

BYLAWS OF THE BERESFORD BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

These Bylaws are hereby established by the Beresford Baseball and Softball Association through its Coaches Committee. All prior agreements, resolutions, practices, policies, rules, or regulations relating to this organization, to the extent inconsistent with these Bylaws, are hereby superseded.

ARTICLE I

Name of Organization. The name of this organization is Beresford Baseball and Softball Association, hereinafter described as BBSA.

STANDING. BBSA is and will always be a nonprofit, community service organization under the bylaws and policies of the Beresford Parks Recreation and Community Education (PRCE) until such time PRCE terminates, or in any way ceases to function as BBSA.

MISSION STATEMENT: BBSA exists to teach and promote the game of baseball and softball in an environment that fosters competition and individual development, instills the importance of being part of a team, enhances the enjoyment of youth baseball and softball players in the Beresford and surrounding community, and readies players for Legion baseball, High School baseball, Middle School softball, and High School softball consistent with the goals below.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE, ELIGIBILITY AND SCOPE OF PLAY

The purpose of the organization is to organize baseball and softball teams for players living in Beresford, South Dakota or attending school in the Beresford School District. Our goal is to create a comprehensive, community-based program to support the development of players across a wide range of participation levels. Our ultimate vision is to foster consistent teams at the youth level to support our Middle School, High School, and Legion teams.

The BBSA program goals are to do the following:

- Provide effective, high-quality training for players and coaches at all levels.
- Provide programs that are cooperative with and respected by other community programs.
- Seek to maximize the potential of every player in the program.
- Encourage and foster player participation for the full length of a player's youth sports career by putting each player in a position to be successful.
- Emphasize the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship.

TEAMS AND LEVELS

BBSA teams play in the Southeast division of USA Softball of South Dakota and the Southeast Baseball Association.

The final number and level of teams offered will be decided by the BBSA Coaches on an annual basis and will be determined by registration numbers and talent level.

Current Teams and Levels for Baseball: Tee ball, 8U; ages 7-8 Pee Wees teams; 10U/12U; ages 9-12 Midget teams; ages 13-19 for Teener and American Legion teams.

Current Teams and Levels for Softball: 8U; 10U; 12U; 14U; 16U; and 18U.

BBSA teams typically play Southeast South Dakota, Southwest Minnesota, Northwest Iowa and Northeast Nebraska and other surrounding communities based on the assigned region. BBSA teams may also play in regular season weekend tournaments with the opportunity of playing in the state tournaments held in July. Coaches at each level are allowed to limit roster size and/or handpick rosters for non-recreation league tournaments, which may result in combining teams. The BBSA season typically runs from Mid-April to end of July, but may conclude by the end of June, depending on the age division.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

The general membership of BBSA shall consist of the coaches, support staff and parents/guardians of the registered eligible players. The Coaches Committee will guide BBSA decision making and reports to Beresford PRCE. Rules may be established by the Board to determine who will be recognized to vote, upon what matters, and how voting rights are determined.

ARTICLE IV

MEETING OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Place of Meetings. Meetings of the general membership shall be held at Beresford Elementary School, or another suitable location as may be designated by the Coaches Committee from time to time.

Section 2. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of BBSA shall be held at least once per year as determined by the Coaches Committee which shall set the specific date and time for each regular meeting. The members shall transact such business of BBSA as may properly come before them.

Section 3. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President of the Coaches Committee or shall be called by the President as directed by a resolution adopted by most of the Coaches Committee or upon a written request signed by at least thirty percent (30%) of the voting members. The notice of any special

meeting shall state the time, the place, and the purpose of such meeting. No business shall be transacted at the special meeting except as stipulated in the notice.

Section 4. Presiding Officer. The President of the Coaches Committee of BBSA in cooperation with the Director of PRCE shall be the presiding officer of all meetings of the membership. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside. In the absence of both persons, the members may elect a President Pro Tem for that one meeting.

ARTICLE V

COACHES COMMITTEE

Section 1. Number and Eligibility. The Coaches Committee of BBSA shall be consistent of five (5) voting Officers, the Director of PRCE (non-voting) and such additional non-voting members as the Coaches Committee shall determine from time to time. PRCE or the Coaches Committee can receive nominations for the five voting positions. The BBSA Coaches Committee will seek nominations at the annual All Coaches Meeting when there is a vacancy. PRCE must approve each member of the Coaches Committee. The voting positions of the Coaches Committee shall be the following Officer positions: (1) President (2) Vice President, (3) Secretary and two At Large Board members (4 & 5). During the initiation of the committee (Sept 2021-Aug 2024), The President, VP, and Secretary will serve three-year terms and the At Large members will serve two years. This will allow for staggered transition in the leadership of the Coaches Committee. The Coaches Committee must include at least one baseball coach and at least one softball coach. Members are allowed to serve more than one term if approved by PRCE. There are no set term limits. If a vacancy occurs mid-term, the President of the Coaches Committee can make an appointment to finish out the term of the vacating member.

To be eligible to serve as a member of the Coaches Committee (whether as a voting Officer or whether as a non-voting Board member), the individual must be an active member of BBSA within the most recent 3 years.

After the initial three year start up period (Sept 2021-Aug 2024), vacancies will be filled by two- or three-year term members. This will provide for consistency in membership over time so there are not four or more new members each year. The Coaches Committee will choose who is to serve as the President, Vice President, and Secretary as those roles open.

The Coaches Committee, in coordination with the coaches at each level for both baseball and softball, will be responsible for reviewing and making determinations during the sign up and team assignment process. The number of registrants for a particular season will impact the decision making for the division of teams. They will also review late applications to determine if mitigating circumstances exist that would allow a player to be allowed to play, despite signing up after the deadline.

Procedures:

Sign-up for T-ball, baseball, and softball will occur in February, preceding each season.

We will open sign-up up on the 1st of February with a two week push from the 14th through the 25th of February, and the last day of sign up will be on the 28th of February. This final day of sign up will be a hard date on the calendar.

Sign-up will be both in-person and digital / virtual. Sign-up will not include team designation (i.e., 8U) but rather include date of birth as the key deciding factor in assignments. Players are not allowed to play down. Players that request to play up must present a request to the Coaches Committee for consideration.

Following the signup process the Coaches Committee would assemble and assign players to teams. The breakdown of teams by age versus skill and ability will be based on league policies (i.e. Southeast Baseball League – USA Baseball, Southeast Softball League – USA Softball of South Dakota).

Once team assignments have been made, respective coaches will contact their team and assess availability for the start of the season, practice (indoor/outdoor) and game scheduling (regular season games and tournaments).

Immediately after assigning players to teams, coaches will work with PRCE executive director and Beresford HS Athletic Director to schedule both time in the gymnasium during early spring and the fields during late spring for both practices and games. School activities will take precedence over recreation baseball and softball. Special emphasis will be given to organizing an approach to schedule games prior to league meetings during spring.

Teams will work with Director PRCE and the Coaches Committee to prepare draft practice schedules and game availability schedules before respective league meetings. The goal is to have draft schedules complete in early March. Indoor practices will be managed by the Athletic Director of Beresford High School via a scheduling request tool and managed calendar.