



RAAA In-house Softball Handbook

Mission Statement

Rosemount Area Athletic Association In-house Softball is a volunteer non-profit organization committed to providing all girls in our community with an athletic experience that promotes positive self-esteem, team spirit and individual growth. Our goal is to teach the fundamentals of the game, encourage development, promote good sportsmanship and teamwork.

PCA

RAAA and In-house Softball partners with the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA). PCA is a national non-profit program with the goal of developing "BETTER ATHLETES, BETTER PEOPLE." PCA works to provide all youth and high school athletes with a positive character-building youth sports experience. PCA meetings are available throughout the year. All parents are encouraged to go to one meeting.

Players Play. Coaches coach. Refs ref. Crowds cheer.

General Rules of Parks

No littering. All teams must clean up after each practice or game.

No trespassing on the properties of residents who live adjacent to the park.

No using residents' driveways to turn cars around near neighborhood parks.

No parking cars in front of driveways and/or mailboxes. Cars illegally parked may be towed.

No parking on grass next to parking lots. Park only in designated parking areas.

ALL parks are tobacco and alcohol free.

Conduct

All players, spectators and coaches are expected to display good sportsmanship at all times. There will be no harassment or chanting before, during or after a game. Any inappropriate language or behavior will result in a suspension from at least one game. Always remember that sports are family events and all involved should display integrity.

Coaches have the authority to ask any player or spectator to leave if they display unsportsmanlike conduct, including profanity or verbally abusive language.

Throwing of bats, helmets, or any other equipment in an unsportsmanlike way, will not be tolerated. Coaches may determine if there needs to be a suspension from one or more games. All coaches are to contact the in-house softball directors to report issues.

Discussions must take place between coaches in a calm and respectful manner.

Safety

Batting helmets must be worn by any player that is on base, batting and on deck.

All equipment must remain behind the bench or backstop.

No bats are allowed on the bench. Bats are to remain behind backstop until needed by the on deck batter. No swinging of the bat unless a player is at bat or on deck. It is the responsibility of the coach or on deck batter to remove the bat following an active play and place it behind the backstop.

All teams are provided with first aid kits.

All players and coaches must wear tennis shoes or cleats.

Please keep all younger children away from the bench area.

Concussion Training Course and Information

To help ensure the health and safety of our young athletes, the Centers for Disease Control developed the [Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports](#) initiative to offer information about concussions to coaches, parents, and athletes involved in youth sports.

You can take the Concussion Awareness Training via the link below:

[CDC – Coaches Training Course Heads Up Concussion](#)

Volunteers **must** enter evidence of their concussion certification into their account profile within the athletechs registration system.

For more information on the policy and the process of self-reporting certification, please click on the policy link below:

[RAAA Concussion Certification Policy](#)

Volunteer Background Check

Background checks are mandatory for all adult board members, program directors, program board members, coaches, assistant coaches, and officials. Volunteers who continue to participate will be required to have a background check conducted every three (3) calendar years. RAAA pays for all fees associated with performing the background checks from the general fund. Go to the RAAA website to complete your

concussion certification and background check.

<http://rosemount-aaa.org/about/concussion-certification-and-background-check/>

Weather

RAAA In-house Softball will only cancel games in the event of severe weather including lightning or if field conditions are determined unsafe.

RAAA In-house Softball will send an email to all email addresses given at signup in the event of a weather cancellation. Please update your profile on Athletechs with a personal email account if you provided your work email address.

All other decisions to play, cancel, or continue will be made by both head coaches. Coaches will be provided with contact information for all coaches within their age group.

PARENTS: Please wait for an email from your coach or RAAA softball if there are questions regarding weather. Coaches will notify you within one hour prior to start time if practice or games are cancelled. Be prepared to play.

Fields

Diamond Path Elementary - 14455 Diamond Path West, Apple Valley (located behind school by park on 144th Street W)

Kidder Park - 3651 146th Street West, Rosemount (located on 146th Street and west of Chippendale Avenue W)

Rosemount Elementary - 3155 144th Street West, Rosemount (located behind school near 144th Street W. and Canada Avenue W.)

Fieldstone Park - 16525 Fairgreen Ave, Lakeville (near Fairgreen Ave. and 165th Street)

Rosemount Middle School - 3135 143rd Street West, Rosemount (fields located on corner of South Robert Trail and 142nd Street W)

Parents

FERNS

Pre-K/K - Wednesdays May 31st to June 28th

JADES

1st/2nd grade – Tuesdays and Thursdays

EMERALDS

3rd/4th grade – Mondays and Wednesdays

SHAMROCKS

5th grade and up - Tuesdays and Thursdays. Shamrocks will be a part of the South Metro Slowpitch League.

All games will **START** at 6pm and all practices will start at either 6pm or 7:15pm. Games will be approximately 1 hour and end after a full inning.

Please have your player arrive 15 minutes before the games to allow time to warm up and for the coach to prepare for the game.

Review game rules posted on team page.

Please plan for one parent/adult/teammates parent to stay at practices and games. If this is not possible, please notify your coach by emailing them with your contact information.

Remember that coaches and assistant coaches are volunteering their time. Please be respectful by arriving on time and have your child ready to play.

Each team will need parents to volunteer to base coach and help on the bench. Be prepared to rotate responsibilities at every game.

Please remember that your child needs positive conversation before, during and after the games. Talking negative about a coach, player or your child's performance can negatively impact your child's view of the sport and others.

Please wait for your coach or RAAA softball to contact you for weather cancellations.

RAAA will provide catchers equipment, bats, softballs, and batting helmets. You may purchase your own as well but you are responsible for labeling and bringing your personal equipment to each practice/game.

All players must wear their RAAA softball uniform to games. Cleats or tennis shoes required. Bring water for your child to every practice/game.

Communication

Communication is key to a successful experience. Please communicate with your coach if you will not be at a game or practice, if you are going to be late, or if you have a planned vacation.

Please communicate with RAAA in-house softball by emailing us at inhouse-softball@rosemount-aaa.org.

There will be a parent survey at the end of the season. We would love to hear your feedback during and after. We strive to make the season a success.

We would love to expand the in-house softball board! If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact us ASAP.

