



2023 Umpire Handbook



Softball Manitoba Umpires



@softball_mb_umpires

Softball Manitoba Structure

Executive Director

Administrative Coordinator

Program Coordinator

Executive Board

Board of Directors

Officials Division

Provincial UIC

Deputy UIC

UDC Members

Zone UICs

Umpires

A Message from the Provincial UIC

Dear Umpires,

The 2023 season is upon us. This handbook is designed to provide you with information to have a successful year. You will find contacts for your zone UIC, UDC members as well as information on what to expect if you travel or work a provincial championship.

I wish you all the best this season. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your zone UIC or myself throughout the season if you have any questions.

Play Ball!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Fargey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Frank Fargey

Table of Contents

Contacts	<i>Page 5</i>
UDC/UIC Responsibilities	<i>Page 6</i>
Provincial/Western UIC Responsibilities	<i>Page 7</i>
UDC/UIC Timelines	<i>Page 8</i>
Code of Ethics	<i>Page 9</i>
Zero Tolerance Policy	<i>Page 10</i>
Social Media Policy	<i>Page 11</i>
Mentorship Program	<i>Page 12</i>
Umpire Certification	<i>Page 13-14</i>
Travelling Umpires	<i>Pages 15-16</i>
Awards and Recognition	<i>Pages 16-20</i>
Blue Convention	<i>Page 21</i>

Appendices- Page 22

Bat Certification
 Incident Report
 Insurance Policy
 Travel Permits
 Competition Calendar
 NOCP Certification

Contacts

Umpire Development Committee

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Zone UICs

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Bruce Luebke <i>Westman</i>	luber@mymts.net	204-730-2142
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Responsibility Overview

Provincial UIC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Liaison with Softball Manitoba ✓ Chair UDC meetings ✓ Member of the executive committee/attend meetings ✓ Member of the board committee/attend meetings ✓ Attend Softball Canada Congress AGM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Finalize Canadian Championship umpire assignments ✓ Finalize Western Canadian Championship umpire assignments ✓ Finalize spring clinic dates, clinicians and locations ✓ Finalize budget ✓ Approve expenses
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Umpire Development Committee

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Attend UDC meetings (a minimum of five per calendar year). ✓ Supervise Provincial Championships and evaluate working umpires. ✓ Provide input into the selection process of travelling umpires to Canadian, Western Championships and other special events. ✓ Provide input into the selection of Wayne Deschouwer Umpire of the Year. ✓ Chair or be part of at least one sub-committee. ✓ Set annual spring clinic dates and select clinicians. ✓ Coordinate fundraising efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promote recruitment and retention of umpires. ✓ Attend Fall and Spring meetings with Zone UIC/DUIC's. ✓ Provide input into the selection process for UIC and DUICs for Provincial and Western Canadian Championships. ✓ Promote Blue Convention. ✓ Submit year-end reports on committee activities. ✓ Coordinate the Mentorship Program. ✓ Liaison with Zone UIC/DUIC's. ✓ Promote Zero Tolerance. ✓ Rule changes.
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Zone UIC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Submit names for Umpire of the Year ✓ Submit names for year-end recognition ✓ Submit recommendations for advancement ✓ Help promote and coordinate spring clinic dates, clinicians and locations ✓ Provide UIC for area provincial championships ✓ Recruitment and retention of officials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mentoring ✓ Provide evaluations ✓ Dispute resolution ✓ Attend league meetings where possible ✓ Submit a year-end report to UDC ✓ Work with local UIC's ✓ Report problems to the UDC ✓ Promote Zero Tolerance ✓ Submit year-end report
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League UIC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Work closely with Zone UIC/DUIC ✓ Attend league meetings ✓ Support working officials ✓ Mentor and evaluate ✓ Recruit new officials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provide league rules to umpires ✓ Promote Zero Tolerance ✓ Report problems to Zone UIC
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Provincial & Western UIC Responsibilities

Pre-Championship

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Confirm the site, date, number of diamonds and schedule for the tournament. ✓ Contact the host chairperson regarding the change room and refreshment arrangements. ✓ Confirm umpires. 	<p><i>For Western Canadian Championships Only:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirm accommodations for out of town officials with the <u>Host Committee</u>. 2. Collect fees for all umpires from the <u>Host Committee</u>. 3. Receive honorarium from Softball Manitoba.
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During Championship

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Check diamonds for safety and dimensions (base paths, pitching distance). ✓ Meet with the Tournament Director and Host Chairperson to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure the correct size of game balls; Finalize the protest committee; Confirm refreshments for working officials. ✓ Attend the pre-tournament meeting with the Tournament Director and Chairperson to clarify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ground rules; number and nature of infield practices; procedures to be employed when removing illegal bats or helmets from the game; Run-ahead rule; Line-up card procedures; Protests. ✓ Assign games throughout the tournament using the Horizon app. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ If you choose to assign with paper, ensure you keep accurate records of all games worked by each umpire during each day of the tournament. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Meet with the umpires before the first game. Review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the discussion at the coach's meeting; points of emphasis for the tournament (interference/obstruction; pitching etc.); agreements made with the host surrounding refreshments, dressing rooms etc.; opening day assignments. ✓ Complete and review evaluations with the umpires. ✓ Support the Tournament Director to ensure the smooth running of the tournament, especially with regards to inclement weather. ✓ Continue to confer with my officials and support their safety concerns.
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Post Championship

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Return all used/unused softballs. ✓ Submit a tournament report to Softball Manitoba. ✓ Submit mileage claims for eligible officials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ If significant problems occur, a written report must be submitted to the Provincial UIC and the Softball Manitoba office.
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Timelines

UDC Timelines

January- Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinic dates set Travel Application Package sent out. 	June/July/August- No meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travelling Umpire Evaluations MLSSL Regular Season and Tournament Provincial, Western Canadian and Canadian Championships
February - Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration package including clinic dates sent out. UIC Applications for Provincials/Westerns and travel applications. 	September- Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition information due from Zone UIC's by September 30th
March- Meeting with Zone UICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Softball Manitoba UDC Blue Forum 	October- Meeting with Zone UICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Umpire Appreciation Event
April/May <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level I-V Umpire Clinics and refreshers; exam writing On-Field Season begins 	November/December <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SC Congress Meetings (attended by PUIC) SM Annual General Meeting

Zone UIC Timelines

January/February <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set clinic dates with UDC Encourage officials to apply to officiate at Western Canadian and Softball Canada Championships Application for UIC positions for Provincials and Westerns 	September/October <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit Year-End Report Include names for recognition Meeting with UDC.
March <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-Annual UDC/Zone UIC Meeting 	All Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote volunteering for Fundraising

Umpire Code of Ethics

Fair Play Code:

1. Softball Manitoba has entrusted us to assist them in the development of our youth through athletics. The proper operation of such a process requires that officials be independent, impartial and responsible to the people they serve.
2. An official must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and to the mechanics necessary to carry out enforcement of these rules. They must do so that they may render competent and credible service in a fair and unbiased manner.
3. An official must work with fellow officials and Softball Manitoba in a spirit of harmony and cooperation despite differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points or rules at issue.
4. An official must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the particular interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.
5. An official must consistently uphold the honour and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with the athletes, coaches, administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction.
6. An official is mentally and physically prepared, dresses according to expectations and maintains an appearance that is befitting the importance of the game and Softball Canada's expectations.
7. The official shall avoid the use of tobacco products, drugs, and alcohol at the contest site.
8. Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. An officials' conduct influences the perception of the public toward the specific official and on the profession in general.

Commitment to Players and Coaches

1. I will make sure that every athlete has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of their ability, within the limits of the rules.
2. I will avoid or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of the athletes.
3. I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.
4. I will not permit the intimidation of any athlete either by word or action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, other athletes, spectators or myself.
5. I will be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings toward a team or individual athlete.
6. I accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play, especially with young participants.
7. I will remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.

REGARDING ABUSE OF OFFICIALS

ZERO TOLERANCE

There will be **zero tolerance for abuse of Manitoba Softball Association Officials** during softball games in the Province of Manitoba.

Provincials

The Softball Manitoba delegate and Umpire-in-Chief have the authority to immediately suspend a coach, athlete or fan for a minimum of one game. The suspension will be reviewed immediately by the Protest Committee.

Immediate Ejection and one game suspension (league play)

Immediate action to be taken by the Umpire will be to eject the offending player/coach/team official from the game who will also be suspended for the following game. The offender shall be dealt with by the Umpire-in-Chief of the League and the League President.

Verbal Reporting

The Umpire must verbally report **all instances** of ejection, including **abuse of an official** immediately following the game to the League Umpire-in-Chief. The League Umpire-in-Chief will then inform the League President of the incident.

Written Follow-Up

A written report within 72 hours must follow verbal contact. The written report is sent to the Umpire-in-Chief of the League and copied to the League President, Zone Umpire-in-Chief and Provincial Umpire-in-Chief (or designate).

Result of Actions

The League Umpire-in-Chief will discuss the course of action required with the Umpire and League President to which the offender belongs. The Zone UIC and Provincial UIC will receive copies of the outcome. Repeat offenders will face longer suspensions.

Social Media Policy

Per the Softball Canada/Manitoba Discipline Policy and Code of Conduct, the following social media conduct may be considered minor or major infractions at the discretion of the case manager:



- a) Posting a disrespectful, hateful, insulting, or otherwise negative comment on social media, that is directed at members or at other persons connected with SC and/or other National Federations, the WBSC and related events.
- b) Posting a disparaging or harmful comment on social media, that is directed at SC and/or other National Federations, the WBSC and related events.
- c) Creating or contributing to a Facebook group, webpage, blog, or online forum devoted solely or in part to promoting negative or disparaging remarks or commentary about SC or its reputation and other National Federations, the WBSC and related events
- d) Posting a picture, altered picture, or video on social media that is harmful, disrespectful, insulting, or otherwise offensive, and that is directed at members or at other persons connected with SC and other National Federations, the WBSC and related events.
- e) Any instance of cyber-bullying or cyber-harassment between one member and another member (including a teammate, coach, opponent, volunteer, or official), where incidents of cyber-bullying and cyber-harassment can include but are not limited to the following conduct on any social medium, via text-message, or via email: insults, negative comments, vexatious behaviour, pranks or jokes, threats, posing as another person, spreading rumours or lies, or other harmful behavior
- f) Any instance of bringing the game of softball into disrepute.

Member Responsibilities

1. Members must be aware that their Social Media use may be monitored by Softball Canada or by the Members' provincial/territorial or local softball associations.
2. When using social media, a member must model appropriate behaviour benefitting the Member's status as a member of Softball Manitoba.
3. Removing content from social media after it has been posted (either publicly or privately) does not excuse the Member from being subject to the Softball Canada Discipline Policy.
4. A member who believes that the social media use by another member is inappropriate or may violate Softball Canada's policies and procedures should report the matter to Softball Canada in the manner outlined by the Softball Canada Discipline Policy.
5. All conduct and behaviour occurring on social media may be subject to the Softball Canada Discipline Policy at the discretion of the case manager.

Softball Manitoba also has a social media policy. It can be found at
<https://softball.mb.ca/content/policies>

Mentorship Program

Purpose:

The mentorship program has two main purposes:

1. To provide new officials with guidance and support beyond the basic rule interpretations and mechanics that are offered in the clinic setting.
2. To retain new officials beyond their first year in the program and prepare them for officiating in championship caliber tournaments.

Rationale:

Young umpires consistently drop out of officiating after they encounter situations they are not yet confident in handling- namely negative feedback from coaches, players and parents.

Can I get a mentor?

YES! IF you are a new Softball Manitoba umpire in your first 3 years of the program, you can be provided with a mentor!

Can I be a mentor?

YES! IF you are a veteran umpire who wants to give back to the program, you can sign up to guide and support a new official!

How does it work?

- Mentors will contact their mentees early in the season via a mutually convenient method (phone, text, email).
- Mentors will attend a game in the early stages of the season and provide positive reinforcement and guidance to their mentees. This support will NOT be an evaluation.
- Mentors will attend additional games during the season (as agreed upon with the mentees) and serve as a resource for the mentees to consult with any questions or unique situations they encounter.
- Mentors will keep a log of their activity and provide it to the program coordinator at season's end.

To be a part of the 2023 Mentorship Program contact Al Bruneau.



Umpire Certification Summary

Level 1 Certification

Level 1 certification requires participants to attend a 6 to 8-hour clinic. This clinic will provide both classroom and on-field instruction. Participants must receive a minimum grade of 60% on a written test.

Cost: Under 21 = \$80.00 Over 21 = \$120.00

Level 2 Certification

Level 2 certification requires participants to attend a 6 to 8-hour clinic involving both on-field and classroom instruction. Second-year officials have the option to remain a Level 1 for a second consecutive year or advance to Level 2. Officials will be required to maintain a Level 2 certification for a minimum of two years before advancing to Level 3.

Level 2 officials require a minimum grade of 70% on their Softball Canada exam.

Cost: Under 21 = \$80.00 Over 21 = \$120.00

Level 3 Certification

Officials wanting to attend a Level 3 clinic must either be recommended by a Zone UIC/DUIC or apply directly through the UDC. Applicants to a Level 3 clinic will need a positive evaluation from a recognized evaluator.

Level 3 certification clinics take place every two years. The 12 to 14-hour clinic will be held over at least 2 days and will involve game situations as well as classroom instruction. To obtain a full Level 3 certification, officials must receive a positive evaluation and recommendation (from a recognized evaluator) from a game at the U14AAA level or higher.

Recertification at Level III requires officials to:

- a) Attend a refresher course involving classroom and on-field instruction and write and pass an online exam provided by Softball Canada.

Level 3 officials require a minimum grade of 80% on their Softball Canada exam.

Officials will be required to maintain a Level 3 certification for a minimum of two years before advancing.

Cost: \$145.00

Level 4 Certification

Level 4 is by **invite only** and comes from a positive evaluation at the Provincial, Western or Canadian Level. Recommendations from the local UIC and the UDC of Manitoba are also required.

Level 4 Theory is conducted yearly by Softball Canada. The program is only offered online and requires participants to attend sessions over a 6-week period. An in-person Level 4 clinic also offered in conjunction with the Blue Convention every three years.

To obtain full Level 4 certification, umpires are required to attend a Canadian Championship at the U19 Level or higher and receive a positive evaluation along with a recommendation from the evaluator.

Recertification at Level IV requires officials to:

- a) Attend a refresher course involving classroom and write and pass an online exam provided by Softball Canada.

Level 4 officials require a minimum grade of 85% on their Softball Canada exam.

Cost: \$145.00

Level 5 Certification

Achievement of Level V is through a recommendation by Softball Canada from a Canadian Men's or Women's Championship.

Recertification at Level V requires officials to:

- a) Attend a refresher course and write and pass an online exam provided by Softball Canada.

Level 5 officials require a minimum grade of 90% on their Softball Canada exam.

Cost: \$145.00

Travelling Umpires

Officiating at a Western Canadian

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered with SC in 2021, 2022 and 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full Level 2 or 3 Positive evaluation from 2022
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Officiating at a Canadian Championship

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered with SC in 2021, 2022 and 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full Level 2, 3, 4 or 5 Positive evaluation from 2022
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Umpires must have a complete level 4 to attend

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's FP Men's & Masters FP Men's U23 FP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's SP Women's SP
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UIC at a Provincial or Western

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered with Softball Canada in 2021, 2022 and 2023 A full Level 3 Experience as an official at a Provincial, and Western Canadian or a Canadian Championship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinician experience Completion of Softball Canada's Instructors/Evaluators Course
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Umpires selected to represent Softball Manitoba at Softball Canada or Western Canadian Championships must:

- Officiate at a minimum of one AAA Level Provincial Championship.
- Volunteer at least twice for UDC fundraising events in 2023
- Attend the annual Softball Manitoba Blue Forum or the Softball Canada National Umpire School.
- Complete the Softball Canada exam and receive a passing grade.
- Undergo a criminal record check, if required, for the Championship as outlined by Softball Canada or the WCSA.
- Have the proper uniform elements necessary for the Championship as outlined by Softball Canada or the WCSA.

Fundraising

All umpires are encouraged to support UDC fundraising. The monies raised help to offset the cost of registration and support umpire development across the province.

If you are travelling to a Western or Canadian Championship, you or a representative must volunteer at least twice for UDC fundraising events in 2023.

Even if you aren't attending a Championship, you are encouraged to help fundraise.

Current fundraising options include

- Gate shift(s) at the UDC-hosted Championship(s) (currently the Softball Manitoba U11 A Girls' Championship),
- Umpiring a minimum of two games without a fee at U11 A Girls' Championship,
- Selling a minimum of 25 tickets for any UDC sponsored raffle
- Helping for a day as a liaison at UDC hosted Western Championship.

The UDC may offer other fundraising events during the year.

Contact Mike Klassen for fundraising information.

Fitness Testing Protocol

All candidates attending U19 and above Canadian Championships must complete the WBSC fitness requirements before attending the Championship. Travelling umpires must complete their fitness test by April 30th.

The UDC will be conducting the testing during the Softball Manitoba U19AAA Championship.

Details of the WBSC Softball Umpire Fitness Testing Protocols can be found at <https://softball.ca/programs/umpires/policy>.

UDC Awards

The Umpire Development Committee has established several achievements and awards. Any Softball Manitoba registered umpire can nominate individuals prior to September 30 for:

- 1) The Ellery Scatch Northern Umpire of the Year Award
- 2) The Grassroots Umpire of the Year. Up to 2 awards per region
- 3) The Wayne Deschouwer Umpire of the Year

The UDC also provides recognition when:

- a) A Manitoba registered umpire receives WBSC Certification
- b) A Manitoba registered umpire receives Level 5 Certification
- c) A Manitoba registered umpire receives Full Level 4 Certification
- d) An umpire announces retirement from Softball Manitoba Umpire Program
 - Must have given a minimum of 12 years to the umpiring program.
 - They served in a volunteer officiating position for a minimum of four years.
 - They contributed to umpire development as an instructor, evaluator, and mentor or program developer.
 - Have a high level of officiating ability.
- e) Special Recognition Award
 - To be given to a non-umpire who has made significant contributions to the Softball Manitoba umpiring program.

Home Run Sports Wayne Deschouwer Umpire of the Year

This is the highest honour an umpire in Manitoba can receive.

1. Be a registered umpire in Manitoba.
2. Be a registered and in good standing. Minimum Level 2 certification required.
3. Must have participated as a working official at local league competitions or Provincial Competitions in Manitoba.
4. Must have been involved in assisting with the development of officials at the local or provincial level.

Past Recipients

-2018- Jason Gaudreau

-2019- Reg George

-2020-Rick Knutt

-2022- Brad DeGraeve

Service Milestones



In 2019, Softball Canada introduced a new program to recognize the efforts made by officials across the country. The first Years of Service Milestone Awards were presented at the 2019 Blue Convention in Montreal.

The Umpire Development Committee in pleased to recognize the following Softball Manitoba officials:

25 Year Pin

Al Bruneau	Marvin Hendin
Rob Borys	Bruce Olson
Bill Kellas	Rick Zaretsky
Jim Hyrich	

20 Year Pin

Bruce Luebke

15 Year Pin

Donald R Smith	Craig Brandt
Chicago Dyck	Rick Knutt
Mike Klassen	

10 Year Pin

Terry Brown	Scott Gurr
Val Pelleck	Jordan Guberman
Brad Degaeve	James Nelson

5 Year Pin

Grace Hanson	Mayson McCleod
Akayla Veysey	Mack Walske
Brody Penner	Keenan Yachyshyn
Deanna Henry	Kelsey Forrest
Chantal Girouard	Steven Nay
Jace Guilford	



Canadian Indicator Club

Since 1997, Softball Canada has recognized individuals who have made significant contributions to officiating in the sport. Some of the criteria used to determine nominees to the Indicator Club include:

- 10+ years of service to the umpiring program, including 4+ as a volunteer as an instructor, evaluator, mentor, or program developer.
- high level of officiating ability and a positive role model.
- Tries to become a better umpire through education and training.

2023	2005
Brad DeGraeve	Jim Hyrich
Mike Klassen	Garth Steidl
Tony Kuleza	Bill Whyte
2019	2003
Al Bruneau	Doug Barber
Earl Cheasly	Dave Brandt
	Pat O'Callaghan
2016	2001
Don Adamko	Wayne Griffin
Robert Croteau	Peter Dueck
John Loxton	
2013	1999
Ken Baron	Morris Cesmystruk
Bruce Luebke	Frank Searle
2010	1997
Devin Beaudry	Mike Bobko
Frank Fargey	Keith King
Peter George	
2007	
Wayne Deschower	
Joanne Hodgkinson	
Bruce Jamieson	

Softball Manitoba Hall of Fame



The Manitoba Softball Hall of Fame and Museum preserves the history of the sport in Manitoba. The Hall recognizes individuals, teams and organizations for outstanding achievement or contributions to the game of softball.

Over the years, several inductees with officiating backgrounds have been enshrined.

2020	2009
Charlie Kurtz	Wayne Griffin
2015	2008
Bill Whyte	Peter Dyck
2014	2005
Keith King	Kathleen Penner
2010	2002
Wayne Deschower Eva Peters	Gerry Howard

**Nominations for individuals can be brought forward at any time. Please contact the Softball Manitoba officer with any questions.

Blue Convention



The Blue Convention is a significant event for umpires organized by Softball Canada every three years. Officials of ALL levels, from across Canada (and Internationally), meet to discuss a variety of topics and participate in a series of workshops to learn and improve their umpiring skills.

The event attracts the top presenters from across the country and the world, discussing interesting topics designed to attract both Fast Pitch and Slo-Pitch umpires.

Start planning now to attend and be sure to invite fellow officials along! Workshops are useful for the inexperienced right through to the elite umpire. Guest speakers are always entertaining and informative.

The 2023 Blue Convention will be held April 7-9, 2023. Please plan to attend!

Appendices

BAT CERTIFICATION

Softball Canada recognizes bats certified by both USA Softball and the WBSC for use in Fast Pitch competitions and USA Softball, the WBSC and USSSA for Slo-Pitch play.

FASTPITCH - MALE (UP TO U19) AND FEMALE (ALL LEVELS)

ISF2005 WBSC (New) ASA2000 ASA2004 USA Softball (New)



- Any bat that appears on the WBSC Softball Approved Bat List and has a current ISF certification stamp (2005 only) will be accepted for play at a Softball Canada event or,
- Any bat that appears on the USA Softball Approved Bat List and has an ASA 2000 or 2004 certification stamp will also be accepted for play at a Softball Canada event.
 - The bat must meet the compression standards outlined by the certifying organization and may be tested to ensure they are in the proper range.
 - The bat must still pass a visual inspection per the current Softball Canada rulebook.

FASTPITCH - ADULT MALE (U23 AND ABOVE)

ISF2005 WBSC (New) ASA2000 ASA2004 USA Softball (New) ASA2013 USA Softball (Replacement)



- Any bat that appears on the WBSC Approved Bat List and has a current ISF certification stamp (2005 only) will be accepted for play at a Softball Canada event or,
- Any bat that appears on the USA Softball Approved Bat List and has an ASA 2000, ASA 2004 or ASA 2013 certification stamp will also be accepted for play at a Softball Canada event.
- The bat must meet the compression standards outlined by the certifying organization and may be tested to ensure that they are in the proper range.

- The bat must still pass a visual inspection per the current Softball Canada rulebook.

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SLO-PITCH - (ALL)

Acceptable Certification Stamps:



All other bats are not approved for use. Non-approved bats shall be removed from competition and visibly marked (e.g. tape). Teams should be advised that attempted use during the game will, by rule, result in ejection.

Updated November 2018

- Any bat that appears on the WBSA approved bat list and has a current ISF certification stamp (2005 only) will be accepted for play in Softball Canada competition or,
 - Any bat that appears on the USA Softball Approved Bat List and has an ASA 2000 or ASA 2004 certification stamp will also be accepted for play in Softball Canada competition (*the ASA 2013 certification stamp is no longer accepted for endorsement in Slo-Pitch competition*) or,
 - Any bat that has a new USSSA certification stamp and is not on the USSSA withdrawn/non-compliant list will also be accepted for play in Softball Canada competition.
 - The bat must meet the compression standards outlined by the certifying organization and may be tested to ensure that they are in the proper range.
- The bat must still pass a visual inspection per the current Softball Canada rulebook.

Note: Bats with an ASA 2013 certification stamp may still be eligible for use in Slo-Pitch competition if they are eligible under WBSC (ISF) or USSSA certification.

Ejection Form

Date: _____ **Time:** _____ **Field:** _____

Home Team: _____ **Visiting Team:** _____

League: _____ **Category:** _____

League UIC: _____

Plate Umpire: _____ **Base Umpire:** _____

Individual(s)/Team involved:

Description of the Incident:

Further action requested

☐

No Further action required.

☐

Submitted by:

Date Submitted:

Accident and Liability Insurance

Softball Manitoba umpires are insured through the Liability and Accident Program offered through All Sport Insurance while acting within the scope of your duties.

The general liability coverage is \$5,000,000.00, which pays for your defense as well as any costs found against you.

For further information on insurance and to obtain a copy of the insurance package visit the Softball Manitoba website, <https://www.softball.mb.ca/content/markel-insurance>

Travel Permits

Any team, player, coach, manager or umpire wishing to travel outside of Canada to participate in any softball competition must have a travel permit issued by the Executive Director or Administrative Coordinator.

1. No team, player, coach, manager or official may travel outside of Canada to participate in any softball competition at the same time the team, player, coach, manager or umpire has an obligation to participate in any association sanctioned competition such as a Softball Manitoba Championship.
2. Umpires wishing to travel outside of Canada to participate or officiate in any softball competition must have a travel permit issued by the Official Director (PUIC) or his/her designate.
3. Failure to observe these regulations could result in suspension or other actions.

Lightning Rule

USE THE 30/30 RULE

- Take appropriate shelter when you count 30 seconds or fewer between lightning and thunder.
- Remain sheltered for 30 minutes after the last thunder.

NATIONAL OFFICIALS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Competitive Development Pathway



National Officials Certification Program Level I Certification

Introduction to Umpiring

LEVEL I CLINIC

THEORY

Classroom Session

- Role & Responsibilities
- Dress & Equipment
- Use of the Rule Book
- Basic Rules
- Basics of Game Management

LOCAL



TOTAL
8 hrs
+ Quiz

On-Field Drills

- Positioning (Mechanics)
- 1 and 2 Umpire Systems
- Calling Balls & Strikes
- Calling Safes & Outs
- Applying Basic Rules

PRACTICE



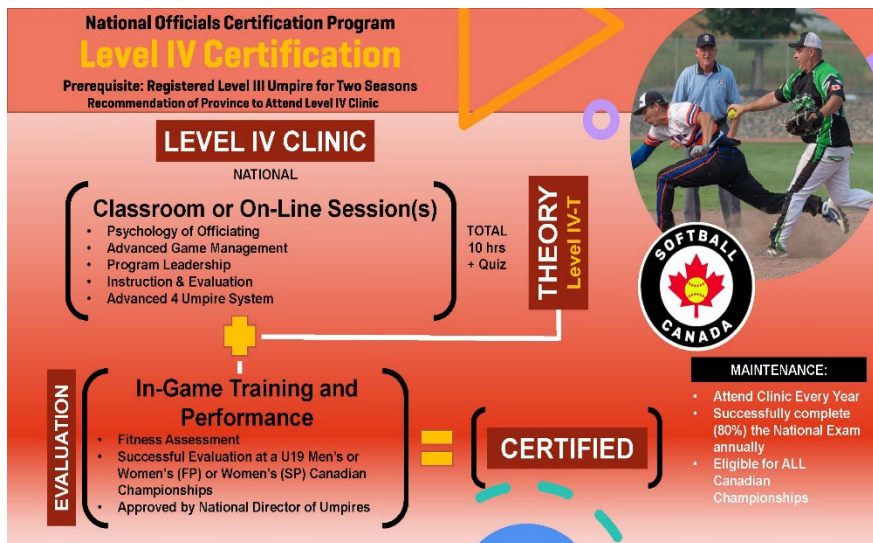
CERTIFIED

In-Game Training & Assessment

- Work Local Games at an Appropriate Level of Competition
- Certified Local Mentors & Evaluators







2023 COMPETITION CALENDAR

2023 FAST PITCH PROVINCIALS			
U111	A Girls	June 23-25	Buhler
	AA Girls	August 18-20	Crystal City
	Open Boys	July 7-9	JBSC
U13	AAA	July 13-16	Fridensfeld
	AA	August 25-27	Brandon
	A	July 7-9	Buhler
	Open Boys	July 7-9	JBSC
U15	AAA	July 27-30	Brandon
	AA	August 25-27	Brandon
	A	July 21-23	Steinbach
	Open Boys	July 7-9	JBSC
U17	AAA	July 27-30	Stonewall
	AA	August 18-20	Crystal City
	A	July 14-16	La Salle
	Open Boys	July 7-9	JBSC
U19	AAA	July 7-9	Portage
	A	July 21-23	Winkler
	Open Boys	July 7-9	JBSC
ADULT	55+ SP	TBD	
2023 WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS			
U13	M	TBD	Alberta
U15	M / F	TBD	British Columbia
U17	M / F	August 17-20	Manitoba
U20/19	M / F	August 4-7	Regina, SK
U23	M/F	TBD	Saskatchewan
OPEN	M / F	August 17-20	Manitoba
Masters	Mens,	TBD	Alberta
2023 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS			
U15	Girls	August 9-13	Brandon, MB
	Boys	August 9-13	Prince Albert, SK
U17	Girls	August 9-13	Saskatoon, SK
	Boys	August 2-6	Fredricton, NB
U19	Women	August 2-6	Langford, BC
U20	Men	August 15-20	Napanee, ON
U23	Women	August 16-20	Montreal, QC
U23	Men	August 2-6	Saskatoon, SK
SENIOR	Women	August 16-20	Montreal, QC
	Men/Mas	August 30-September 3	Surrey, BC
Slo-Pitch	Men & Women	August 13-19	London, ON

JOIN US IN 2023!



APRIL 6-8, 2023

@ THE DELTA HOTEL IN WINNIPEG

The COVID-19 pandemic spoiled our plans for the 2022 Blue Convention, but we're looking forward to hosting umpires from across Canada and the world in April 2023!

All Manitoba umpires are encouraged to attend—more details to follow in the coming months!



@bluecon2022



@Blue Convention 2022





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