



2024 Provincial Championship Guide - Fastpitch

Introduction

This document is a guide with information for 2024 Provincial Championships including deadlines, responsibilities and registration information. All standard rules and regulations are from the Softball Canada Rule Book and Softball New Brunswick (SNB) Minor Special Operating Rules which can be accessed on the SNB website www.softballnb.ca. If you have any questions regarding provincial championships please do not hesitate to contact SNB Technical Director, Cameron Rogers, by email: technicaldirector@softballnb.ca or phone: (902) 219-4797.

Contact Information

The SNB Office is located at the Sport New Brunswick office at 900 Hanwell Road, Suite 31 in Fredericton, NB. SNB has two full-time staff members. Office hours are 8:30am-4:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Title	Name	Email	Phone Number
Executive Director	Hillary Pineau	executivedirector@softballnb.ca	(902) 978-0014
Technical Director	Cameron Rogers	technicaldirector@softballnb.ca	(902) 219-4797

Divisions of Play

Women: Athletes born prior to December 31, 2006

Men: Athletes born prior to December 31, 2006

U23 Women: Athletes born from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2003

U23 Men: Athletes born from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2002

U20 Men: Athletes born from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2006

U19 Women: Athletes born from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2006

U17: Athletes born from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2008

U15: Athletes born from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2010

U13: Athletes born from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012

U11: Athletes born from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014

U9: Athletes born from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016



* Athletes may play up one (1) age category. U17 aged athletes who wish to play in U23, or higher must receive approval by SNB Technical Director.

Official Game Ball, Pitching, and Baseline

Category	Game Ball	Pitching	Baselines
Women's	Red Dot 12"	43'	60'
U20/U23/Men's	K-Master 12"	46'	60'
U19/U23 Women's	Red Dot 12"	43'	60'
U17 Girls	Red Dot 12"	43'	60'
U17 Boys	K-Master 12"	46'	60'
U15 Girls	Red Dot 12"	40'	60'
U15 Boys	K-Master 12"	42'	60'
U13 Girls/Boys	Red Dot 11"	38'	55'
U11 Girls/Boys	Red Dot 11"	35'	50'
U9 Girls/Boys	RIFF 11"	30'	45'

Team Withdrawal Procedure and Refund Policy

- Any team withdrawing from the Provincial Championship must do so prior to the event registration deadline. SNB will retain 25% of the registration fee to cover administrative costs. The registration fee is non-refundable for teams who withdraw after the registration deadline.
- A team that is a "no-show" will not have their tournament registration refunded, they will also be put in bad standing with SNB
- If the tournament is cancelled due to lack of registrations team will be refunded 100% of their registration fee
- If the tournament is cancelled due to weather conditions and a team is NOT able to participate in the make-up date, they will NOT receive a refund of their registration fee



Warm Up Protocol

Teams are permitted to take one, 5 minute full field warm-up prior to their first game of the tournament. If they chose to not take their warm-up prior to their first game, they will not be permitted to take it later in the tournament.

Schedule Times

The tournament supervisor and host chair have the authority (in consultation with coaches and the Umpire in Chief (UIC)) to move games ahead/or move games to a different field than scheduled in order to avoid delays and shorten the length of the tournament day.

- The tournament supervisor, host chair and UIC will be identified on the tournament schedule along with contact information

Format

- Depending on the number of teams, Softball New Brunswick Provincial Championships may be a two-day or three-day tournament. Playoffs may be tiered but full positional play downs will not necessarily be scheduled. The SNB Provincial Championship schedule format and draw templates can be found in the Softball New Brunswick 2024 Handbook. These draws may be adjusted by the SNB Technical Director in conjunction with the Minor Male and Female Coordinators, Tournament Host Chair, Supervisor and UIC as they see fit.

Softball New Brunswick Responsibilities

Administrative

SNB will complete registration of all teams and create the schedule in conjunction with the host based on number of teams, field availability, number of umpires etc.

Supplies

SNB will provide all game balls, lineup cards and scorebooks required.

SNB will provide the following awards and medals:

- Minor:
 - Gold Medals for the winning team
 - Silver Medals for the runner-up team
 - Top Batter Award Plaque



- Top Pitcher Award Plaque
- Tournament MVP Award Plaque
- Adult
 - Championship Plaque for the winning team
 - Top Batter Award Plaque
 - Top Pitcher Award Plaque
 - Tournament MVP Award Plaque

Coaches/Managers Meeting

The purpose of the coaches/managers meeting is to introduce the SNB Representative, Tournament Chair, and Umpire in Chief to the participating teams. A minimum of one (1) representative from each team should be present (Ex. Head Coach). During this meeting, the SNB Representative, Tournament Chair, and Umpire in Chief will do formal introductions, review rosters, tournament rules, facility details (washroom location, canteen, warmup areas, etc.), protests directives, weather policies, umpire information, and coin tosses. This meeting is recommended to be held a few days prior to the beginning of the tournament, via Zoom. A minimum of one (1) week's notice is required with the date/time of the meeting. Below is a recommended agenda for the meeting:

- Welcome
 - Introduce Tournament Executives
 - Softball NB Representative
 - Tournament Host Committee Chair
 - Umpire in Chief
- Review Host Details (parking, canteen, washrooms, player of the games, etc.)
- Identify Protest Committee & Reviewing Protest Process
 - \$250 cash to protest. If a protest is won, the money will be returned. If the protest is lost, the money will not be refunded
- Review tournament schedule
- Team Warm Up Areas
- Rain Delay Procedures
- Tiebreaker Procedure
- Tournament Award Criteria
- Distribute Lineup Cards (To be submitted 30 mins prior to start of game)
- Uniforms & Dugouts
- Umpire in Chief Details
- Review Official Players Lists (OPL)
- Coin Flips



Host Responsibilities

Facility

The host is responsible for securing suitable fields, including backups in case of delays. The host should also have the field ready for the rain date determined by SNB on the Calendar of Events. Fields must be available for Friday night play through until 5:00 pm on Sunday. All costs associated with the fields are the responsibility of the host.

The host is responsible to ensure that the field has proper bases, pitching slabs, and is maintained appropriately throughout the tournament ie. lined and mowed.

The facility must have washroom facilities available for use.

Officials, Scorekeepers and Protests

The host is responsible for providing trained and competent scorekeepers (Game Changer) for each game as well as ball chasers and operational personnel.

If there are not enough qualified officials in the hosting area, the host is responsible for travel, accommodation and meals of the officials

The host must designate one representative to be on the protest committee with the Tournament Supervisor and UIC or designate.

Other

The host is responsible for handing out Player of the Game Prizes after each game and taking a photo.

The host is responsible for identifying one individual as the Tournament Supervisor

Tournament Supervisor Role

The tournament supervisor is responsible for managing all aspects of the tournament on site with support from the SNB Representative and Umpire in Chief. They must remain impartial at all times.

The tournament supervisor should be familiar with all playing rules including Minor Special Operating Rules where applicable. The tournament supervisor and SNB Representative will work together to hold the Coaches/Managers Meeting prior to the beginning of the tournament.



After each game the tournament supervisor must retrieve a copy of the official scoresheet and update game results and standings. Scores, standings and statistics should be updated regularly throughout the tournament and be displayed on a standings board and on relevant social media. After completion of the round robin, the scores and standings should be reviewed before announcing the official Round Robin results.

If a protest is requested by a team, the tournament supervisor will sit on the protest committee led by the SNB Representative.

SNB Representative Role

The SNB Representative is responsible for managing all aspects of the tournament on site with support from the Tournament Supervisor and Umpire in Chief. They must remain impartial at all times.

The SNB Representative is responsible for ensuring all materials (i.e. balls, lineup cards, scoresheets, medals, plaques, sponsor materials, copies of schedules, team registration forms, etc.) are distributed to the Host and Tournament Supervisor.

The SNB Representative should be familiar with all playing rules including Minor Special Operating Rules where applicable. The SNB Representative and tournament supervisor will work together to hold the Coaches/Managers Meeting prior to the beginning of the tournament.

After each game the SNB Representative must retrieve a copy of the official scoresheet and update game results and standings. Scores, standings and statistics should be updated regularly throughout the tournament and be displayed on a standings board and on relevant social media. After completion of the round robin, the scores and standings should be reviewed before announcing the official Round Robin results.

If a protest is requested by a team, the SNB Representative will lead the Protest Committee consisting of themselves, the Tournament Supervisor and Umpire in Chief

The SNB Representative is responsible for presenting medals and individual awards to the respective teams and individuals. The SNB Representative, in conjunction with the Tournament Supervisor will determine the award winners based on the following criteria:

- Top Hitter will be awarded based on all round robin games only.
 - A player must have an average of 2.5 plate appearances per game their team played in the round robin



- Top Hitter will be chosen based on batting average, numbers of hits and on-base percentage (OBP).
- Top Pitcher will be awarded based on all round robin games only
 - A player must have pitched an average of 2.5 innings per game their team played in the round robin
 - Top Pitcher will be chosen based on ERA, WHIP, Hits and Strikeouts.
- Most Valuable Player will be awarded on both round robin and playoff games
- The SNB Representative and Tournament Supervisor have the final say on the award winners

The SNB Representative is responsible for completing the Tournament Report and submitting it to SNB Staff.

Umpire in Chief Role

The role of the Umpire in Chief is to act as the head umpire throughout the duration of the tournament. When possible the Umpire in Chief will not be on-field but will supervise, and evaluate working umpires.

If a protest is requested by a team, the Umpire in Chief will sit on the protest committee led by the SNB Representative. If the Umpire in Chief will be working on the field during the tournament, they will designate an independent individual to sit in their place on the committee, should a protest arise during a game that they are working.