



BASEBALL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Minor Player Eligibility and Transfer Rules

Minor Player Eligibility

For all age divisions, in order to be eligible for provincials, a player(s) must be a resident of Newfoundland and Labrador (city, town or village) before June 1st of the current playing season. It is the responsibility of the registering association to ensure the requirements outlined in this part are fulfilled. Extenuating circumstances will be considered upon appeal to the Executive Director of Baseball NL. The eligibility criteria is as follows:

- a) The parent's usual residence when parents live in the same house, or if one of the parents is deceased, the usual residence of the surviving parent as of June 1st of the current calendar year.
- b) In cases where parents do not live in the same residence, the athlete shall choose which residence they wish to use as their usual residence.
- c) When legal custody has been granted to a third person, the usual residence of that person (in which case there must be a Court order or other lawful proof of guardianship) as of June 1st of the current calendar year.

Residence shall be established and supported by documents dated on or in force between January 1st and June 1st of the current year, from three or more of the following categories to determine residency of such parent(s) or guardian. **These documents only need to be produced in the event of a dispute.** Baseball NL can be consulted should a dispute occur.

Acceptable documentation to confirm residency can include:

- a) Property Tax Assessment
- b) Current utility statement or credit card statement (i.e. gas, electric, water, phone)
- c) NL Driver's License
- d) Rental agreement or bill of purchase of new residence
- e) Voter's Registration
- f) Child Care Records
- g) Local (municipal) Records
- h) Insurance Documents
- i) Internet, Cable, or Satellite Records xi. Vehicle Records
- j) Financial Records (loan, credit, investments, etc.)

If there is no association in the City, Town or Village that a player resides, the player must register in the next closest association that there is a team that will play at provincials for their **age group**. If an interested player or association is unsure where that player should register, the Baseball NL office can make a determination for them. **This must be completed on a yearly basis.**

Any disputes regarding determination of boundaries between associations and player eligibility will be made by the Baseball NL Executive.

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Players who are a Baseball NL registered member of an association and who wish to play competitive baseball and/or have played competitive baseball for their current association, are therefore required to play for or tryout for their own association's competitive teams. If that player is not successful in making any all-star team in their association, they cannot try out for another association.

Player "Loaning"

In the event an association does not have enough players to field a complete team in a particular age division, they are permitted to add players from a neighbouring association to their team, so long as:

- The player(s) being loaned tried out for all-star in their home association and were not selected for a team at any level. If a player was selected for all-star at any skill level, they **are not** permitted to leave their home association's all-star team to play for another centre at a higher level.
 - o EXAMPLE: "Player A" makes 15U A in St. John's. They cannot leave St. John's 15U A to play 15U AA with CBN
- The player(s) being loaned are of the same age division in which they will be playing (associations are not permitted to add players from another association from a younger age division in order to fill out a roster in an older age division).
 - o EXAMPLE: "Player A" is 11U AA in Pasadena. They are not permitted to play 13U AA in Corner Brook

If a player is "loaned" to an association, this **does not** count as a release and **does not** start the three-year application process for player transfers (see below for more information).

The process for loaning players must be handled at the association level, with both associations agreeing on the players being loaned. Once this agreement is made, communication is to be sent to the Baseball NL office notifying of the agreement in place. Upon receipt of this request, Baseball NL will confirm the information (including whether or not the players are eligible and the above guidelines have been followed). Baseball NL reserves the right to deny this request should it be learned that there is a violation of the above guidelines.

Player Transfer Rules

An official release is required from the president of the association where the player resides, if the player is accepted to try out for a competitive level offered in another association, and the level is equal to the competitive level being offered in the player's current association.

The release process is as follows:

1. The player/parent requesting the release must draft a letter to the regional BNL representative (either Metro, Eastern, Central or Western). This letter must include: player contact info, birth date, location, reason for requesting release.
2. The Baseball NL Regional Director will contact both presidents of each association to discuss the release. For the release to occur, both presidents must be in agreement. This discussion is confidential and cannot be discussed outside of these 3 individuals, with the

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exception of other Baseball NL staff or executive members. In the case that any of these parties disclose any information discussed, they can be liable to be fined.

3. Once a decision has been determined, a Baseball NL representative will contact the player/parent with the decision. There does not need to be an explanation provided.

There will be no appeal process.

Transfers must be requested by May 1st for that calendar year.

- **For 2021 ONLY, this deadline will be extended to June 15th**

Notes & Exceptions:

- Each release is valid only for that season. For example, if a player seeks a release in the spring of 2021, they are only eligible to play for the new association during 2021 and must reapply (should they wish) for the 2022 season.
- If a player has been released and played with the same association for 3 years consecutively, they then become property of the new association permanently **following** the conclusion of the third year and no longer have to seek a release.
- Any player that has been released prior to 2021 will be grandfathered in for the rest of their minor playing career.

If there are extenuating circumstances, whereby a player is required to move and reside outside their current association, the Baseball NL Executive may permit a player to be eligible to play with another team within the province, pending acceptance of an official Release form.