



2022 SOFTBALL MANITOBA Division Operating Rules Motion Form



NOTICE OF MOTION

Division Operating Rules

Submitted by: Manitoba Premier Softball League (MPSL)

Division Affiliation: Minor

Date: August 11, 2022

REFERENCE: (Section, article, number, page, etc.)

2022 Minor Division Operating Rules

M-3, Age Categories and Classification

Section 3 and Section 3.F.

WHEREAS (Article as currently written.)

3. U13, U15, U17 and U19 'AAA' Categories

- a. The U13, U15, U17 and U19 'AAA' Categories will be run under the auspices of the four (4) Winnipeg based "A" Organizations, Manitoba Angels, Manitoba Thunder, Smitty's Terminators and Winnipeg Lightning and the six (6) Rural Regions, Central Energy, Eastman Wildcats, Interlake Phillies, Norman, Parkland and Westman Magic. No 'AAA' for Norman and Parkland in 2022.
- b. The number of 'AAA' teams in the U13, U15, U17 and U19 categories will be restricted to one team from each of the four (4) Winnipeg based "AAA" Organizations and one team from each of the four (4) existing Rural Regional Organizations.
- c. In the U13AAA, U15AAA, U17AAA and U19AAA category players must attend an evaluation camp within their home region. Players who are not invited to be rostered on their AAA regional team are eligible to play with one of their regional AA team(s). Players will not be released from their region to play for another AAA organization.
- d. For the U13, U15, U17 and U19 'AAA' category teams are permitted no new out of region players. Returning players can remain within their current organization, if released they must return to the region in which they reside first.
- e. Under extenuating circumstances only, a region may be exempt from the boundary rules, in order to form a team, subject to the approval of the Softball MB Minor Committee.
- f. Team Registration – all 'AAA' teams (9 player minimum) must complete Softball Manitoba RAMP registration signed by all players, coaches and manager by January 31st for the upcoming season.

AND

F. Fill Rule: 1. The Fill Rule may only be used to add players to teams who do not have the minimum number of players to field a team. The purpose of the Fill Rule is to help ensure that each region is able to field a viable team. Effort must be made to recruit players in all regions. Special consideration will be given to areas that have an adequate number of players, but do not have pitchers or catchers. 2. The 'fill' athlete must be a fully eligible player as defined by Softball Manitoba and have attended the tryouts in their home catchment area, but not have been selected to their home region's team. 3. No eligible athlete trying out for their home region can be displaced by a "fill" player from a different region. 4. The Softball MB Board of Directors will confer with the relevant coaches and regional reps to determine the fill(s) based on availability, need and geographical proximity. 5. All "fill" players will return to their home catchment area for tryouts the following year. 6. Once a "fill" player has been released from the team in their catchment area for 3 consecutive years, the player will no longer be considered "property" of their home catchment.

Please return your completed form to Softball Manitoba via email to softball@softball.mb.ca



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Maximum Fill Players per Team: Organizations/Teams applying through the Fill Rule may add a maximum of three (3) 'fill' players to bring its roster up to eleven (11) players. Fill Rule numbers reflect Minor Division Operating Rule 3.F2. (Provincial Competition - Pick-ups). Fill Rule Tracking Information/Information Required: Fill Rule information required by Softball MB for processing requests is the direct responsibility of the Organization applying. Data received will be recorded and applied to decisions regarding Player Movement Requests. This information also provides the Association with a history on Player Movement (Registering Out of Region) plus overall aspects of Regional & Organizational Stability. Organizations requesting player(s) through the Fill Rule must provide the following information: • Number of players that attended tryouts and how many were released. • How many are on their current roster. • Releases from these player's home region, signed by the League/Organization President. The Player Release Form can be found on our website under, FORMS.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (Motion. State whether revision, addition, deletion)

Remove section b, c, d and e above from the operating rules, amalgamate a and f within the "Registration" section #1 of the operating rules, remove the Fill rule in its entirety and place the article below into the MPSL constitution and make reference of the MPSL ruling within the Boundary section of the operating rules which will be shared in a separate proposal \ amendment.

Players must attend an evaluation camp within their home region. Players who are not invited to be rostered on their regional team may attend an evaluation camp within an alternate region for one season. Players are expected to return to their home catchment area for evaluation camp in the following year with the exception of:

- Players who were grandfathered into a region outside of their catchment area prior to the Boundaries ruling however, should a player(s) in this scenario be released or choose to leave a regional team, the player(s) are expected to return to their home catchment area for evaluation camp.

A player release form will be completed by the sending region, copied to the player, the receiving region and Softball Manitoba

RATIONALE

The MPSL has a governance structure in place to manage player movement within AAA regions. Capable AAA players who are unable to be rostered within their region must not be denied an opportunity to compete within an alternate region solely based on geography. This player right is aligned with Softball Manitoba's vision, mission, objectives and core values along with MPSL's mission and objectives. Player movement within AAA does not impact A or AA and MPSL has demonstrated its abilities to successfully manage U19 player movement in the 2022 season.

FINAL IMPLICATIONS: ____ Carried ____ Amended ____ Withdrawn ____ Defeated

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