



# AROUND the HORN

## A SOFTBALL CANADA PUBLICATION

### ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

November 2011

Softball Canada  
NEWS

Canadian  
Championships

NEWS and  
EVENTS

Officiating

Softball Canada  
Staff

inside  
we've got it

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## 2011 Softball Canada AWARD WINNERS

Softball Canada is pleased to announce the following award winners who will be recognized at the Softball Canada Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet on November 12th, 2011 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Banquet will be held in conjunction with the Softball Canada Congress and Annual General Meeting, which will take place from November 10-12. As previously announced, Bill Barron (Builder, Newfoundland and Labrador), Tom Doucette (Coach, Nova Scotia), Todd King (Athlete, Nova Scotia), Tim Macumber (Athlete, Nova Scotia) and Bob Stanton (Builder, New Brunswick) will be inducted into the Softball Canada Hall of Fame during this Banquet.

The Home Run Sports Coach of the Year award will be presented to Jamie Wentworth from Enfield, Nova Scotia, who led the Murphy's Fish & Chips Junior Eagles to a gold medal at the 2011 U23 Men's Canadian Championship and has been a successful coach for over 23 years. Jamie has the ability to communicate and understand his players in a way that shows he cares about them, not only as players but as people, and is highly respected by players, parents and umpires.

Keith Pender, from St. John's, Newfoundland, has been selected as the recipient of the Home Run Sports Umpire of the Year award. A Level V umpire in Fastpitch and Level III in Slo-Pitch, Keith has been actively umpiring for 20 years, and his most outstanding attribute is the level of professionalism he carries on and off the field. He served as Softball Newfoundland and Labrador's Umpire in Chief between 2005 and 2010, and in addition to umpiring over 100 games per year, he also watches just as many to help his fellow umpires develop their skills.

The Rose Hodgson Volunteer of the Year sponsored by MKI Travel & Conference Management, will be presented to Sherry Maher from Petty Harbour, Newfoundland. Sherry is Softball Newfoundland and Labrador's Minor Director, a volunteer position she fulfills on a full-time basis during the summer months and evenings and weekends during the off-season. She is the driving force for minor softball in Newfoundland and Labrador, and is the main reason Softball Canada initiatives such as Learn to Play, CANpitch and the NCCP have been filtered on to registered local softball associations in the province.

This year's recipients of the Claude Deschamps Memorial Fund are Kayla Richards from Stellarton, Nova Scotia and Myles Coldwell from Gays River, Nova Scotia.

Kayla Richards, a fourth year Bachelor of Arts student at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, is a Learn to Play Program Coordinator and head coach of the Subway



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Stingers U14 Girls Rep Team in the Stellarton and Area Minor Girls Softball Association. She previously played in that very association, and also competed for Team Nova Scotia at the 2009 Canada Summer Games in Prince Edward Island.

Myles Coldwell has just begun the third year of his Bachelor of Science in Human Kinetics degree at St. Francis Xavier University. This summer, he was a member of the Murphy's Fish & Chips Junior Men's team and won a gold medal at the U23 Men's Canadian Championship in Napanee, ON. He was named an all-star outfielder at the event. He also won a silver medal at the 2010 Junior Men's Canadian Championship held in St. Croix, NS.

The Ethel Boyce Memorial Award will be awarded to Shannon Galea from Oshawa, Ontario and Austin Brown from Tara, Ontario.

Shannon Galea is currently taking a one-year graduate diploma in Sport Business Management at Durham College. She previously completed an honours degree in Geography and Earth Sciences from McMaster in 2010, as well as a Bachelor of Education from the University Of Ontario Institute Of Technology in 2011. This summer, she was a member of the Pickering Heat and competed in two Canadian Championships, winning a silver medal at the U23 Women's and finishing seventh in the Senior Women's category.

Austin Brown recently started his first year of a Business Administration degree at Conestoga College in Kitchener, ON. From the small community of Tara, ON, Brown was a member of the nearby Owen Sound Selects, and participated at the 2011 U19 Men's Canadian Championship in Fredericton, NB as a member of the gold-medal winning Warton Red Devils, taking Playoff Round co-MVP honours.

Congratulations to all of this year's award winners!

## XVI PAN AMERICAN GAMES – Results



(Photo courtesy of ASA Softball)

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Softball Canada would like to congratulate the Senior Women's National team for winning the SILVER medal at the XVI Pan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico. It was Canada's fourth consecutive medal at the event.

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Date	Game	Result
October 17	Canada vs. Puerto Rico	W 10-2
October 18	Canada vs. Venezuela	W 4-3
	Canada vs. Cuba	L 4-2
October 19	Canada vs. Argentina	W 11-0
	Canada vs. Mexico	W 8-1
October 20	Canada vs. USA	L 12-5
October 21	Canada vs. Dominican Republic	W 6-1
October 22	Playoffs: Canada vs. Venezuela	W 11-1
October 23	Final: Canada vs. Cuba	W 4-0
	Grand Final: Canada vs. USA	L 11-1

## Men's VIII Pan American Championship Postponed

The Men's VIII Pan American Championship, which was scheduled for November 18-26 in Hermosillo, Mexico, has been postponed until 2012. The decision to postpone the event was made at the International Softball Federation Congress in Oklahoma City this past weekend. New dates and location of the event will be announced at a later date.

The Pan American Championship serves as a qualifier for the 2013 ISF XIII Men's World Championship, which will be played in New Zealand.

### Softball Canada Supplier Pool Partners



## IN THE NEWS...

- The Hamilton Spectator published a great article on McMaster University softball player Brittany Hicks (Dundas, ON), who was added to the Senior Women's National Team as an injury replacement: <http://www.thespec.com/sports/article/603817-mac-softball-star-thrown-into-pan-am-games>
- The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton, NB) published a very good article on Rod O'Leary, a Level IV umpire who passed away in October: <http://dailygleaner.canadaeast.com/sports/article/1449348>
- The Brantford Expositor published an article about Erika Polidori and Carey-Leigh Thomas, who will represent Canada at the upcoming ISF Junior Women's World Championships (December 8-17 in South Africa): <http://www.brantfordexpositor.ca/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3345053>
- CBC recently published an article on softball's Olympic reinstatement efforts: <http://www.cbc.ca/sports/baseball/mlb/story/2011/10/31/sp-olympics-softball.html>

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# FEATURED WORTH BALL

The Worth 10" Sof-Dot is the Official Softball of Softball Canada's Learn to Play Program. It has a Level 1 RIF (Reduced Injury Factor), which means that the ball is soft enough to be used by children aged 5-10 years old. The 10" size allows young children to be able to grip the ball with their smaller hands, and also steers them in the right direction to progress to the 11" and 12" balls as they grow.



### Pointstreak Stats

- ▶ is a real-time scoring and official league record keeping software system designed for all levels of league and tournament operations including amateur, recreational, junior, collegiate and professional leagues.

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Official stats and scoring system of

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# UMPIRING

## “What would possess you to do that?”

by Gary Skjerven ODC member, Level V and ISF umpire

In the August Edition there was an article entitled “Where Do Our Canadian Championship Umpires Come From”. The article went on to say that these umpires come from across Canada, are selected by their province and they do not receive a game fee to be there.

In the 2011 season, there were 264 umpires that took time away from work, family and other activities to volunteer their time to officiate Canadian, Western and Eastern Championships.

How many times have we heard “What would possess you to put up with all that crap for nothing?”. For most of us we just shrug the question off and carry on. Over the last number of years we have seen fewer and fewer players continuing in the game as an umpire when they retire from playing. Maybe one of the reasons for this could be that we don't take the time to answer that question.

When asked that very question, Frank Omoe, Level V and ISF umpire from Alberta said “In the past 20 years, I have attended over a dozen Western Canadian Championships (most as a supervisor), ten Canadian Championships, two ISF World Championships, three ISC World Tournaments and a Canada Summer Games. Over that time, my motivation and reasons for attending have changed as my career path in umpiring has changed. In my early years of umpiring I was anxious to improve, move up the ladder, see better ball, and meet and learn from other umpires. My motivation for taking the time to be a supervisor was twofold: firstly, to help the umpires at the tournament develop to their potential while at the same time having fun in what can be a “not fun” situation. Part of my motivation to take time for ISF, ISC and Softball Canada Championships now lies in the satisfaction I get from being accepted (even welcomed, in some cases) when I step on the field with the best Fastpitch softball players in the world. That, along with proving to me that “I still had it,” was the motivation for attending my most recent Canadian Championship (as a Working V at the Senior Men's). Lastly, and most importantly, I have been very fortunate to make many life-long friendships at Western, Canadian, and International Championships and cherish the memories of each event attended and friends I made. Unlike the souvenirs at each championship I've attended, friendships and memories can't be purchased.”

As an up and coming umpire, Dallas Doell a Level IV umpire from Saskatchewan said “I love the opportunity to meet and work with umpires from across Canada. Off the diamond, we share stories and unique plays with each other. I like to watch fellow umpires work and their presence on the diamond. I have modified some of their styles into my game. I have had fantastic supervisors, and worked with great crews. Each experience is slightly different, but after each event I walk away with a bigger passion towards umpiring and have developed many friendships. I love how umpires from across the country can come together in a positive environment, it gives me a chance to take what I learn and bring it home to the local level. I've shared lots of laughs in the hotel or dressing room, and for myself that fun atmosphere translates to the field. I love building off of the energy of the Blue Crew”.

For me, it has been the inner pride of reaching goals, the excitement of participating in the game with some of the best players, learning and umpiring with the top umpires in the world, but the most important is the camaraderie and friendships that I would never have been able to make had I not volunteered to attend over 20 of these championships.

So the next time someone asks “What would possess you to do that?”, take the time to answer the question, you might be surprised at their reaction.

# CONGRATULATIONS

## **2011 Softball Canada / Home Run Sports Umpire of the Year**

- Keith Pender, NL

## **New Level V Umpires – 2011**

### **Senior Women's Fast Pitch, Montreal, QC, August 3-7**

- Frankie Billingsley, AB

## **New Level IV Umpires – 2011**

### **U19 Women's Fast Pitch, Winnipeg, MB**

- Ken Baron, MB
- Robert Borys, MB
- Devin Beaudry, MB (previous SP, now FP as well)
- Brian Riess, ON
- Geoff Larsen, AB
- Dennis Toma, AB

### **U19 Men's Fast Pitch, Fredericton, NB**

- Bruce Luebke, MB
- Scott Masters, NS
- Ron Campbell, NB
- Carl Watters, NB

### **U23 Women's Fast Pitch, Windsor, ON**

- Earl Cheasley, MB
- Ken Gorman, ON
- Craig Holyhead, BC
- Paul Mastalerz, ON
- Shayne Malone, ON

### **Senior Men's Slo Pitch, Dorchester, ON**

- Mark Trepanier, ON
- Barry Luscombe, ON

### **Senior Women's Slo Pitch, Dorchester, ON**

- Don Adamko, MB (was Level IV FP, now SP too)
- Jeff Butler, NS
- Dave Jones, ON
- Greg Andrews, AB (was Level IV FP, now SP too)
- Lenny Galbraith, ON
- Brad Boulianne, ON (was Level IV FP, now SP too)

# HIGHLIGHTS

## **INTERNATIONAL EVENTS SELECTIONS/ APPOINTMENTS**

### **Fast Pitch**

#### **ISF IX Junior Women's World Championship – Cape Town, South Africa**

- 1 – Geneviève Gaudreau (QC)
- 2 – Tonya Ribalkin (AB)

#### **XVI Pan American Games (Women's) – Guadalajara, Mexico**

- 1 – Tim Lederman (BC)

#### **USA World Cup – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

- 1 – Ian Brown (BC)

#### **ISC World Tournament - Moline, Illinois**

- 1 – Greg MacCallum (NS)

#### **Canadian Open – Surrey, BC**

- 1 - Tonya Ribalkin (AB)
- 2 - Gary Schmit (BC)

### **Slo Pitch**

#### **Europe Slo Pitch Exchange - Dupnitsa, Bulgaria**

- 1 – Stephen Doyle (ON)

#### **Border Battle - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

- 1 – Lance Davidson (AB)

#### **ASA Slo Pitch Exchange – Columbus, Ohio**

- 1 – Ben Clements (ON)
- 2 – Terry Wolowiec (MB)

#### **World Senior Master's Games – Salem, Virginia**

- 1 – Steve Camus (ON)
- 2 – Ron Moses (NB)



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# CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS - UIC/DUIC Selections

## Fast Pitch

### **U14 Girls Jamboree (Vaughan, ON – Aug. 17-21)**

(UIC) Peter Kluscynski, ON  
(DUIC) George Findley, ON  
(DUIC) Douglas Webster, ON

### **U16 Girls (Winnipeg, MB - Aug. 17-21)**

(UIC) Joyce Bellini, QC  
(DUIC) Brent Chadwick, SK

### **U19 Women's (Winnipeg, MB - Aug. 14-21)**

(UIC) Grant Hood, NWT  
(DUIC) Frank Fargey, MB

### **U19 Men's (Fredericton, NB – Aug. 8-14)**

(UIC) Lou Davis, NS  
(DUIC) Brian Sharples, ON

### **U23 Women's (Windsor, ON – Aug. 10-14)**

(UIC) Noreen Atkinson, ON  
(DUIC) Terry Richter, AB

### **U23 Men's (Napanee, ON - Aug. 8-14)**

(UIC) Mitch Zuk, ON  
(DUIC) Aaron Poulin, BC

### **Senior Women's (Montreal, QC – Aug. 3-7)**

(UIC) Bonnie Gostola, AB – ODC  
(DUIC) Daryl Way, ON

### **Senior Men's**

#### **[Owen Sound, ON - Aug. 28-Sept. 4]**

(UIC) Doug Cundall, ON – ODC  
(DUIC) Gary Skjerven, SK – ODC

## Slo-Pitch

### **Senior Men's and Women's Slo Pitch (Dorchester, ON - Men Aug. 7-13, Women - Aug. 9-13)**

#### **Men's**

(UIC) Dave Drake, ON  
(DUIC) Jack Van Bynen, ON  
(DUIC) Benoit Marquis, QC

#### **Women's**

(UIC) Mike Robinson, AB  
(DUIC) Len Gorgei, ON - ODC

# Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) and Coaching REPORT

## LTPD Committee

A big thank you to all LTPD Committee members for their dedication and service over the past year. This group has been instrumental in implementing the principles of LTPD within Softball Canada's programs and services (current and new).

Don Bates – Chair (SK)      Dave Paetkau (BC)      Lori Sippel (NE)      Marina Watson (BC)  
Kaila Holtz (BC)      Guy Jacobson (SK)      Lynda Turton (Board Liaison, ON)  
Charles Cardinal – LTAD Expert (QC)

Softball Canada would like to thank Kaila Holtz who will be stepping down from the committee this fall as her workload in obtaining her medical degree increases. Kaila's sport science and softball background was extremely helpful to the work of the committee.

## LTPD Implementation

Softball BC and Softball Ontario have taken a leadership role and developed LTPD Implementation Plans over the past year. Softball BC and Softball Ontario will share their plans and best practices with the other Provincial/Territorial Softball Associations during the Staff Forum at the Annual Congress. As more Provincial/Territorial Softball Associations develop their LTPD Implementation Plans it will be critical to ensure Softball Canada and our Provincial/Territorial partners develop common priorities, understanding and actions to ensure the greatest impact on sport development and LTPD for softball.

## Plan 25

Softball Canada was approached in September 2011 to be one of the five (5) sports in an initiative called Plan 25. The goal of this initiative is to accelerate the implementation of Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L) principles into the delivery of sport programs at the provincial, school, club and community level ensuring alignment with the national LTAD plan for each sport. This initiative includes five (5) sports (Softball, Volleyball, Curling, Cross Country Ski, and Rowing) across five (5) provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario). Softball Canada, representatives from each of the five (5) Provincial Softball Associations and representatives from the Federal-Provincial/Territorial governments responsible for LTAD will be meeting to discuss how to further LTPD implementation. The goal of the Plan 25 initiative is to:

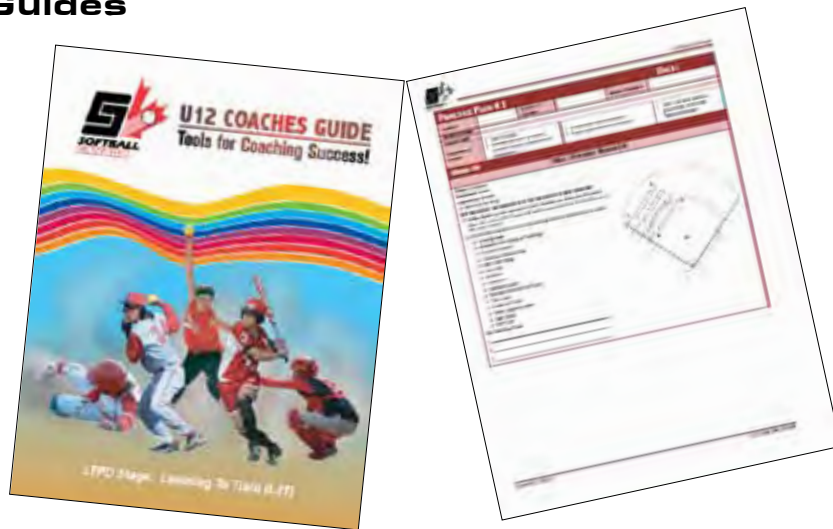
1. Ensure engaged and committed PSOs and other facilitators/experts in the implementation of LTAD.
2. Develop a PSO Implementation Plan approved by the PSO Board and that supports the NSO LTAD model.
3. Create a common priority list of implementation recommendations across PSO's from the 5 provinces.
4. Ensure SMART objectives are included within PSO plan.
5. Create a system of sharing implementation actions and learning with all other partners in the Plan 25 project.

The first Plan 25 conference call will take place in October. An update and opportunity to discuss this initiative will take place during the Staff Forum at Softball Canada's Annual Congress in November. It is hoped that as other Provincial/Territorial Softball Associations become ready to develop their LTPD Implementation Plans, they will become part of this group.

## Skills Matrix

The work by the LTPD Committee to create the softball skills matrix which outlines what is to be taught and to what degree at each stage and age category has been on-going. This matrix includes technical, tactical, mental, cognitive, emotional, social/life and ancillary skills. This document will be the foundation for all programming including the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) and current and future programs and services offered by Softball Canada, our Provincial/Territorial partners and our local clubs and associations. The LTPD Committee has been working over the summer and fall to finalize this document while taking into account the work by the Competition Review Implementation Committee in developing standardized rules for minors. The committee will then work to translate the matrix into useable documents for the softball community (coaches, local softball associations, etc.).

## Coaches Guides



The U12 and U14 Coaches Guides (English and French) have been completed and are available for purchase through our Provincial/Territorial Softball Associations. The U16 Coaches Guide will be completed in time for the start of the 2012 season.

Each Guide contains a season's worth of practice plans divided into 4 training phases with each phase having its own objectives and outcomes. These guides will assist softball coaches with the critical skill of developing and conducting sequential, well organized practices. The practice plans are laid out in a manner that is very easy to follow and to work with. Each drill is described in detail including a list of equipment that is required and a time limit to ensure that the practice is kept on track. The coach can use the information in the Key Teaching Points section of the guide to ensure the players are not simply doing the drills but are instead "learning the skills and game". Each drill also contains a clearly illustrated diagram to allow for easy understanding of the drills. Beyond these valuable practice plans, the Guides contain sections on practice planning, dynamic warm-up routines, cool-down routines, and key teaching points for each skill. This fantastic new resource means that age-appropriate practices and information are now at the fingertips of every softball coach in Canada to ensure they are teaching the right skills at the right time.

## Competition Review Implementation

Softball Canada continues to work with our Provincial/Territorial partners to implement the recommendations from our competition review – Play Ball. The Competition Review Implementation Committee (CRIC) was formed in the early part of the 2011 season with invitations sent out to each P/T to put a member on the Committee. Membership included the Canadian Championship Committee, a P/T President, a P/T staff member, a Senior Level Player, an umpire, Softball Canada's Manager of Canadian Championships/Domestic Services and Manager of Coaching/LTPD.

Over the course of the season, the CRIC communicated through emails as well as a conference call. The main objective of the CRIC was to study and make recommendations for the Fundamentals (males 6-9, females 6-8) and Learning to Train (males 9-12, females 8-11) stages in the LTPD Model. The Committee then gathered in Ottawa the weekend of September 16-18 and reviewed the current rules for the above mentioned stages. The outcome was very positive and a list of standardized rules for these stages was developed and will be presented to the membership at the AGM.

## Team Sport Competition Review

Softball Canada was again successful in an application to Sport Canada for Year 2 funding for the Team Sport Competition Review project. With support and feedback from Softball Canada and various CS4L experts, a workbook for NSOs and P/TSOs to complete and implement a competition review is being created. While Softball Canada has completed our competition review, the workbook will still assist in implementing and communicating the recommendations from our review. In addition, it will greatly assist our Provincial/Territorial Softball Associations as they begin to conduct their own competition reviews. The workbook will be presented to the entire sporting community as a pre-workshop offered prior to the CS4L National Summit on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 in Ottawa, ON.

# Coaching REPORT

## Coaching Development Committee

Softball Canada would like to thank the members of the Coaching Development Committee for their tireless work over the past year. Three (3) new committee members were added in the spring. Their knowledge and expertise will greatly assist in advancing the Coaching Program in the coming years. Welcome aboard to Ken, Brian and Wayne!

Terry Baytor – Chair (ON) Tom Doucette (NS) Dave Bourne (ON)

Tyler Lorenz (BC) Ken Oda (ON) Brian Bates (ON)

Wayne Dixon (MB) Lisa Down (SK – Board Liaison)

## National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP)

Over the past few years, Softball Canada has been busy developing the format and content of the new NCCP clinics then training Master Learning Facilitators who then train the Learning Facilitators in each Province/Territory. Our Provincial/Territorial partners have been busy putting in place the infrastructure to deliver the new NCCP clinics and evaluations. This involved training Learning Facilitators and Evaluators to meet the demands for coaching clinics and evaluations as well as educating coaches on where they fit in the new NCCP. This has been a large task and taken much time and resources (human and financial). As a result, the new NCCP is functioning well in most Provinces and Territories.

The following chart represents the number of coaches by Province/Territory who have taken an NCCP clinic since 2004 when the new NCCP was introduced:

P/T	Community Sport – Initiation Learn To Coach Clinic		Community Sport - Ongoing Participation Clinic		Competition – Introduction What To Coach Clinic		Competition – Introduction How To Coach Clinic		Competition – Introduction Evaluation Workshop	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
BC	223	221	104	265	194	507	62	226	4	24
AB	22	20	215	286	17	34	9	29	--	--
SK	6	--	219	316	18	64	18	58	7	20
MB	--	--	147	191	11	12	11	12	7	6
YK	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
NWT	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
NU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ON	354	827	80	152	101	354	94	332	10	29
QC	36	60	--	--	50	80	50	79	10	15
PEI	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
NB	9	5	9	15	--	--	--	--	--	--
NS	1	16	31	69	--	--	--	--	--	--
NL	---	--	27	30	5	5	--	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL (F/M)</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>1149</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>1324</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>1056</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1800</b>		<b>2156</b>		<b>1452</b>		<b>980</b>		<b>132</b>	

Note: These numbers are as of October 4, 2011 and reflect clinics that have been processed by CAC not necessarily clinics that have been submitted for data entry)

The following chart represents the number of coaches by year who have taken an NCCP clinic since 2004 when the new NCCP was introduced:

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YEAR	Learn To Coach Clinic		Community Sport - Ongoing Participation Clinic		Competition – Introduction What To Coach Clinic		Competition – Introduction How To Coach Clinic		Competition – Introduction Evaluation Workshop	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
2004	--	--	--	--	1	13	1	13	1	13
2005	--	--	--	--	28	44	24	23	9	14
2006	154	327	--	--	26	62	30	80	4	22
2007	184	341	26	33	28	90	22	51	1	1
2008	162	176	115	194	101	273	28	117	--	--
2009	71	155	294	457	68	182	43	140	10	25
2010	22	48	215	367	78	246	40	157	6	13
2011	58	102	182	273	66	146	56	155	7	6
TOTAL (F/M)	651	1149	832	1324	396	1056	244	736	38	94
TOTAL	1800		2156		1452		980		132	

Note: These numbers are as of October 4, 2011 and reflect clinics that have been processed by CAC not necessarily clinics that have been submitted for data entry)

### 2011-2012 NCCP Initiatives

The Coaching Committee will be extremely busy over the next year working on the following major NCCP initiatives:

- Updating and revising the Coaching Technical Manuals and assembling for use in the new NCCP clinics.
- Developing and piloting the new Competition – Development clinics and obtaining conditional approval from the Coaching Association of Canada for this context.
- Starting to develop an e-learning component to the NCCP.
- Integration of CANpitch into the NCCP.
- Aligning all coaching resources with LTPD model and skills matrix.

### Coaching Association of Canada (CAC)

#### New NCCP Database

Over the past year, CAC has been developing a new and improved NCCP Database which will be called the "Locker". The Locker will offer greater functionality for the coach and NCCP partners. The CAC is using a phased approach in launching the new database. Softball is in the fourth wave and will be working with CAC in the coming months to transfer the existing data into the new database and resolve any issues.

#### We Are Coaches Program

The Coaching Association of Canada's (CAC) Women in Coaching program, through the support of Sport Canada, has offered a We Are Coaches Program since 2005 to assist in meeting its objective of increasing the number of coaching and leadership opportunities for women at all levels of sport. The specific objective of We Are Coaches is to recruit, train, and retain women coaches and leaders in community sports by providing encouragement, best practice models, case studies, templates, and financial support. In 2010-11 the program expanded to include all sports that have CAC-approved, NCCP programs. Funding up to \$1,000\* is available for: Sport-specific, women-only, CAC-approved NCCP workshops in the above contexts; and/or the hosting and/or support by NSOs, P/TSOs or clubs, to women who wish to become Learning Facilitators and/or Evaluators. Grants were given to the following softball associations:

P/T	CITY	CLINIC	NUMBER OF FEMALE COACHES
Softball BC	Langley, BC	Competition – Introduction What To Coach Clinic	7
Softball MB	Winnipeg, MB	Competition – Introduction	8
Softball ON	Oakville, ON	Learn To Coach Clinic	5
Softball NL	St. John's, NL	Competition - Introduction	6

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### Aboriginal Coaches Clinic

Softball Saskatchewan and Softball Canada co-hosted an Aboriginal Coaches Clinic on May 27-29, 2011 in Saskatoon, SK. Don Bates (Senior Men's Head Coach) who organized the clinics recruited fellow Softball Canada National Team coaches and athletes as presenters: Mark Smith (Senior Women's Head Coach), Dave Paetkau (Senior Women's Assistant Coach), Jen Yee (Senior Women's player) and Erin Cumpstone (Senior Women's player). The clinic was a combination of classroom and on the field practical sessions. Hitting and pitching were two of the topics covered. The clinic started on Friday evening, continued all day Saturday and finished up at noon on Sunday. This clinic was open to aboriginal coaches only. There was no registration fee to attend the clinic. However, coaches were responsible to cover their own travel to the clinic and their accommodations while at the clinic. Originally twenty (20) coaches had registered but in the end only eight (8) coaches attended the clinic (3 from Northern Saskatchewan, 3 from Southern Saskatchewan and 2 from Alberta).

### 2012 International Softball Coaches Symposium

Softball Canada and Softball BC will be co-hosting the 2012 International Softball Coaches Symposium on March 2-4, 2012 in Richmond, BC at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel. New to the symposium this year will be the addition of a volunteer stream to support the countless volunteers who run the sport at the local level.

### Home Run Sports Coach of the Year

Softball Canada would like to congratulate Jamie Wentworth from Enfield, NS as the winner of the 2011 Home Run Sports Coach of the Year Award. Jamie has coached for over 23 years at all levels and ages with great success. Jamie's coaching ability, knowledge of the game and great motivational skills have helped 13 players advance to the Junior Men's National Team. These skills also translate into team success. After finishing with a silver medal at the past 2 Junior Men's Canadian Fast Pitch Championships, Jamie's team captured the gold medal this past year.

## LEARN TO PLAY SOFTBALL in Manitoba's Southeast Girls Softball League



The Southeast Girls Softball League again had a successful year in the Learn to Play program focusing on skill development, learning how to play the game and having fun with friends. The weather was great and we were able to get lots of field time to play. In the three Learn to Play levels we had seven communities get involved which included seven teams in the 2nd level and six teams in the 3rd level.

## AROUND the HORN

We had a Jamboree for the Level 1 group where we played a mini game of t-ball, did a circuit full of skill activities which included hit, run and throw stations, and enjoyed medals, t-shirts, hotdogs, drinks, and goodie bags! Coaches/parents and players were involved and everyone had a great time. Everyone went home with a smile and great memories were made.

The Level 2 & 3 Learn to Play teams joined us in our league tournament and each team played two fun games against other communities. They also enjoyed t-shirts, pencils, tattoos and participation medals in which they all were excited to get and wear proudly.

It is great to see how the players all progressed throughout the year and the final events helped the players to showcase all the new skills they have learned and developed while having fun with friends. Hats off to all the coaches and parent volunteers who put so much time and effort into the Learn to Play Program, to make it such a success.

Candice Dueck, Southeast Girls - LTP Coordinator

The Southeast Jamboree was just another great example of developing our game with the Learn To Play Program. This past season 2,351 players and 116 coaches were involved in Softball Manitoba's LTP Programs. Our largest source of increase was the Physical Education Curriculum as we targeted six new schools to pick up the program resulting in 565 new softball participants. In addition to our regular LTP programs, Softball Manitoba also ran a 10-week Winter Softball program in Winnipeg for 30 boys who graduated from Learn to Play.

Don Klym, Executive Director

donklym@mts.net

**Softball Canada is looking for volunteer teams to participate in a pilot of a**

# SKILLS TESTING PROGRAM!

Aligned with Softball Canada's Long Term Player Development Model, Softball Canada is currently developing a skills testing program for male and female athletes aged U12 – U16. The program includes both fitness and softball skills tests.

This pilot program will encourage athletes to expand their personal softball specific and fitness skills.

If your team would like to participate and test your teams skills please contact:

**Angela Ballantyne**

**Manager, Domestic Programs**

**212-223 Colonnade Road, Ottawa, ON, K2E 7K3**

**Tel.: (613) 523-3386 ext. 3107**

**Fax: (613) 523-5761**

**aballantyne@softball.ca**

# FUTURE CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

## 2012

U14 Girl's Jamboree	Open	TBD
U16 Girl's	Bid pending	August 21 - 25
U18 Women's	Montreal, QC	August 12 - 19
U18 Men's	Fredericton, NB	August 6 - 12
U21 Women's	Bid pending	August 1 - 5
U21 Men's	Bid pending	TBD
Senior Women's	Jarvis, ON	Aug. 8-12
Senior Men's	Bid pending	TBD
Senior Men's and Women's SP	Dorchester, ON	Men: TBD Women: TBD

## 2013

U14 Girl's Jamboree	Open	TBD
U16 Girl's	Open	TBD
U16 Boy's	Open	TBD
U18 Women's	Open	TBD
U18 Men's	Open	TBD
U21 Women's	Open	TBD
U21 Men's	Bid Pending	TBD
Senior Women's	Open	TBD
Senior Men's	Open	TBD
Senior Men's and Women's SP	Open	Men: TBD Women: TBD

If you are interested in bidding on any of the open Championships, please contact Mike Branchaud, Manager of Canadian Championships and Domestic Services, at [mbranchaud@softball.ca](mailto:mbranchaud@softball.ca) or 613-523-3386 ext 3103. Please note that all bids must be approved by your local Provincial/Territorial office.

# **SOFTBALL CANADA**

## **STAFF CONTACTS**

**Chief Executive Officer – Hugh Mitchener –** [hmitchener@softball.ca](mailto:hmitchener@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3106

- General Management
- Board and Provincial/Territorial Liaison
- Strategic and Operational Planning
- Financial Management
- Policy Development
- Liaison with external funding partners (Sport Canada, COC)
- International Liaison and Hosting

**Manager – LTPD/Coaching Services – Lise Jubinville –** [ljubinville@softball.ca](mailto:ljubinville@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3108

- Long Term Player Development
- Coaching

**Manager – Officials/Publications Services – Donna Ozarko –** [dozarko@softball.ca](mailto:dozarko@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3101

- Officials
- Blue Convention
- Newsletters (Around the Horn, Between the Lines, Canadian Indicator Newsletter)
- Rule Book
- Volunteer recognition
- Publications

**Manager – Financial Services – Kathy Stewart –** [kstewart@softball.ca](mailto:kstewart@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3104

- Budget preparation
- Financial Monitoring/reports
- Accounts receivables/payables
- Tax receipts
- National Teams financial reporting to external funding bodies
- Annual General Meeting organization

**Manager - Canadian Championships/  
Domestic Services - Mike Branchaud –** [mbranchaud@softball.ca](mailto:mbranchaud@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3103

- Canadian Championships
- Slo-Pitch
- Canada Games/Male equivalent
- University/College initiatives
- Competition review follow-up, national implementation and associated rule changes
- Technical standards

## AROUND the HORN

**Operations Manager – National Teams – Harvey Stevenson –** [hstevenson@softball.ca](mailto:hstevenson@softball.ca)

- Men's and Women's Teams program management
- Liaison with organizers/hosts of national team events
- COC Major Games liaison

**Manager – Marketing/Communications Services – Gilles LeBlanc –** [gleblanc@softball.ca](mailto:gleblanc@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3105

- Revenue Generation
- Sponsor/Supplier liaison
- Development of promotional programs
- Media Relations
- Web site
- Hall of Fame and awards
- Ball Approval Program

**Manager – Domestic Programming – Angela Ballantyne** [aballantyne@softball.ca](mailto:aballantyne@softball.ca)  
Phone: 613.523.3386 ext. 3107

- Manager, Domestic Programming
- Learn to Play
- After Learn to Play (curriculum guides, skills tests, school programs)
- CanPitch
- Adapted softball - Wheelchair/Blind/Special Olympics
- Future initiatives



### Softball Canada

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