Hello Storm Softball Coaches of 2025! This is your complete Coaching Guide. PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY AND REFER BACK TO THIS THROUGHOUT YOUR SEASON. It should contain the answers to any questions that arise. For further support reach out to our coach development coordinator: Pam Kydd <u>stormsoftballcoachdevelopment@gmail.com</u>

# **Coaching Courses**

At the present time we know that likely Softball SK will not be adding anymore spring Coaching Clinics. Many of you who need to be, are registered so great job and thank you! In the meantime, I would encourage you to complete the Foundation of Coaching Softball (FOCS) modules online (Part 1 and 2) as these modules are pre-requisites for both the Community Softball coach pathway (need FOCS 1) and the Softball Competition- Introduction pathway (need FOCS 1 and 2). FOCS1 and 2 can be done online anytime. ALL HEAD AND ASSISTANT COACHES IN ALL DIVISIONS need to have their Respect in Sport for activity leaders and should get their Making Ethical Decisions. Active Storm Softball Coaches will be reimbursed for course costs, just email receipts along with your name and mailing address to our treasurer Michelle Maystrowich at michelle\_lemon@hotmail.com, and myself <u>stormsoftballcoachdevelopment@gmail.com</u>. For ALL NEEDED INFORMATION on all coaching courses, please see the Softball Saskatchewan website under the COACHES tab. DO NOT WAIT! REGISTER FOR YOUR NEEDED PROVINCIAL PATHWAY NOW!!

https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/coaching-certification

https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/coaching-clinics

Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders - Getting Started (respectgroupinc.com)

### **2025 Provincial Coaching Requirements**

See the link below for all coaching requirements.

https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/coaching-certification

# Coach, Assistant Coach and Manager Registration

All coaches, assistant coaches and managers need to register on <u>www.whitebutteminorball.ca</u> under Coach registration tab. Here is where you must upload a recent (within the last two years) Criminal Record Check, NCCP number, and Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders number. If you have info to add to your already done registration: login to ramp, click on family members tab and go to your name and edit.

http://whitebuttesoftball.rampregistrations.com/

# <u>Connect Sport Canada – Coach Mental Health Literacy Online Course</u>

Storm Softball is very excited to adopt this important development opportunity for all our Coaches. This is an online course that is done at your own convenience. It takes about 1 hour to complete and is at no cost to our coaches. It is a very informative course that offers many great resources throughout. We are asking that our coaches to complete this before April 30/2025. We will be provided record of only our coach's names who complete the coach version of the course, and we will then save the course

completion date in your Ramp coach registration for future years record. All our registered coaches for 2025 will be given a code to use to complete this course online after creating their Connect user account. We would like to thank Rick West and his family for reaching out with the Lincoln's Life Mattered Foundation and offering to cover all costs of this training for our coaches. This training will be mandatory by 2026 season.

### **RMSL Coaches Meeting/Tournament Codes.**

RMSL will be hosting a coach meeting for U11 divisions and up to bring you up to speed on everything according to their league play, rules, and expectations. This is where you will get your game schedules as well. They usually do all the league game scheduling HOWEVER in the past they had some divisions schedule their own games in open diamonds during the virtual meeting. We have communicated to Head Coaches of teams eligible to enter RMSL tournaments using their code. (Sharon Knott tourney U13B - U17B) (Queen City Classic U11A-U17A). If you have not received your code to enter these league tournaments, please reach out to Pam. Stay tuned to emails regarding those very important meetings you need to be prepared for. The name of the RMSL Executive Director is Kristina Kenny.

# **Practices**

Practices can be scheduled at any of the three community's diamonds (Balgonie diamonds #1 #3 #4, White city #3, and Pilot Butte #3 #4). Coaches are to contact Shelley Stamm at <u>s.stamm@sasktel.net</u> with their practice request schedule after you have your game schedule from RMSL (also please send her your game schedule that you receive from RMSL so she can double check this). Shelley is amazing and we are very lucky to have her, so please have patience as she works through the many requests for all teams in both Broncos Baseball and Storm Softball. For the 2025 Softball Season, Storm will once again be implementing the diamond allotment usage per division. Each team will be allotted a certain number of diamond usages throughout the season based on the chart below. Please note there is no limit on batting cage uses, but they still must be booked through Shelley Stamm, to avoid double bookings. If your team decides to go over the allotted limit, your team will be responsible for the cost of the diamond as per the towns diamond usage fee.

If you need to cancel a diamond due to weather or are just unable to use the time, please contact Shelley Stamm at <u>s.stamm@sasktel.net</u> cell: (306)537-8373, so that we are not charged.

U7- 12 practices	U15- 16 practices
U9- 12 practices	U17- 16 practices
U11- 16 practices	U19- 10 practices
U13- 16 practices	Provincial teams – 6 practices

Diamond Allotment 2025:

If you require the pass code to enter the batting cages for each community, please contact <u>stormsoftball3@gmail.com</u>. This information should be limited to head coaches for each team. It is very important that we make sure to lock these sheds carefully when we are done. We have put a lot of funds and volunteer time in making our community cages great so please be responsible and keep them in good condition.

# **Division Specific**

Division specific information for all coaches will be communicated by your division coordinator as it comes up. Please contact them if you are needing any further support, they will point you in the right direction. You may find the list of division coordinators here: https://storm.whitebutteminorball.ca/content/2025-division-coordinators

### U7 Year End Showcase All Star Event

The date for the U7 Year-end All Star Event is scheduled for June 21 in Balgonie. This will be run in conjunction with Broncos Baseball Rally Cap teams. Parent Volunteers will be required for this event so make sure your team's parents are aware of their required volunteer shifts.

# **U9 Clash of the Cleats Tournament**

This is our Annual Home U9 tournament hosted in Balgonie May 23-25, 2025. This is something our association is very proud of. Every year It has been a huge success and requires many hard-working volunteers to make it happen. EVERY PARENT of a u9 player is required to fill their share of volunteer shifts over this weekend so please make this an important point when speaking to your teams at season start. Tournament Committee volunteers will be REQUIRED from each U9 team, and anyone interested in helping on the committee should contact our tournament coordinator Allyson Slopinski at <u>allysonslopinski@hotmail.com</u>

# **Suggested Season Start Basics**

-Send welcome email to all parents with roster and season plans. Good idea for teams to hold a brief parent meeting to go over plans for tournaments and other commitments required.

-Get yourself a team manager to help you put together a possible budget with team costs for the season and figure out how much per player you will need to collect for team fees. Could include Photos, Tournament fees, first aid supplies, etc.

-Setup parent volunteer rotations for any team needs such as scorekeepers, umpires, anything else you want to have laid out for your season.

-Setup a team management app to help you keep scheduling and attendance organized. Some options include, Teamlinkt, Teamsnap, Ramp also has an option that should keep your schedules from the Storm Softball master calendar. Whatever your preference to work with.

-if you need help to plan practices or know what or how to teach skills make sure to visit the Softball SK Website there is an enormous number of resources to help guide you. Including information on accessing the new app for anyone who needs or wants more information. https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/softball-mobile-app

https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/coaching-resources

Resources Library (softball.ca)

### **Coach Mentorship**

This season we would like to encourage any new, inexperienced and/or curious Coaches to arrange time to attend practice with any of our more developed and experienced coaches to help guide them on how skills are taught and where to start with practice planning. If anyone is interested in this, please reach out to the Coach Development Coordinator: Pam Kydd <u>stormsoftballcoachdevelopment@gmail.com</u>, for how we can support the new coaches in this way.

### **First Aid Kits**

For the 2025 Softball Season teams will be responsible for providing their own first aid kits (these can be as simple or complex as you like and can be paid for through team fees). A team manager can help organize these types of team's needs.

### **Team Photos**

Once again, we are excited to have Glen's Lens arrange a team photo day sometime in May for all teams to have their photos done. More information will come on this as far as what dates and how to sign up for your team's timeslot. The cost of team photos is **not** covered by Storm Softball and is something that each team pays for themselves. This is a cost you should be working into your team fees at beginning of the season. Keep an eye out for further needed info on this. In the past a basic photo package is about \$25-\$30ish a person.

### **Possible Tournaments**

Check out link below for possible tournaments in your division and don't wait to register for any that you might be interested in attending. Please note that any teams attending tournaments outside of province should seek a Travel Permit from Softball SK, also on their website. https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/softballsaskatchewan/files/2025%20Travel%20Permit.pdf

https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/tournaments

### **Further information and resources**

Link below is Softball SK website. Much more useful information for coaches, players, parents can be found here. Please take the time to check it out. <u>https://www.softball.sk.ca/</u>

### **Custom Team Clothing and/or Jerseys**



Any team is of course allowed to order what they want for custom jerseys/practice shirts/jackets or whatever you wish. Our only requirement is that you are not allowed to make your own logo for game worn jerseys. Anything worn on field for games must have the original Storm Softball Logo on it.

### **Umpire information**

We are very excited to be growing our local pool of umpires. We have a Board Member Audra Hill putting time and energy into supporting the growth and development of our umpires. Storm Softball will reimburse the clinic fees for those who umpire games for the league. You must be 12 yrs of age or older to umpire and we would gladly welcome any adults as well! This is a great opportunity to earn some extra cash and give back to the sport of softball! All ages welcome!

FYI info from Audra Hill (Umpire Coordinator):

Umpires are booked through Ramp. I will reach out to the coach 24 hrs in advance if we aren't able to book an umpire for a game. The umpires all know to contact me if they have an emergency and I'm able to communicate with the coach directly if this occurs/someone is running late.

I do have a list of older umpires through RMSL if we aren't able to secure them for our U15 and U17 Games. Both associations have a small group of them so fingers crossed, we will have enough available for games. Next year, a lot of our umpires will move up into qualifying to umpire these age groups! I'm hoping it's a rewarding year and we can retain this group for next year.

Some clarification on payment:

1. Umpires are paid \$40 each for each game to be paid in cash at the end of the game. If there is only 1 umpire, they receive the full \$80. This is incentive for umpires to book themselves into games and aligns with Broncos Baseball. HOME team is responsible for payment of the umpires- when games are on our home diamonds ie. Balgonie, Pilot Butte and White City.

2. Reimbursement for umpire fees: please send reimbursement requests to Michelle Maystrowich at <u>michelle\_lemon@hotmail.com</u>

-please note only RMSL league games are reimbursed, teams are responsible for any exhibition games

3. Please include with the email the team, date and amount along with whom to etransfer.

4. An etransfer will be sent at the end of May and end of June (or once 3 or more games have been accumulated)

If there are any questions; coaches/managers are welcome to reach out to me directly!

Kind Regards,

Audra Hill

Umpire Coordinator

(306) 201-6069

Please see the info below for 2025 Umpire clinic signup information.

https://www.softball.sk.ca/content/umpire-registration-amp-clinics

We're looking for individuals who love the sport of Softball and are wanting to be a part of a great softball organization!

Whether you're a young adult (12 years of age or older), parent, retiree or just someone who loves the game, this is the perfect gig! There is a flexible on-line booking tool so you can choose the games that work for you, get paid cash each game and you get to be a part of an amazing sport in a supportive environment!

Sign up for the Umpire Clinic and let's get the ball rolling! Date: April 27, 2025 Location: Pilot Butte Elementary School Time: 8:30 am sign in - 3:00pm Contact: Audra at 306-201-6069 for any questions or click on this information link to answer all your questions <u>Umpire clinic Info</u> \*\*Umpires must pre-register on the Softball Sask website at

http://ssumpire.rampregistrations.com/

\*\*If you are from our home organization, and umpire a certain number of games, you may be eligible for reimbursement of your course fees!



#### **INFO AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATHLETE ERA APP RESOURCE**

In this link you will find video's on how to join a team for coaches, join a team for parents, finding drill, skills & plans, practice plans, etc. <u>http://marketing.athleteera.app/academy</u>

We are very excited to provide this excellent resource for all coaches in Saskatchewan!!