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The question has been asked:

Can I register with another “non-SBA” baseball program, be an SBA member, and enjoy the membership benefits of the Association?

The Association is the umbrella group for amateur baseball in Saskatchewan. As part of our programming and player development, we offer a structured program that includes Zone and Provincial Championships, post provincial play (Western as well as National championships), and access to our elite programs, training and team play (Sask First, Canada Cup, and others).

Our ability to run these programs is based on players, coaches and managers participating in our programs as members in our association.

It is not helpful to have “members” in name only, who do not support or participate in our programs other than to seek, and pick out just those things that they like.

In order to be eligible for selection to any team, or to participate in any SBA program, or obtain any benefits of membership (including insurance or Member Assistance Program grants and Athlete Assistance) a player, coach, or manager must be registered with the SBA.

Accordingly, unless a member applies through and as part of an SBA affiliated program (like Baseball Regina, Saskatoon Minor Ball, etc.) we are not going to accept an application for membership of a player, coach, manager or club official, in the Association. There would be no reason for anyone to be applying for membership on their own, unless they have no intention of being part of our larger organization and the member clubs, teams and leagues.

There may be exceptions from time to time (for example, a player who is away at College and may only be able to play for a part of the baseball season, and thus not on a particular team). This would be a pretty limited circumstance.

We don't presume to try and limit any person from playing baseball anywhere he or she wants to. What we can and will do, is limit any person who is not an active and participating member of the Association, from taking the benefits of membership.

In other words, the benefits of membership are only available to those persons who are actually members.

The answer to the question, is therefore, “No”.

Yours very truly,

Kenneth A. Ready, Q.C.

Sask Baseball Commissioner