



## Nose Creek Softball Player Evaluation and Team Selection Process

### General:

Teams will be formed based on the number of registrants and talent level within the respective groups. The groups are defined as U10, U12, U14, U16, and U19. Within each group, teams will compete in the following divisions in league play: "Premiere", "Div. 1", "Div. 2", and "Div. 3" If numbers permit, there will be one or more teams of each group competing at each level of league play.

The level at which each team competes will be determined by the Nose Creek coaches with the approval of the Nose Creek Softball Association's president. The intent is to place the teams in the level of league and provincial play that will offer the players the most positive season experience.

Players on the "Premiere" teams will require a higher level of commitment and will likely practice more often, play tougher competition, attend more out-of-town tournaments and may incur additional costs. Players will be required to determine if they would like to be evaluated for the "Premiere" teams at the time of registration.

If a player wishes to be evaluated for a level of ball and is successful, they are obligated to play on that team for the duration of that season. Only in special circumstances, as reviewed and approved by the board, will players be allowed to change teams.

### **Players are eligible subject to the following criteria:**

- Residents of Nose Creek Softball Association Boundaries.
- Approved Player Transfer/Release.
  - Nose Creek Softball Association encourages players to remain in their own district associations in an attempt to maintain the quality of those programs. However, our association will also recognize, on an individual basis, any athletes who cannot find a competitive challenge in their community by giving them an opportunity to participate in our evaluation and selection process if released or transferred.
- Have paid all applicable fees – past and current.
- Have filled out all required forms, including registration and/or any signed waivers and commitment forms.
- Must meet age guidelines for the age group.



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### Formation of Teams:

The association believes that rosters beyond or below a certain number are not in the best interest of overall player development.

- The association proposes rosters for teams be set at 12 players unless approved by the Board of Directors.
  - Coaches may request additional players to address certain situations.
- The association will not operate a team with less than **10 players** on their roster.
- U10 teams will not be held to these numbers.
  - These team roster sizes are generally kept at 7 or 8 players.

The formation of teams will be based upon the number of eligible players, talent and commitment level and will be based on the following guidelines:

- U10 – One “Premiere” team and one or more evenly split teams.
  - Teams may be combined to form a team for Provincial purposes (Requires 9 players to field a team)
- U12 – One “Premiere” team with one or more “B” and or “C/D” teams.
- U14 – One “Premiere” team with one or more “B” and or “C/D” teams.
- U16 – One or two “Premiere” team(s) with one or more “B” and or “C/D” teams.
- U19 - One “Premiere” team with one or more “B” and or “C/D” teams.



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### 1. Evaluation Process:

Evaluations will be held at the beginning of each season based on the registrations received. Registration will define the number of eligible players that will form teams for the upcoming season. If a player registers late, it is at the discretion of the executives as to whether they are allowed to be evaluated and/or placed on a team.

The Player Evaluation process is mandatory. The following guidelines will help to provide a consistent policy to respond to situations that may arise.

- 1.1 If a potential player has missed the registration deadline, the following guidelines will be used to determine the appropriate action:
  - If evaluations have not yet occurred, the player can proceed with scheduled evaluations and be placed on the appropriate team.
- 1.2 For a player wishing to be evaluated for the “Premiere” team but was unable to attend scheduled evaluations, the following guideline will be used to determine the appropriate action:
  - The coach of the “Premiere” team has the option of evaluating the player that has missed the scheduled evaluations, but is not required to do so.
  - Players that have gone through the evaluation process and have been placed on the “Premiere” team will not be displaced.
  - If the new player is evaluated by the coach of the “Premiere” team and meets the requirements for the team, they will be added to the team and the team roster will be increased by one.
- 1.3 For other players who missed evaluations and teams have been formed, the player may join a team if:
  - There is room on a roster the player may be placed on a team at the discretion of the board.
  - The player will not be granted an evaluation and will be placed on a team that requires a player.
  - The player will be asked to pay the late registration fee, plus all other fees due at that time.



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- 1.4 Evaluations will be done using the Association’s Player Evaluation forms. Evaluation scores are to be kept confidential. No coach or member of the evaluation committee is permitted to share this information with individuals outside the evaluation process. This is intended to reduce gossip, contention or hard feelings within the player and parent community.
- 1.5 Players must identify their intentions with respect to the following items prior to the beginning of evaluations.
- Is the player being evaluated for a “Premier” level team?
  - Is the player being evaluated for a Pitcher and/or Catcher position?

NOTE: If a player wishes to be evaluated for a level of ball and is successful, they are obligated to remain on that team for the duration of that season. Only in special circumstances, as reviewed and approved by the board, will players be allowed to change teams.

- 1.6 All players will be evaluated for their overall skills and abilities as ball players. Individuals that choose to be evaluated for a Pitcher and/or Catcher positions will receive separate scores with respect to these positions.
- Players will be evaluated in two sessions. The best score from those two sessions will be used to determine an evaluation score for that player.
- 1.7 The evaluation of each group of players will be performed by individuals who meet the following guidelines:
- Evaluators must be competent in the game of softball.
  - Evaluators are not allowed to have a child or sibling in the group of players being evaluated.
  - Evaluators must be approved by the President of Nose Creek Softball.
  - Evaluators must provide for fair and consistent evaluations of players within the group.



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### 2. During the Evaluations:

- 2.1 Evaluation drills will be organized by the evaluation committee to allow players to demonstrate their skills in each of the evaluated areas. Evaluators will be provided with the opportunity to observe each of the players and provide a score that best represents their individual abilities.
- To provide the best evaluation experience for players and evaluators, the following should be considered:
  - Groups should be balanced with talent and ability.
  - Players should be transferred between groups while in evaluations to allow for consistent scoring.
  - If a player is compromised due to the level of play in a particular evaluation group, the player should be moved to an appropriate group.

### 3. Team Formation Process:

- 3.1 The evaluation committee will collect the score sheets prepared by the evaluators and review them for completeness and accuracy. The evaluation committee will place the top-evaluated players in each group and create a suggested number of teams.
- If there is a **tie** in the evaluation scores for the last available position placed by the evaluation committee, they will be considered to be **not** in the placed group.
- 3.2 The selection committee may request/encourage top ranked players who have not been selected as starting pitchers/catchers, to move to a lower division to ensure pitching/catching talent in the lower divisions. This would allow developing pitchers/catchers the opportunity for more playing time to improve their skills.
- 3.3 In a situation where an individual makes a team on their overall softball skills, but their Catcher/Pitcher evaluation scores indicate that the player would **not** receive much playing time at those positions; the player will be consulted to determine the following:
- Is the player content with playing other positions and remaining on the team at the evaluated level of play (may receive little opportunity to pitch or catch) .
  - Is the player willing to join a lower level of ball where they would get lots of opportunity to play at the Pitcher and/or Catcher position and thus be able to develop those skills to a greater extent.



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- 3.4 Previous years evaluations can be referenced to support decision making as required. However, the intent is to use the data collected during evaluations for the vast majority of decision making.
- 3.5 Following the evaluation committee placing the top-evaluated players into each team, coaches may mutually agree to exchange players for special circumstances. These players should be of equal skill and ability to ensure the teams remain competitive.

### 4. Notification of Teams:

- 4.1 The team coach will contact each player on their team to gain their commitment to the team. If changes need to be made to teams based on an unwillingness of the player or family to commit to the team schedule, the coach should inform the evaluation committee and/or the President of Nose Creek Softball so players can be re-assigned.
- 4.2 When the team formation process is complete, players will be emailed their team information, which will include who their coaches will be.

### 5. Resolving or Addressing Concerns:

- 5.1 Nose Creek Softball as well as the evaluators, coaches and volunteers spend considerable time and effort into making the evaluation and selection process as professional and unbiased as possible.
  - The evaluation committee's decisions are final.
  - If further clarification is required, a discussion can be scheduled with the President or the evaluation committee.
- 5.2 Often problems are the result of a misunderstanding or failure to identify expectations. We expect that coaches, players and parents can be reasonable and considerate in approaching problems and work with the understanding that no one intends any ill will.
- 5.3 With respect to the evaluation process, the following should be considered:
  - Individuals should strive to support the evaluation process to allow for competitive teams that will enjoy a successful ball season.
  - Issues with the evaluation and team selection process should be presented with suggestions for improvement to the evaluation committee.



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- 5.4 As the Evaluation and Team Selection Process is a Policy with Nose Creek Softball, any changes must be reviewed and approved by the board.
  
- 5.5 The objective of the evaluation process is to ensure that all players are correctly placed on the appropriate team. Special circumstances, which fall outside the normal process, can be brought forward to the Board of Directors for their review.
  
- 5.6 In the event that a player/parent does not agree with the team placement, a reevaluation of the player in question will be considered at a cost to the player/parent.