



Softball Canada Umpiring Program National Mechanics Schools

Overview

The National Mechanics School is an 8-10 hour program designed to develop and enhance the on-field knowledge and skills of participating umpires. It is relevant to umpires at any age, experience or certification level and involves active instruction and application of fundamental and advanced umpiring mechanics.

What Will I Learn?

Participants will receive instruction and actively practice the application of both fundamental and advanced on-field mechanics, including the following;

- Plate Mechanics
 - Pre-pitch Preparation
 - Active Set-Up / Heel-Toe Alignment
 - Working the Slot – GPA
 - Framing the Zone
 - Timing and Signals
 - Post-pitch Movement
 - Post-hit Movement
- Base Mechanics
 - Start Positions (2 & 3 Umpire Mechanics)
 - Set – Release
 - Use of Set / Tracking the Ball
 - Inside-Out Theory / Rimming
 - Button Hook
 - Leading Edge, Gap Positioning

Normal Structure

National Mechanics Schools are normally held over a weekend, with six hours on Saturday and three to four hours on a Sunday. There is some classroom instruction but the focus is on active application on the field (or in a gym).

Instructors

Instructional leaders will include members of Softball Canada's National Instructional Staff supported by select provincial instructors.

Standards

The clinic can focus on fast pitch, slo-pitch or both depending on demand. Instruction will reflect current standards of the World Baseball Softball Confederation (formerly the International Softball federation) as used by Softball Canada at national level competitions.

Who Should Attend?

All umpires can benefit from this clinic regardless of experience, age or certification level. Whether looking at attending a Canadian Championship, advancing your certification level or helping out in your local association this clinic will make a better umpire and focus on best practices as adopted at the highest levels of the sport.

I May Be Interested in Attending or Hosting an Event. How Do I Learn More?

Softball Canada partners with provincial softball associations to host these events across the country. Contact your local or provincial Umpire-in-Chief or Education Officer to see if there is one happening in your area.