

Player Transfer Policy

U15 and under players who wish to register on a team outside their own local association must apply each year for a Player Transfer.

This “Player Transfer” will also be accepted by Softball Alberta for Provincial Play – subject to the release of the player from their home association only.

The ONLY conditions for granting a Player Transfer are:

- No teams exist in your local association, or
- Not enough players to compete on a team
- Player Transfer forms are located on the Softball Alberta web site www.softballalberta.ca
- For the purpose of Releasing players, only the players Home Association may do so.
- For the purpose of Receiving players, only a Local, District or Zone Minor Association in good standing, with 3 consecutive year’s membership with Softball Alberta may do so.
- Each Minor Association may have specific submission dates, or deadline dates. Please check with your Home association prior to submittal. The 7-day response timeline will then be in effect with these dates.
- LEAGUES - for the purpose of the player transfer policy, shall not have the rights allotted to Associations, be it local, zone or district, to receive and/or release players.

DEFINITIONS:

Team - A team is a group of individuals working together to achieve a common goal. A group does not necessarily constitute a team. Teams normally have members with complementary skills and generate synergy through a coordinated effort which allows each member to maximize their strengths and minimize their weaknesses.

Home Association - The first Local, District or Zone Minor Association in which the Player ever registered with

District Association – For the purpose of the Player Transfer Policy – within a major center, may have two (2) or more recognized divisions in operation and/or two (2) or more softball associations or leagues, be in good standing with 3 consecutive years membership with Softball Alberta

Zone Association – For the purpose of the Player Transfer Policy – within a major center, may have two (2) or more recognized divisions in operation and/or two (2) or more softball associations or leagues, be in good standing with 3 consecutive years membership with Softball Alberta

Local Association- Minor Association in good standing, with 3 consecutive years membership with Softball Alberta. Refer to Article I – J. ASSOCIATIONS in the Softball Alberta Handbook.

Authorized signature – is the signature of the President or an individual who has signature authorization as identified by the President for the Releasing and Receiving Minor Association.

Player – is an individual registered or intending to register with the intention of participating in the game of softball. In the case of minors, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) will represent the player.

Leagues- Refer to Article I. H. in the Softball Alberta Handbook.

Receiving Association – the Association to which the player is being transferred to.

Releasing Association – Players Home Association in which they are seeking a transfer from.

Resident District Organizer – the District Organizer responsible for the area which includes the player's resident Local, District, or Zone Association.

"Transfer to" District Organizer – the District Organizer responsible for the area to which the player is requesting a transfer to.

Provincial Zones – Refer to Page 6 in the Softball Alberta Handbook

PURPOSE

- To help prevent a decline in player numbers. For the sport to grow, the softball community must continue to support and develop grassroots programs.
- To give Local, District, or Zone Associations the opportunity to develop their teams & programs without the fear of losing players to other Associations.
- To develop fair and equitable criteria for players wishing to participate in programs outside of their Local, District, or Zone Association.
- To provide an earlier deadline for player movement than the previous "Zone Transfer Policy".
- To gain a better understanding of player movement from association to association.
- To give Local, District, or Zone Associations the opportunity to foster the skill development of their players.

PARAMETERS

- All required Player Transfer forms must be received by Softball Alberta Office by the Provincial roster deadline for Minor Teams. Failure of that will deem the affected player ineligible from further participation at Regional Qualifiers and Provincial Playoffs, Western Canadian Championships and Canadian Championships.
- It is expected that all associations will work cooperatively to accommodate the development of viable teams and players.
- It is responsibility of the player, parent/guardian of the player, to ensure all requirements of the transfer have been met and that the transfer has been completed.
- Player, Parent/Guardian must follow Application Process.

- Receiving Association President, or designate, shall initiate communication with Releasing Association President, or designate, regarding the requested player transfer. All communication and documentation must be between the Receiving and Releasing Associations.
- The boundary of each local, district, or zone association will be defined by its municipal boundaries or Urban Service area. Any discrepancy shall be clarified by Softball Alberta.
- Players residing within the boundaries of a Local Association must register with that Association unless released.
- In the event where the player resides in the middle of 2 Associations, or if there are more than 1 Associations within their city, town, village, or hamlet boundary line and the player chooses one, over the other, then that Association will be used as the player's Home Association.
- If the 2 associations are in different Provincial Zones, the player must register with the Local Association in the Provincial Zone of the player's residence.
- Players, who do not reside within the boundaries of a local, district, or zone association and have never registered with any local, district, or zone association member, must register with the nearest local, district, or zone association to their residency of ordinary travel. This Local Association will become the player's "Home" Association.
- Associations are not required to accept players from another association.
- Player Transfers are for a one-year term, expiring on August 31 of the current year. Players return to their Home Association upon expiration of the transfer.
- Players may attend training camps outside their Home association without a Player Transfer.
NOTE: Attending training camps and/or try-outs, including being offered a position on a team, does not constitute a reason for transfer.
- Coaches/Managers/Team Representatives/Associations/Etc. must not offer a player a position on a Team without an Approved Player Transfer
- All affiliated minor players are eligible to register on one provincial roster by the June 15th roster deadline. If a player is registering on a provincial roster that is NOT with the team they played for all year, they DO NOT need a Player Transfer.
- The decision of the Softball Alberta Appeals Committee will be final and binding.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Player, Parent/Guardian fills out "Player" portion of Transfer form
2. Player, Parent/Guardian forwards Player Transfer form to Receiving Association President or designate.
3. Receiving Association President, or designate, shall initiate communication with Releasing Association President, or designate, regarding the requested player transfer*

4. Releasing Association must respond to the request within 7 days approving or denying the request for transfer**

* All communication and documentation must be between the receiving and releasing Associations

** Each Minor Association may have specific submission dates, or deadline dates. Please check with your Home association prior to submittal. The 7 day response timeline will then be in effect with these dates.

ASSOCIATIONS IN AGREEMENT (APPROVED):

- If both the Releasing Association & the Receiving Association agree, then the player may play for the team outside his or her local/home association.
- Transfer must contain the Authorized Signature of the Releasing Association & the Receiving Association.
- **Receiving Association President, or designate**, must forward completed transfer to the following:
 1. Softball Alberta - info@softballalberta.ca
 2. Softball AB Minor Director - minordirector@softballalberta.ca
 3. Softball AB Exec. Director - michele@softballalberta.ca
 4. "Resident" District Organizer - <https://www.softballalberta.ca/contacts/>
 5. "Transfer to" District Organizer - <https://www.softballalberta.ca/contacts/>
- **INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

If a Player Transfer is DENIED:

- **Releasing Association President, or designate**, must forward denied transfer form to the following:
 1. Softball AB Minor Director - minordirector@softballalberta.ca
 2. Softball AB Exec. Director - michele@softballalberta.ca
- **The Releasing Association Executive** - MUST provide rationale, information on the Releasing Associations appeal process, and options for the player and going forward to BOTH the Player, Parent/Guardian of Player, AND Receiving Association President
- **Player** - Follow Releasing Association's appeal process
- If denied through the Releasing Associations appeal process, the player has the right to appeal to Softball Alberta as per Article I. of the Softball Alberta Handbook.