

2019 Parent/Player Handbook
REVISED 9/5/18



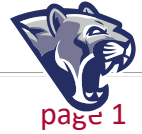


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CONGRATULATIONS! You have been selected to play for the Pride of The Midwest Softball Club. We are all excited and proud to have you as part of our PRIDE Family, as we celebrate our nineteenth year as a premier select girls fastpitch softball club.

This handbook contains information for both you and your parent(s)/guardian(s). It is imperative that you and your parent(s)/guardian(s) read and understand its contents. Your understanding and acceptance of this information will ensure your success as part of the Pride of the Midwest Softball Club.

I) GOALS

- Develop and promote educational advancement of players in all aspects of the sport.
- Develop and promote communication with coaches, parents, players and media.
- Schedule regular meetings with the club, directors, coaches and members
- Provide sponsorship and fund-raising opportunities.
- Promote and develop elite teams for competition
- Emphasize teamwork, skill development, leadership and personal growth.

II) ATTENDANCE

Due to our limited schedule and the program's commitment towards the technical and physical development process, attendance and promptness are MANDATORY.

All players are required to notify their coach with any unplayable dates prior to the start of the season.

In order to achieve the goals of the program, each athlete will be expected to prioritize her schedule with great time management skills, so that there are no schedule conflicts. It is understood that situations may arise that create a conflict, which will be excused. However, three unexcused absences during the season will result in immediate dismissal from the club.

Each player is expected to arrive at least 15 minutes early, and be dressed for practice before practice begins. Each player is expected to arrive 30 minutes before every game unless otherwise designated by each team coach or manger.

In all cases, it is the responsibility of the athlete to inform her coach a minimum of 72 hours in advance if a problem of missing practice or a game arises. It is also the responsibility of the athlete to confirm the time and location of the next practice or event.

We realize we are always confronted with vacations and other activities, we require that you keep us posted on all conflicts with plenty of time to prepare for our next game.

III) UNIFORMS

1. Players should bring their complete PRIDE uniforms to every game, including all three uniform shirts. The coaches prior to the start of the game will determine what uniforms you will wear.
2. All players will wear a complete PRIDE uniforms for all games. Including shirts, pants, and socks. Also have your sunglasses with you at all times. You may need it.
3. Although we will make every effort to give players the uniform numbers they requested, they will be assigned them based on seniority. (i.e. age / number of years with the league)
4. We will try not to duplicate uniform numbers one age level up or down, just in case players are asked to play at a different age level and allow carry over for their next year.

IV) PRACTICE/GAME RULES

- There is no sitting down in practices unless so instructed by your coach.
- Practice will start on time and will end when all the equipment is returned to its place.
- All gear will be put on and done at least five minutes prior to practice commencing.
- Run when called over by the coach for instructions.
- Do not talk to teammates while the coach is giving instructions or talking. At the end of the instruction, the coach will address any questions that a player may have.
- If you must leave the practice for any reason, you must notify a coach.
- Players must report any injury or illness immediately to their coach.
- Failure to maintain emotional control during practices or games will lead to dismissal from all or part of such event.
- No profanity allowed at anytime by any member of the PRIDE family.
- Mentally prepare yourself for each practice. Focus on improving your skills at this time.
- At tournaments or league games, always run on and off the field between innings.
- With the exception of players and coaches, no one is allowed in or around dugouts or field of play, while the team is playing a game. The duration of a game is determined by the time a player gets there until the time they are dismissed by the coach.

V) TRAVEL RULES

Travel to and from practice will be the responsibility of the athlete. We suggest that individuals living in the same general area form car pools. The following guidelines will be strictly adhered to when traveling to tournaments outside of the Milwaukee County area.

1. Itineraries will be given to each family before each tournament. The tentative schedule in the itinerary is to be followed unless otherwise specified. Itineraries will include:
 - a. Meeting Places
 - b. Meeting Times
 - c. Directions to Tournament and hotel
 - d. Schedule of play when available
2. Only adult drivers (age 18 or older) will be allowed to drive to tournaments.
3. Every athlete will attend and participate in all activities unless excused by a coach.
4. If overnight lodging is required:
 - a. Athletes will stay with their parents, or another team family, if both families prior to the trip prearrange it.
 - b. Members of the opposite sex may not enter any player's room for any reason.
 - c. The coaching staff will set curfews.
 - d. We ask that all families will stay at the designated hotel pre-arranged by the PRIDE.
5. A player found disobeying the rules and curfews set forth by the coaching staff or team chaperone will result in immediate discipline. A player may be reinstated or expelled following a review.

VI) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Players may not play for another Pride Team, without the permission of the Player's parents or guardian, and the Coaches from the teams involved. Coaches in need of an additional player or players will not attain another player or players without the Player/Players, Parents or Guardian, or Player's Coach permission to do so.
2. Players may not play for another team or club during "our season" without their Coach's permission to do so. Discovery will result in immediate suspension from The Pride.
3. The Pride of the Midwest require that parents and players complete all paperwork and remit dues or fees before a player receives equipment or uniforms and is allowed to practice or participate in tournaments or league games.
4. If for some reason, a player quits or is expelled from the Pride of The Midwest, ALL MONIES DUE MUST BE PAID IN FULL that would have been their responsibility. Any legal fees incurred by the Pride of The Midwest in attempt to collect dues or fees; will be the responsibility of the parent(s) or guardians(s) and the player that has left the club.
 - a. All checks or money orders should be made payable to: Pride of The Midwest
 - b. All dues and fees paid to Pride of The Midwest Softball Club are NON-REFUNDABLE, WITHOUT EXCEPTION.
 - c. Parents, guardians, and players must act in accordance with all league, tournament, and Pride of The Midwest Softball Club rules of decorum and etiquette. Pride of The Midwest Softball Club practices a "No Tolerance" policy. This includes harassment and bullying. Any behavior deemed by Pride of The Midwest Softball Club directors, coaches, and/or staff as unacceptable and / or inappropriate, will be grounds for a penalty not short of barring an individual from practices and games or immediate dismissal of a player. No refunds will be issued.

VII) LIABILITIES

All coaches must inform their players, parents or guardians that they risk bodily injury, including paralysis, dismemberment and death, as well as loss or damage of property. In addition, they must inform them of the Milwaukee Metro Fastpitch League (MMFL) policy that prohibits any player from transferring teams during the season once that player has been registered with a team or club in the MMFL.

VII) CODE OF CONDUCT

Each athlete will be expected to comply with the rules and regulations outlined in this handbook. Athletes will conduct themselves in such a manner that they bring credit and respect to their families, teammates and the Pride of The Midwest Softball Club. Anyone who willfully performs any act that is detrimental to themselves, their school, or the Pride of The Midwest Softball Club, shall be subjected to discipline, suspension, or expulsion from the program.

DISCIPLINE: Will mean any form of corrective action deemed necessary to correct the problem. Each athlete will be told what needs to be corrected and given a specific time frame in which to accomplish it. The athlete will be expected to participate in practices and travel to games and tournaments even though they may not play. If an athlete makes no attempt to correct a specific problem in the specific time frame, she may be suspended or expelled from the club.

SUSPENSION: Will mean a suspension from participation in any team related activity for a specific number of days. This is a last chance result of a disciplinary problem.

EXPULSION: Will mean that the athlete will be denied the right to any future participation or privilege of the Pride of The Midwest Softball Club. No refunds of any kind will be given in the case of an expulsion.

Prior to the implementation of the above sanctions, a conference with the athlete will be conducted to ensure the athlete understands the problem and its actions.

The following shall constitute sufficient cause for implementing disciplinary actions:

- Disruptive or unsportsmanlike conduct
- Excessive tardiness or unexcused absences
- Disobedience or display of bad attitude towards coach
- Excessive late payment
- Illegal transport, illegal possession, or use of illegal drugs or other substances
- Physical damage to a facility or theft of items from a room, dormitory, or other person
- Possession of fireworks, ammunition, firearms, or other weapons or any item or material which by commonly accepted practices and principles would be hazardous or harmful to other persons, state or local ordinances
- Violation of the specific policies, regulations, and/or procedures of the ASA, MMFL, NSA or the facility used in conjunction with a sanctioned event
- Conduct, which is inappropriate as determined by comparison to accepted behavior
- Intimidation of any individual, including verbal or sexual harassment from parents, players or coaches. It also includes bullying, both cyber and otherwise

IX) FEES

2019 Club fees range between \$1,200-\$1,500 per players. The actual cost will be determined by the coach and team depending on how many tournaments the team will participate in during the season.

Included in the fees are: the cost of league fees, tournaments, insurance, equipment, administrative, and use of the indoor facility, and practice field. New players must purchase uniforms online <http://pride.leagueapps.com/>. Returning players may also purchase replacement uniforms at our online uniform store.

Players are required to pay a non-refundable deposit of at least \$250, **upon acceptance to the team.** <http://pride.leagueapps.com/>

In addition, 75% of sponsorship dollars solicited by individual players will be applied towards the total fees. No credit or refund is given for monies raised over and above the fees owed.

The balance of all fees will be due on February 15, 2019, and can be made online. If any balance is not paid by due dates, invoices will be sent out for the remaining balance. All fees must be paid before players are allowed to play in league games or tournaments.

Payment schedules can be set up if needed. (Please contact your coach or a Pride board member to work out this payment schedule). **Any check that is returned to the Pride for insufficient funds will incur a \$25 fee from the organization.**

Other expenses you incur for team events or tournaments including, hotel rooms, food, etc., are not covered in the above fees.

X) Pride of the Midwest IMAGE

- Take PRIDE in your team and teammates.
- THINK POSITIVE no matter what the situation is.
- Always hustle, be energetic and enthusiastic
- Be respectful of fellow team mates, parents, and coaches
- Look for the good and go about doing good
- Concentrate on softball
- Know your role on the team
- Only nine players can start but we're all starters in different ways.
- "Have Fun and Chew Gum!"

XI) CONTRACT (PLAYER/PARENT COPY)

To assure that we have the same commitment from everyone in the Pride of The Midwest Softball Club, we would like you and your parent (s) to sign the following contract. This contract acknowledges that you and your parent (s) have read and will abide by the club rules set forth in the player handbook.

I, _____ have read, comprehended and agree to abide by the rules stated in the players handbook.

Player Signature Date

I, _____ have read, comprehended and agree to abide by the rules stated in the players handbook. I also assume all financial responsibilities related to my daughter's team in the 2019 PRIDE season, regardless of her individual completion of the season.

Parent Signature Date



Director Signature Date

PAUL BERTLING, PRESIDENT PRIDE OF THE MIDWEST
Director Name

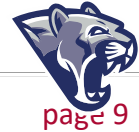
The Internet has become popular tool in advertising and exchanging information. The Pride of The Midwest may place pictures on the website of players and possibly family members. We would like the parents' permission to use the athlete's picture on the website. We also understand that this may be a sensitive issue, and a parent may choose not to allow their child's picture to be used. The Pride of The Midwest staff will respect either choice selected.

Yes, pictures may be used.

Parent Signature Parent Printed Name

No, pictures may not be used.

Parent Signature Parent Printed Name



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I, _____ have read, comprehended and agree to abide by the rules stated in the players handbook.

Player Signature

Date

I, _____ have read, comprehended and agree to abide by the rules stated in the players handbook. I also assume all financial responsibilities related to my daughter's team in the 2019 PRIDE season, regardless of her individual completion of the season.

Parent Signature

Date

Director Signature

Date

PAUL BERTLING, PRESIDENT PRIDE OF THE MIDWEST

Director Name

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Parent Printed Name

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