



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

**Bulletin #:** I-2023-005

**Date:** April 3, 2023

**To:** Minor Association Presidents

**From:** Lavaughn Larson, Minor Director  
Al Groff, Men's and Women's Director  
Susan Strafford, Provincial Umpire in Chief

**Copies:** Softball BC Members, Board of Directors, Staff

**Subject:** Umpire Communication and Culture Program Launch

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## “YOUR SPACE – OUR SPACE”

We are excited to announce an initiative aimed at redefining the safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all Softball BC Umpires.

Umpires, Coaches, Players, Parents and Spectators (**POWER<sup>5</sup>**) all share the diamond during a game, and everyone in this group are key to creating a safe environment within our sport. With participation comes responsibility for all interaction that takes place around the game, especially towards the umpires. Softball BC has initiated this pilot project to communicate how the **POWER<sup>5</sup>** can work together on the diamond to eliminate negative comments toward umpires from the dugout or the crowd.

The pilot project focuses on a commitment by all coaches to acknowledge and adhere to the Softball BC Code of Conduct, and to work in partnership with umpires to ensure that any deviation from these expectations is addressed and curtailed by way of a joint effort, using the **POWER<sup>5</sup>**.

The pilot project will have two phases, targeting the U11, U13C and Slo Pitch teams in 2023, with full implementation across all ages and categories in 2024.

### **We are asking for your assistance with the following:**

- Beginning this week, all Associations will receive a link to a Coach Agreement which is to be shared with all their U11 and U13C coaches so that they can complete the short agreement electronically.
- Copies of completed agreements will be sent automatically to the appropriate Association Presidents and Softball BC:
  - o For a team roster to be approved by Softball BC all registered coaches must have completed the agreement

Also note that an electronic order form has been sent to all DUIC's to place their order for one Conference Card per each umpire within their District. This card will be used by umpires to outline the expectations of both coaches at all U11 and U13C plate conferences. While we recognize not all





umpires officiate U11 and U13C games, this will be a great way to spread the word and get our members talking about the pilot project.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance with this project. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Terri Boizard at [tboizard@softball.bc.ca](mailto:tboizard@softball.bc.ca).

