



## SOFTBALL MANITOBA

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# Softball Manitoba 'AA' Category

Softball Manitoba has approved the restructuring of the minor divisions by adding the **AA** category. The three categories that now exist are **A** (community level -formerly referred to as B), **AA** (regional teams), and **AAA** (high performance – formerly referred to as A). This change was brought about to narrow the skill level gap between the former A and B levels. Requests from players and parents for more skill development opportunities and a higher level of competition has steadily increased over the years so we believe the desire at the grassroots level is already in place.

In the **AA** category, each AAA region is able to form up to three teams for each age group. Decisions on the number and locations of teams, the process to formulate teams, as well as any fees to pay, will be made by individual AAA organizations.

The continued strength and success of softball at the **A** (community) level is of utmost importance to Softball Manitoba. The grassroots level is the growth of our sport. To ensure this, players **must** register and play on an **A** level community team in order to be eligible to try out for an **AA** team. While the **AA** program is designed to provide an extended season for A players, **AA** teams will be restricted in days of practice, play and tournaments from the beginning of the season until the respective age category provincials are complete. The **AA** teams may offer practices, exhibition games and up to two tournaments only on the specified days during the season up to the end of **A** category provincials. No restrictions are in place following the respective A provincial. The hope is to host an **AA** provincial in August for each category.

## 2021 MINOR DIVISION 'AA' PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – PROPOSED DATES

CATEGORY	PROVINCIAL DATE	LOCATION	ENTRY FEE	ENTRY DEADLINE
U12 AA Girls	August 6-7	TBD		July 1 <sup>st</sup>
U14 AA Girls	August 13-14	TBD		July 1 <sup>st</sup>
U16 AA Girls	August 13-14	TBD		July 1 <sup>st</sup>
U19 AA Girls	August 20-21	TBD		July 1 <sup>st</sup>

**NOTE:** Coaches must be certified by June 22<sup>nd</sup> to ENTER any of the above.  
Certification Requirement for 2021: FOCS Part 1 and 2 + MED Online Evaluation = 2021 substitute for Competition Introduction

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