Sioux City Futures

**Mission Statement:**

The SIOUX CITY FUTURES program is a non-profit organization designed to provide dedicated young players in the Siouxland area an opportunity to play competitive baseball. It is the goal of the program to produce not only quality baseball players but also good citizens by instilling the principles of sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, work ethic and respect for authority. The success of our organization will be determined by the achievement of these objectives and winning ball games will be a natural by-product of our efforts.

**PROGRAM PHILOSOPHIES/RULES**

1. The SIOUX CITY FUTURES is a travel baseball program
	1. Website:
		1. www.ballcharts.com/siouxcityfutures
	2. Facebook:
		1. [www.facebook.com/siouxcityfutures](http://www.facebook.com/siouxcityfutures)
2. Playing time/positions:
	1. Every player will get an equal opportunity to earn playing time
	2. Playing time will not be equal
		1. Every player will get an opportunity to play at every tournament
		2. Coaches will do their best to give every player an opportunity to get into the game
	3. Positions will not be equal
		1. Kids will get the opportunity during practice to play other positions
		2. Every position is important in travel ball, there is no “hiding” kids in the outfield at this level
3. Each team is their own team, there will be varying rules from team to team
	1. Program rules/philosophies will not change
4. Priorities of commitment in order:
	1. Sioux City Futures games
	2. Town/Little League games
	3. Sioux City Futures practices
	4. Town/Little League practices
5. Coaches:
	1. One head coach per team
	2. 2-3 assistant coaches per team maximum
	3. Each coach has a different coaching style
		1. We expect our coaches to:
			1. Challenge the kids
			2. Not expect perfection
			3. Expect the players to control what they can (hustle, work hard, effort)
			4. Discipline players within the means of the crime
				1. Examples: running when not listening, sitting for talking back
				2. There will be times your kid may get yelled at - it is expected it will be for good reason and will not be excessive
			5. Pick a player up when he is down
			6. Not allow pitchers to throw a curveball until the 13U division at the earliest
				1. We cannot stop them from throwing them in other leagues but we can recommend not to
			7. Make sure every player wears a facemask/faceguard on their helmet (12U division and below)
			8. Encourage players to play on their town team/Little League
			9. Encourage players to be well rounded and play multiple sports
6. Dugout Rules:
	1. Once game time starts, nobody beside players/coaches/batboys may be in dugout
	2. No food in the dugout (unless there is a medical reason)
	3. Pickup dugout when you leave
	4. Do not enter a dugout until the other team is completely out of the dugout
7. Roster:
	1. Roster size is age level appropriate
	2. Roster selections are to be based on:
		1. Athletic ability/potential
		2. Work ethic
		3. Coachability
		4. Attitude
		5. Interaction with other players
		6. Parents
	3. Roster selections are not to be based on:
		1. Where player is from (what league they are in)
		2. How much a parent is willing to donate/sponsor for the team
	4. Roster may change from year to year
		1. Your spot is not guaranteed just because you were on a team the year before
	5. Moving from one team to another
		1. This is acceptable as long as communication between the parent wanting to move talks it over with the current coach first
	6. Players may play up one age division
8. Cost
	1. A pre-season planned budget will be created and divided equally amongst each player
		1. Player and parent travel, lodging and meals are not included
	2. Options available to cover cost
		1. Outright payment
		2. Fundraising
		3. Sponsors
		4. Combination of the above
	3. All money raised by your team/player will go to your team
	4. Refunds
		1. Once the budget and roster are established, funds and expenses are essentially committed for each team
		2. There will be no rebate or refund of the player cost brought in unless all parties agree that it should be refunded
		3. In the event of a season ending baseball related injury or serious illness, a pro-rated refund may, at the team’s discretion, be issued
9. Practice
	1. Fields
		1. Availability of fields is very difficult to find
		2. Small towns seem to be much more accommodating so that is why many teams practice in surrounding towns
	2. Times
		1. During Town/Little League seasons it is very difficult to find practice time
		2. There will be weeks that you may not practice
10. Behavior
	1. We expect our players/coaches/parents to act appropriately, we are all representing the Futures program when at tournaments or wearing our apparel around town
	2. Players/coaches/parents will abide by the Code of Conduct
	3. If a player/coach/parent is found not adhering to the Code of Conduct, the following steps will occur:
		1. Players
			1. Player sits and loses playing time for rest of game
			2. Player sits and loses playing time for a game
			3. Player sits and loses playing time for a tournament
			4. Player will no longer be with team
		2. Parents
			1. Parent will be asked to leave for rest of game
			2. Parent will be asked to not come to next game
			3. Parent will be asked to not come to next tournament
			4. Player/parent will no longer be with team
		3. Coaches
			1. Coach will be asked to leave for rest of game
			2. Coach will be asked to not come to next game
			3. Coach will be asked to not come to next tournament
			4. Coach /player will no longer be with team
11. Communication:
	1. Primary day to day communication with participating players and parents will be directed through email and text from your coach
	2. Program wide details, additional information and event details will be posted on the program web site and Facebook page
12. Problems
	1. First step is to talk to your coach
	2. Second step is to talk with a team representative
	3. Third step is to contact a board member
	4. Last step is to contact Futures program
		1. Robin Chute
			1. robinchute@hotmail.com
			2. 712-899-7333
		2. Stephanie Chute
			1. 712-251-9836

**PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT**

The player acknowledges and agrees to the following statements of conduct and rules and conditions for participation as a player with a SIOUX CITY FUTURES:

1. I will conduct myself in a manner that is respectful to myself, my team, and my parents.
2. I will not use foul, offensive, or abusive language.
3. I will accept and listen to what my coaches tell me.
4. I will support my teammates.
5. I will report any injuries or ailments to my coach immediately.
6. I will hustle, work hard, and give my best at all times.
7. I will accept my role on my team.
8. I will “look like a ballplayer” and wear my uniform proudly and properly.
9. I will pick up after myself in the dugout and at the fields
10. I will not use drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products of any kind during my association with the SIOUX CITY FUTURES.
11. I will keep my grades up.
12. I will abide by all other rules and regulations set by SIOUX CITY FUTURES organizers/coaches.

I understand that I am responsible and accountable for my own actions and decisions. Breaking club rules and violating my “Code of Conduct” will result in disciplinary actions from loss of playing time for player or not be allowed to watch game to expulsion from the team.

**PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Parent acknowledges and agrees to the following statements of conduct, rules and conditions for participation with SIOUX CITY FUTURES:

1. I will be a positive example of good sportsmanship during all practices and games and will show respect to my son, his teammates, opponents, coaches, and umpires.
2. I will encourage my player and his teammates from the stands.
3. If I am responsible for my son’s transportation to games and practices, I will make sure to have him at all events on time. If he must be late or miss an activity, I/he will call his coach in advance.
4. While attending SIOUX CITY FUTURES BASEBALL games or practices, I will not use foul, offensive, or abusive language directed towards any player, coach or umpire.
5. I will not enter the dugout or approach my son during games or practices to deliver advice, equipment, drinks, or food.
6. I will not coach from the stands.
7. I will not ridicule or yell at my child or any other child for making an error.
8. I will not approach my coach(s) within 24 hours of any incident to provide a cooling down period.
9. I will not smoke or use tobacco at the field. I will not drink alcohol at the field or prior to the game.

I understand that I am responsible and accountable for my own actions and decisions. Breaking club rules and violating my “Code of Conduct” will result in disciplinary actions from loss of play or practice time to expulsion from the team.

**COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

Coaches acknowledge and agree to the following statements of conduct, rules and conditions for participation with SIOUX CITY FUTURES:

1. I will be a positive example of good sportsmanship during all practices and games and will show respect to players, opponents, parents, and umpires.
2. Be knowledgeable of league rules, and communicate them to my players and parents as needed.
3. I will not use foul, offensive, or abusive language directed towards any player, parent, or umpire.
4. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
5. I will treat each player as an individual, taking into account the large range of emotional and physical development for youth age groups.
6. I will not expect my players to be perfect and make every play/hit every ball
7. I do expect my players to hustle, work hard, and give their best.
8. I will use only coaching techniques appropriate for the skill level and level of league competitiveness.
9. I will always remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.
10. I will not smoke or use tobacco at the field. I will not drink alcohol at the field or prior to the game.

I understand that I am responsible and accountable for my own actions and decisions. Breaking club rules and violating my “Code of Conduct” will result in disciplinary actions from loss of coaching time to expulsion from the team.