

Zone 2 Provincials format 2024

Baseball Manitoba will offer multiple provincials to replace the current “A” and “AA” provincials with the representation for the events varying at each age group due to roster make up.

The ideas below have been formed based on the need to:

- *Offer the player development opportunity that best suits that particular age group
- *Create more opportunities for the different calibre of teams our leagues produce
- *Create a more level playing field for small associations when competing vs large associations
- *Create the appetite and ability for more teams/associations to want to attend provincials and more importantly host provincials.
- *Transition the goal of provincials to becoming an event that can maximize participation, competition, and development for all age groups
- *Have the teams in each provincial event following the same roster formation guidelines
- *The ideas are a starting point and would be reviewed annually for the first couple seasons as changes would likely be needed due to the number of changes being made.

11U

Observations and feedback

- *The majority of zone 2 leagues currently make even teams at the 11U level at season start up.
- *Larger associations have tended to have more success at provincials, but not as prevalent as the older age groups
- *Some large rural associations have made stronger teams at the 11U level, but part of that reason was to be competitive at the AA provincials where they face stronger Zone 1 teams and/or another reason was to provide more opportunities for the keener players
- *Zone 2 leagues have had minimal to no success at AA provincials. (41-73 record from 2018-2022 AA provincials)

Zone 2 11U provincials (Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3)

- All local associations are to attempt to make even teams for their local league and provincial representatives. (i.e. if the association has 30 players their 3 teams should be of similar skill level).
 - Although the goal is for equal teams, there is an understanding that not all teams will be equal as the season progresses. This could be due to not knowing the talent pool at the start, the top player(s) being that much better than others, or an association with only one team having a strong group of players that year, but leagues are asked to do their best to maintain a level of parity.*
- Local leagues can decide on how best to choose their provincial representative (i.e. provincial playdown, league tournament, acclamation etc.) Ideally, the top team in the league would go to “Tier 1” the next best to “Tier 2” and the “Tier 3” rep would come from the bottom half of the league.
- Leagues are not required to send a rep to a provincial(s) if they prefer not to (i.e. they feel their teams would not be competitive in the “Tier 1” provincial, there is not interest in going, etc. The absence of attending does not affect their eligibility to send a team to other provincials at that age level.
- Leagues must inform Baseball Manitoba by June 1st of their intentions to fill their assigned provincial spots.
- Teams are allowed 4 player pick-ups from their league for the provincials. Ideally all Tier 1 provincial pick-ups are chosen first, then Tier 2, followed by Tier 3.
- All players are eligible to be picked up for any provincial i.e. players from teams that may be considered of “A” calibre in their league can still be a pick for the “C” provincial. *The rationale includes the fact that equal team formation means that “C” players could be just as strong as “A” players, as well as the fact*

that "C" teams will likely need pitching to allow for a decent calibre of baseball at the provincials. Having the "A" pick-ups chosen first will lower the calibre of "C" pick-ups.

-Leagues wanting to attend provincials are expected to host at least one provincial that season (does not need to be at the 11U level). (Norman/Kenora are exceptions to this rule due to travel).

-Baseball Manitoba will consider lowering the standards currently in the handbook, including the necessity for mounds for 11U at provincials, as this limits the ability for associations to host.

-One umpire per game in the round robin (if needed) will be considered as well for 11U to allow for multiple provincials to occur on the same weekend.

*** Provincial spots will be assigned as listed below based on the numbers from the past

League	11U teams	Total Players
zone 2		
Brandon	8	83
Carillon	25	253
Interlake	13	114
South Central	20	221
Oildome	11	138
Parkland	8	105
Pembina Hills	9	111
Portage	4	42
Midwest	9	118
Norman-Tri-Community	5	42
Kenora		58

The suggestion is as follows:

*Each league is allowed 1 representative in each provincial with the host league having the option of another representative. Baseball MB will decide the remaining teams needed to fill the 10-team tournament based on the size of league, amount of league teams in other provincials, etc.

Exceptions below include:

*Kenora will be involved in Zone 1 for multiple reasons, most importantly geography and the fact Zone 2 has more leagues/teams.

*Norman does not consistently attend provincials and the likelihood of attending tier 1,2 and 3 is slim. That and due to low overall numbers, they will be allotted a spot in the tier 3 provincial for year 1. If there is a request for more spots it will be re-evaluated.

*Portage/PH is allotted 1 spot together for each provincial which would put their totals like the other leagues. Based on total numbers PH would get 2 spots and Portage 1. PH would get a spot in the Tier 3 provincials and Portage/PH can decide the best way to choose a rep for Tier 1 and 2 (i.e. playoff, acclamation, etc.).

*Any extra spots in provincials due to leagues opting out will be decided by Baseball Manitoba, who will base this decision on League size, number of teams already attending provincials, etc.

11U AA

The proposed AA idea should allow for the following to occur:

- *Minimize the need/want for larger associations to tier their players for 11U local league
 - *Allow for more associations to deliver improved development opportunities for the players/parents wanting more than what the Tiers 1, 2 and 3 format will offer.
 - *Allow Zone 2 teams to be competitive at the “AA” provincials. (This was not happening in the past system and there will be even more disparity between Zone 1 and Zone 2 with the proposed new system.)
- Zone 2 Local Associations (i.e. Clubs like Altona instead of leagues like South Central, as is the current AAA team formation) are allowed to make teams that will consist of the top/keen 11U players in their organization.
 - Local Associations with 15 or less players (i.e. 1 league team) can amalgamate to form a AA team.
 - Tryouts can occur for these teams if needed, but there should be a minimal need for that due to the increased dedication level with the season running in conjunction with the local league and the season extending into late July. Teams can choose to only offer to major aged kids to limit the need for tryouts to occur if they wish (highly suggested for large associations).
 - Players involved in the AA teams are still eligible to attend a Tier 1, 2, or 3 provincials, be added as a player pick up for Tier 1,2, or 3 provincials and are expected to play in Community league play.
 - Leagues are not required to have “AA” teams or send a rep to the “AA” Provincials.
 - Local Associations must inform Baseball Manitoba by June 1st if they are interested in attending the AA provincials (June 1st is the final deadline we would like a commitment at an earlier date ie. May 1st or earlier especially in this the first year to get organized as many associations will have an idea well in advance. A rural meeting in April would be a good idea to start the organization process.)
 - Roster formation for these teams will be outside of the league rosters, therefore will not need to be finalized until June 15th (or later).
 - Baseball Manitoba will decide on what Zone 2 regional playdowns will look like based on the number of teams entered (especially in year 1 as we aren’t sure what the interest level will be). For example, 10 associations apply to play in the AA provincials and Zone 2 has 5 spots (hypothetically). Baseball mb would make 5 separate head-to-head playdowns (using geography as much as possible) to decide the 5 teams.
 - The “AA” provincials will be held later in July to allow time for “AA” teams to practice together, play-downs occur etc.
 - Provincial reps are allowed 2 regional pick-ups. This is done before provincials, but after any provincial playdowns games are played.
 - Number of reps per zone: (In 2023 at the 11U level the number of players were 1185 in Zone 2, 572 in Zone 1, and 105 in Ontario (85 in Kenora).
- Using the numbers above the logical breakdown would be:
- Ontario-1 (This would be dependant on what is decided with Zone 1 regarding their participation)
 - Zone 1-3 teams
 - Zone 2-5 teams
 - Host-1 team.
- If it is decided that Ontario will be included in the Winnipeg playdowns we would suggest that there be 6 zone 2 teams and 4 teams from zone 1, regardless of who is the host*

13U

Observations and feedback

*Large Zone 2 associations have had much more success at the local level, as the larger associations in local leagues are typically the ones advancing to AA provincials.

*Large Zone 2 associations have had more success at the AA provincials as the playoff teams are typically large associations and Winnipeg teams.

*The "A" provincials show similar results as the AA provincials as the playoff teams are typically from large centers.

Zone 2 Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 provincials

Team Formation

There are 2 options for team make-up for local associations.

1. Local associations can choose to make tiered teams (not necessarily teams of equal talent) if they have the numbers to do so and can split as they see fit i.e. tryouts, major/minor, interest level, etc. This can include one "A" or top tier team or multiple if the associations are large enough.
2. Local associations can choose to make even teams for their local league and provincial representatives if they choose to, instead of tiering. (i.e. if the association has 30 players their 3 teams should be of similar skill level in this system).
3. Leagues can choose to allow local associations to make equal teams for league play but tiered for provincial's purposes. (This is needed due to the size and distance between our leagues. For example, if portage, who runs a 13U league with roughly 40 players, was to create a top tiered team and 3 bottom tiered teams, the top tier team would have nobody to play. This way they could create 4 equal teams for league play, but one tier 1 team for provincials and 2-3 teams eligible for tier 3 teams for provincials.

Association size and team make up will be used to limit which associations are eligible for certain provincials and how pick-ups will be awarded.

Provincial Representation

1. Each league is allowed 1 representative in each of the Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 provincials with the host league having the option to send a host as well. *** at the bottom of the 13U write-up will explain further.
2. Leagues are not required to send a rep to a provincial if they prefer not to (ex. if a league does not think they have a rep that would compete in the "Tier 1" provincial, they do not need to send one and it will not affect their eligibility to attend other provincials).
3. Leagues can decide how to pick their representative(s) i.e. provincial playdown, league winner, acclamation, etc.
4. Leagues wanting to attend provincials are expected to host at least one provincial that season (does not need to be at the 13U level). (Norman is an exception to this rule due to travel).
5. Leagues must inform Baseball Manitoba by June 1st of their intentions to fill their assigned provincial spots and if they would have the ability to send more than 1 if needed.

Zone 2 13U "A" Entrants and pick-up rules

Data has shown that Association size and team make up has created a competitive imbalance at the 13U rural provincials for multiple years. Therefore, the following format below will be used.

*Local Associations will be separated into 4 categories based on the average registration numbers from the last 2 seasons at 13U.

*A zone 2 "A" Centre is a local association (or amalgamated) with more than 36 players, a Zone 2 "B" Centre is a local association (or amalgamated) with 24-35 players, a Zone 2 "C" association is a local association (or amalgamated) with 12-23 players and a Zone 2 "D" Centre is a local association (or amalgamated) with 11 or less players at the 13U level.

*Large Centres can choose to split teams in a different manner than "A", "B" or "C" and fall into a different class.

Example 1- a Large Centre Association (36 players) chose to make 3 even teams they would be considered a "C" Association.

Example 2- a large centre Association (36 players) chose to make 2 top tier teams and one low level team. Their 2 top teams would follow the guidelines for a "B" association and the bottom team would follow the guidelines for a "D" association.

Example 3- a large centre (36 players) chose to make 1 top tier team (classified as "A" centre) and two second tier teams (classified the same as "C" centres) for provincials.

*Large Centres that are larger than these guidelines will fall into the level that makes the most sense based on their numbers. For example. Brandon has 83 players, so the expectation is they will act as if they consist of 2 "A" Centres which means 2- top level teams (tier 1) and 5 equal low level teams (tier 3) teams or 2-top (tier 1), 3-middle (tier 2) and 3 low level (tier 3) teams or 7 equal teams (all tier 2), etc.

**It is expected that leagues send teams to the Provincial that they are best suited to compete at. For example, if a "D" centre has a team that includes 3 players that are among the top players in the province they should attend the tier 2 or even tier 1 provincials. A good rule of thumb is if the team consists of 3 or more players from the regional AAA team, they should move up at least one level. This is not a set rule from Baseball Manitoba, as not all AAA players are at the same calibre and a rule could negatively affect the competitive nature of a team as their AAA players may not be of a AAA calibre.*

*AAA players are not allowed to be added as pick-ups to teams for provincials.

*All other players that are not playing in the Tier 1, 2 or 3 provincials are eligible to be added as pick-ups (this includes players on the regional AA team).

*Leagues must do their pick-ups in the following order:

1. all "Tier 1" provincial pick-ups
2. all "Tier 2" provincial pick-ups
3. all "Tier 3" provincial pick-ups

Here is the proposed Association category chart for the 2024 season based on the average numbers for 2022 and 2023, 2019 numbers are there as a visual aid only. D centres are not listed.

			13U numbers				
			2019	2022	2023	avg 22 23	total
A	Brandon	Brandon	95	58	84	71	154
	South Central	Morden	56	38	46	42	92
B	South Central	Winkler	45	35	35	35	74
	Portage	Portage	32	28	42	34	77
	South Central	Altona	27	36	27	32	64
	Carillon	Niverville	23	29	23	26	60
	Carillon	Seine River	36	34	18	26	54
	Carillon	Steinbach	36	27	21	26	58
	Oildome	Virден	29	26	26	26	58
	Interlake	Stonewall	15	22	28	25	59
C	Parkland	Dauphin	29	26	21	24	48
	Norman	The Pas	0	0	41	20	41
	Carillon	Beausejour	10	15	20	18	38
	Carillon	Mitchell	20	18	16	17	36
	Carillon	St. Malo	10	18	16	17	39
	Carillon	Lac Du Bonnet	8	11	23	17	31
	South Central	Carman	31	14	20	17	30
	Interlake	Warren	13	14	18	16	42
	Midwest	Neepawa	17	16	16	16	34
	Carillon	Ste. Anne	0	17	14	16	32
	Parkland	Roblin	14	17	14	16	33
	Midwest	Birtle	0	17	12	15	29
	Midwest	Minnedosa	14	15	15	15	28
	Midwest	Russell	12	14	13	14	33
	Oildome	Killarney	14	11	16	14	31
	Parkland	Grandview	13	11	15	13	33
	Carillon	LaBroquerie	24	14	12	13	28
	Interlake	Lundar	15	13	13	13	30
	Parkland	Swan Valley	15	12	14	13	30
	Pembina Hills	Carberry	12	12	13	13	29
Pembina Hills	Rock Lake	0	14	12	13	29	

**Associations can appeal to their league (and the league to Baseball Manitoba) if they believe they belong in a lower tier. Reasons for this could be where the league is in regard to baseball development, the fact there is no regional AAA team, the making of equal teams etc.)*

Eligibility of teams for 13U provincials and pick-up rules

Zone 2 13U "Tier 1" Entrants

Any team from any sized Centre (A, B, C, or D) is eligible to play in the 13U "Tier 1" provincials.

Zone 2 13U "Tier 1" Provincials pick-up rules

1. "Tier 1" provincial entrants that are allowed 0 regional pick-ups.
 - a. The top tiered team from "A" centres.
2. "Tier 1" provincial entrants that are allowed 1 regional pick up.
 - a. The top tiered team from "B" centres
3. "Tier 1" provincial entrants that are allowed 2 regional pick ups.
 - a. The top tiered team from "C" centres
4. "Tier 1" provincial entrants that are allowed 3 regional pick ups.
 - a. Teams from "D" centres

Zone 2 13U "Tier 2" Entrants

Teams that are ineligible for "Tier 2" provincials

1. The top tiered teams from "A" or "B" Centres.

Zone 2 13U "Tier 2" Provincials pick-up rules

1. "Tier 2" provincial entrants that are allowed 1 regional pick-up.
 - a. The top tiered team from "C" centres.
2. "Tier 2" provincial entrants that are allowed 3 regional pick ups.
 - a. Middle or Lower tiered teams from "A", "B" or "C" Centres
 - b. Teams from "D" Centres

Zone 2 13U "Tier 3" Entrants

Teams that are ineligible for "C" provincials

1. The top tiered teams from "A", "B" or "C" Centres

Zone 2 13U "Tier 3" pick-up rules

1. "Tier 3" provincial entrants that are allowed 2 regional pick ups.
 - a. Teams from "D" Centres
 - b. Middle tiered teams from "A" or "B" centers
2. "Tier 3" provincial entrants that are allowed 3 regional pick ups.
 - a. Lower tiered Teams from "A", and "B" Centres
 - b. The lower tiered team from "C" Centres

*Baseball Manitoba will consider adjusted guidelines, such as allowing 1 umpire (if needed), to do the round robin games to allow for multiple provincials on this weekend.

Provincial representation is as follows:

*Each league is allowed 1 representative in each provincial with the host league having the option of another representative. Baseball MB will decide the remaining teams needed to fill the 10-team tournament based on the size of league, amount of league teams in other provincials, etc.

Exceptions below include:

*Kenora will be involved in Zone 1 for multiple reasons, most importantly geography and the fact Zone 2 has more leagues/teams.

*Norman does not consistently attend provincials and the likelihood of attending tier 1,2 and 3 is slim. That and due to low overall numbers, they will be allotted a spot in the tier 3 provincial for year 1. If there is a request for more spots it will be re-evaluated.

*Portage/PH is allotted 1 spot together for each provincial which would put their totals similar to the other leagues. Based on total numbers PH would get 2 spots and Portage 1. PH would get a spot in the Tier 3 provincials and Portage/PH can decide the best way to choose a rep for Tier 1 and 2 (i.e. playoff, acclamation, etc.).

*Any extra spots in provincials due to leagues opting out will be decided by Baseball Manitoba, who will base this decision on League size, number of teams already attending provincials, etc.

15U

Observations and feedback

- *Large associations have had more success at the local level as the larger associations in local leagues are typically the ones advancing to AA provincials.
- *Large associations have had more success at the AA provincials as the playoff teams are typically all large associations and Winnipeg teams. (not as much of a difference as 13U)
- *The "A" provincials showed less of a disparity between large and small associations. This could be because smaller associations amalgamate at the 15U level due to players dropping out. (typically, the weaker players are dropping out)
- *The local association sizes are much smaller at this age and amalgamation occurs more frequently than at the 13U level.

15U Zone 2 Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 provincial-Possible Scenario

There are 2 options for team make-up for local associations.

1. Local associations can choose to make tiered teams (not necessarily teams of equal talent) if they have the numbers to do so and can split as they see fit ie. tryouts, major/minor, interest level, etc. This can include one top tiered team or multiple if the associations are large enough.
2. Local associations can choose to make even teams for their local league and provincial representatives if they choose to, instead of tiering. (ie. if the association has 20 players their 2 teams should be of similar skill level).
3. Leagues can choose to allow local associations to make equal teams for league play but tiered for provincials' purposes. (This is needed due to the size and distance between our leagues and the fact that a league may only have 1 association with the numbers to make a top tiered team and would have nobody to play. This way they could create equal teams for league play, but one tier 1 team for provincials and other teams eligible for tier 3 provincials.

-Association size and team make up will be used to limit which associations are eligible for certain provincials and how pick-ups will be awarded.

15U Zone 2 Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 provincials

Proposed Association Category Chart -To minimize change in one season and use 2024 to evaluate how the 13U system of centres based on size the format will be as follows.

"A" Centre- Association that can offer 2 teams at the 15U level (ie. 18+ players)

"B Centre- Association that only has 1 team at the 15U level.

Tier 1 Provincial-

- *All teams are eligible for the Tier 1 provincial regardless how large or small the association is.
- *"A" Centres are only allowed 1 regional pick up (non-AAA player)
- *"B" Centres are allowed 3 regional pick-ups (non- AAA) for provincials
- **Ideally local leagues ensure that the top teams are going to the correct provincial. ie. if the team has multiple players that are elite players, they should attend Tier 1 provincial even if the association is considered a "B" Centre.*
- *Leagues do not have to send a rep to the tier 1 provincial if they do not believe that they can compete
- *Leagues need to inform baseball Manitoba by June 1st if they wish to send a representative (and if they have multiple teams interested)

Tier 2 Provincial-

- *The top tiered team from "A" Centres are not eligible for this provincial.
- *Leagues can decide how to choose their reps i.e. playdowns, league play, acclamation etc., but this tier would typically include the top "B" Centre team from the league.
- *All eligible teams are allowed 3 pick-ups

*Leagues need to inform baseball Manitoba by June 1st if they wish to send a representative (and if they have multiple teams interested)

Tier 3 Provincial- Uses the following parameters.

*The top tiered team from "A" Centres are not eligible for this provincial.

*Ideally teams come from the bottom half of the stronger local leagues or are the third best team in the league (2nd if there is no Tier 1 rep).

*All eligible teams are allowed 3 regional pick-ups.

*Leagues need to inform baseball Manitoba by June 1st if they wish to send a representative (and if they have multiple teams interested)

-Allotment of provincial spots will be the same format as at 13U.

Here is a visual to show the 15U numbers of the larger associations in the province.

		2019	2022	2023	avg 22 23
Brandon	Brandon	57	46	44	45
South Central	Morden	39	29	33	31
South Central	Winkler	36	31	32	31
Parkland	Dauphin	16	25	30	28
South Central	Altona	25	15	33	24
Carillon	Niverville	13	14	21	18
Parkland	Ste. Rose	15	18	18	18
Carillon	Seine River	26	12	18	16
Carillon	Beausejour	13	16	16	16
Parkland	Swan Valley	15	17	16	16
Oildome	Virden	14	11	20	15
Carillon	La Broquerie	14	13	17	15
Portage	Portage	29	18	11	15
Carillon	Steinbach	14	21	10	15
Interlake	Lundar	12	13	15	14
Midwest	Hamiota	13	13	14	14
Midwest	Neepawa	11	14	13	13
Interlake	Warren	13	11	13	12
Parkland	Roblin	12	3	17	10
Pembina Hills	Somerset	0	6	14	10

18U

Observations and feedback:

The current landscape of 18U baseball in Zone 2 makes this level look quite different than the other 3 age groups.

-High School baseball is prominent across zone 2 and most of these teams play a somewhat intense schedule in late April and all of May with the provincials taking place the last weekend of May. The HS league out west often plays playoffs into June. High School baseball has basically negated any Zone 2 18U league play in the month of May.

-Keen baseball players (AAA and/or AA) have shown an interest in playing regionally and High School concurrently, but the standard community player does not want both at the same time.

-Leagues have attempted to run a 18U league, but with the need to choose an 18U AA provincial rep for mid-July and the fact many 18U players do not want to commit to baseball in July, it leads to a 1-month league with very few games that is not very worthwhile for the committed baseball player.

-Our province has begun to produce a large amount of very good 18U baseball players on an annual basis which has lengthened the gap between the AAA calibre players and community league player. Multiple Zone 2 leagues currently do not have the AAA players play with their league teams (even though they are still double rostered to comply with Baseball mb rules).

-There are currently leagues in Carillon, South Central and Brandon that do not include AAA players which shows there is still a possibility for rural baseball to exist without AAA players and into July.

-Baseball Manitoba is offering a AA provincial without AAA players for regional AA teams which will increase the viability and/or possibility of leagues to create regional AA teams which allows the majority of players that are interested in playing in July the opportunity to do that.

2024 Zone 2 18U provincials

*18U players will be allowed to single roster for AAA and there will be no requirement to play at the community club level.

*Zone 2 leagues can still run local leagues as they have in the past that include AAA players

*Carillon, South Central, and Brandon will host "A" (likely no AAA players, but they are eligible should the league see fit) level leagues in their areas. Western based teams are eligible to join the Brandon league or play on an exhibition basis against them.

*Zone 2 leagues will attempt to make regional "AA" teams. Leagues are eligible to join if it is needed to make a team. (Regions can choose to have multiple regional AA teams or use local 18U teams without AAA players.

*Regional AA players are eligible to play in the "A" level leagues. (Leagues can choose otherwise should they see fit, but this will support the numbers needed to have viable leagues.)

Tier 1 Provincial- Follows similar guidelines as the AA provincials did in the past with the following parameters.

*AAA players are eligible to play in the provincials, but can not be added to rosters as pick-ups

*Teams eligible for provincials include:

-Local teams from any sized association which the rosters include AAA players (local teams without AAA players are obviously eligible as well)

-Regional teams that do not include any AAA players

*Pick-up format

-Local teams with AAA players and regional teams with 0 AAA players are allowed 2 pick-ups

-Local teams with no AAA players are allowed 4 pick-ups

Tier 2 and Tier 3- Due to the minimal number of players at the 18U level there will not be a tier 2 or 3 provincial

11U, 13U, 15U and 18U Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 provincials Tournament format

Observations and feedback

- The current playoff format for provincials calls for the use of tie-breaker games for teams with 1 loss. This creates uncertainty for the schedule on Sunday and creates the opportunity for teams to have to play 3 games in a day, which is a lot in July.
- The current provincial format for a 10-team tournament has the top 2 teams in each pool advancing to the Sunday. This allows for some games on Saturday to not have any value, as teams are either already set to advance or not advance which can lead to non-productive games. Also, most of the teams in the tournament does not get to play a game on Sunday.
- There will possibly be disparity at provincials regardless of what system we develop, which can lead to teams getting blown out (maybe multiple times) especially if the stronger teams end up in the same pool.

The 10-team provincial format will be as follows:

- *2 pools of 5 in which round robin play occurs
- *Playoff rankings are made using the standings(wins/losses) and Baseball Manitoba tie-break formula (without the use of any tie-breaking games) to decide 1st vs 5th in each pool.
- *Playoff play (Sunday) would be
 - 9:00- Semi-Finals 2nd in Pool A vs 1st in Pool B, 2nd in Pool B vs 1st in Pool A
 - 11:30- 9th place game- 5th Pool A vs 5th, 7th place game- 4th in pool A vs 4th in pool B
 - 2:00- 6th place game 3rd in Pool A vs 3rd in pool B, Final (winners of the 2 semi final games)

This format allows for:

- *All teams to play 5 games on the weekend (Friday-Sunday) except the finalists who play 6 games
 - *All teams to play a game on Sunday
 - *Meaningful games for all teams on Sunday that should be versus like calibre teams
- If there are less than 10 teams the format can be adjusted while trying to keep the same rationale in place.*

Zone 2 AA (13U, 15U, 18U)

2024 13U, 15U and 18U Zone 2 AA Team Formation

- *Leagues can choose to have 1 regional "AA" team or multiple if there is enough interest.
- *Leagues can choose to have the AA team(s) local association based instead of regional if they prefer.
- *Leagues can choose to amalgamate with another league to make a "AA" team.
- *Regional AA players are expected to play in the local community leagues and are allowed to be added as pick-ups for Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 provincials if their teams do not advance.
- *AAA rostered players are not eligible to play in the AA provincials.
- *Baseball Manitoba will announce how many Zone 2 teams will advance to the AA provincials and how they will be chosen in the near future. This is dependant on how many teams will be formed in Zone 2 and that info will be available once leagues have a better idea how they will proceed.
- *Regional AA players can be added to the AAA rosters for AAA provincials if the need arises. This remains a rule from previous years.
- *The goal of the AA provincials is player development. There will be more positive examples of players playing in both provincials than negative. This rule would apply for both Zone 1 and Zone 2 players.*