

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS®



16U CLASS A & CLASS B
AUGUST 18, 2024 | HUMBOLDT, SD



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



It was on this day back in 1942 when America's Pledge of Allegiance was officially recognized by Congress as the national pledge.

The original draft of the pledge is said to have been written in 1892 by James B. Upham, a magazine publisher in Boston. The first version was: "I pledge allegiance to my flag and to the republic for which it stands; one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." In 1939, the U.S. Flag Association concluded the pledge's author was Francis Bellamy.

At the first National Flag Conference in 1923 in Washington, D.C., delegates from patriotic societies, civic and other organizations substituted the words "the flag of the United States" for "my flag." The change was made because it was thought that the foreign-born might have in mind the flag of their native land when they said "my flag." Another change was made at the second National Flag Conference in 1924 when the words "of America" were added.

For 30 years the version was: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." In 1954 Congress added the words "under God" to the pledge. We now recite:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The pledge of allegiance should be rendered while standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform people should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Members of the armed forces in uniform should remain silent, face the flag and render the military salute.



VFW and Baseball Officers

2024 - 2025

State VFW Officers

STATE COMMANDER

Glynis Collier – Pierre

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Dr. Marfin Christensen – Mitchell

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Rick VandenHoek – Brandon

QUARTERMASTER

Anna Waltner

JUDGE ADVOCATE

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SURGEON

Kat Pyka

CHAPLAIN

Russel Dramstad - Huron

INSPECTOR

Allan Ochsner - Aberdeen

CHIEF OF STAFF

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PAST STATE COMMANDER

Dave Baumiller

STATE BASEBALL CHAIRMAN

DANNY FRISBY-GRIFFIN – Madison

STATE DIRECTOR OF BASEBALL OPERATIONS

Jason Brown – Hartford

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BASEBALL OPERATIONS

Ben Lester - Madison

VOLUNTEER EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN

Shane Merrill - Parker

SD VFW BASEBALL COMMITTEE

Chairman: Danny Frisby-Griffin

Director of Baseball Operations

Jason Brown

Assistant Director of Baseball Operations

Ben Lester

Volunteer Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Shane Merrill

Department of SD VFW Quartermaster/Adjutant

Anna Waltner

SD VFW Baseball Adjutant

Darwin Tolzin

**Representative;
Council of Administration**

Barb McKean

Class A Representative

Keith Kropuenske

Class B Representative

Wesley Grantham

At Large Class Representative

Nolan Whiting

SD VFW Baseball Chairman

Danny Frisby-Griffin - 402.332.7423

SD VFW Director of Baseball Operations

Jason Brown - 605.595.4637

Assistant Director of Baseball Operation

Ben Lester - 605.690.3210

Volunteer Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Shane Merrill - 605.254.4427

Director of Information Technology

DAVID Grantham - 605.954.8890



SD VFW Baseball Showcase Drills

1. Run 60-yard dash. In left field from foul line toward right center
 - a. Outfielders run 1st then they go to right field line to **start playing catch**
 - b. Infielders run 2nd then start playing **catch right there in left field**
 - c. Catchers run after them

2. Outfielder will throw 2 throws to 3B & 2 throws to Home

3. Then Infielders all go to SS throw to first
 - a. 2 GBs right at them
 - b. 1 forehand
 - c. 1 backhand
 - d. 1 slow roller

4. 1B
 - a. Start back for 2 GBs at them & throw to 2B
 - b. Then start on bag & get 2 more GBs & start 3-6-3 Double Play

5. Catcher throws to 2B 4 or 5 throws (Don't cheat by standing halfway up at start!!)

6. Batting Practice – 1 or 2 rounds of 6 or 8 hits

7. Pitchers throw 16 pitch bullpen or throw love to hitters after BP for 16-18 pitches (catchers alternate receiving pitches)



SD VFW Baseball Showcase

Number	Class	First Name	Last Name	High School	60	60	Arm Infield	Arm Outfield	Exit Velocity Hit	FB	CB	CH	KB	Arm Catcher	Pop
1	B	Braxton	Allen	Baltic High school	7.51	7.41	71/75		74	72	63	56			
2	A	Xavier	Bien	Flandreau Public School	8.10	7.94	85/86		82	83	66	70			
3	B	Drew	Braley	Parkston	8.0	7.9	67/75		80						
4	B	Ian	Buettner	Garretson	7.9	7.41		53/67	71						
5	A	Tristen	Bunde	Tri Valley	7.4	7.33	72/75		81	74	58				
6	A	CJ	Den Boer	West Central	7	6.88		65/73	83						
7	A	Brody	Dybvig	Tri Valley	7.01	6.76	72/78		89	76	63	65			
8	B	Conner	Endorf	Hanson	8.01	8.07	58/60		76	66					
9	B	Parker	Ettswold	Sanborn Central High School	8.20	8.0	67/69		77	69	58	60			
10	B	Tyce	Feistner	Mt Vernon	8.13	8.1	70/72		91	75	58				
11	A	Quinn	Flemming	Madison	7.08	7.10		67/74	73						
12	A	Hunter	Frederick	Chamberlain High School	7.46	7.34		58/65	78						
13	A	Shooter	Frederick	Mobridge	7.9	7.77	77/82		80	84	65				
14	A	Padraig	Fulton	Vermillion High School	8.07	8.02	50/53	61/66	78						
15	B	Watson	Grantham	Hamlin	8.09	7.93	72/73		72	76					
16	A	Andrew	Gunderson	Sioux Valley	7.56	7.46		60/72	75	67	57	59			
17	B	Bryce	Hawkinson	Britton Hecla	7.16	7.12		63/66	80	67	58	62			
18	A	Tyler	Heinje	Wilnot	7.81	7.72			80						
19	B	Xavier	Hobert	Selby	8.72	8.29	58/59		77	70	57	54		58/62	2.35
20	B	Cole	Jessen	Garretson	7.77	7.70	66/71		76	74	65			65/68	
21	B	Lincoln	Juracek	Gregory	7.08	7.28	62/66		80						
22	B	Colt	Keiser	Gregory	6.88	6.91		67/76	75						
23	A	Mack	Koplin	Milbank	7.56	7.52	59/60		82	73	62	60		68/70	
24	B	Kenyon	Kuiper	Platte-Geddes	7.26	7.13		76/79	80	79	58	56			
25	B	Bryce	Larson	Sanborn Central High School	7.57	7.91			84	72	57	64		63/66	2.39
26	A	Carson	Maeschen	Dell Rapids Public	7.83	8.15			82	67	55			60/63	2.52
27	B	Zane	McCormick	McCook Central	7.58	7.64	70/71		75	81	69	67			
28	B	Nolan	Mentele	Howard	8.7	8.26	70/76		78	77	62				
29	B	Easton	Miller	Canistota	6.91	7.06	68/71		81	74	57	63			
30	A	Nolan	Nygren	Vermillion High School	7.45	7.06	70/74		80	76	65				
31	A	Jackson	Peppel	Dell Rapids Public	7.21	7.19	64/67		81	76	66				
32	A	Javian	Pesicka	Wagner	7.25	7.85	73/81		79	81	70				
33	B	Luke	Peters	Freeman	7.1	7.02		72/75	87						
34	B	Riggs	Prouty	Hamlin	7.46	7.4	65/70		79						
35	B	Dylan	Redler	Britton Hecla	8.02	7.76		63/66	75	66	54				
36	A	Cooper	Reiser	Vermillion High School	7.89	8.08			73	68	54			65/69	2.47
37	A	Grant	Roerig	Vermillion High School	7.37	7.28		63/67	69	66	50				

**SD VFW
Baseball Showcase**

Number	Class	First Name	Last Name	High School	60	60	Arm Infield	Arm Outfield	Exit Velocity Hit	FB	CB	CH	KB	Arm Catcher	Pop
38	B	Keegan	Russell	Selby Area High School	7.35	7.45		74/79	75	76			49		
39	A	Mack	Saxon	Mobridge-Pollock High School	7.27	7.28		79/83	84						2.39
40	A	Sterling	Schauff	Dakota Valley HS	8.51	8.93	57/77		77	73	51				
41	A	Will	Schnabel	Dakota Valley HS	7.63	7.77			79					58/63	
42	A	Gavin	Schneider	Madison	7.25	7.43		56/65	77						
43	A	Isaac	Shepherd	Chamberlain High School	7.00	7.09	65/67		78						
44	A	Frank	Soukup	Wagner	7.63	7.51		69/75	79	69	59	63			
45	A	Broden	Teske	Sioux Valley	7.77	7.69	64/72		83	71	61				
46	B	Trystan	Traupel	McCook Central	7.26	7.8			75	67	65	56		65/66	2.53
47	A	Keaton	Vessells	West Central	7.45	7.57			85	78	65			69/74	2.08
48	A	Ryan	Vitt	Vermillion High School	12.88	7.9	69/71		69						
49	B	Nate	Wilber	Hanson	7.88	7.72	69/74		74	74	61	63			

Players by Number

Player Number	1	2	3
First Name:	Braxton	Xavier	Drew
Last Name:	Allen	Bien	Braley
High School:	Baltic High school	Flandreau Public School	Parkston
HS Grad Year:	2025	2026	2025
Primary Position:	SS	RHP	2B
Secondary Position:	RHP	SS	3B
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	5' 10"	5' 11"	5' 8"
Weight:	165	215	160

Player Number	4	5	6
First Name:	Ian	Tristen	CJ
Last Name:	Buettner	Bunde	Den Boer
High School:	Garretson	Tri Valley	West Central
HS Grad Year:	2025	2026	2025
Primary Position:	CF	RHP	CF
Secondary Position:	RHP	1B	3B
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	6' 1"	6' 2"	6' 2"
Weight:	178	150	165

Player Number	7	8	9
First Name:	Brody	Conner	Parker
Last Name:	Dybvig	Endorf	Ettswold
High School:	Tri Valley	Hanson	Sanborn Central High School
HS Grad Year:	2026	2026	2026
Primary Position:	SS	LHP	3B
Secondary Position:	RHP	1B	RHP
Bats:	Right	Left	Right
Throws:	Right	Left	Right
Height:	5' 8"	6' 1"	6' 2"
Weight:	168	200	185

Player Number	10	11	12
First Name:	Tyce	Quinn	Hunter
Last Name:	Feistner	Flemming	Frederick
High School:	Mt Vernon	Madison	Chamberlain High School
HS Grad Year:	2027	2025	2026
Primary Position:	SS	RF	RF
Secondary Position:	LHP	LF	LF
Bats:	Left	Right	Right
Throws:	Left	Right	Right
Height:	5' 10"	5' 11"	5' 10"
Weight:	205	160	180

Player Number	13	14	15
First Name:	Shooter	Padraig	Watson
Last Name:	Frederick	Fulton	Grantham
High School:	Mobridge	Vermillion High School	Hamlin
HS Grad Year:	2027	2027	2026
Primary Position:	RHP	LF	SS
Secondary Position:	SS	1B	RHP
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	6' 3"	5' 10"	5' 10"
Weight:	170	165	130

Players by Number

Player Number	16	17	18
First Name:	Andrew	Bryce	Tyler
Last Name:	Gunderson	Hawkinson	Heinje
High School:	Sioux Valley	Britton Hecla	Wilmot
HS Grad Year:	2026	2026	2027
Primary Position:	LHP	1B	C
Secondary Position:	RF	LHP	CF
Bats:	Left	Right	Right
Throws:	Left	Left	Right
Height:	6' 1"	5' 7"	6' 1"
Weight:	200	160	170

Player Number	19	20	21
First Name:	Xavier	Cole	Lincoln
Last Name:	Hobert	Jessen	Juracek
High School:	Selby	Garretson	Gregory
HS Grad Year:	2026	2025	2025
Primary Position:	RHP	RHP	SS
Secondary Position:	SS	UT	3B
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	6' 2"	5' 10"	5' 10"
Weight:	185	165	160

Player Number	22	23	24
First Name:	Colt	Mack	Kenyon
Last Name:	Keiser	Koplin	Kuiper
High School:	Gregory	Milbank	Platte-Geddes
HS Grad Year:	2026	2027	2026
Primary Position:	CF	1B	C
Secondary Position:	SS	LHP	LHP
Bats:	Right	Left	Right
Throws:	Right	Left	Right
Height:	6' 5"	6' 0"	5'10"
Weight:	180	180	165

Player Number	25	26	27
First Name:	Bryce	Carson	Zane
Last Name:	Larson	Maeschen	McCormick
High School:	Sanborn Central High School	Dell Rapids Public	McCook Central
HS Grad Year:	2025	2026	2027
Primary Position:	C	C	RHP
Secondary Position:	RHP	RF	1B
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	6' 0"	5' 9"	6' 4"
Weight:	190	205	185

Player Number	28	29	30
First Name:	Nolan	Easton	Nolan
Last Name:	Mentele	Miller	Nygren
High School:	Howard	Canistota	Vermillion High School
HS Grad Year:	2026	2026	2027
Primary Position:	RHP	2B	SS
Secondary Position:	3B	RHP	RHP
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	5' 11"	5' 8"	5' 8"
Weight:	185	150	150

Players by Number

Player Number	31	32	33
First Name:	Jackson	Javian	Luke
Last Name:	Peppel	Pesicka	Peters
High School:	Dell Rapids Public	Wagner	Freeman
HS Grad Year:	2027	2027	2026
Primary Position:	RHP	SS	CF
Secondary Position:	SS	RHP	LF
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	5' 10"	5' 9"	5' 11"
Weight:	150	155	170

Player Number	34	35	36
First Name:	Riggs	Dylan	Cooper
Last Name:	Prouty	Redler	Reiser
High School:	Hamlin	Britton Hecla	Vermillion High School
HS Grad Year:	2026	2027	2027
Primary Position:	SS	RHP	C
Secondary Position:	CF	RF	RHP
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	6' 1"	6' 0"	6' 2"
Weight:	150	170	170

Player Number	37	38	39
First Name:	Grant	Keegan	Mack
Last Name:	Roerig	Russell	Saxon
High School:	Vermillion High School	Selby Area High School	Mobridge-Pollock High School
HS Grad Year:	2027	2026	2027
Primary Position:	RF	RHP	CF
Secondary Position:	RHP	CF	LF
Bats:	Right	Right	Right
Throws:	Right	Right	Right
Height:	6' 0"	6' 1"	5' 11"
Weight:	150	186	185

Player Number	40	41	42
First Name:	Sterling	Will	Gavin
Last Name:	Schauff	Schnabel	Schneider
High School:	Dakota Valley HS	Dakota Valley HS	Madison
HS Grad Year:	2026	2026	2026
Primary Position:	LHP	C	LF
Secondary Position:	1B	RF	RF
Bats:	Left	Right	Right
Throws:	Left	Right	Right
Height:	6' 2"	6' 1"	5' 10"
Weight:	205	185	150

Player Number	43	44	45
First Name:	Isaac	Frank	Broden
Last Name:	Shepherd	Soukup	Teske
High School:	Chamberlain High School	Wagner	Sioux Valley
HS Grad Year:	2026	2025	2026
Primary Position:	SS	CF	RHP
Secondary Position:	2B	RF	2B
Bats:	Right	Left	Right
Throws:	Right	Left	Right
Height:	5' 9"	6' 0"	6' 0"
Weight:	160	150	190

Players by Number

Player Number	46	47	48
First Name:	Trystan	Keaton	Ryan
Last Name:	Traupel	Vessells	Vitt
High School:	McCook Central	West Central	Vermillion High School
HS Grad Year:	2025	2024	2027
Primary Position:	LHP	C	3B
Secondary Position:	C	3B	SS
Bats:	Left	Right	Right
Throws:	Left	Right	Right
Height:	5' 9"	6' 1"	5' 8"
Weight:	165	165	150

Player Number	49	50	51
First Name:	Nate		
Last Name:	Wilber		
High School:	Hanson		
HS Grad Year:	2026		
Primary Position:	1B		
Secondary Position:	RHP		
Bats:	Right		
Throws:	Right		
Height:	6' 0"		
Weight:	170		

SD VFW
Baseball Showcase

Class	First Name	Last Name	High School
A	Xavier	Bien	Flandreau Public School
A	Tristen	Bunde	Tri Valley
A	CJ	Den Boer	West Central
A	Brody	Dybvig	Tri Valley
A	Quinn	Flemming	Madison
A	Hunter	Frederick	Chamberlain High School
A	Shooter	Frederick	Mobridge
A	Padraig	Fulton	Vermillion High School
A	Andrew	Gunderson	Sioux Valley
A	Tyler	Heinje	Wilmot
A	Mack	Koplin	Milbank
A	Carson	Maeschen	Dell Rapids Public
A	Nolan	Nygren	Vermillion High School
A	Jackson	Peppel	Dell Rapids Public
A	Javian	Pesicka	Wagner
A	Cooper	Reiser	Vermillion High School
A	Grant	Roerig	Vermillion High School
A	Mack	Saxon	Mobridge-Pollock High School
A	Sterling	Schauff	Dakota Valley HS
A	Will	Schnabel	Dakota Valley HS
A	Gavin	Schneider	Madison
A	Isaac	Shepherd	Chamberlain High School
A	Frank	Soukup	Wagner
A	Broden	Teske	Sioux Valley
A	Keaton	Vessells	West Central
A	Ryan	Vitt	Vermillion High School

SD VFW
Baseball Showcase

Class	First Name	Last Name	High School
B	Braxton	Allen	Baltic High school
B	Drew	Braley	Parkston
B	Ian	Buettner	Garretson
B	Conner	Endorf	Hanson
B	Parker	Ettswold	Sanborn Central High School
B	Tyce	Feistner	Mt Vernon
B	Watson	Grantham	Hamlin
B	Bryce	Hawkinson	Britton Hecla
B	Xavier	Hobert	Selby
B	Cole	Jessen	Garretson
B	Lincoln	Juracek	Gregory
B	Colt	Keiser	Gregory
B	Kenyon	Kuiper	Platte-Geddes
B	Bryce	Larson	Sanborn Central High School
B	Zane	McCormick	McCook Central
B	Nolan	Mentele	Howard
B	Easton	Miller	Canistota
B	Luke	Peters	Freeman
B	Riggs	Prouty	Hamlin
B	Dylan	Redler	Britton Hecla
B	Keegan	Russell	Selby Area High School
B	Trystan	Traupel	McCook Central
B	Nate	Wilber	Hanson

THE BASEBALL SCORECARD

Notes:		Start Time:	Attendance:
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor:	Date:	End Time:	Wind:
<input type="checkbox"/> Home:	Scorer:	Time of Game:	Weather:

#	Line Up	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	H	RBI
			◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇				
			◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇				
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			◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇				

SUMS	Runs															
	Hits															
	Errors															
	Left on Base															

#	Pitchers	W/L/S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HB	BK	WP	TBF

#	Catchers	PB

Umpires	
HP:	3B:
1B:	
2B:	



OUR HISTORY

1959 TO 2024-CELEBRATING 65 YEARS!

The South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars baseball program has given boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 16 a chance to play baseball since 1959. Originally Junior-Junior Baseball, it was renamed Teener Baseball in 1959, and again in 1992 to VFW Baseball. From 1959 to 1968, a playoff was held between the State A and State B Tournament winners as part of competition that led to a National Teener Tournament in Hershey, PA. The National Tournament has since been discontinued. In 1973 a Class AA Division was formed creating a third State Tournament and allowing more players to participate in tournament competition. The Varsity Division is divided into Class A and Class B. A team sportsmanship award is presented to each Class in the Varsity Division by the South Dakota Baseball Umpire Association in memory of long time umpire Jim Thury who umpired several State VFW Tournaments and games in all divisions.

In 1992 the first 13-14 year old tournament was held and since then it has been divided into Class B and Class A brackets. In 2004 the South Dakota VFW started to present the 13 and 14 year old division with team sportsmanship awards at the state tournaments. It was named the "William Radigan Team Sportsmanship Award" after William Radigan from Vermillion. Bill was on the original baseball committee in 1959 and served as State Adjutant/Quartermaster for the first forty years of this committee. His commitment to this program and the youth of South Dakota has made the longevity and success of South Dakota VFW Baseball a reality.

The 12 under division was introduced in 2006 with AA, A and B classes with 32 teams who participated in the first year. The first two years the tournament were held in Mitchell, South Dakota with all classes at one location. After that Sioux Falls and Brandon were added to the rotation of tournament locations. Today there is a Class A (10U, 12U, 14U and 16U) and Class B (10U, 12U, 14U and 16U). In 2014 the Class B tournament was held in a Class B community, the Class A tournament was held in a Class A Community.

In 2009 the 10 under division was held in Flandreau, South Dakota with 28 teams. There were three classes AA, A and B. The second year the tournament was moved to Mitchell, then rotated between Sioux Falls, Brandon and Mitchell.

In 2020, a 19U Class B State Tournament was added with 20 teams participating. Also in 2020, an 8U Open Class State Tournament was held for the first time at Center's "Field of Dreams." Teams were first divided into classes by city population. That was changed in 2004 when teams were divided up by their school enrollments. Due to declining populations in rural areas the state rules were changed in 2005 to allow girls to play. The program is headed by a State Chairman, Director of Baseball Operations, Advisory Committee and State Baseball Regional Coordinators. Each year an Annual Meeting is held to discuss rules and reveal the tournament sites which are determined by a bid process.

Regional and state tournaments are held mid-July through early August of each year. Each summer approximately 185 teams and over 2,800 players will participate in the program statewide. Each tournament game is required to have the Pledge of Allegiances and the VFW Baseball Sportsmanship Code recited by the players before the game starts. The purpose of this program is to create fellowship, leadership, and teamwork among the youth of South Dakota. The South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars is proud to be one of three states to conduct VFW Baseball and have an opportunity to provide such a program to the youth of our state.

SOUTH DAKOTA VFW BASEBALL CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

ALL AGE DIVISIONS:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS CODE BE RECITED BY BOTH TEAMS BEFORE A GAME DURING THE SEASON. IT IS REQUIRED AT REGIONAL AND STATE TOURNAMENTS.

- KEEP THE RULES**
- KEEP FAITH WITH MY TEAMMATES**
- KEEP MY TEMPER**
- KEEP MYSELF FIT**
- KEEP A STOUT HEART IN DEFEAT**
- KEEP PRIDE UNDER CONTROL IN VICTORY**
- KEEP A SOUND SOUL, A CLEAN MIND AND A HEALTHY BODY**

