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**NON-SANCTIONED MINOR SOFTBALL POLICY**

**The following policy provides information for participating in non-sanctioned programs and activities during the softball season.**

**Softball Season**

**Softball Saskatchewan defines the softball season as being from April 1st through to the end of August or when a player or coach has completed their commitment to their affiliated association team to the end of the season.**

**Sanctioned Programs**

**Sanctioned softball programs include activities of minor teams (their players and coaches) that are affiliated with Softball Saskatchewan through their local minor softball Association or League.**

**Non-Sanctioned Programs**

**Include activities of teams, leagues, tournaments, or clinics that are not approved or sanctioned by Softball Saskatchewan.**

**Players and Coaches**

**Any players or coaches who wish to participate with a non-sanctioned program or activity within the softball season after April 1st of the current year must complete and submit a Player Release Application Form to Softball Saskatchewan for approval. Included on the release form must be the timeframe the release is being requested for. Player releases must include approval from the Association or League the player or coach is a member of.**

**Softball Saskatchewan Programs**

**Players and coaches wishing to register to participate in Softball Saskatchewan programs such as the Canada Games and Saskatchewan Summer Games must be committed to fulfil their obligations to these programs. Access to these programs is a privilege that is offered to and reserved for the members of Softball Saskatchewan. Players and coaches who do not fulfill their commitments to these programs may be removed or released.**

**Softball Saskatchewan recognizes that players and coaches have the right to make choices in the type of programming they wish to participate, however, Softball Saskatchewan wishes to protect the integrity of the programs we and our members Associations and Leagues provide. As such we have created this Non-Sanctioned Minor Softball Program Policy.**

**Insurance**

**Players and coaches participating in non-sanctioned softball programs and activities are not insured through the Softball Saskatchewan insurance program.**

**Common Questions:**

***1) Can my son or daughter play both Softball Saskatchewan sanctioned and non-sanctioned softball at the same time during the defined softball season?***

No, players must be committed to fulfilling their obligation to their minor softball association and the team they are part of.

***2) If my son or daughter plays an entire softball season of non-sanctioned softball, can they return to Softball Saskatchewan sanctioned softball programs and activities the following softball season?***

Yes, providing their minor softball association accepts the players registration.

***3) Can I coach both a sanctioned softball team and non-sanctioned softball at the same time during the season?***

No, coaches must be committed to fulfilling their obligation to their minor softball association and the team they are part of.

**Updated: January 2023**