



Spearfish Softball Club Parent/Player Handbook

Spearfish Softball Club, under the guidance of the Spearfish Youth Baseball & Softball Association, will work to promote girl's fastpitch softball through the Spearfish School District. The Club will emphasize skill development, sportsmanship, and healthy competition while also holding athletes accountable in their academics.

The Club will strive to meet the expectations of the Spearfish Youth Baseball & Softball Association as well as the Spearfish High School athletics department. Our goal is to create a solid, competitive group of softball players who are interested in continuing their softball career into high school. This handbook will serve as a guideline for coaches, parents, and players. Please follow the proper chain of command to address any questions or concerns.

Coach Expectations:

Mollie McCann will act as the head coach for the 2020-2021 fall season. As the head coach, Coach McCann will provide support to her assistant coaches and ensure that they all meet the following expectations:

- Head coach will complete a background check, SafeSport and ACE Certification through USA Softball.
- All assistant coaches must pass a background check.
- Coaches will be at practices, games, and events early enough to set up equipment and prepare for the event.
- Coaches will communicate efficiently with parents, players, and the Club committee.
- Player safety is a top priority among all coaches.

Player Expectations:

- Attendance
 - All players will be expected to be punctual to all practices, games, and mandatory events. Tardiness may result in consequences set forth by the coaching staff.
 - If you will be gone for any reason, please let your coaches know in writing as soon as possible.
 - Any absences that aren't excused for the purpose of doctor appointments, illness, or other pre-approved reasons will be considered unexcused.
 - 1st offense: player will not be allowed to play in the following game; parents will be contacted
 - 2nd offense: player will not be allowed to play in any games for the following 7 days; parents will be contacted
 - 3rd offense: meeting with parents; player may be excused from the program
 - Missing games or practices due to participation in other sports will be regarded as unexcused absences.
 - During the school year, all players are expected to attend school on practice days and game days. If you have an excused absence from school, but still plan to attend a team event, please communicate that with your coaches.
 - At no time will we expect you to miss an academic-related event for softball.
- Work Ethic
 - Be respectful to your teammates, coaches, opponents, the umpires, the equipment, and YOURSELF.
 - Work hard, be receptive to criticism and coaching, and be a positive role model on the team.
 - Understand that you are a representative of the Spearfish Softball Club. Conduct yourself in a positive, upstanding manner, especially when travelling to other towns.
 - Help the coaches set up and put away equipment/gear whenever possible.
- Academics
 - All players will be expected to be passing all of their classes with a D or higher.
 - Eligibility notifications will be the responsibility of the players. Please check your grades on a weekly basis. If you are failing any class, you must notify your coaches as soon as possible.
 - Any acts committed by a player that result in disciplinary actions taken by the school district will also be punishable through the Club. The Club will fully support all administrative decisions made by the school. Consequences may be finalized by the head coach or the Softball Club Committee.
 - The Club will abide by the Drug & Alcohol policy set by the Spearfish School District. If you find yourself in a situation where drugs or alcohol are being consumed by minors, we ask that you leave immediately.

Parent Expectations:

- General
 - Support your daughter positively throughout the season.
 - Make sure your daughter has a safe ride to and from all required events. Coaches are always willing to help with this, when possible.
 - Pay all fees and submit all required paperwork before the deadlines set by the coaching staff.
- Games
 - On game days, parents and spectators will be asked to clean up fields and bleachers after games. Our expectation is that the area is as clean as it was before the game(s) began.
 - We may designate a parent or two as head of field maintenance for the team. Please inform the coaches if you are interested in helping with this task. Parents will be responsible for (but not limited to):
 - Raking
 - Tamping
 - Chalking
 - Sweeping dugouts and bleachers
- Questions/Concerns
 - One of the best things a parent can do is trust and support the coaches; they typically want what's best for the team and will make decisions accordingly.
 - Please abide by the 24-hour rule if you have concerns during a game – wait at least 24 hours before addressing your concerns with the coach. After 24 hours have passed, please follow the process below:
 1. Encourage your daughter to have a discussion with the coach(es).
 2. If issues are not resolved, schedule a meeting that includes you, your daughter, and the coach(es).
 3. If issues still are unresolved, schedule a meeting that includes you, your daughter, the coaches and members of the Softball Club Committee.
 - Please do ask us:
 - Does my child consistently work hard and have a positive attitude?
 - How well is my daughter performing at her field position?
 - What can my daughter do to improve?
 - How can I help the team?
 - Please do NOT ask about:
 - Playing time
 - Game strategies
 - Other members of the team
 - Umpires

We encourage friends and family to attend all games throughout the season. However, all spectators will be expected to separate themselves from the athletes during the games. We also ask that friends and family only provide constructive, positive feedback during games. Be advised that the umpires will not tolerate negativity or taunting, nor do we expect them to. Spectators may be asked to leave or teams may be required to forfeit. Finally, remember that this is a game. Let the coaches coach and let the players play.

Most importantly... Let's get ready for a FUN fall season of SOFTBALL!

Head Coach – Mollie McCann (605) 214-5095

Freshman Coach – Troy Ihde (605) 645-6636



SSC Handbook Receipt

By signing below, you hereby acknowledge receipt of the Spearfish Softball Club Parent/Player Handbook and pledge to abide by all of the requirements within it. In the event of a violation of this agreement, you also agree to adhere to all consequences decided upon by the Handbook, the Club, and the coaching staff.

Name of Athlete: _____

Signature of Athlete: _____ Date: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Consent to Medical Treatment

In the event of an emergency, I hereby allow the Spearfish Softball coaching staff to assist in providing adequate medical treatment to my child, _____. This may include onsite treatment of minor injuries and/or transportation to a medical treatment facility for injuries that cannot be treated by the coaching staff. I agree to hold harmless Spearfish School District, Spearfish Youth Baseball and Softball Association, and the coaching staff in any case of serious injury or accidental death. Proof of insurance will be required before participating or competing in any Spearfish Softball Club Activity.

Known allergies/illnesses: _____

Other medical conditions: _____

In case of emergency, please notify:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone number: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____