



# Awards Policy

## A. Annual Awards

Each year, Softball BC opens nominations for its Annual Awards, with the goal of recognizing the outstanding achievements, performances, and/or volunteerism of our members.

### 1. Categories & Criteria

#### **Volunteer Category**

- a) Zeone Andrijaszyn Volunteer of the Year
  - The Zeone Andrijaszyn Volunteer of the Year Award is presented to members of our community who exhibit a nature of volunteerism for the benefit of Softball BC.
  - The nominated volunteer must be a resident of British Columbia during the period for which the outstanding performance is claimed.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this award.

#### **Coach Category**

- a) Bryan Sask Coach of the Year
  - The nominee must have coached and demonstrated excellence in one or more Provincial, Western Canadian or Canadian Championship, Canada Summer Games or the BC Summer Games, within the current season.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
  - The nominee must be a current resident of British Columbia for the period for which the outstanding performance is claimed.
- b) Community Coach of the Year
  - The nominee is a volunteer coach in a recreational league.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
  - The nominee has demonstrated success. Success is being measured in both wins, but more importantly, skill development and player retention.

#### **Umpire Category**

- a) Official of the Year
  - The nominee is a registered umpire with Softball BC.
  - The nominee has exhibited traits that elevate our game and its officiating. The official of the year will exhibit positivity, eagerness, and a willingness to continue improving.
  - The nominee respects all those involved in the game and is a positive role model for those around them.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
- b) Rising Star
  - The nominee is a registered umpire with Softball BC.



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- The nominee shows an eagerness to improve and learn, while demonstrating skill and a positive attitude.
- The nominee respects all those involved in the game and is a positive role model for those around them.
- Softball BC wishes to recognize an umpire who shows a potential for greatness in the field of officiating and has been umpiring for three years or less.
- Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.

## ***Minor Athlete Category***

- a) Community Minor Athlete of the Year
- The nominee has shown exemplary traits on the field, with their teammates and in the community they live in.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award
  - The nominee must have been rostered as a C level player.
- b) Indigenous Minor Athlete of the Year
- The nominee has shown exemplary traits on the field, with their teammates and in the community they live in.
  - The nominee must be of Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit).
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC.
  - Relevant statistics/awards demonstrating excellence for the year of nomination.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
  - The nominee must have been rostered as an A, B, or C level player.
- c) Rep Minor Athlete of the Year
- The nominee has shown exemplary traits on the field, with their teammates and in the community they live.
  - Relevant statistics/awards demonstrating excellence for the year of nomination.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC and has been rostered with either an A or B level team.

## ***Men's and Women's Athlete Categories***

- a) Men's and/or Women's Athlete of the Year
- The nominee has shown exemplary traits on the field, with their teammates and in the community they live in.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
- b) Indigenous Athlete of the Year



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- The nominee has shown exemplary traits on the field, with their teammates and in the community they live in.
  - The nominee must be of Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit).
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC.
- c) Men's and/or Women's Slo-Pitch Athlete of the Year
- The nominee has shown exemplary traits on the field, with their teammates and in the community they live in.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC.
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
- d) Masters Athlete of the Year
- The nominee has represented Softball BC with distinction in Softball competition, in BC and/or Canada
  - The nominee has an outstanding record. Relevant records, titles and stats demonstrating excellence should be included in the nomination.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC as defined in the Operating Rules of Softball BC
  - Cannot be a prior recipient of this same award.
- e) Athlete Resilience Award
- The nominee has shown an exemplary amount of resilience, overcoming either health issues or injury to return to the sport of softball.
  - The nominee is a registered member of Softball BC.
  - The nominee can participate in Minor or Men's/Women's fastpitch or slo-pitch.

## ***Team Category***

- a) Master Team of the Year
- The nominated team has demonstrated exemplary effort and has represented BC proudly in softball competition.
  - All teams nominated in the Team of the Year category must be a Softball BC registered team for the year of nomination.
- b) Men's and/or Women's Fastpitch Team of the Year
- The nominated team has demonstrated exemplary effort and has represented BC proudly in softball competition.
  - All teams nominated in the Team of the Year category must be a Softball BC registered team for the year of nomination.
- c) Men's and/or Women's Slo-Pitch Team of the Year
- The nominated team has demonstrated exemplary effort and has represented BC proudly in softball competition.
  - All teams nominated in the Team of the Year category must be a Softball BC registered team for the year of nomination.
- c) Minor Team of the Year



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- The nominated team has demonstrated exemplary effort and has represented BC proudly in softball competition.
- All teams nominated in the Team of the Year category must be a Softball BC registered team for the year of nomination.

## ***Association Category***

- a) Association of the Year - Small
- The association has 200 or less members.
  - The association has developed innovative ways of developing athletes while staying focused on building from the ground up.
  - Has developed programs and/or community events to support and showcase the sport of softball.
- b) Association of the Year - Large
- The association has more than 200 members.
  - The association has developed innovative ways of developing athletes while staying focused on building from the ground up.
  - Has developed programs and/or community events to support and showcase the sport of softball.

## ***Coordinator and District Umpire-in Chief Category***

- a) Minor, Men's and Women's, Slo-Pitch and District Umpire-in-Chief of the Year
- This award is not included in the open nominations process. Recipients are selected by the Chair of the respective committee overseeing each category.
  - Chosen based on exceptional volunteerism, leadership, and outstanding contribution to the development and success of their respective programs

## **2. Selection Process**

- a) Nominations
- Nominations are accepted annually from **August 1st to October 1st**.
  - Any Softball BC Member, Team, Club, or Association may submit a nomination. Nomination Package must contain:
    - Detailed supporting documentation outlining the nominee's accomplishments
    - Contact information for both the nominator and nominee
    - A biography of the nominee
    - Photos of the nominee
    - A letter of support
    - Written consent confirming the nominee is aware of and agrees to the nomination
    - For team nominations, the full team roster is required
- b) Selection:
- Softball BC staff shall bring forward nominations to the Board of Directors no later than **October 15th**. The Board will ratify the award winner no later than **November 1st**



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- Award winners will be notified of their selection no later than **November 15th**

## 3. Announcement and Award Presentation

- All successful nominees will be formally announced on Softball BC's website and social media platform.
- Successful Nominees will receive a plaque of recognition to be awarded at an event hosted by their Association, Club or Team in the Spring.

## B. Service Awards

Each year, Softball BC takes the opportunity to recognize the outstanding service and attitude of volunteerism that is demonstrated by our members.

### 1. Categories & Criteria

- a) Men's and Women's Service Awards
  - The nominee must be a participant supporting a Men's and/or Women's league or community.
  - The nominee has been a continuously positive voice for the game of softball for at least 10 years.
  - The nominee has been a dedicated and active individual serving the adult softball community as a coach, mentor, trainer, and local sport organization executive.
- b) Minor Service Awards
  - The nominee has been a continuously positive voice for the game of softball for at least 10 years.
  - The nominee has been a dedicated and active individual serving the minor community as a coach, mentor, trainer, and local sport organization executive.
- c) Umpire Service Award
  - The nominee has been a continuous positive role model for the officiating of softball.
  - The nominee has been a continuously positive voice for the game of softball for at least 10 years.
  - The nominee respects all those involved in the game.
- d) Softball BC Volunteer Service Award
  - This award is not included in the open nominations. The years of service are documented and tracked by Softball BC Staff.
  - Each year, Softball BC extends heartfelt thanks to members who have served in Softball BC Volunteer roles (Coordinators, PODC's and UICs) for years of service. This is commemorated by the presentation of 5, 10, and 15-year pins.
- e) Brian Joe Award- Sportsperson/Builder



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- The Brian Joe Award is given to a Softball BC member who exhibits excellent service to our sport for a period of at least 10 years, not necessarily in consecutive years.
- The nominee has served at the Association, District, or Provincial capacity for a minimum of 2 years.
- The nominee must be a current resident of British Columbia for the period for which the outstanding performance is claimed.

## 2. Selection Process

### a) Nominations

- Nominations are accepted annually from **August 1st to October 1st**.
- Any Softball BC Member, Team, Club, or Association may submit a nomination. Nomination Package must contain:
  - Detailed supporting documentation outlining the nominee's accomplishments
  - Contact information for both the nominator and nominee
  - A biography of the nominee
  - Photos of the nominee
  - A letter of support
  - Written consent confirming the nominee is aware of and agrees to the nomination
  - For team nominations, the full team roster is required

### b) Selection:

- Softball BC staff shall bring forward nominations to the Board of Directors no later than **October 15th**. The Board will ratify the award winner no later than **November 1st**
- Award winners will be notified of their selection no later than **November 15th**

## 3. Announcement and Award Presentation

- All successful nominees will be formally announced on Softball BC's website and social media platform.
- Successful Nominees of the following awards: Umpire Service, Minor Service, and Men's/Women's Service will receive a plaque of recognition to be awarded at an event hosted by their Association, Club or Team in the Spring.
- Recipients of the Softball BC Volunteer Service Award will receive 5, 10, and 15-year service pins in appreciation and recognition of their service.

## C. Awards of Distinction

The Softball BC Distinction Awards recognize individuals who have made significant, lasting contributions to the sport of softball in British Columbia.

### 1. Categories & Criteria



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- a) Honorary Life Member
  - Minimum of 5 years of dedicated volunteer service to Softball BC as a Director, Umpire-in-Chief, PODC's or Coordinator.
  - May not return to Softball as a Director, Coordinator or Umpire-in-Chief if Honorary Life Membership is given.
  - Consideration is based on exceptional service that demonstrates a sustained commitment well beyond standard expectations.
- b) Athlete of Distinction
  - Has represented Softball BC with distinction in competition in BC or Canada.
  - Maintained a reputation for sportsmanship, leadership, respect and performance excellence throughout their playing career.
  - Must have competed as a Softball BC registered athlete residing in BC.
- c) Special Recognition
  - Local Association person– must have served their local association for at least 5 years and demonstrated exceptional service beyond their regular responsibilities.
- d) 50 Year Club
  - Softball BC will provide recognition to eligible members who have been involved with Softball BC and the sport of softball for 50 years.

## 2. Selection process

- a) Nominations
  - Nominations are accepted annually from September 1 to December 1.
  - Any Softball BC Member, Team, Club, or Association may submit a nomination.
  - Nomination Package must contain:
    - Documentation outlining the nominee's accomplishments
    - Contact information for both the nominator and nominee
    - Photos of the nominee
    - A letter of support
  - If additional information is required, the chosen nomination will be followed by a post-nomination interview form from the Softball BC Hall of Fame Committee.
- b) Selection
  - The Hall of Fame Committee shall make their recommendations to the Board of Directors no later than January 1. The Board will ratify the inductee no later than January 30th.
  - Award winners will be notified of their selection no later than February 15th.
  - Each nomination remains active for five consecutive years. If not selected within that period, the nomination must be resubmitted for future consideration.

## 3. Announcement and Award Presentation



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All successful award winners:

- be formally announced on Softball BC's website and social media platforms.
- will receive a plaque of recognition and/or recognition gift to be awarded at an event hosted by their Association, Club or Team in the Spring.
- are permanently engraved on the Softball BC Wall of Fame located at Softball City, 2201 148 Street in Surrey, BC.

## D. Hall of Fame

The Softball BC Hall of Fame honours individuals and teams who have made outstanding contributions to the sport of softball in British Columbia.

Softball BC will consider a last-minute or ad hoc induction and ceremony for qualified individuals facing a terminal illness who may not live until the year's scheduled induction. Such requests should be submitted to the Hall of Fame Committee for consideration.

### 1. Categories & Criteria

#### a) Athlete

- An individual is eligible for nomination only after either three (3) years have passed since retirement from international competition and/or they have reached 45 years of age.
- An individual who retired from international competition for at least three (3) years but continues to compete in recreational or Masters competitions remains eligible for consideration.
- The nominee must have represented British Columbia, Canada, and/or competed internationally with distinction and a high level of excellence.
- Participation in International Championships, Pan-American Games, Olympic Games, and/or World Championships is required.
- Compiled an outstanding record over several years as a registered Softball BC athlete residing in BC

#### b) Official

- Umpired at high levels in BC, nationally, and/or internationally with a sustained record of excellence.
- Long-term service as a registered Softball BC umpire residing in BC

#### c) Coach

- BC resident who has coached for at least three (3) years at Canadian and/or Western Championships with distinction.
- Has coached at least one (1) year at Pan-American, World Championships, Border Battle and/or Canada Summer Games.

#### d) Builder/Sportsperson

- BC resident who has shown excellence and/or brought distinction to Softball BC through lasting commitment to an association, district, team, or the sport.





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- e) Team
  - Represented Softball BC with distinction.
  - Achieved Gold at a Canadian and/or Western Championship.
  - Demonstrated excellence and/ or brought honour to the sport of softball.
- f) Sponsors
  - Contributed to the growth and development of BC Softball for five years and/or longer.

## 2. Selection process

- a) Nominations
  - Nominations are accepted annually from September 1 to December 1.
  - Any Softball BC Member, Team, Club, or Association may submit a nomination.
  - Nomination Package must contain:
    - Documentation outlining the nominee's accomplishments
    - Contact information for both the nominator and nominee
    - Photos of the nominee
    - A letter of support
    - For team nominations, a full team roster is required
  - The chosen nomination will be followed by a post-nomination interview form from the Softball BC Hall of Fame Committee.
- b) Selection
  - The Hall of Fame Committee shall make their recommendations to the Board of Directors no later than January 1. The Board will ratify the inductee no later than January 30th.
  - Inductees will be notified of their selection no later than February 15th.
  - Each nomination remains active for five consecutive years. If not selected within that period, the nomination must be resubmitted for future consideration.

## 3. Announcement and Award Presentation

- Softball BC will annually host an induction ceremony at a date, time and location as approved by the Board of Directors.
- Each inductee receives a recognition gift as part of their Hall of Fame honour.
- Inductees are permanently engraved on the Softball BC Wall of Fame located at Softball City, 2201 148 Street in Surrey, BC.
- Inductees will be announced on Softball BC's website and social media platforms.