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| SOFTBALL SASKATCHEWAN UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE POLICY (Revised Dec. 2024) |

**Section 1: Vision and Goals**

Vision Statement

That the Softball Saskatchewan Umpire Program in partnership with the Softball Canada Umpire Program, local Umpire Associations, and District U.I.C.’s provides leadership in identifying, developing, and promoting officials and programs necessary to effectively service our membership.

Goals

To ensure that quality programs and services are provided in a safe and inclusive environment that is created to address the wants, needs, and development of our members.

To provide quality opportunities and initiatives that will help recruit new and retain existing members.

To provide quality information and instruction to educate all members.

To ensure access to quality growth opportunities by providing consistent and accountable evaluation programs promptly to all members.

To ensure communication is provided on a timely and consistent basis that creates an awareness of programs and services related to umpire recruitment and development.

**Section 2: Umpire Development Committee Structure**

**A. The Umpire Development Committee (UDC) shall consist of one (1) member of the Board of Directors, Umpire-In-Chief and four (4) Deputy Umpire-In-Chiefs. All five (5) Umpire-In-Chief positions are appointed by the Board of Directors.**

**B. The UIC and two Deputy UIC positions will be appointed in even years and the two other Deputy UIC positions will be appointed in odd years. When a vacancy exists the UDC will recommend a replacement to the Board of Directors. The Board may offer existing UIC positions first right of refusal to serve another term.**

**Section 3: Budget**

The budget for the umpire program is prepared by the Umpire Development Committee for submission to the Executive Committee for final approval by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4: District U.I.C**.

* 1. The U.I.C., in consultation with the District Director, shall appoint the respective District U.I.C.
	2. Term of office shall be unlimited.

**Section 5: Registration**

1. Softball Saskatchewan Registration
	1. Attend a Provincial umpire clinic yearly and pay the registration fee set by Softball Saskatchewan. (Must be a registered Softball Saskatchewan Umpire to work Provincial Championships).
	2. Umpires selected for a Western or Canadian Championship must attend an In-Person Umpire Clinic.
	3. *Active Umpires:* An umpire who renews their certification annually and passes all requirements.
	4. The online exam must be completed by July 1st.
2. Registration Fees

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| Under 18 years of age (ALL LEVELS) Born: 2007 or later | **$40.00** |
| Level 1  | **$75.00** |
| Level 2 | **$85.00** |
| Level 3 | **$100.00** |
| Level 4 & 5 | **$105.00** |

**All umpires are registered with Softball Canada and the $20 Softball Canada registration fee is included as part of the above fee.**

1. Certification Levels
	1. Individuals must be a minimum of twelve (12) years of age to register as an umpire.

**Level 1**

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| Pre-requisites | * None
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| Training Requirements | * Attend an umpire clinic annually.
* Obtain 60% or more on the Level 1 Certification Exam.
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| On-field Application | * Officiate local minor or adult softball and Provincials
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| Maintenance | * Write the Softball Canada exam and obtain60% or more
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**Level 2**

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| Pre-requisites  | * Certified Level 1 Umpire for a minimum of one (1)
* Be at least 16 years of age
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| Training Requirements | * Attend an umpire clinic annually.
* Obtain 70% or more on the Level 2 Certification Exam
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| Evaluation | * Receive one (1) successful local or regional evaluation
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| On-field Application | * Officiate at local and provincial level and/or adult softball
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| Maintenance | * Write the Softball Canada exam and obtain 70% or more
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**Level 3**

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| Pre-requisites | * Certified Level 2 umpire for a minimum of two (2) years.
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| Training Requirements | * Attend an umpire clinic
* Obtain 80% or more on the Level 3 Certification Exam
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| Evaluation | * Receive one successful evaluation
 |
| On-field Application | * Officiate provincial minor or adult softball
* Qualified to officiate U19 Women’s fast pitch, U20 Men’s fast pitch and U23 Men’s fastpitch.
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| Maintenance | * Attend a clinic annually
* Write the Softball Canada exam and obtain 80% or more
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**Level 4 – Softball Canada Program**

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| Pre-requisites | * Certified Level 3 umpire for a minimum of two (2) years.
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| Training Requirements | * Receive two (2) successful evaluations by a provincial representative and recommendations forwarded to the UDC.
* Receive a successful Level 4 evaluation at a U20 Men’s, U19 Women’s, or a Masters fastpitch Canadian Championship.
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| Evaluation | * Attend a Softball Canada Level 4 Umpire Theory Clinic.
* Obtain 80% or more on the Level 4 Certification Exam
 |
| On-field Application | * Officiate provincial minor or adult softball.
* Officiate a Canadian Championship
* Receive a successful Level 4 Evaluation
 |
| Maintenance | * Attend a clinic annually.
* Write the Softball Canada Exam and obtain 80% or more.
* Be active in Provincial officiating programs.
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**Level 5**: This program is operated by Softball Canada.

1. Umpires Leaving the system (Levels 1-4): If an umpire does not officiate or register as an umpire for a period of two (2) or more years, they may return to their current level upon approval from the U.I.C. This may only happen once.

**Section 6: Player and Coach Incident/Ejection Reports**

Players and coaches who are ejected from a game or where an incident occurs must be reported. The Incident/Ejection Report is in a fillable format and available on the Softball Saskatchewan website. Incident/Ejection Reports must be completed within three (3) days for any League game, Sanctioned Tournament game, or Provincial Championship game. Incident/Ejection Reports for Association/League games and sanctioned tournaments will be forwarded to Associations/Leagues to be dealt with, all others can be forwarded to Softball Saskatchewan.

**Section 7: Evaluations**

The Softball Saskatchewan Umpire Development Committee will establish an approved list of evaluators to do evaluations.

1. Umpires traveling to Westerns or Canadians are 1st priority.
2. Evaluators will be compensated for the weekend expenses.
3. An honorarium and daily per diem.
4. 0.50/km return mileage.
5. Accommodations will be compensated at actual cost if required.
6. Evaluations are to be distributed as follows:

The umpire being evaluated will receive a copy.

Softball Saskatchewan Office.

The Provincial UIC and the District UIC.

1. The Umpire Development Committee may organize two (2) Evaluation events annually one (1) in the north and one (1) in the south. These events may or may not be done at Provincial Championships. The UDC may assign umpires and evaluators to these events.

**Section 8: Provincial Playoff Assignments**

* 1. The District Umpire-In-Chief will assign umpires to all Provincial Championships. Umpires assigned shall be those who live near the Championship location regardless of which district they live in.
	2. Provincial Championships leading to a Canadian Championship.
		1. Umpires selected to a Canadian Championship MAYbe assigned by the UDC to a Provincial Championship for an evaluation.
		2. The UDC will be responsible for any accommodations and transportation if necessary. Game fees are supplied by the host committee.
		3. The UDC **MAY** assign a qualified evaluator/supervisor to selected Provincial Finals to assess and assist the umpires.
		4. If more umpires are required, the District umpire-in-chief will assign.

**Section 9: Canadian/Western Applications**

1. Umpires may submit their intent to attend a championship the following year to the Executive Director by September 30th.
2. Selections are based on the following:
	1. Umpires are asked to apply progressively; you shall apply for Western Canadians before Canadians
	2. Umpires are eligible to apply for consecutive Westerns or Canadians

**Section 10: Canadian and Western Canadian Championship Selections**

1. The UDC shall select umpires for Canadians and Westerns from the applications received and recommendations from the UDC & District Umpire-In- Chief's, for submission to the Board of Directors for their approval.
2. Umpires working Western Canadian or Canadian Championships shall be required to work Provincial Championships.
3. Umpires may not be selected for all categories of a Canadian or Western Canadian Championship.
4. Umpires selected to work any Western or Canadian Championship MUST attend an Umpire Clinic in the year of the Championship. In the Year that the UDC hosts an Elite Umpire Clinic, this is the clinic that will be attended by all umpires assigned to a Canada Games, Western Canadian, or Canadian Championships.
5. Umpires Selected for a MINOR Canadian Championship must provide a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search by April 15th.
6. **Umpires 18 years of age and under who are selected for an out-of-province championship must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Softball Saskatchewan will pay for ground transportation or for one airfare (umpires) and entire cost of one (1) room accommodation at the championship.**
7. Umpires must demonstrate a substantial connection to working our provincial championships and to their local associations to support their selection to a championship.

**Section 11: Umpiring at Provincials**

1. Provincial Championship assignments:
	1. The District Umpire-in-Chief will assign umpires to all Provincial Championships. Umpires assigned shall be those who live near the championship location, regardless of which district they live in.
	2. The Umpire Development Committee (UDC) MAY assign umpires to Provincial Championships which lead to a National or Western Canadian Championship.
2. Provincial championship umpire fees shall be paid at a rate of:
	1. $40 per game for plate/base umpire in U11 and U13 age categories
	2. **$50 per game for plate/base umpire in all age categories U15 and above.**
	3. If a one (1) umpire system must be used, the umpire fee is $60 per game.

***NOTE****: In addition, $5.00 from every Provincial Championship game will be returned, by the host, to Softball Saskatchewan for future umpire recruitment, retention, and development initiatives upon completion of the championship.*

1. The following expenses shall also be paid to umpires working Provincial Championships who must travel from outside the host center:
	1. Car allowance- $0.50 per kilometre (both ways)
	2. Hotel/ motel allowance- actual costs.
2. All umpire fees and expenses shall be paid for by the host organization and the Association shall not have any responsibilities therein.
3. In all Provincial Championship games, the two (2) umpire system shall be used, unless the three (3) umpire system is requested by the hosting committee. In all U17 A, U19 A & B, U23 A, and Men’s and Women’s A Provincial Championships a three (3) umpire system must be used in the championship final game ONLY.

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| UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE |
| **Umpire In Chief**Bob Clothier RosetownPhone: (306) 948-9216Email: clothierbob@hotmail.com  | **Deputy Umpire in Chief** Moose GibsonMoose JawPhone: (306) 690-9641Email: mjumpire@sasktel.net  |
| **Deputy Umpire in Chief**Guy LafrenierePrince AlbertPhone: (306) 960-7105Email: guylaf10@yahoo.ca  | **Deputy Umpire in Chief** Terrence Schneider WakawPhone: (306) 940-6088Email: slip1@sasktel.net  |
| **Deputy Umpire in Chief** TBA   | **Board Liaison**Mark CarnduffMoose Jaw(306) 694-1972district3@softball.sk.ca  |

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| DISTRICT UMPIRE-IN-CHIEFS |
| **District 1**Wade St. OngeEstevan, SK(306) 370-9873stongewade@hotmail.com | **District 2**Andrew Walker Regina, SK(306) 536-9456Alwalker@sasktel.net  |
| **District 3**Bonnie MillerMoose Jaw, SK(306) 313-8500bonniemiller2268@gmail.com | **District 4**TBA |
| **District 5**TBA | **District 6**TBA |
| **District 7**TBA | **District 8**Jim FlynnPrince Albert, SK(306) 764-8824flynn\_jim@hotmail.com  |

**Provincial Championship Umpire Assigning- Policy**

Softball Saskatchewan annually holds about 30 Provincial Championships throughout the Province. Generally, these Championships are hosted during the month of July with some leading to Western and or Canadian Championships.

It is the responsibility of the UDC through the respective District UIC’s to assign umpires to Championships in their District. However, the UDC may also assign umpire(s) to a Championship for development and evaluation purposes. When assigning umpires to a Provincial Championship please be aware of the following:

1. Priority should be to assign umpires from the host community or nearest to the host community.
2. If umpires are required from outside the host community every effort should be made to assigning umpires that are nearest the host community. If multiple umpires from outside the host community are required and they are from the same centre or close to the same centre, they must carpool. Please note mileage rates will be paid based on carpooling from the same centre.
3. When scheduling umpires for Provincial Championships, you are to consider the number of diamond(s) being used to determine the number of umpires required. Pending availability Provincial Championship games use the 2-person umpire system but, if necessary, can use a 1-person system.
4. The list of teams entered in Provincial Championships is generally provided to everyone and posted to the web site on or before June 7th. Draws for Provincial Championships are to be provided a minimum of two weeks prior to the Championship date.
5. The District UIC will contact the Host prior to the Championships to communicate the assignment of umpires to the Championship and any email correspondence should be copied to the District Director and or Supervisor.
6. The District UIC or Championship UIC must be available to attend Provincial Championship Coach Meetings for Championships in their District. The meetings are generally held sometime the week prior to provincials and are done virtually via Zoom.

Host organizations are responsible for the following Provincial Championship umpire Expenses: a. Provincial championship umpire fees shall be paid at a rate of:

* $40 per game for plate/base umpire in U11 and U13 age categories
* $50 per game for plate/base umpire in all age categories U15 and above.
* If a one (1) umpire system must be used, the umpire fee is $60 per game.

b. The host is also responsible to reimburse umpires who must travel from outside the Host Centre a car allowance of .50/km (umpires from the same centre must carpool or the mileage rate will be split among those travelling to a maximum of .50/km). Shared accommodations if necessary are the responsibility of the Host.

Softball Saskatchewan thanks our District UIC’s for their support and cooperation in the professional approach to dealing with our Hosts and Supervisors to make our Provincial Championships the best they can be.

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