



## SOFTBALL MANITOBA

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June 1, 2020

### OFFICIALS NEWS – Mechanics and Positioning Memo

**League President's** - Please note and Notify your teams.

It has been decided that for all regular season games at all levels of fastpitch the plate umpire will be calling balls and strikes, behind the pitcher's mound. Foul balls down the line the umpires will be asked to hustle to the line get an angle and make the call to the best of their abilities.

### RATIONALE ON UMPIRE POSITIONING TRANSFORMATION

1. This will make it easier for umpires to maintain physical distancing for the duration of the game.
2. To be consistent and fair to all teams this is the best way to proceed for the regular season and the UDC will revisit plate mechanics for Provincial Championships if health restrictions permit us to change.
3. In the case of MLSSL Doubleheader's, two umpire system, both in base gear, eliminates the umpires going to the parking lot or change rooms to change, as it is asked that all participants arrive to the diamond dressed and ready for the game. This will also speed up the time between games as the umpires will not have to leave the diamond.

### 2020 OFFICIALS CLINIC SEASON

The Umpire Development Committee will not be offering any clinics for new umpires this year. With potential dip in Registration (Decline in teams for 2020) - we were worried of umpires registering and not getting to umpire any games. In the case that Team Registrations increases considerably – a Clinic will be reexamined.

Let's Play Ball!

Frank Fargey  
Provincial Umpire in Chief  
Softball Manitoba



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