



TEAM
ALBERTA

**What to expect when
trying out for
Team Alberta**

Western Canada Summer Games and Canada Summer Games

The Games Inspire Dreams and Build Champions, and work to create the ultimate impact on Canada's next generation of national, international and Olympic Champions. The Games and their lasting legacies continue to be the catalyst for the growth of sport and recreation across the country. Being selected to represent Team Alberta at a games program is a huge honor and serves as recognition of the hard work they have put in to be considered one of the top players in Alberta in the sport of Softball.

Eligibility

To be eligible to be selected to the Athlete pool, an athlete must be in good standing with Softball Alberta and meet the requirements listed in the Softball AB handbook (page 14 SA Handbook).

To be eligible to be selected to a Team, the athlete must meet the age requirements and citizenship (page 20-23 SA Handbook) requirements and must also attend one of the tryouts stipulated by the organizers.

Tryout Process

- Athletes must attend one tryout out in order to be eligible for the athlete pool. Athletes in the pool are those identified by the appointed coaches and support staff as having demonstrated potential to earn a position on the current Team AB.
- From the Pool, select the best possible Team for specific events. While some objective criteria will be used to select Team, it is also recognized that there is a significant subjective element. Subjective elements include such factors as previous and current performance, experience, positional requirements, leadership qualities and team cohesion.
- There is a cost associated with each tryout, the first tryout out the athlete attends will cost \$40 and will include a T-shirt. Any tryouts after that will cost \$30.
- Each game year is run a little different, tryouts will usually begin the year prior to the games and the team is usually made the year of the games or the year prior.

For Team AB, there will be multiple identification camps in the selection year in preparation for finalizing the team roster. Tryout Camps will be posted on Softball Alberta's website. Following the conclusion of all identification camps, a final pool roster will be named. The selection of the pool will be based on:

- Previous and current performance
- Experience
- Positional requirements
- Present and projected development and or improvement
- Leadership/contribution to team chemistry

Availability for competition and training

Making the Team

Team AB may compete in various tournaments and competitions during the selection year and competition year. The purpose of this document is lay out what to expect when trying for Team Alberta.

Upon selection to the athlete pool or Team, an athlete must:

- sign the Softball Alberta Code of Conduct
- provide Softball Alberta with all the required contact information
- Participate in Team events, activities and meetings, directed by the Head coach or his/her designate
- Ensure they wear proper equipment and clothing

- Obey all rules established by the Head Coach and/or Softball Alberta
- Assist in fundraising projects
- Each player is required to pay a fee (\$350), this helps covers there, uniforms, jackets, player bags, helmets, socks, belts, T-shirts. Food and hotel is covered for the final team at Team Alberta Events.

Commitment

Every cycle that the Games program occurs; whether it's Western Canadian Summer Games or Canada Summer Games, there is always an attempt to balance between the participation of athletes between their club or community teams and the Games program.

The Western Canadian Games and Canada Games (winter & summer) hosts are selected 4 years prior to the events occurring so that host cities and communities have time to prepare and invest in facilities, transportation, accommodations and activities for **all sports** involved.

These events rely on the help of both National and Provincial Sporting Organizations for technical requirements and look to their provincial governments for funding assistance. Softball Alberta and the coaching staff does their best to work with the club teams while still prioritizing where we can. The evaluation and team building of Team Alberta for the investment that Softball Alberta and Alberta Sport Connection make in the participation of Softball in the previously mentioned Games. Representing the province is viewed as an honor and being selected to represent Team Alberta at a games program is viewed by all athletes as a recognition of the hard work they have put in, to be considered one of the top players in Alberta in the sport of Softball. Please also understand the investment made by many to ensure that the Games, Canadian or Western Canadian, are events that all participants will remember for a lifetime with the knowledge and recognition as stated before, they are among not only the top of their chosen sport, but also among the top athletes in all of sport in either Western Canada and Canada. We expect the athletes to make a full commitment to the team while still balancing their club commitment.

Team Decisions

Softball Alberta has delegated authority for decision making to the Head Coach with Softball Alberta's recommendation/discretion. The Head Coach has final authority for all selection decisions, including selecting athletes to the Pool, adding additional athletes to the Pool, selecting Teams from the Pool, removing athletes from the Pool or a Team, and selecting replacements to a Team where applicable. In making selection decisions, the Head Coach will consult with his Coaching Staff, defined for the purpose of this document, to include assistant coaches, scouts and evaluators as designated by Softball Alberta.

Removal from the Team

An Athlete may be removed from the athlete pool or from a Team where the athlete:

- Is unable to maintain or continue working towards, to the Head Coaches satisfaction, the training standards set out below
- Is unable to meet performance expectations
- Is unable to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reason as determined by a medical practitioner
- Is unable to commit to Team AB program activities and events (note: an athlete may obtain an exemption from the Head Coach and/or Softball Alberta)
- Violates team rules and/or Softball Alberta's policies and procedures
- Exhibits conduct that is detrimental to the image of the Team AB Program
- Breaches the Team AB Code of Conduct
- Voluntarily withdraws

- Is removed by Softball Alberta Games Committee
- Fraudulently misrepresents themselves

Voluntarily Withdraws

If an athlete withdraws from the Team Alberta selection process after cuts have already been made, resulting in other athletes being cut at an athlete's expense will result in a sanction that will be determined by Softball Alberta's Games Committee.

Substitution of Alternatives

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed from a Team may be replaced by an athlete only from the athlete pool.

Appeals

Team AB athlete selections may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the Softball Alberta handbook (under construction).