



Important Information for Parents and Players

Registration Process

Zone 1 Hustler Registration will be held on Feb 14th (Wildwood School) and Feb 15th (SILVERSPRING School) from 7-9:00pm.

Age Divisions:	Birth Year	Cost
Squirt	2000 & 2001	\$ 120.00 + \$50 (see below)
Pee Wee	1998 & 1999	\$ 120.00 + \$50 (see below)
Bantam	1996 & 1997	\$ 120.00 + \$50 (see below)

Those players born 2002 or later can register at the Zone registration or through their local community associations. Our zone consists of 13 communities of which only 6 have Ball Coordinators. Those wishing to play community ball within our zone will be playing with one of the communities that have ball coordinators. See our website for more information <http://saskatoonzone1hustlers.ca/> and look under "Zone Info".

Along with the registration fee for 2012 there will be a charge for 2 Softball Saskatchewan Calendars at \$25 each as a fundraiser for the Hustler Zone. These calendars can be resold for \$25 each to get back your cost or kept for the opportunity to win the weekly prizes. These calendars will not be available until late April or early May. The draws for prizes begin in July 2012.

Please bring 2 cheques to registration night – one for the registration fee and calendar fundraiser for \$170 (\$120 registration, \$50 for 2 calendars), and one for \$75 postdated Aug 31, 2012, for your uniform deposit (to be shredded once uniforms are returned in good condition).

There will be a late registration fee of \$20.00 for returning players who register after February 15th.

Hustler Tournament

Every year the Hustler Zone hosts a tournament the first weekend in June. In 2012 our tournament will be held June 1st to 3rd. Being a fundraiser for the zone it is very important that all players and parents support it. Any available parent and player (***if your team is entered or not***) should keep the weekend open to help out with this tournament. This tournament supports the whole zone to keep our registration fees at a reasonable level. All Hustler Teams, with the exception of the Div A Girls Teams, are expected to play in the tournament. The Div A Girls Teams are expected to assist with the tournament if they are not at an out-of-town tournament. More information will follow once we get closer to the date. The manager of each team will be the team contact for the Tournament Committee.

Used Equipment, Clothing and Apparel Sale

There will be the opportunity to purchase used equipment, clothing and apparel at the registration nights. (Watch for information for bringing your used equipment for sale) So that we are not handling money only cheques will be accepted for these purchases.

Try-Out Process

All players are required to try out as part as SMSL (Saskatoon Minor Softball League) bylaws. Those players that do not get evaluated will be placed on a Division C or Open team. The first week of tryouts this year (March 3 & 4) will be to determine Division A teams only.

The Division A teams will be selected prior to the following weekend (March 10 & 11) in which the B and C tryouts will continue. Only players committed to playing Division A ball shall tryout the first weekend. Those players that are not selected for a Division A team will continue the tryout process the following weekend. The B & C coaches will contact their players within two weeks from tryouts.

Players will be given a tryout number at registration night. This number needs to be put on the back and front of your shirt for tryouts (most players use tape to make numbers). You will be asked to attend 2-4 try-out sessions where a set of (3-5) evaluators will evaluate player skill level. Most of the evaluators will be members of the Zone 1 Executive Committee – other evaluators may be asked to help evaluate. Players will be evaluated on batting, fielding groundballs and fly balls, infield throws, outfield (longer) throws, speed, agility, and effort. Pitchers and Catchers will be evaluated separately. Pitchers will be evaluated on mechanics, control, velocity, spins, and potential. Catchers will be evaluated on throw accuracy, throw velocity, glove control and catching, effort, and potential.

Pitchers and Catchers

Players choosing to try out for a pitcher or catcher position in Division A will be evaluated on their ability at that level during the first weekend. All areas of skill development will be considered. For the second weekend the pitchers and catchers will be re-evaluated for the B & C Divisions. We would like all potential pitchers and catchers in the B & C Divisions to be evaluated on the second weekend.

Season of Play

Once Teams are selected, Teams will have their first 2-5 practices indoors (usually school gyms). League play starts on April 30th and ends on June 20th. Each Team will play 16 league games – usually 2 per week. The League Playoff Tournament is played June 22nd - 24th. Division C and Open Teams can be finished, but some Teams choose to play in Provincials. The Provincial Tournaments are mainly June 29th – Jul 1st and a few July 6th-8th. All Division A and B Teams play in Provincials. Division A and B Teams are finished their seasons after Provincials with 2 exceptions – If the Pee Wee or Bantam Division A Teams qualify for Western Canadians.

Divisions

Division A expectations

Those players (and parents) on a Division A Team need to understand the expectations required at this level. Division A Teams play 2 games during the week, practice 1-2 times per week, and often attend tournaments on weekends. Division A Teams play 16 league games plus the playoff tournament, have 15-20 practices, attend 3-5 weekend tournaments (some out of town overnight), provincial tournament, and possibly a Western Canadian Tournament which would extend the season until early August. This level of Ball requires a very committed player. If you are involved in other activities that may be in conflict with games and/or practices, Division A Ball may not be right for you as Division A players are expected to be at all games and practices. There is a \$375 team fee payable to the zone for costs of diamond upkeep, higher league fees and equipment. This fee will be paid to the zone once teams are established. Playing on a Division A Team requires a larger financial commitment (compared to playing Division B, C or Open), therefore Team fundraising is essential and some Teams ask for start up player fees (\$150-\$250). The A Division regular season and playoffs may be extended for 2012 season.

Division B and Open expectations

Players in Division B are those players that were at try-out evaluations, and were placed on a Division B Team. Division B commitments are not quite as stringent as Division A, but this level of Ball still requires a high level of commitment from the players. Division B Teams play 16 league games plus a weekend playoff tournament, 10-15 practices, 3-4 Tournaments, and Provincials.

There is a \$350 team fee payable to the zone for costs of diamond upkeep, higher league fees and equipment. This fee will be paid to the zone once teams are established. Playing on a Division B Team still requires a financial commitment, therefore Team fundraising is essential and some Teams ask for start up player fees (\$100-\$150).

Division C

Players in Division 3 or Open are those players that requested this division at registration night or players that have been placed in Division C or Open by the evaluators.

Division C Teams play 16 league games, they do have some practices throughout the year, but the expectations are much lower than Division A or B. Division C players are asked to communicate with their Coach if they are not going to be at a game or practice. Most Division C Teams will participate in 1-2 Tournaments in a year – this is usually decided among the Parents, as there is cost involved in tournament play.

Aside from the registration fee, paid on registration night, players and Teams in this division should only have minimal financial needs. If the Team decides to go into Provincials, or other tournaments throughout the year, there is a cost involved thus fundraising will need to occur.

Selection of Head Coaches

Those people who wish to Head Coach must complete an application by February 15th, which are available on the Hustler Website. Please forward to Kelly Peevers at bpeevers@shaw.ca or submit at one of the registration nights. Coaching Clinics are available and encouraged for those interested in coaching. The Hustler Zone will re-imburse all coaching clinic fees. Please refer to the SMSL website at www.smsl.ca for clinic information.

A 5-member sub-committee from our Zone 1 Executive Committee will perform the selection of Head Coaches. Zone Commissioner Kelly Peevers will Chair this Committee.

Prospective Head Coaches need to be well aware of the Coaching Guidelines (found on our website), and are subject to a Criminal Record check through our local Police.

<http://saskatoonzone1hustlers.ca/main/coaches>

Uniforms and Apparel

Uniforms will be handed out once Teams are selected. Players are responsible for the safe return of the uniform at the end of the season. Uniform deposit cheques may be cashed if the uniform is not returned. Our Zone is in very good shape with respect to Uniforms and all our players can wear the Hustler Crest proudly in 2012.

Our uniforms do require some trimming such as socks, hats, undershirts etc. These items are considered personal items and will need to be purchased by the players. Division A and B players (and Teams) generally agree upon what needs to be purchased. Division C and Open Teams have this as an option. All of these items, along with other Hustler apparel items (ie. shorts, sweats, hoodies, jackets etc.) can be purchased or ordered during our Zone 1 AI Anderson Night on March 26th.