



## Sherwood Park Minor Baseball Association

Box 57069, RPO Eastgate  
Sherwood Park, AB  
T8A 5L7



### **SPMBA Rep Player Transfer Policy\***

Sherwood Park Minor Baseball Association is committed to our players, families and community. We strive to provide our players with an experience that promotes athlete development, sportsmanship, teamwork, respect and a lifetime love for the game of baseball. We also recognize, respect and support the boundaries defined by Baseball Alberta with regard to other member associations and encourage the development of all baseball programs throughout the province. We recognize that many neighbouring communities offer different levels of programming that may not meet the specific needs of their athletes (i.e. no rep program offered or athletes wanting to play at a higher level) and Sherwood Park has been a logical destination for many such athletes throughout our history. In an effort to provide the greatest possible development for our homegrown athletes, as well as provide a program of choice for athletes in some neighbouring communities, SPMBA has developed the following policy in regards to imports and transfers in and out of our association:

### **Loyalty Matters, Pride Matters, Teammates Matter**

Players from Sherwood Park who are adjudged to be of equal talent to that of import players will be given preference on all rep team rosters. We recognize that talent evaluation can be subjective and feedback will be sought from multiple sources...the coaching staff, independent evaluators, and the SPMBA Rep Committee. Final approval on all transfers both into and out of the Association lies with the President of the Association. He/she will make a ruling based on the best interests of the Association and the individual athlete.

- 1) There will be no lateral transfers (i.e. AAA to AAA or AA to AA) either into or out of SPMBA.
- 2) SPMBA will not accept any transfers for third year U18 (Midget division) players unless such athlete has newly relocated to Strathcona County. A player will be adjudged to be "newly relocated" if they have moved to Strathcona after the previous year's Baseball Alberta roster submission deadline.
- 3) All imports must first register with their home association and must provide documentation of that registration at the first tryout date.
- 4) If an import athlete successfully makes an SPMBA rep team, the Baseball Alberta transfer procedure will commence. The athlete will be required to pay two years of SPMBA registration fees at that time. In the event that after the player's first year with SPMBA, their original home association starts an equivalent team, they will be eligible to return home and their second year of registration fees will be reimbursed. If the player chooses to try out for another association, they will forfeit their second year of registration fees. This process is in place to discourage athletes from "shopping around" to find a team.



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- 5) Families of import athletes are required to adhere to the same volunteer commitments (as outlined by the coach, off-field manager or Association) as local families for the duration of the season including regular season, playoffs and tournaments.
- 6) SPMBA has implemented a cap on the number of imports that will be permitted at each level.\*\* For the purpose of this rule, athletes from Strathcona County communities **without a rep program** (i.e. Ardrossan, Josephburg, etc.) shall not be considered in the import numbers.
  - a) For Bantam AAA and Midget AAA, no more than 4 import players,
  - b) For PeeWee AAA, Bantam AA, Midget AA, no more than 3 import players,
  - c) For all other divisions, no more than 2 import players.

\*\* SPMBA reserves the right to alter or adjust import cap levels if necessary to provide an adequate number of players to form a team.

### **Overage Players at U18 – NEW FOR 2016**

SPMBA will allow overage players to play at the Midget AAA level only (no overage players will be permitted at the Midget AA level) provided that such players meet the following criteria:

- 1) The players must reside in Sherwood Park (no overage transfers will be permitted). For the purpose of this rule, athletes from outside of Sherwood Park who have played in the SPMBA program for at least the past four consecutive seasons shall be considered SPMBA athletes. Such athletes have adequately demonstrated their loyalty to and investment in our program.
- 2) The overage players must not turn 19 years old prior to the completion of the current season. The season shall be deemed to be completed on the last day of the Baseball Alberta Midget AAA provincial championship.
- 3) As per Baseball Alberta rules, overage players are permitted to play at the provincial championship but are not eligible for any post-provincial play.
- 4) If the Midget AAA team selects overage players for their roster, those players shall count towards the import cap for the current season. For example, if one overage player was on the Midget AAA roster, then they would have three remaining spots for imports. If there were two overage players (the maximum allowed under Baseball Alberta rules), then there would be two remaining spots for imports.

\*SPMBA reserves the right to alter or adjust this policy in order to protect the interests of the association and our athletes. All rulings and judgments regarding transfers into and out of the association are final except in situations where the Baseball Alberta appeal process may be applicable.