



# Parent Meeting

## 2024 Summer Season

### HFC VISION:

The Huskies Fastpitch Club (HFC) strives to teach dedication, commitment, teamwork, and respect while providing each female athlete the opportunity to develop her skills and passion for the game of softball.



## HFC Goals



- Align with the goals of the Owatonna High School softball program
- Create a positive and fun learning environment
- Improve the skills, confidence and enjoyment of the game at all player levels
- Teach the ideals of leadership, confidence and respect for teammates, opponents, coaches and umpires
- Promote the game of softball by encouraging good sportsmanship from players, parents and spectators



# Philosophy



## • Playing Time

- Balanced (not necessarily equal) playing time is to be dictated as much by commitment and attendance as skill level.
- Development of players, particularly at the younger age levels and lower tiers, is valued over a winning record.
- U10-U12: Each player should learn and play several positions.
- Rec Crush: Each player will focus on building skills and learning the sport.



## USA / MN SOFTBALL REGISTRATION



- All HFC players ( U14 & under) are required to be registered with USA/MN Softball to participate in league and tournament play. If your daughter has played HFC in the last 2 years you likely have a player(family) profile and account. If not you will need to register for one. Once registered, the player's birth certificate will then need to be uploaded for compliance purposes. To register, login, and / or upload a birth certificate, please visit MN softball at [lpsmn.com](http://lpsmn.com)



# Equipment



## Rec Crush /U10/U12

- Provided by HFC:
  - Jersey
- Not provided – player purchase:
  - Helmet
  - Glove
  - Fielders mask
  - Black pants
  - Socks – team choice
  - Cleats – non metal
- 10U – 11” softballs
- 12U & up – 12” softballs

## U14 / U18

- Provided by HFC:
  - Jersey and Pants
- Not provided – player purchase:
  - Helmet
  - Glove
  - Fielders mask
  - Belt (orange)
  - Socks (orange)
  - Cleats – metal ok/encouraged



# Equipment



## • Fielders Masks

- U10-U14: **Must wear in the infield**, encouraged in the outfield
- Recommended to have own for sanitary reasons
  - Court Sports – metal version

## • Helmets

- Black OR White w/royal helmets preferred
- Personal helmets recommended for sanitary reasons

\* Team equip bags will have a few extra helmets and fielders masks



## Evaluations



- Led by OHS Softball Staff
- Team assignments: **No Later Than 4/21/2024**
- Email notification, posted on website
- Coach assignments communicated along with teams



## **10U Info**



- **2 Travel Teams – split evenly by skill**
- **1 Rec Team – League ONLY team**
- **Practices – Begin early-May (weather permitting)- Schedule varying based on coach**
  - 2 weeks prior to season – will strive to hold 2 practices/week
  - During season – at least 1 practice per week
- **League – Southern Star Conference out of Mankato (southernstarsoftball.org)**
- **Game schedules known late April; Games start late May, and run thru mid July**
  - Wednesday nights - Doubleheader Games
  - Games home or surrounding SE MN area ( Mankato, Cleveland, WEM, Waseca, Medford, St. Clair, JWP, LSH)
- **Practice & Game schedules communicated via SportsEngine**





# **10U Tournaments**



## **• 3 Tournaments**

June 8th: Waseca High School

June 15-16: Owatonna

June 22-23: State Qualifier (SS League Tournament) Location: TBD

July: State TBA\*

## **• State Tournament cost IS NOT included at 10U level**

- Up to families & coaches if want to pursue



## **12U Info**



- **2 Teams - Split based on Skill Level**
  - 12U Orange
  - 12U Blue
- **Practices – Begin early-May (weather permitting)- Schedule varying based on coach**
  - 2 weeks prior to season – will strive to hold 2 practices/week
  - During season – at least 1 practice per week
- **League – Southern Star Conference out of Mankato (southernstarsoftball.org)**
- **Game schedules known late April; Games start late May, and run thru mid July**
  - Tuesday Thursday nights - Doubleheader Games
  - Games home or surrounding SE MN area ( Mankato, Janesville, Blooming Prairie, WEM, Waseca, Medford, St. Clair, NRGH, St. Peter, New Ulm, USC,etc)
- **Practice & Game schedules communicated via SportsEngine**



# 12U Tournaments



## • 4 Tournaments (subject to change)

- June 8-9: Rosemount (Orange)
- June 9t: Waseca High School (Blue)
- June 15-16: Owatonna (Orange & Blue)
- June 22-23: Austin, Todd Park (Orange)
- June 22-23: Southern Star League Tournament, TBA (Blue)
- July 18-21: Eagan, West St. Paul (Orange)
- July 28-29: Stewartville (Blue)
- July: NAFA Nationals\*

*\* Parent / Team funded*



## U14 Info



- **League start day of June 1 thru July 20 (Southern Star—southernstarsoftball.org)**
  - Monday double headers
  - Home and surrounding area games (Janeville, KM, St. Clair, Triton, Waseca, Blue Earth, Mankato, Blooming Prairie)
- **Practices – Begin mid-May Early June, after OHS season**
  - Strive for 2 practices/week
- **Tournaments (subject to change)**
  - June 8th: Waseca High School (Blue)
  - June 8-9: Rosemount (Orange)
  - June 19-21: Rochester, McQuillen (Orange)
  - June 28-29: Stewartville (Blue)
  - July 6: Fairmount (Orange)
  - July 7: Fairmount (Blue)
  - July 13-14: Southern Star League Tournament, N. Mankato / St. Peter (Blue)
  - July 25-29: Lakeville / Prior Lake (Orange)



## 18U info



- **Tournament Schedule Only**
- **Practices – Begin after OHS season (late May-Early June)**
  - Strive for 2 practices/week
- **Tournaments (subject to change)**
  - 6/9-11 – Lakeville (Lexi Kretsch-currently on waitlist)
  - 6/16-18– S&C Summer Showcase (Lakeville)
  - 6/23-25 – Lakeville Summer Grand Slam
  - 7/7-9 – USSSA State Top Tier (TBD TC Metro)
  - 7/12-16 – NAFA MW Nationals - Janesville, WI
  - 7/27-30 – NAFA Northern Nationals - Chaska/Eden Prairie



# Parent Reps



- **Liaison between coach and parents**
  - Each team will have a volunteer parent rep
  - Parent Rep assignment equilibrates as 3 DIBs volunteer hours
- **Responsibilities as designated by the Coach (varies)**
  - Examples may include:
    - Communicate with coach on tasks required
    - Assist in distributing uniforms, sock orders, picture forms, etc.
    - Coordinate collection of player documentation or fees ( sock fees, etc)
    - Distribute tournament info to players/parents as soon as it is available
    - Arrange team bonding/building events
    - Aid in car-pool arrangements if needed.
- **Parent Rep is NOT an assistant coach, not involved in any coaching related decisions**



## **HFC Board Reps**



- **ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW BOARD REPRESENTATIVES, PLEASE SEE A CURRENT HFC BOARD MEMBER WITH QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION.**
- 1 HFC Board Member will be assigned to each Crush team / age level
- Board Rep will be posted on each team page
- Board meetings count as DIBS hours
- Comments, Questions, Concerns –
  - Parent Rep
  - Board Rep
  - Coach



# **Parent Conduct**



- Parent Roles
  - Support players and coaches
  - Positive encouragement, constructive feedback
  - Accept decisions by umpires and coaches
- 24-Hour Rule
  - Coaches will not discuss game situations with parents/grandparents/adults until at least 24 hours after the game.
  - Strongly encourage player being part of all conversations.
- Parent/Adult Misconduct – Consequences
  - Asked to leave the event
  - Written warning
  - Second offense, banned for the season





# DIBS



- DIBS

- Tracking volunteer opportunities and hours
- 6 volunteer hours or family max of 12. Forfeit deposit if hours not worked.
- Hours will be posted as opportunities become available – first to sign up
  - Examples: VFW Pancake breakfast, Meat Raffles, Corky's concessions and trash clean up, Crush-IT tournament clean up, fair parking, etc
  - Offerings are currently available at:  
[https://www.owatonnafastpitch.com/dib\\_sessions](https://www.owatonnafastpitch.com/dib_sessions)



# Communication



- SportsEngine
  - Communications from HFC, Coaches, Team schedules, etc.
  - SportsEngine account is tied to **ONE** email to interact (chat, send messages, etc). To add permission to another person (parent, guardian, etc) go to HFC webpage and click on **Helpful Tips** on left hand menu
- Follow us on Social Media
  - Facebook: Huskies Fastpitch Club Owatonna Crush (NEW!)
  - Twitter: @otownfastpitch
- Website
  - owatonnafastpitch.com



# Questions?



Looking forward to a fun season!

PLAY BALL

