

U13 Stay-at-Home rule. – applicable to those players born in 2009 & 2010

As most of you have heard by now, Softball BC has implemented a “Stay at Home” rule for the U13 division for the 2022 season.

We’re sure some of you are wondering how this will affect your child at try-outs. We are going to try and explain the rule as much as possible but if you do have questions please reach out.

1. This does not affect your child if they plan to play in District 8 (Langley, Abbotsford, or Chilliwack)
 - a. If you live within District 8.
 - b. Or, if you live outside of District 8 but plan on playing on a team in the same classification you were registered with for 2021.
 - i. Examples:
 1. You played on Fusion '10 but live in Surrey, you are still able to try out for Fusion '10 again this year or any other A team within District 8.
 2. You played on Xtreme '09 but live in Maple Ridge, you are still able to try out for Xtreme '09 this year or any other B team in District 8.
2. This only affects players that wish to play on a team outside of the District they reside in.
3. In order to try-out for a team out of a player’s District of residence, they will need a Tryout Activity report signed by any Association in their District of residence, that has a team in the category and classification that the player is wanting to try-out for. For District 8, this will be Langley and/or Abbotsford.
 - a. A Tryout Activity report will be signed when a player is released from their current team or are unsuccessful in gaining a position on a team they are trying out for. They will then be able to attend other try-outs in order to earn a spot at the classification they wish to play at.
 - b. - A signed tryout Activity report from an A team cannot be used to try out for a B team in a different District or vice versa. You cannot use a Tryout Activity report from an A team and then go try out for a B team in a different District or vice versa.
4. There are fairly serious consequences for the player and team if this policy is not followed. Please see point “I” below.

We have tried to summarize the new “Stay at Home” rule above, but we are not responsible for any misunderstandings from the summary. If parents wish to have their child try-out outside of their District of Residence, it is their responsibility to make sure all documents are collected and rules are followed as listed below.

The rule from the Softball BC Handbook:

h) EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022 PLAYING SEASON:

i) All U13 minor players, and younger, must register only with a team in a recognized association located within the boundaries of the District in which that player resides.

ii) A player is exempt from subsection i) of this section where:

1. There is no team in the player's own District in the category and classification that the player intends to play on out of District; or

2. The player has received a written release - via a Tryout Activity Report - from any association within the player's own District that has one or more teams in the category and classification at the level that the player intends to play out of District, indicating that the association does not object to the player playing out of District at that level.

The Minor Coordinator for the player's home District and the District in which they wish to play will manage the exemption process and paperwork.

iii) All U13 and younger players on a 2021 SBBC official team registration form will have the option to stay in the District in which that team is registered, or to return to their home District in 2022 and in subsequent seasons. The player may stay in the District in which they are registered in 2021 in all subsequent years, including with a team at a different association within that other District at the same classification and category, but should they return to their home District at any point, should they wish to play in another District that is not their home District, or should they drop down to a lower classification, they would again be subject to the requirements of this section regarding playing out of District should they wish to do so. For purposes of this section a player's home District is the address used for registration and at which they ordinarily reside.

iv) Should a player wish to stay out of their home District for a second or subsequent season, the player should present a signed redacted copy of the roster from the previous year as evidence that they are permitted to continue to register in that other District. This redacted form can be obtained by the District Minor Coordinator of that district. v) Except in accordance with this section, with the exception of any post-season event which has been clearly and explicitly sanctioned by the Minor Director of Softball BC, players must not participate in any event on a team from outside the player's District of residence.*

i) Where it is established that a player who does not have a release as set out in subsection ii) of this section has attended a training session, game or practice with another team, or in any way works out with a team outside his/her District of residence, the player will be deemed ineligible to play out of his or her home District in the next playing season, and the team/association that allowed that player to work out with them will be deemed ineligible to accept any new out of District players in the next playing season. In addition, the player and the head coach and manager of any team accepting participation of a player that does not have a release as set out in subsection ii) may be subject to disciplinary measures, which may include suspension. Notwithstanding the foregoing, players are permitted to attend any type of skill building clinic that is organized by a third-party organization or association and does not have direct ties to a particular team. Any disciplinary action or ineligibility will be managed by the District Minor Coordinators as selected by the Minor Director to investigate.