

## U7 and U9 Jamboree

Softball Newfoundland Labrador will sanction all the Timbit Jamborees. Except where noted (see Timbit Guidelines below), rules for these events will be governed by Softball Canada 2022-2023 Official Rule Book.

### 1. Tournament Registration and Fees

**Register a Minimum of 10 players to participate. Roster size must not exceed 12 players.**

- 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 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 Softball NL. Incomplete registration forms will not be accepted by Softball NL;
  - iv. Only players, coaches, and team officials that are in “good standing” with Softball Newfoundland Labrador will be permitted to register and participate.
- Players must meet age requirements for the specific division as of December 31st of the current year;
- All players participating in a Softball Newfoundland Labrador sanctioned tournament must appear on the official roster. Rosters are “official” once they are released by the Softball NL 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 NL Executive Director Dave Feener at [executivedirector@softballnl.ca](mailto:executivedirector@softballnl.ca).

### 2. Coach Certification and Dress Code

- a) Softball NL recommends that at least one coach must possess a minimum NCCP "Community Sport - Ongoing Participation".

Contact Softball NL ([executivedirector@softballnl.ca](mailto:executivedirector@softballnl.ca)) to check certification or to register for an off season certification clinic;

- b) Certificate of Conduct and Vulnerable Sector Check - All ADULT coaches and parent volunteers on the playing field during a MINOR game MUST have a cleared Vulnerable Sector Check. This check must be dated within the last 36 months of the tournament;
- c) Coaches and Parent Volunteers 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 Labrador representatives;
- d) Sandals and flip flops are not permitted. Footwear must have closed toes and provide proper support.

### 3. Field Dimensions and Ball Size

Age	Softball Size	Pitching Mound	Base Paths
U7	11" Indoor Ball	30'	45'
U9	11" Indoor Ball	30'	45'

### 4. Official Line Up / Fair Play Rules

- A player that arrives late will be added to the line-up.
- A player cannot play the same position in consecutive innings. Players must play all positions. This is the responsibility of the coaches.
- A coach shall use a courtesy runner for the catcher to allow them to change for the next half inning.

Age	Fielding Positions	Offensive Coaches	Defensive Coaches
U7	6 Infielders – 3 Midfielders	2 Base Coaches 1 Batting Coach	2 Fielding Coaches (R/L of pitching mound)
U9	6 Infielders – 4 Outfielders	2 Base Coaches	1 Fielding Coach Stands directly behind the pitcher

- No charged offensive or defensive conferences for coaches.
- Coaches need to keep the game moving and not cause unnecessary delays.
- A defensive coach may wear a glove and catch/stop a hard hit ball that could strike a defensive player.
- U7 - Batting Order should be shuffled every inning so a different player leads off each inning.
- U9 - not every player hits in each inning. Batting order continues from the last out or batter (if 3 run rule).

### 5. Scoring / Time Limits

- No scores or outs are to be recorded using a scoresheet – EMPHASIS is on SKILL DEVELOPMENT – NOT ON WINNING.
- Fielding outs will be applied at all age categories.
- Outs (U7 no out limit) and runs (U9 3 Run Rule) will be recorded by the umpire, using their indicator
- U7 – no new inning shall start 50mins after the start of the game.
- U9 – no new inning shall start 60mins after the start of the game.

### 6. Home Plate Area – on all plays, the runner must touch home plate.

## 7. Strike Zone and Pitching

- U7 if a coach pitcher is used, the defensive pitcher shall stand adjacent to the pitcher's mound (30-35ft).
- Pitchers shall release the ball with a moderate speed, and have an arc of 6 feet to 12 feet.

### U9 Pitching

- a) Pitchers must throw from the starting position of 2 feet on the rubber and only take 1 step moving forward when throwing the ball. Balls and strikes will be called.
- b) Player pitching to the opposing team until the batter receives a 4th ball, which would normally result in a walk. This is where the game changes. After the 4th ball, the Batter will have a count against him/her. It will either be 4 balls (0 Strikes 4-0), 4-1 or 4-2. The hitter's coach or designate for the offensive team, will now come in to pitch to his/her own batter and carry on the count (LTP Rules).

### Pitching Limitations

A pitcher is allowed to pitch to a maximum of 10 batters per game and 20 batters per day. One pitch equals one batter. A pitcher is not allowed to pitch consecutive innings.

**No Illegal Pitches** shall be called.

**Pitcher Removal** – shall be removed from the pitching position if they hit two batters in that inning.

If a pitcher excessively pitches illegally or is removed

- a) U7 – coach pitcher may assume pitching position or appoint a new pitcher.
- b) U9 – a new pitcher will assume pitching position.

**Pitching Rotations** = Limit of 1 Inning per game / 2 Innings per day = coaches' responsibility.

**U7/U9 - Walks and Bunting** are not permitted

**U7 Batting Exception** = after 5 pitches, they shall hit from a batting tee (set up to the left of home plate).

## 8. Protective Equipment

### Pitcher and Fielding Defensive Masks

Age	Pitcher	Defensive Players
U7 / U9	MUST wear a defensive mask	recommended that infielders also wear a face mask especially at the first and third base position

### Batting Helmets / Catcher Equipment

Age	On-Deck / Batting / Running	Catcher
U7/U9	Batting Helmets must have a protective face guard (2020)	Must wear a Catcher's Mask, Shin Guards and Chest Protector.

9. **Bats** - must be on the "Approved Bat List". Enquiries sent to: [umpiredirector@softballnl.ca](mailto:umpiredirector@softballnl.ca)
- <http://www.wbsc.org/softball/softball-bat-list/>
  - <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-usa-softball/certified-usa-softball-equipment>

Needs to have one of these five stamps.

**WBSC  
(New)**



**ASA 2000**



**ISF 2005**



**ASA 2004**



**USA Softball  
(New)**



10. **Infield Fly** is not in effect.

### 11. **Sliding**

- Permitted at 2nd and 3rd base.
- Not permitted when running to 1st base or home.
  - Runner must use orange safety bag at 1st or scoring line at homeException – sliding back to 1st on a throw

### 12. **Stealing / Dropped 3rd Strike / Foul Ball – 3rd Strike**

- No Stealing Permitted.
- Dropped 3rd Strike is a dead ball.
- Foul ball on the 3rd strike is considered a STRIKE. Batter assumes the last count.  
Note: a swinging missed 3rd strike is an OUT.

### 13. **Base Running Advancement / Overthrows**

- All runners shall stop at their base when the primary play has concluded.
  - Throwing a ball to a base
  - Throwing a ball to the pitcher
  - Throwing a ball from the outfield to the infield
- No advancement of runners on any overthrows.
  - Runners shall be placed back on the base they occupied at the time of the initial throw.

### 14. **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.