

## 2009 Spearfish Youth Baseball/Softball Association

[www.SYBSA.net](http://www.SYBSA.net)

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### SYBSA SOFTBALL PROGRAM

This program is designed for girls ages 7-16. The objective of the program is to develop good sportsmanship in victory and defeat, consideration of others, self-discipline, poise and responsibility in order to enhance positive self-esteem for all participants. We need and encourage parent participation in all aspects of their child's experience from coaching to helping with concessions. All teams participate in the Northern Hills Softball League. The teams travel to Rapid City, Sturgis, Belle Fourche & Lead as part of their regular schedule. The 18-20 game season runs from the middle week of May through mid-July. Coaches and parents determine participation in local & state tournaments. All girls entering a new age division will be placed on a team based on a coach's draft with consideration given for age & years of participation. Girls playing in an age division for a second year will remain on the same team from the previous year. U16 is a slow pitch team for the 2009 season, whereas U14, U12, U10, and U8 are fast-pitch teams.

**CO-ED TEE-BALL DIVISION (Ages 5 & 6)** – See below.

**U-8 (Ages 7 & 8)** - Must be 7 or 8 years old by January 1, 2009. This is a machine pitched league with emphasis on equal participation and basic softball rules. Girls are introduced to hitting and throwing techniques and good sportsmanship is emphasized. If you have questions, the U-8 league liaison is **Amy Cermak**.

**U-10 (Ages 9 & 10)** – Must be 9 or 10 years old by January 1, 2009. This is an instructional league where players continue to learn basic softball fundamentals and begin to pitch. If desired, teams begin to participate in recreational / sportsmanship Northern Hills League tournaments. If you have questions, the U-10 league liaison is **Punky Engesser**.

**U-12 (Ages 11 & 12)** – Must be 11 or 12 years old by January 1, 2009. This league is designed to be

recreational, but participants have an opportunity to improve on skills such as catching hit balls and base running. More strategic softball fundamentals are introduced. The U-12 league liaison is **Janet Rosenau**.

**U-14 (Ages 13 & 14)** – Must be 13 or 14 years old by January 1, 2009. This is a recreational league with a competitive emphasis for players who wish to play softball regardless of past experience. If you have questions, the U-14 league liaison is **Dan Hartman**.

**U-16 (Ages 15 & 16)** - Must be 15 or 16 years old by January 1, 2009. This is a recreational league with a competitive emphasis for all girls that fall within this age bracket who wish to play softball regardless of past experience. If you have questions, the U-16 league liaison is **Jeff Caldwell**.

## SYBSA BASEBALL PROGRAM

### CO-ED TEE-BALL DIVISION (Ages 5 & 6)

Tee-Ball Baseball is for boys & girls 5-6 years old. Players hit a ball off a batting tee. The primary goals of Tee-Ball are to instruct children in the fundamentals of baseball and to allow them to experience the value of teamwork. Tee-Ball plays approximately 10 games during the season that plays during the month of June. Teams are formed in an attempt to achieve age parity. Rosters are typically composed of 9 - 12 players. Generally, the diamond used is a 50-foot diamond. The league liaison for this division is **Greg Krier**.

### MACHINE PITCH DIVISION (Ages 7 & 8)

Players must be 7 or 8 years old by April 30, 2009. Machine Pitch League schedules to play 10-15 games during the season that starts June 1<sup>st</sup> and ends in mid July. Teams are formed in an attempt to achieve parity as far as age and skill. In an effort to move the game along and promote hitting, it is a machine pitched league with ten players playing the field and all players being allowed in the batting order. Games are limited to 1 ½ hours and no score is kept. If you have questions, the league liaison for this division is **Kanda Guthmiller**.

### MINORS DIVISION (Ages 9-11)

Minor League is a developmental league for players who will be 9 - 11 years old by April 30, 2009. Little League no longer allows 12 year olds to play in Minors. Approximately 15 games are scheduled starting in May and ending in mid-July. Teams may play in tournaments in Rapid City. Most games are played in Spearfish at the Pope & Talbot Youth Sports Complex. Each team is made up by a coach's draft to achieve parity as far as skill level per team. This league is a player pitched league but has a wide strike zone in an attempt to promote hitting and move the game along. Games are limited to 2 hours. If you have questions, the league liaison for this division is **Jamie Johnson**.

### MAJORS DIVISION (Ages 10-12)

The Little League Baseball Division (Major Division) is for players ages 10-12 by April 30, 2009. The diamond used is a 60-foot diamond and the pitching distance is 46 feet. They compete with teams from Spearfish, Belle Fourche, Sturgis, and Rapid City. Teams are limited to 12 players that are selected through a coach's draft procedure. To be eligible for the draft a player must participate in a tryout so that the coaches may evaluate their baseball skills. The schedule consists of about 20 games and runs May 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of June, including several tournaments running through July. The league liaison for this division is **Alan Christensen**.

### TEENERS LEAGUE (Ages 13-14)

Teeners League is a competitive program for players who turn 14 and under on May 1, 2009. Depending on numbers, the teams will consist of a varsity, junior varsity, and perhaps a development league team. The Teeners League season runs from April through July and their schedule includes 50-60 varsity games, and 35-40 junior varsity games. Teams play competitive teams from throughout the Midwest. The league liaison for this division is **Jim Louks**.

### AMERICAN LEGION (Ages 15-18)

This competitive baseball program supports both a Varsity and a Jr. Varsity team. For more information, contact **Ryan Junek** at 642-2651.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Pre-game field prep
- Concessions Workers
- Head coaches & assistant coaches
- Umpires

### POPE & TALBOT CONCESSIONS

Each baseball team is responsible for working the Pope & Talbot Youth Complex concession stand **3** nights during the regular season (May-July). Parents/guardians should expect to be contacted by their team coach in order to schedule your shift as all parents/guardians are expected to work a shift. Snack Bar hours are Monday-Friday, 5:30-8:30pm.

*The Spearfish Youth Baseball/Softball Association is run almost entirely by volunteers. With your help and commitment, we can keep expenses to a minimum and keep registration fees low. All of the concessions proceeds go directly back into the Association to help purchase equipment & uniforms.*

***Thank you for your support & involvement!***