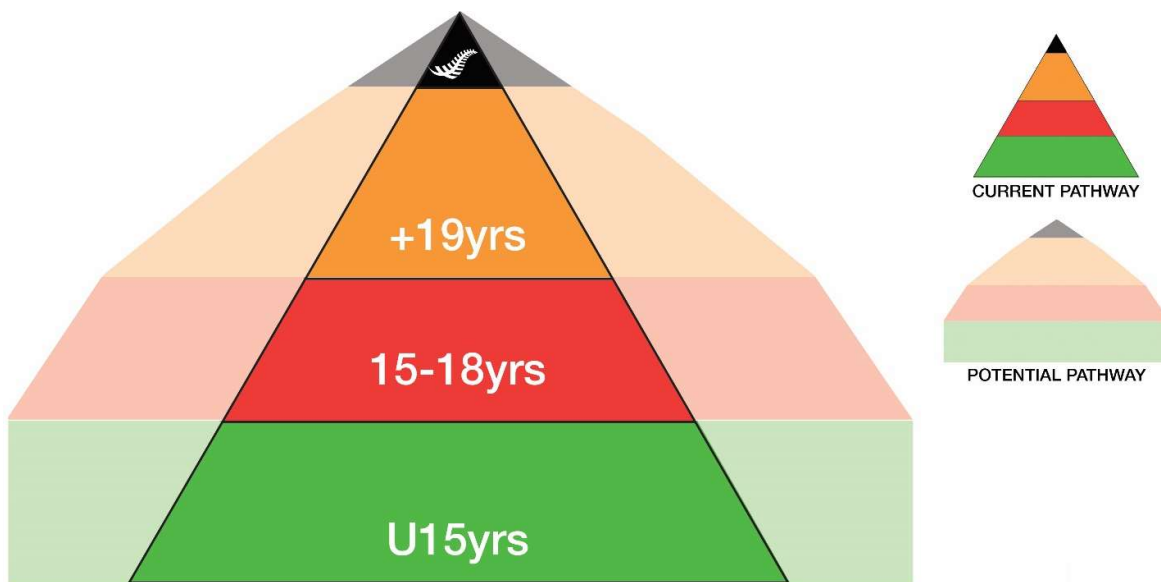


OUR VISION: WHAKAKITENGA

We want softball to be a sport for life. One that evolves as it needs to, is enjoyed by all those who connect with the game in any capacity and is characterised by success.



By providing a stronger focus on fun and development at targeted audiences we will encourage growth and retention.

A bigger, more diverse participant base will provide a pathway for more players to participate in softball over a lifetime.

SOFTBALL NZ AGE GRADE NATIONAL & REGIONAL FORMATS

New Zealand U19 Girls Tournament (15-18 years)	New Zealand U19 Boys Tournament (15-18 years)
Little League New Zealand U17 Girls Tournament (15-16 years)	New Zealand U17 Boys Tournament (15-16 years)
Regional U15 Girls Events	Regional U15 Boys Events
FASTBALL Games	
Development Camps	
Regional U13 Girls Events	Regional U13 Boys Events
FASTBALL Games	
Age-Appropriate Formats	

Context

Regional Events		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Softball NZ is committed to providing environments that suit the needs of youth participants at an age and stage that is appropriate and in line with their long-term development. Softball NZ is advocating regional U15 & U13 events without a representative focus. These events should be open to all club teams, school teams, and individuals, with a strong focus on development opportunities for all. - Development camps, FASTBALL games, and age-appropriate formats are examples of other events that may best assist individuals with their development, relative to their current needs. 		
<p style="text-align: center;">FASTBALL Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carnival/festival events offering FASTBALL 45 rules. - Associations will be able to use the FASTBALL 45 format as a product to promote participation, fun, retention and ultimately increase numbers. - The 45-minute time limit will be optional to ensure longer games can be played to suit tournament needs. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Development Camps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality development programmes meeting the needs of players, coaches, and umpires. - A consistent approach to development at this level across the country 	<p style="text-align: center;">Age-Appropriate Formats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An approach that accommodates different ages and genders with the objective of making it action-packed and fast-paced with maximum involvement for kids. - A consistent approach to development across the country including ball sizes, diamond sizes, more running, more balls in play; maximum action.

How will Softball NZ support FASTBALL Games?

- In collaboration with member Associations, we will orchestrate FASTBALL 45 festival concepts.
- Provide resources (digital) that Associations can use to promote their events.
- Provide signage for events.

How will Softball NZ support Development Camps?

- Softball NZ will explore programmes to support the initiation of regional development camps in conjunction with identified Associations.

How will Softball NZ support Age-Appropriate Formats

- Softball NZ will explore global playing formats for children of this age group.
- Format options to be presented to Associations for feedback. Once complete, new Age-Appropriate Formats will be promoted nationally.