
BI-LAWS, RULES & POLICIES



MISSION

The purpose of the Sioux Falls Diamonds Softball Club shall be to promote and operate a competitive fastpitch softball club for area youth. The club is made up of a group of several highly competitive fastpitch softball teams. These teams work together to provide an affordable well maintained indoor practice facility for the teams of the club while keeping each team a separate entity with their own coaches, players and managers. The club will not dictate how a coach or manager runs their team.

The teams will promote commitment, teamwork, sportsmanship, respect for the game, and will promote our values both on and off the field, and show respect in both victory and defeat. We will strive to do our best as a team on the field, strive to be an outstanding community citizen, and represent the club with the utmost respect. We encourage our players to work hard and be great role models for the younger players who they compete against as well as those in our organization. It is not the aim of the Diamond's club to set ourselves apart from our competition, but to be a good competitor, and win or lose with respect for our opponents.

OUR GOALS

1. Find players and parents who best match the need of our coaches. Each coach has their own idea of their needs and so they are the final decision maker as to who they will select to play for their team.
2. If a player is not selected to play, they will receive a phone call explaining why the player was not selected if they are not told while at the tryout venue. We are not here to hurt these young ladies feelings or self esteem, and we understand this process is sometimes difficult on these young players. We want to help them as much as we can, but not every player is a good match for a particular team.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Sioux Falls Diamonds Softball Club will utilize a Management Team. The management team will make decision regarding care of the building, purchase equipment, schedule maintenance and cleaning and making the decisions on how we will operate. Each team will appoint one person who will be able meet on a periodic basis. This person will also have to be able organize members from their team for task such as monthly cleaning, periodic painting, garbage removal, replacing equipment and any other task or decision that will come up. Each team will be given 1 vote on all decisions with a simple majority rules.

BUILDING RENTAL POLICY

Only Diamond coaches are able to rent the facility for baseball etc.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The Sioux Falls Diamonds are taking a ZERO tolerance stance on unruly acts of coaches, parents, players and our fans. The safety and well being of our players should be and is the main focus of our coaches, parents and friends. We see no reason for anyone in our organization to lose control of their emotions and lash out at anyone be it an umpire, a player or a coach or fan from another team or ours. The actions of one person can negatively affect our entire organization and hurt a child. If a coach, parent, player or fan from our group is acting in a manner that jeopardizes the safety and well being of any of our players, that person will be asked to stop, leave the venue if necessary and apologize for their actions if needed.

BI-LAWS, RULES & POLICIES



Coaches will make sure that friends and family who come to your games understand our stance on this too. Things we see as negative:

1. Yelling at anyone in a negative manner. Umpires, coaches, players or fans. If you can't help yourself, take some advice and move to the outfield. Control your emotions. It's a GAME.
2. Constant negative comments about the staff and or other players. This is really not needed. We are all volunteers.
3. Physically grabbing or vocally yelling at a player or other person in anger. No place for it here.

ABUSE & MOLESTATION POLICY

Sioux Falls Diamonds Softball Club will not tolerate the abuse or molestation of any minor participant in a softball sanctioned activity. It is the policy of Sioux Falls Diamonds Softball Club that there should be no sexual abuse of any minor participant involved in any of its sanctioned programs, its training camps, clinics, coaches clinics, umpire clinics, regional and national tournaments or other Sioux Falls Diamonds Softball Club sanctioned events, by an employee, volunteer, coach, parent, player or independent contractor. A minor is an individual who has not reached the age of consent or has not been emancipated.

1. Under no circumstance should a coach or person acting on behalf of the team ever physically touch a player in an inappropriate manner period.
2. No coach or person acting on behalf of the team should ever strike a player.
3. Abusive language and or contact in any form are not allowed in the club.
4. No player should approach a coach for physical therapy such as massage therapy for sore muscles.
5. Parents with concerns should communicate with coaches their concerns so they may be addressed. To not talk to a coach about a concern they have is unfair to the coach. What he or she may find appropriate may differ from your view but unless you talk to the coach about the issue it will never be solved. If a parent or another coach sees something they feel is inappropriate and needs to be communicated to the person in question, if you do not talk to that person then you are part of the problem. If you have a problem confronting that person then review it with another coach.
6. Parents have responsibilities in this issue as much as coaches. Parents please review proper and appropriate contact and communication between players and coaches with your player. Make sure your child understands their coach's position.
7. Coaches or persons acting on behalf of the team should not administer medical or physical advice or therapy. A parent or trained person should be consulted whenever possible. In the event a parent is not available and immediate attention for a serious condition is required everything possible should be done to rectify the situation and keep our player from additional harm.

COACHES RULES

1. Recruiting. No recruiting players within the organization. This is not a good thing because it puts two Diamond's coaches against each other. This cannot happen plain and simple.
2. Players. We will strive to keep teams together from year to year as a whole unit until they are done. This means that when we form teams in the future we should try our best to keep the girls in their own age groups even if that means having a 9u team and a 10u team.
3. Player movement. If the parent of a player wants to move a player from one Diamond team to another regardless of age, this needs to get the okay from both coaches. If one of the two coaches does not agree to the move, the player will not be allowed to move to another team. Even if that player threatens to leave the club. Parents must talk with both coaches before this happens.
4. Try outs. Each team can hold their own try outs whenever they have a need.

BI-LAWS, RULES & POLICIES



5. Behavior. Coaches must always do their job with the safety and well-being of our players in mind first and foremost. Everyone regardless of their position on the team should always treat everyone with respect and how they would like to be treated.
6. Playing time. This is decided by the coaches only. It is not an addressable issue.
7. Team control. Each team has control of their budget, equipment, uniforms and what they do as a team. The club will try to coordinate a few tournaments together each summer if possible. The club will also coordinate Saturday jerseys.
8. Pick-up player s. Players playing for another Diamond's team as a pick-up player will be left up to the coaches discretion. Make sure you call the coach of the player's team and her parents before you ask the player.

BUILDING RULES

The building is accessible 24hrs a day by Diamond players and their parents.

1. Players and their parents may use the building at will. If there is a team practicing at the time you wish to get in extra work at the core you must talk with the coach of the team that is practicing before using the core.
2. Only players and coaches of the Diamonds softball clubs are allowed to use this facility. Outside players and coaches may use the facility with a rental agreement. If an outside coach is in the building with a player they must have an agreement with us.
3. Anyone who is not ASA or USSSA insured is not allowed inside the workout area of the facility. There are designate areas where parents may watch their player.
4. Helmets should be worn ANYTIME a player is swinging a bat. Batting in designate area only by the cages.
5. Keeping the building clean and protecting it from damage from balls is very important. It is everyone's responsibility to keep the facility clean and free from damage. Always clean up after yourself when you finish your use of the facility.
6. ANYONE under the age of 18 MUST wear their catching helmet or a helmet when catching a pitcher. That means even when you are just starting your warm-up. This is not negotiable.
7. Please be sure all doors in the facility are locked when you leave. Please make sure the lights are off and the heat is turned to 45 degrees as well. These are our responsibility as coaches.
8. Please use caution whenever you are in the facility. Always beware of safety issues and always make sure you are using the space in the proper manner. Use the designate areas for their designed purpose.