



Napanee Softball Team Tryout and Indoor Training Policy

Intent of Policy

This policy is designed to standardize the process for team tryouts, the communication of tryout details, team selection, and indoor training for Napanee Softball. Its goal is to ensure fairness, transparency, and consistency in all aspects of the softball program. This policy will apply to all age groups and skill levels within the Softball Napanee.

Team Tryout and Training Sessions

Indoor Training Sessions

Indoor training sessions for the Napanee Express Girls' Program are to be held in the spring of each year for the team selected for that season.

Indoor training sessions for the Napanee Express Boys' program will be held in the spring of each year for the coming season. These sessions are open to all players that are intending to tryout for the age division for the upcoming season. Coaches may be required to limit new attendees due to supervision or facility space.

Outdoor Tryouts

Outdoor Tryouts for the Napanee Express Girls' Program will occur in accordance with the Provincial Women's Softball Association mandated timelines in September of each year for the following season.

Outdoor Tryouts for the Napanee Express Boys' Program will occur in accordance with the tryout schedule as directed by Softball Napanee in the spring of each year for that season. Tryouts will be scheduled at least 2 weeks in advance of the start of the season. A notice will be posted via the Napanee Softball website, social media channels, and sent to the team contacts from prior seasons via TeamSnap. All tryout dates and locations will be clearly communicated in the correspondence

Registration for Tryouts and/or Indoor Training Sessions

All players must register in advance for tryouts via an online registration system (TeamSnap). A deadline for registration will be set by Softball Napanee and the names registered will be communicated with the coaching staff 1 week in advance of the sessions.

Age and Skill Level Criteria

Players will be assessed based on their skill level, teachability, team needs and age eligibility based on the official Softball Canada age divisions for that season. Players are encouraged to attend all tryout sessions to ensure a fair evaluation but are required to attend a minimum of one session. Tryout sessions will be conducted by the designated coaching staff for each team, and all evaluations will be based on fundamental skills, fitness, and position-specific performance.

Tryout Format, Evaluations and Feedback

Players will be evaluated on:

- **Fielding** (ground balls, fly balls, positioning)
- **Hitting** (batting performance, technique, power)
- **Base Running** (speed, decision-making)
- **Pitching/Catching** (for players in those positions)

Individual feedback may be provided to all players at the end of the tryout process.

Player evaluations are to be based on skill levels, personal conduct, ability to adapt to the requirements/role of the team and performance metrics.

Communication of Tryout Information

Communication Channels

The Napanee Softball website (<https://softballnapanee.teamsnapsites.com/>), Facebook page, and Teamsnap will serve as the primary methods for communicating all tryout-related information, including:

- Tryout dates and times
- Locations
- Registration links
- Required equipment and apparel
- Any changes or cancellations to tryout dates (due to weather or unforeseen circumstances)

Team Selection

Selection Process

- **Objective Evaluation:** After tryouts, the coaching staff will meet to evaluate players. An analysis with set criteria (e.g., hitting, fielding, teamwork, etc.) will guide the selection process.
- **Coaching Staff Input:** Input from all coaches involved in the tryouts will be gathered to ensure that every player is evaluated fairly.
- **Team Announcement:** Teams will be announced by the coaching staff with notification/confirmation being sent via email. Players will be contacted directly to confirm their place on the team.

Appeals/Dispute Process

- If a player or parent has concerns regarding the team selection, they may request a meeting with the head coach and/or a Softball Napanee Board member within 48 hours of the team announcement. The meeting will be conducted to address concerns and provide clarification on the selection process.

Code of Conduct

- **Player Expectations:** All players are expected to demonstrate sportsmanship, respect for coaches and fellow players, and a commitment to the team during all team events/activities including indoor training and tryout sessions. Disrespectful behavior or violation of any rules during tryouts or training sessions may result in removal from the program.
- **Coach Expectations:** Coaches will foster a supportive environment that emphasizes player development, teamwork, and fair play. They will provide clear and consistent feedback and maintain an inclusive atmosphere at all times.

Coaches may communicate with any player during an indoor session or tryout that (in their opinion) is at risk of being injured or hurt by participating in events/activities that are above the skill level of the participant by recommending that they participate in Softball Napanee's house league program to improve their skillset.

Conclusion

This policy ensures consistency, fairness, and transparency in the process of team tryouts, communication, team selection, and indoor training for Napanee Softball. By adhering to this policy, we aim to create a positive environment for all players and coaches, promoting the growth and success of softball in Napanee.