

# Softball Newfoundland and Labrador U12 Boys Fastpitch Provincial Championships

## Competition Notes

Softball Newfoundland and Labrador sanction the **U12 Boys Fastpitch Provincial Championships**. Except where noted (see *SNL Competition Notes* below), rules for this competition will be governed by Softball Canada 2015 Official Rule Book.

### 1. Tournament Registration and Fees

- **Teams that do not follow proper registration procedures may not be permitted to participate in tournaments:**
- A team will be considered registered for a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador sanctioned tournament only when the following conditions are met:
  - i. **Registration must meet all deadlines;**
  - ii. All affiliation and tournament fees are paid upon registration for any tournament;
  - iii. All roster information must be submitted upon registration using proper forms provided by SNL. Incomplete registration forms will not be accepted by SNL;
  - iv. Only players, coaches, and team officials that are in "good standing" with Softball Newfoundland and Labrador will be permitted to register and participate.
- Players must 12 year of age or less as of December 31st of the current year;
- Teams must register a minimum of 12 players to participate. Roster size must not exceed 17 players;
- All players participating in a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador sanctioned tournament must appear on the official roster. Rosters are "official" once they are released by the SNL office to the tournament director. If a team is discovered to have used an ineligible player the team will face disciplinary action and possible removal from the tournament;
- For all other tournament registration and fee payment information please visit the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador website ([www.softballnl.ca](http://www.softballnl.ca)) or email [softball@sportnl.ca](mailto:softball@sportnl.ca)

### 2. Coach Certification and Dress Code

- a) The coaching staff must possess a minimum certification of NCCP "Community Sport On Going Participation" or former NCCP Level 1 certification for softball. Contact Softball Newfoundland and Labrador ([softball@sportnl.ca](mailto:softball@sportnl.ca)) to check certification or to register for an off season certification clinic;
- b) Coaches are expected to dress in proper attire for the softball field. Coaches are not permitted to wear clothing that references alcohol, tobacco, or anything deemed inappropriate by the umpire, tournament director, or Softball Newfoundland and Labrador representatives;
- c) Sandals and flip flops are not permitted. Footwear must have closed toes and provide proper support.

### 3. Rotation Rule

In U12 Boys, teams must have a minimum of 2 pitchers. Pitchers may pitch a maximum of 4.0 innings (consecutive or non-consecutive) in a regulation 7.0 inning game. If a game needs extra innings to complete, a player who pitched 4.0 innings in regulation may pitch again without limitation. This applies to the playoff round also.

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- i) A pitcher will be considered to have pitched 1.0 inning if she has thrown 1 pitch.
- ii) **Illegal pitches will NOT be called against pitchers at the U12 Boys division. Umpires may advise the coach of any pitcher that pitches "illegal" for the purpose of helping the developing pitcher.**

### 4. Official Line Up

- a) In the U12 Boys division, the official batting order shall consist of **ALL** players on the official roster. The designated player (DP) and FLEX are not permitted.
- b) Fair play rules will apply when the team is in the field (defense). In a 7.0 inning game a player must play the field a minimum of 3.0 innings/9 outs (unless he/she is a member of the home team and the game is called after 6.5 innings) and have at least one at bat. In any game that ends early due to the mercy rule it is the coaches responsibility to ensure that all players play a minimum of 2.0 innings in the field and attempt to get at least one at bat.

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- i) **FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES/FAIR PLAY** 1.0 inning will be the equivalent of 3 outs **OR** application of the 5 run rule to end an inning (see *Scoring* below)

### 5. Scoring

- a) Teams may score a maximum of 5 runs per inning with the exception of the 7th inning ("open inning"). Softball Canada mercy rules will be in effect (15 run lead after 3 or 4 complete innings, 7 run lead after 5 complete innings).
- b) Maximum +/- rating in any game is +/- 7. If the home team is leading after an official game has been ended (either 6.5 innings or other i.e. weather, darkness, etc.) the game is over and will not continue for the purpose of a team attempting to gain a +7 rating.
- c) The I.S.F. Tie Breaking Rule will be in effect after 7 complete innings. This applies to all tournament games ***with the exception of the championship game.***

### 6. Fielding

- a) Teams **MUST** have 9 defensive players (3 Outfielders).
- b) If the player who caught in the previous ½ inning is on base with 2 outs she **MUST** be replaced with the player who recorded the last (2nd) out in the inning. The team is not charged with a substitution, as the purpose is to speed up the game.

## 7. Stealing/Advance on Bases

- a) Lead-offs permitted from any base only AFTER pitch has left pitchers hand;
- b) Stealing second base (only) may take place at any time;
- c) **Under no circumstances** are base runners permitted to steal third base or home (i.e. steal attempt of second, pass ball, overthrow, or pick off attempt); however the runner may be tagged out if off the base before play ends or on a pick off attempt.

### - IMPORTANT NOTES:

- i) Catchers are permitted to attempt a pick off at any base that a runner leads off. With the exception of pick off attempts at first base with second base unoccupied, if a catcher attempts to pick off a base runner the runner must still return to her occupied base (no attempt to steal permitted);
- ii) A base runner that successfully steals second base is not permitted to advance to third on an overthrown ball from the catcher;
- iii) If there is a runner on third base while an attempt is made to throw out a stealing base runner at second base or on a pick off attempt of any base the other base runner is not permitted to advance regardless of the circumstances;
- iv) "Time" will be called by the umpires immediately following any steal or pick off attempt;
- v) On dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike batter is automatically OUT and no throw or tag is needed to retire the batter;

## 8. Tie Breaking Procedures

For the purpose of determining all positions at the end of round robin play the following tie breaking procedures will apply in this order:

- 1. Head to head record.
- 2. If there is still a tie, the team with the best plus/minus (+ or - 7) in all round robin games will be given the higher placing.
- 3. If teams are still tied, the team who had the least total number of runs scored against for all round robin games will receive the higher placing.
- 4. If teams are still tied, the team with the highest total number of runs scored will receive the higher placing.
- 5. If teams are still tied, plus/minus ratio (**total number of runs scored for + total number of runs scored against/total number of runs for**) will apply. The lower plus/minus ratio will win the tie breaker.
- 6. If two teams are still tied a coin toss will take place to determine positioning.

## 9. Tournament Days

Tournaments will be scheduled from Friday to Sunday, with Monday being a WEATHER DAY. If weather is unfavourable throughout the weekend games will be played on Monday. If the weather is unfavourable on Monday the tournament will NOT be rescheduled and awards shall be awarded to the top two ranking teams

## 10. Face Mask (NEW IN 2016)

Pitchers at the U12 Boys division are required to wear an approved face mask while in the pitching position.

## 11. Bats

Bats must be approved as per Softball Canada Approved Bat List. For more information go to [www.softball.ca/english/about/approved-equipment/bats.html](http://www.softball.ca/english/about/approved-equipment/bats.html)

### Acceptable Certification Stamps

ISF 2005



ASA 2000



ASA 2004



- Any bat that appears on the [ISF Approved Bat List](#) and has a current ISF certification stamp (2005 only) will be accepted for play at a Softball Canada event *or*,
- Any bat that appears on the [ASA Approved Bat List](#) and has an ASA 2000 or 2004 certification stamp will also be accepted for play at a Softball Canada event.
- The bat must meet the compression standards outlined by the ISF and can be tested to ensure they are in the proper range.
- The bat must still pass a visual inspection per the current Softball Canada rulebook.