

Consort Minor Ball Association 2023 Constitution

Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the Consort Minor Ball Association are:

- Ensure that all participants receive participation time in their chosen activity.
- They're given the best leadership resources our community has to offer.
- Consort Minor Ball Association's ultimate goal and objective are to fulfill the bill of rights for athletes, including...
 1. The right to have the opportunity to participate in sports regardless of ability or income.
 2. The right to participate at a level that is consistent with the development level.
 3. The right to have qualified, sensitive leadership.
 4. The right of each participant to share in the leadership and decision-making of their sport.
 5. The right to participate in a safe and healthy environment.
 6. The right to proper preparation for participation in the sport.
 7. The right of all athletes to play as children.
 8. The right to have each player have an equal opportunity to strive for successes at their level.
 9. The right to be treated with dignity by all involved.
 10. The right to have fun through sports.

<u>Index</u>	<u>Page</u>
Consort Minor Ball Board Membership.....	3
Board Members Obligations.....	3
Board Governance.....	3
Program Registration.....	3
Player Registration.....	4
Registration fees.....	4
Player Participation.....	4
Complaints to Consort Minor Sports.....	4
Player/Coach Suspensions.....	4
Appeals.....	5
Player Release.....	5
Selection of Coaches.....	5/6
Player Movement.....	6
Team Splitting.....	6
Overage Players.....	7
Minor Ball Officials.....	7
Consort Minor Ball Uniforms.....	7
Provincial Participation.....	8
Hosting Provincials.....	8
Pictures.....	8
Coach/Parent Meetings.....	8
Coach/Manager Meetings.....	8
Voting.....	9
Arising Issues Re: Ball, & Softball	9
Travelling.....	9
Destruction of Property and Disturbances.....	9
Tournament Guidelines.....	9
Equipment Guidelines.....	9
Player Practices.....	10
Team Wind-Ups.....	10
Provincial Recognition.....	10
Banners.....	10

Consort Minor Ball Board Membership

The Consort Minor Ball Board will consist of a minimum of eight members.

Board Member Obligations

If a board member fails to attend three consecutive meetings they will be removed from the board.

Executive positions cannot be filled unless you've sat on the board for two consecutive years.

Board Governance

1. Code of Conduct: Board Members will conduct themselves in a calm and respectful manner during meetings. Members deemed "unruly" may be asked to leave the meeting by the president. They may be subject to disciplinary action and asked to leave the board.
2. Any letter to be presented to the board must be presented to the president. 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting. The President reserves the right to accept any letter within the 24 hours' notice. Upon commencement of the meeting, no further letters will be accepted any letter received would be reviewed by President and Vice President to discuss and review in confidence prior to being submitted to the agenda to be determined if the letter requires further representation or explanation.

Program Registration

Consort Minor Ball Association registration deadline is February 24, 2023 for U11 and up baseball and softball teams. All other teams U9 and lower registration deadline is April 4, 2023.

Consort Minor ball will oversee program registration. Registration will be advertised by means of:

- Advertise in the local newspaper. It is recommended that advertising be put in the paper a month in advance to give all local participants a chance to become aware of our registration dates.
- Advertising will occur over social media.
- Information will be shared with the school to distribute to the students/families.

Softball				Baseball			
Category	Birth Year	Fees	Provincials	Category	Birth Years	fees	Provincials
T-ball	2018-2019	\$60	N/A	T-ball	2018-2019	\$60	N/A

U7	2017-2016	\$60	N/A	7U	2017-2016	\$60	N/A
U9	2015-2014	\$80	N/A	9U	2015-2014	\$80	N/A
U11	2013-2012	\$100	Y or N	11U	2013-2012	\$150	Y or N
U13	2011-2010	\$100	Y or N	13U	2011-2010	\$150	Y or N
U15	2009-2008	\$100	Y or N	15U	2009-2008	\$150	Y or N
U17	2007-2006	\$100	Y or N	17U	2007-2006	\$150	Y or N

Player Registration

Local and out-of-town players will be allowed to play on our minor ball teams if they are registered in our minor ball program at the beginning of the season. They must be registered at their home association first (Following Softball Alberta and Baseball Alberta guidelines). The board has the right to limit or deny out of town registration, should the numbers not be in the best interest of our local players. Late registrations will be subject to approval by the minor ball board.

Any player asking for a release to try out for out of town teams, will be removed from registration numbers.

Affiliation will be made through Softball Alberta and Softball Alberta rules and regulations.

Registration Fees

The Consort Minor Ball Board will set registration fees prior to the registration period. Registration costs will be set as close to operational costs as possible, keeping into consideration equipment, insurance, uniform, and facility costs.

Player Participation

All attempts to provide fair participation for all registrants will be made. Coaches must follow Baseball Alberta and Softball Alberta player guidelines.

Complaints to Minor Ball Association

Any complaints about matters involving Consort Minor Ball throughout the year are to be brought to the attention of the coaches and manager directly involved with the team. If the issue continues, a formal signed letter shall be written to the Consort Minor Ball Association and submitted to the president. The matter shall be put on the agenda for the following meeting. If time is an issue, a special meeting may be called at the discretion of the executive.

Suspensions

Any parent/coach failing to comply with the Consort Minor Ball Association constitution will be sent a letter by the minor ball board, stating the boards concerns and their wishes for the parent/coach to follow. Failure to comply with CMBA requests will result in the issue being forwarded onto the Zone Chairperson

of Baseball Alberta/Softball Alberta for resolution, which could result in a suspension or termination from their position on the team.

Any player failing to comply with the coaches' instructions or is jeopardizing the safety or wellbeing of others within Consort Minor Ball Association will receive a letter from the board stating their concerns and actions to be taken. Failure to comply with the warning shall result in the issue being forwarded to the attention of Baseball Alberta/Softball Alberta chairperson, which could result in a suspension or termination from the team.

The discretion of all suspensions within our Minor Ball Association are those of the CMBA.

Appeals

Any coach, parent, or player wishing to appeal the decision made by the CMBA, may address the board for further resolution. If not resolved, the matter will be taken to Baseball Alberta/Softball Alberta chairperson for resolution.

If the coach, parent or player still feels the decision is not correct, they may choose to address the Alberta governing bodies, which include: Baseball Alberta and Softball Alberta.

Player Releases

Consort Minor Ball Association will only grant releases if there's no team to play on or if the player wishes to pursue higher level of ball.

Selection of Coaches

Any coaches wanting to coach in the upcoming season can register through the RAMP registration platform.

Immediately after registration, if two or more coaches apply, parents will vote for the coach of their choice through a secret ballot. One vote per registered child is allowed. Each coach will be given the opportunity to make a presentation prior to voting and will have to leave the room during the voting process.

Two Consort Minor Ball Board members shall be present to count the ballots.

Should there be a tie a re-vote shall be granted. If a tie remains after this process has been done twice, CMBA will make the decision.

If three or more coaches are involved, one coach must receive 50% of the votes to be declared the successful candidate. If there's not a 50% majority vote for a coach, the third place coach shall be dropped from the voting procedure and a re-vote will take place with the top two coaches involved. If there is a tie remaining at this point, follow the voting procedure listed in the above paragraph.

The committee can give coaches names of those individuals interested in assisting the head coach. The head coach can choose their own assistants and managers from the names provided or choose their own assistants. Assistants and managers however are subject to CMBA approval.

Every coach, assistant, trainer, manager...etc. will be subject to a vulnerable sector check.

All coaches are subject to review from previous years coach evaluations.

Player Movement

Any player/parent wishing for a player to play at a lower or higher age category in the current season must apply in writing to CMBA by the end of February. Consort Minor Ball has to follow Softball Alberta and Baseball Alberta player movement rules and regulations when it applies.

The minor ball board will make a recommendation after taking into account the following criteria:

- Numbers for both teams
- Skill level
- Best for the child
- Best for the family
- Best for both teams
- Coaches' recommendation

The final decision will rest with the Consort Minor Ball Association.

Team Splitting/ Evaluations

The CMBA will proceed with team formation/splitting based on the following criteria:

1. Upon approval of Consort Minor Ball, current coaches with a board representative will perform team splitting based on the following criteria for U9 and below:
 - Equality of skill
 - Best for family
 - Previous and current coaching recommendations
 - Parental commitment
2. Teams U11 and above can submit an application for tiered/tournament teams to host an evaluation camp. When team splitting is necessary Consort Minor Ball will seek out evaluators who have no influence and remain non-biased. CMBA aims to form teams of 12 players with CMBA registrants having a guaranteed place to play. Active recruitment of players will be carried out if

numbers aren't in favor of making full rosters for team(s) formation. All teams will be formed based on player evaluation and two coaches picks.

Late Registrations

If you register after February 24, 2023 for U11 and up you are required to pay a late fee of \$100.

Late registrants will be reviewed by CMBA with the players best interest taken into consideration when providing the opportunity to play ball.

If late registrants pay their fees prior to a team who's having try outs then they're able to take in try outs.

Minor Ball Officials

Whenever possible, all games will be officiated by qualified local officials. Officiating/training clinics will be sponsored by CMBA to ensure their's qualified officials in our area. CMBA will pay for any individual seeking out umpire certification/training.

Payments for both home plate and base umpires will be set at a flat fee each season according to Baseball/Softball Alberta fees for U11 and up.

Coaches/Managers can be responsible for finding their own officials for all home games. The Recreation Director will assist in lining up qualified officials.

Uniforms

1. Jersey Policy

This policy is to formalize practices in place regarding the retention and use of game jerseys owned by the Consort Minor Ball Association.

- All jerseys remain the property of CMBA
- CMBA issued jerseys must be worn for all games.
- CMBA board members will issue the appropriate number of jerseys to each team.
- Jerseys will be assigned to players by the coach/manager who will file a copy of player names and jersey numbers to the CMBA.
- At the end of the playing season a team official can collect all jerseys and return them to the CMBA.
- Any alteration to jerseys is prohibited. A \$50 fee will be applied if a jersey doesn't come back or is returned damaged.

2. Apparel

All minor ball players will be required to purchase pants, socks, belts, helmets, and hats to match their uniform; Consort Minor ball will try to offer local options.

The philosophy behind the same colors for each team is to give our community identity and to ensure all players regardless of size, shape and age, the opportunity to wear the same color of uniform as their team members.

Provincial Participation

Coaches are to have a meeting with their players and parents prior to entering tournament/provincial play.

Teams must go with their registered players. If a team makes it to provincials after zones, they are allowed to pick up two (2) players of their own discretion- following softball and baseball alberta's regulations.

CMBA encourages coaches to use their entire roster as much as possible during league play along with following softball/baseball alberta guideline for fair play when it applies. Again, Consort Minor Ball Association will actively pursue alternate opportunities for players when there is no provincial team available.

Hosting Provincials

When a team is considering to host provincials/zones/tournaments a meeting involving the parents must be held. Parents will then be able to decide if they are able to fulfill the commitments required to host the event.

Should a provincial tournament be held in our community, all members of the CMBA may be called upon to help in some manner.

Minor Ball and Soccer Pictures

All pictures will be taken on a yearly basis from a photography company decided upon by CMBA.

Coaches/Parent Meeting

Coaches must have a parent meeting at the first of the season to discuss various things such as: number of games, coaching philosophy, playing time (Baseball/softball alberta guidelines will be followed), hosting tournaments etc. At this meeting coaches MUST go through the Consort Minor Ball Constitution with the parents. CMB will provide coaches with the constitution and league handbook.

Coaches/Manager Meeting

A mandatory coach/manager meeting will be held at the beginning of the season. Member or members of the CMBA will be present. This meeting will cover regulations in CMBA Constitution that need to be followed by teams and a copy of the constitution will be given to each coach.

Voting

When voting is necessary within the Consort Minor Ball Association, there will be one vote per registered child.

Arising Issues Re: Ball and Softball

Consort Minor Ball Association will make the final decision on the following:

- In the association, where we have over the required number to make up a team (in accordance with Baseball Alberta and Softball Alberta) the board will decide on whether one or two teams will be formed.
- Any decision that the Consort Minor Ball Association feels needs to be handled at the board level.

Parents are encouraged to attend Consort Minor Ball meetings and provide input for the board.

Traveling

Any vehicle used to transport Consort Minor Ball participants must have at least one parent/guardian in the vehicle traveling to and from away games. This includes travel during tournaments and/or overnight multigame road trips.

Destruction of Property/Disturbances

The Consort Minor Ball Board shall not be held financially responsible for actions of destruction or disturbances caused by Consort Minor Ball teams. Financial responsibility will fall on parents and/or coaches of the team.

Tournaments Guidelines

All requests for funding will be sent to the Consort Minor Ball Association for review on the following criteria:

- Assistance with Minor ball fundraising
- Assistance with Minor ball sports day

Equipment Guidelines

Major equipment required for particular recreational activity, will be supplied by Consort Minor Ball Board. This equipment will include:

- a) Catchers Equipment
 - Catchers shin pads and chest protectors
 - Catcher's mask and throat protectors
- b) Bats and Balls (practice and game balls)
- c) Uniforms (jerseys)
- d) Bases
- e) First Aid Kits (any items used will be replaced at Consort Minor Ball expense)

Player Practices

Minor Ball players are to practice with their own age group. An exception to this rule is if a team has a affiliated player(s) with the younger age group. At this point the player(s) can be brought up for practices. Older players may be asked to practice with a younger team, however, they must be used in an assistant's role.

Team Wind-ups

Team Ball windups will be at the expense of each individual team.

Provincial Recognition

If a team wins their zone or are provincial champions a picture will be purchased and hung in the arena.

Banners

Banners for Minor Ball shall be purchased for those teams that: win their zone, are provincial finalists, provincial champions, or hosted a provincial tournament.

The following are the colors of the banners for each of these accomplishments:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| a) White on Blue | Provincial Finalists |
| a) Black on Gold | Provincial Champions |
| b) Black on White | Provincial Hosts |
| c) White on Green | Provincial Bronze |