred into New Brunswick after July 1st are allowed to play in Provincials; subject to review by the Executive Director

5.3 2026 Age Classifications

MINOR AGE CATEGORIES

Age Group	Birth Years	Age Group	Birth Years
U5	2021, 2022	U15	2011, 2012
U7	2019, 2020	U17	2009, 2010
U9	2017, 2018	U19 Women's	2007, 2008
U11	2015, 2016	U20 Men's	2006, 2007, 2008
U13	2013, 2014	U23 Men's	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006



5.4 Proof of Age

- a. A request for proof of age may be made in the form of a copy of Birth Certificate, Passport, or a valid form of New Brunswick identification.
 - a. Members should be prepared to present a valid proof of age at any time during Qualifiers or Provincial Championships.

5.5 Softball NB Provincial Championships - Minor Team Eligibility

- a. All teams (players and coaches/staff) registering for Provincial Championships must first be registered with Softball New Brunswick. Softball New Brunswick Staff or designate, reserves the right to refuse any registration in Provincial Championships and has the authority to re-categorize teams, if deemed necessary.
- b. If a team wants to play in a secondary Provincial Championship:
 - i. Teams are required to play within their own age category first (or be registered and paid to do so should their respected provincials come afterwards)
 - ii. Teams may request to play in a secondary Provincial Championship one age category and division above their own, at the discretion of Softball New Brunswick

5.6 Softball NB Provincial Championships - Minor Player Eligibility

- a. All players & coaches/staff on a Provincial Championship roster must first be registered with Softball New Brunswick.
- b. **MINOR** players up to and including U15 who wish to play a secondary Provincial Championship may only play the next age group above theirs.
 - i. A player's date of birth establishes their age category for playing in a Provincial Championship or playing up a Provincial Championship.
 - 1. Ex. An athlete born in 2013/2014 falls within the U13 age group (in 2026).
 - a. U13 'A' athletes may play in U15 'A' or U15 'AA'.
 - b. U13 'AA' athletes may play in U15 'AA'.
 - ii. Female athletes are eligible to attend male designated tournaments, but age group rules still apply.
- c. **MINOR** Players aged U17 and up are able to play as many Provincial Championships available to them. To be eligible to attend an **ADULT** Provincial Championship, the player's DOB must fall within the U17 age group and also receive permission from Softball NB before committing to play.
 - i. Ex. Athletes born in 2009/2010 may play Adult Provincials in 2026 with permission from Softball NB.



ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

	U9 Team	U11 Team		U13 Team		U15 Team		U17 Team		U19/20 Team	Adult Team
		A	AA	A	AA	A	AA	A	AA		
U7 Athlete	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
U9 Athlete	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
U11A Athlete	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x
U11AA Athlete	x	x	✓	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x
U13A Athlete	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x
U13AA Athlete	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	x	x	x	x
U15A Athlete	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
U15AA Athlete	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	x	x
U17A Athlete	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
U17AA Athlete	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
U19/20 Athlete	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓



6. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

[LINK TO PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION](#) June 2 - July 5, 2026

6.1 Dates And Locations 2026 Provincial Championships

A Coaches/Managers meeting will happen prior to the scheduled Championship.

The meeting will take place virtually - all teams are REQUIRED to provide a representative at this meeting.

Age Category	Date	Location	Cost	Roster Size	Make-Up Date
U9 Girls	August 21-23	Quispamsis	\$350.00	8-15 players 2-5 coaches	August 28-30
U9 Boys		Rusagonis			
U11 Girls A	August 28-30	St Stephen	\$435.00	11-17 players 2-5 coaches	September 11-13
U11 Girls AA		St Stephen			
U11 Boys		TBD			
U13 Girls A	August 14-16	Quispamsis			
U13 Girls AA		St-Leonard			
U13 Boys		TBD			
U15 Women's A	August 28-30	Nelson-Miramichi			
U15 Women's AA		Fredericton			
U17 Women's A	September 4-6	St Stephen			September 18-20
U17 Women's AA		Memramcook			
U17 Men's	August 14-16	TBD	N/A		
Women's Fast Pitch	July 24-26	Fredericton			
Men's Fast Pitch	August 7-9	Bass River	N/A		
Men's and Women's Slo-Pitch Provincials	June 19-21	TBD	12-20 players 5 coaches	June 26-28	
Co-Ed Slo-Pitch	June 12-14	Fredericton	12-20 players 5 coaches		



6.2 Provincial Championship Hosting

- a. Applications to host Provincial Championships are due March 31st of the year of the tournament. Hosts are asked to review the Guide Document & Hosting Responsibilities prior to submitting a bid.
 - i. [Guide Document and Hosting Responsibilities](#)
 - ii. [Application to host Provincials](#)

7. EASTERN CANADIAN SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS (ECSC)

Any questions on Eastern Canadian Qualifiers or Championships should be directed to c.innis@softballnb.ca
Eastern Canadian Softball Championships ByLaws and Playing Rules can be found [here](#)

7.1 2026 Dates and Locations

Age Category	Date	Location	Cost
Qualifiers Registration	May 1 - June 5	Via RAMP Interactive	\$425
Qualifiers (U13-U20)	July 3-5	Fredericton, NB	
U13 Girls	August 20-23	Outer Cove, NL	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
U13 Boys		Taymouth, NB	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
U15 Women's		Chaudière-Appalaches, QC	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
U15 Men's		Maria, QC	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
U17 Women's		Fredericton, NB	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
U17 Men's		Wilmot, ON	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
U19 Women's		August 13-16	Queens County, PEI
Intermediate Women's	August 7-9	Dartmouth, NS	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond
Intermediate Men's	September 11-13	Brookfield, NS	\$500 + \$500 Performance Bond



7.2 Eastern Canadian Softball Championship Qualifiers

- a. NB has two (2) positions in each division of ECSC. Additional positions may be granted by the ECSC Committee on a case-by-case basis. (ex. If another province chooses to only send 0-1 teams).
- b. Teams interested in attending ECSC must register for Eastern Canadian Qualifiers to attend
 - i. By registering for qualifiers, teams are also committing to participate at the ECSC, should they qualify.
 - ii. Teams will be required to submit payment of \$1000 within 5 days of qualifying for Easterns. The fee will include:
 1. \$500.00 Eastern Canadian Registration Fee
 2. \$500.00 Performance Bond - to be refunded following the completion of the Eastern Canadian tournament pending the team fulfills their commitment to attend and there are no issues.
- c. Teams are required to play in their own age category.
- d. An athlete must be listed as a player on the line-up card and play in one (1) full inning in order to be considered on a teams roster for qualifiers
 - i. If an athlete does not meet these requirements, they will NOT be considered as part of a roster and will only be eligible to attend ECSC as a pick-up.
- e. Schedule
 - i. If there are 3 or more teams interested in attending ECSC, a tournament style qualifier will be held the first weekend in July each year.
 - ii. The schedule format will follow the same template as Provincial Championships with the exception of 3rd/4th place games will be played in all divisions.
 1. [Schedule Formats and Templates](#)
 - iii. If there are 2 teams interested in attending ECSC, one (1) game will be held as a qualifier to determine the higher the seed for ECSC (NB1 / NB2) . Qualifier registration fee will be partially refunded.
 - iv. If only 1 team is interested in attending ECSC, no qualifier will be held and that team will automatically attend as NB1. Qualifier registration fee will be refunded.
- f. Prizes and Awards
 - i. Prizes
 1. The top two (2) teams in each division will receive a Rawlings Prize Pack
 - ii. Individual Awards
 1. A plaque will be provided for each award winner.
 2. Individual awards will be awarded at each age category.
 3. The Softball New Brunswick Representative, in conjunction with the Tournament Chair, will determine the individual award winners based on the following criteria:
 4. Top Batter
 - a. Top Batter will be named based off of all round robin games only.



- b. To qualify, a player must have an average of 2.5 plate appearances or higher per game their team plays in the round robin.
 - c. Factors that may be considered when determining top batter include but are not limited to: batting average, on-base percentage, number of hits, strike-outs and walks.
5. Top Pitcher
- a. Top Pitcher will be named based off of all round robin games only.
 - b. U13: To qualify, a player must have pitched a minimum of 5 innings in round robin.
 - c. U15+: To qualify, a player must have pitched a minimum of 7 innings in round robin.
 - d. Factors that may be considered when determining top pitcher include but are not limited to: Innings pitched, batting average against, ERA, WHIP, number of hits against, strikeouts and walks.
6. Most Valuable Player (MVP)
- a. MVP will be based off of the entire tournament (Round Robin and Playoff Round)
7. The Softball NB Representative and Tournament Supervisor has final say on award winners.

7.3 ECSC Pickup Players

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



8. CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

8.1 Minor Categories

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

8.2 Adult Fast Pitch Categories

- a. On an annual basis, Softball New Brunswick will authorize up to a maximum of two (2) qualifying club teams to attend the Canadian Championships in each of the adult categories:
 - i. U23 Men's
 - ii. Women's
 - iii. Men's
 - iv. Master Men's
- b. The date for adult teams to submit their intent to participate in the upcoming Canadian Championships to Softball New Brunswick are as follows:
 - i. May 1, 2026
- c. Considerations may be made to send one (1) additional team in any adult category, depending on the location of the tournament, quantity and quality of players.
- d. Pickups
 - i. See Softball Canada Fast Pitch Special Operating Rules (SOR's) for more information.

8.3 Adult Slo-Pitch Categories

- a. On an annual basis, Softball New Brunswick will authorize up to a maximum of one (1) qualifying club teams to attend the Canadian Championships in each of the adult categories:
 - i. Women's Slo-Pitch
 - ii. Men's Slo-Pitch

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- b. The date for adult teams to submit their intent to participate in the upcoming Canadian Championships to Softball New Brunswick are as follows:
 - i. December 8, 2025
- c. Considerations may be made to send one (1) additional team in any adult category, depending on the location of the tournament, quantity and quality of players.
- d. Pickups
 - i. See Softball Canada Slo-Pitch Special Operating Rules (SOR's) for more information.

8.4 Additional Canadian Championship Information (Softball Canada)

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

9. TRAVEL PERMITS

- a. All affiliated teams, players and umpires that travel outside of New Brunswick to a SANCTIONED competition or tournament must be in possession of a travel permit in order to be covered under the Softball New Brunswick Insurance program.
- b. Travel permit request forms can be found and submitted through your RAMP Profile under “Permits, Sanctions and Forms”
 - i. Permits must be submitted a minimum of 7 business days prior to departure. Permits submitted less than 7 business days prior to departure will be charged a \$50.00 administrative fee. No travel permits will be accepted less than 2 business days prior to departure.

10. TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING

- a. All tournaments must be sanctioned by Softball New Brunswick. No tournament will be sanctioned unless the tournament committee or Association is an affiliated member of Softball New Brunswick.
- b. All Softball New Brunswick/Softball Canada rules & regulations shall apply.
- c. No sanctioned tournament shall accept entries from any team which is not an affiliated member of Softball New Brunswick or any other Provincial Softball Association. It will be the responsibility of the tournament organizers to ensure that all teams participating in their tournament are affiliated with Softball New Brunswick or another Provincial Softball Association.

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- d. Any registered team, player, and coach/staff taking part in an unsanctioned tournament will NOT be covered under the Softball New Brunswick insurance policy.
- e. All games in a sanctioned tournament shall be umpired by registered umpires in New Brunswick.
- f. Should any team withdraw from a sanctioned tournament after the entry has been accepted, the team shall be reported to Softball New Brunswick for disciplinary action if deemed necessary.
- g. No tournament sanctions will be issued that conflict with any Provincial Championships, Eastern Qualifiers or Eastern Canadian Championships scheduled for the same dates.
- h. Tournaments should follow Softball NB's team classification when inviting teams to participate in their event. (i.e., U15 or Men's/Women's, 'A' or 'AA', etc.)
- i. All irregularities, problems, conflicts, etc., must be reported to the Softball New Brunswick Office no later than five (5) days after completion of the tournament.
- j. Application for a tournament sanction must be made at least two (2) weeks prior to the tournament date. Sanctioned tournaments will be posted on the Softball New Brunswick website.
- k. To apply to host a sanctioned club tournament, go to the [Softball NB website](#).



SOFTBALL NEW BRUNSWICK PROGRAMS

RESOURCES

Softball New Brunswick is committed to providing various resources to the membership for both on and off the field. If there is a particular resource you would like to see added please contact m.diercks@softballnb.ca

a. Drill Bank

- i. This free resource is built based on the Long Term Athlete Development Plan, with drills catered to the appropriate developmental stage of your athletes - FREE. [Link to the drill bank here](#)

GRASSROOTS

Learn to Play U5 - U7

Learn to Play softball is a way of introducing the sport of softball to children. This program fosters the involvement of ALL players, and families with high and low skill levels. The child will experience excitement, enjoyment and success. Activities and lead-up games are patterned after informal playground games that promise FUN and LOTS OF ACTION.

- a. Softball New Brunswick has developed a quick reference guide to help you start your local Learn to Play Program [CLICK HERE](#)
- b. Softball Canada offers a full Learn to Play Softball Manual for coaches equipped with practice plans for U5, U7, and U9 programs. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the manual.

Community Development Program

Our Community Softball Development Program aims to foster youth engagement and promote the growth of softball across our province for the U9-U13 age categories. Our program focuses on new communities, getting new coaches and community leaders set up with the tools, education and support to kickstart their community softball program. Goals of the Community Development Program:

- i. To assist in the promotion, development, and implementation of new community based softball programs around the province, with focus on the U9, U11, U13 age categories;
- ii. To provide access to resources and qualified training for affiliated softball programs leaders;
- iii. To see overall increased fundamental skill development amongst softball players across the province;
- iv. For Softball NB to have active programming in various communities in each of our 5 regions.

For more information, contact learntoplaysoftball@softballnb.ca

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HIGH PERFORMANCE

NB Selects - Provincial Team Program

Designed to provide a competitive pathway for Softball New Brunswick's top male and female athletes in each age category (U15-U20). The teams are made up of the best athletes from across the province and they will regularly train together to attend the Softball Canada Canadian Championships on an annual basis. This model helps prepare athletes, coaches and officials for future high performance events (Canada Games, national teams, etc.).

- a. 2026 NB Selects Programs
 - i. U13 Future Selects (girls): Birth Years 2013-2014
 - ii. U15 Girls/Boys: Birth Years 2011-2012
 - iii. U17 Girls/Boys: Birth Years 2009-2010
 - iv. U19 Women's: Birth Years 2007-2008
- b. Handbook
 - i. The NB Selects handbook is intended to provide clear information (Guiding Principles, Eligibility, Tryout Process, Coaching Selections, Team Selection, Selection Criteria, Fees, Code of Conduct, Policies, etc. to all stakeholders of the program (players, coaches, officials, parents/guardians and spectators).
 - ii. [2026 Handbook](#)
- c. For more information on the NB Selects high performance program, visit our [website](#).

Canada Games Program

The Canada Summer Games is the largest multi sporting event in the country and the highest level of sport that many athletes may attain. Pending sport selection by the Canada Games Council, Softball New Brunswick operates both a Men's and Women's team under the Team NB program every 4 years.

- a. [2025 Canada Games Team Plan](#)
- b. 2029 Canada Games Team Plan - to be finalized early 2028



UMPIRE PROGRAM

Contact Information



Provincial Umpire-in-Chief

Ron Campbell
Willow Grove
ronald.campbell@irvingoil.com



Sport Development Director

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Education Coordinator

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Coordinators



North Western Regional UIC

Paul Boulet
Saint Leonard



Capital Western Regional UIC

Andrew Godin
Waterville



Capital Western Regional UIC

Rob Gibson
Oromocto



Fundy Regional UIC

Carlos Avila
Saint John



South Eastern Regional UIC

Serge Niles
Moncton



North Eastern Regional UIC

Vacant

2026 Umpire Registration Fee Breakdown

	SOFTBALL NB MEMBERSHIP		UMPIRE ASSOCIATION ALLOCATION		TOTAL FEES (Membership + Allocation)
Junior Development	\$9	+	\$50	=	\$59
Level 1	\$20	+	\$70	=	\$90
Level 2	\$20	+	\$80	=	\$100
Level 3	\$20	+	\$90	=	\$110
Level 4	\$20	+	\$100	=	\$120
Level 5	\$20	+	\$110	=	\$130

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Junior Development Umpire Program

Our Junior Development Program is designed for youth 18 years old and under, getting into the umpire program. With this program, the youth umpires will receive reduced registration rates, a shirt and hat, and mentorship opportunities by some of NBs finest umpires.

Competitive Umpire Development Program

Wondering how you can get from a Level I to working international competition(s)? It is certainly an exciting journey with lots of challenges and rewards. Follow these slides where they will help you understand the steps along the way.

- a. [National Officials Certification Program](#)

Umpire Apparel

The official umpire store of Softball Canada. Check out [Home Run Sports](#)

Ejection Reports

- a. During a game involving registered Softball NB members, the umpire(s) may be required to eject a player, coach, or even a spectator from a game for various reasons. It is the responsibility of the umpire to then report the ejection directly to Softball NB within the appropriate timeline.
- b. Link to [Ejection Report Form](#)
- c. Steps to reporting an ejection:
 - i. Ejection reports must be completed by game official(s) no later than 24 hours after the ejections have occurred. This form will be sent to Regional Umpire In Chief (RUIC), Softball NB Regional Director, Provincial Umpire in Chief (PUIC) and Softball NB Executive Director.
 - ii. Regional UIC and Softball NB Regional Director will administer the punishment based on Softball NB discipline policy's guideline (link here). If the offense warrants more than the outlined minimum penalty, the PUIC and Softball NB Executive Director will be included in the process.
 - iii. If conflict of interest is declared by either the Regional UIC or Regional Director, their replacement will be appointed by the PUIC/Executive Director.



ANNUAL AWARDS AND HALL OF FAME

Annual Awards

Each year Softball New Brunswick strives to honour our most accomplished members. We proudly present awards to players, coaches, umpires and volunteers, thereby showing our appreciation for their contributions to the sport of softball. Softball NB also awards Memorial Awards in honour of Henry Kelly, Charlie O'Brien, and Paul Dawson for individuals that best exemplify the traits and commitment these late Softball phenoms possessed. We proudly present these awards at the Softball NB Annual Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet to players, coaches, umpires and/or volunteers, consider nominating a deserving member this year!

2026 Deadline to apply is August 31st, **2026**

[Link to criteria and application forms here](#)

Hall of Fame

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

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

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



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

2026 Annual Awards and Hall of Fame Banquet: Friday Oct 2nd, 2026 at the Fredericton Inn

Memorial Scholarship

Janiva Willis was an extremely talented player from New Brunswick who went on to a distinguished NCAA softball career and played for Team Canada. Annually, Softball New Brunswick administers the Janiva Willis Scholarship, awarding two deserving softball players \$500 to assist with post-secondary education. [Scholarship Criteria & Application](#)

Congratulations to our Class of 2026 Janiva Willis Scholarship Recipients, Isabel Gillis and Sydney Orr.



SPONSORS

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



GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK

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



RAWLINGS CANADA

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



FREDERICTON INN

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