**2019 Softball Saskatchewan Operating Rule Changes**

**Following are the highlights of Operating Rule changes for 2019.**

* **Associations previously designated as an “A” center must apply by Jan. 15th to change any “A” category designation.**
* This is not new but please note that All Coaches must take the Respect in Sport (RiS) on-line program prior to stepping on the diamond. Information is available on our web site under the coaching tab. The program takes about 3 hours to complete and is free of charge.
* **Effective 2020 we will be gradually increasing the number of coaches on Provincial Championship Rosters who need minimum certification to be on the Roster. Starting in 2020 a 2nd coach/manager if listed must be a minimum of Community Softball Coach Certified and in 2021 a 3rd coach/manager if listed must be a minimum of Community Softball Coach Certified and in 2022 a 4th coach if listed must be a minimum of Community Softball Coach Certified.**
* **There are two new minor female Provincial Championship Categories. The U14 BW and U16 BW which both lead to a Western Canadian Championship. We still have a U14 B and U16 B girl’s categories of Provincials, but these no longer lead to Western. We also still have the U14 C and U16 C girls Provincial Championship categories.**
* **District 2 (Regina) and District (6) Saskatoon are now required to register a minimum of two (2) teams in the U16 “A” girl’s category.**
* **Students attending Martin Academy or Tommy Douglas Academy must be fulltime students in order to be eligible to register with SMSL or RMSL. Non full-time students will require a release from their local minor ball Association and a District Transfer.**
* **All minor players must register and tryout with their local Softball Association. Players must register on a team that is closest to their residence within the District.**
* **Changes were made to some Provincial Championship Draws**
* **No team may register in an age category where a maximum of six (6) players on the roster are less than the minimum age of said category.**
* **Players residing in a community with a recognized minor ball Association must obtain a release from this Association. If released this player can register where they choose to within the District.**
* **Players who reside in a Non-Center or rural residence where there is no Minor Association must obtain a release from their nearest Minor Association.**

**Following are changes to the Player Release Rule**

* **Players attending Martin Academy or Tommy Douglas Academy must be fulltime students in order to be eligible to register with SMSL or RMSL. Non-full-time students will require a release from their local minor ball Association and a District Transfer.**
* **Players must obtain a release from their local or nearest Minor Association to register on an Adult team.**
* **Players who are released to register on an A team outside their local or nearest Association and are not successful in making the A team must return to their home or closest Association to register on a B team (Only one (1) “A” team tryout is allowed per player)**
* **For the Player Protection Rule Players who previously registered with a team for Provincial Championships within or outside of their District for two (2) consecutive years, will have the option of registering with that Association again if they wish.**

**Following are the changes to the District Transfer Rule**

* **U12, U14, U16 and U19 players may apply for a District Transfer. Players who wish to register on a U16 “A” or U19 “A” team must apply by the February 1st deadline. Players who wish to register on a U12 “A” or U14 “A” team must apply by the April 1st deadline. Players who wish to register on a “BW”, “B” or “C” team must apply by the April 15th deadline. Players applying for a District Transfer must complete the Application Form available on our website at www.softball.sk.ca**
* **All male and female players in the U12, U14 and U16 age categories including all on-deck batters, batters and baserunners must wear an attached face mask.**
* **All pitchers in the U12 and U14 male and female age groups must wear a protective mask.**
* **There are a few changes to the Player Pick-up Rules**
* **The Concession Application Rule was updated.**

**Our Complete 2019 Handbook will be available on our web site by the end of January 2019.**

**If any has other questions please call our office, thank you.**