**CHATFIELD SOFTBALL NEW/RETURNING PLAYER/PARENT GUIDE 2017**

**Welcome**

The Chatfield Charger Booster club and Chatfield Charger Coaching Staff are providing this guide to active and new softball players (and their parents) that are interested in the Chatfield Softball Program.

**What are boosters?**

The Diamond Dolls Booster Club (otherwise known as DDBC) is an organization of parents and other interested parties whose activities help support the Chatfield Senior High softball team during their season. We organize fundraising to subsidize the team costs. Money collected through fundraising and booster club fees pays for the field expenses (e.g.: dirt, chalk, paint, gas for mower, etc.), maintenance of the softball field and softball equipment, All-Conference banners, uniforms, website, game photography, memory book, a senior scholarship, year-end banquet, and other capital projects. We adhere to bylaws, and meet approximately once per month in the library and encourage all parents to attend. Current financial documents and upcoming events are reviewed at this time. The booster club meeting dates are posted on the website calendar.

**Here is what to expect…**

Playing any sport at the high school level is a privilege, and participation in the sport is dependent upon the proper behavior (both on and off the field, academics, as well as your talent and effort). It is possible that you may have participated in softball leagues in the past, but it is your ability and eligibility that will dictate whether you make (and stay on) the team. Remember at the high school level, it is the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSSA), Jefferson County, and the School, not necessarily parents and coaches that ultimately dictate if you can play. Generally speaking, there is a sequence of events that will occur associated with the softball team over the next several months that are outlined here.

**COMMUNICATION-**all communications will be sent through the Chatfield Softball website so please make sure that you and your player are registered. The website address is [www.chatfieldsoftball.org](http://www.chatfieldsoftball.org)**. IF YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED ON THE WEBSITE THEN YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS.** Additionally, DDBC uses Facebook/Twitter for communications. Please follow Chatfield Softball on Facebook and Twitter to receive all communications. Players should join Coach Lazzeri’s remind group on their phones by texting 81010 and then typing @coachjlaz in the message. This will allow players to get current updates on workouts, practices, games, volunteer events, and activities. This is also a way for players to contact Coach Lazzeri.

**MAKING THE TEAM-** once tryouts are complete, the coaches will notify the players as to when the team selection will be finalized. All of the selected girls regardless of the level are on the “CHARGER SOFTBALL TEAM”. Those who do not make it, are encouraged to work hard, play as much as they can in recreation and club leagues, and try again next year. Coach Lazzeri is determined to field three full levels, a varsity, a junior varsity, and a level three. This will provide many girls with the opportunity to make the team.

**PARENT & TEAM MEETING-** Girls from all levels and their parents will be invited to a team meeting after the teams have been selected and the girls assigned to their respective teams. During this meeting you will be introduced to the coaches and the Diamond Dolls Booster Club Officers. **This meeting will be on** **TUESDAY, August 15th, starting at 5:00 pm in the auditorium.**

**FIELD PREP DAY-** is where we take pride in our field and make it look the best we can before the season begins. This is a great team building event and great way to meet the parents of the players. We need athletes and parents to pull weeds, spray weeds, rake, and shovel, organize, fix fence, set up the wind screen, and any other items that may need to be fixed or cleaned up. **FIELD CLEAN UP is on SATURDAY, August 5th starting at 10:00 am**

**CHATFIELD CHARGER SOFTBALL WEBSITE-** [www.chatfieldsoftball.org](http://www.chatfieldsoftball.org) is the team website. This website will be updated with any news about the team, schedules, fields, directions and pictures here. Anything you need to know about the season can be found on this website. The website is through League Athletics so you will receive game reminders (text / and or email) if you checked the appropriate boxes when you registered. Friends and family are welcome to get information sent to them from the website. They just need to go the website, click on Join our Email list (bottom left tab).

**MONETARY COMMITMENT**- -Unfortunately sports activities cost money and the coaches’ budget provided by district is never sufficient to cover the program costs. Although the DDBC does arrange fundraisers to offset the financial burden, these fundraisers are not able to raise sufficient funds to eliminate all costs to the players/parents. As a result there is a booster club fee that must be collected from each player’s family.

**JEFFCO ATHLETIC FEE-**the district requires an activity fee for your player to participate in softball (or any other sport). This fee is **$175.00 and will be due on WEDNESDAY, August 9th or THURSDAY, August 10th**. The Jeffco Athletic fee goes to the county and does **NOT** go to the Chatfield Softball Program. Along with the $175.00 fee, you will also need to complete the athletic paperwork and sports physical prior to August 9th or 10th. You may turn everything in to Cathy Lenz, Athletic Secretary, when completed even if it is before the end of this school year. Additionally, it’s recommended to schedule physicals in May, June or July because they will last an entire calendar year and August is extremely busy for physicals.

**BOOSTER CLUB FEE-**the Booster Club fees are $225.00, which is separate then the Jeffco Athletic fee. This fee can be offset through selling carwash tickets and butterbraids – more information to come. **The fee is due at the carwash on SUNDAY, August 20th.**  Checks can be made out to DDBC.

**WHAT DOES THE BOOSTER CLUB FEE COVER/PROVIDE? -** The Booster Club fees make up the difference in what the coaches’ budget does not cover. The coach’s budget covers coach uniform costs, game balls, scrimmages, and tournament fees. THE BOOSTER CLUB provides to the players: senior scholarship, memory book for each player, end of season banquet for the player, plus one guest, as well as extraneous team spirit wear, and additional team uniform costs.

**AVAILABLE FUNDRAISING**

* **KING SOOPERS RELOADABLE GIFT CARDS-** 5% of all money placed on the cards is deposited directly into your players account. The cards can be used for gas, cash, food, etc. at King Soopers and participating City Markets. The cards come preloaded for $5.00.
* **BUTTERBRAIDS-** sell for $13.00 each and for each one sold $5.20 is deposited into your players account. **Forms due FRIDAY, August 11th. This is the last day of HS camp.**
* **CARWASH TICKETS-**can be sold by players before the carwash date for any amount in order to help supplement the Booster Club fee. The Booster Club does not refund excess amounts raised from fundraising to individual players, however, it can be applied towards the next year’s fee.

**PLAYER PACKS-**each player will be **REQUIRED** to purchase a player pack on the [www.bsnteamsports.com/login/charge6M89](http://www.bsnteamsports.com/login/charge6M89), **store closes Monday, May 22nd**, see attached flier. The cost for each player will be $75.00, and will be paid online. The player pack will include 5 shirts that players will get to keep. These shirts will be worn at practices.

**YOUTH CAMP-will be held on Monday, July 31 – Wednesday, August 2 from 5-7pm.** This camp is intended for girls wanting to learn the fundamentals of softball and further their skills, it is open for 3rd – 8th graders. The cost is $50 and includes a t-shirt. This is mandatory for the High School girl to be there and help as part of their community service. The coach will be taking attendance, if there are any players who cannot attend, they will make up their community service some other way. If you know/have anyone interested they can sign up on the Chatfield Softball website [www.chatfieldsoftball.org](http://www.chatfieldsoftball.org).

**HIGH SCHOOL CAMP-will be held on Monday, August 7th - Friday, August 11th. Monday hours are still TBD, Tuesday & Wednesday will be 9-11am, and Thursday & Friday will be 3-5pm.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED-**The Charger Softball program has always had a great tradition of generous and committed parents. Many parents donate their time, talent, and materials to the program. Did you know that the field maintenance, equipment repair, and fence maintenance are all donated? Yes they are. This season is no different: We are in need of parent volunteers for the following tasks.

\*Memory Book Committee

\*Video for End of Season Banquet using pictures taken by JK Photography

\*Senior Scholarship Committee (cannot be a parent on the booster club/nor coach)

\*Concession Sub-Coordinators

\*Field prep before home games for Varsity, JV, and Level 3

\*Oversee table at back to school night

\*Homecoming-decorate dugouts and assigned window on bridge (in school) for spirit week

\*Breast Cancer Game-decorate dugout

\*Senior Game-decorate dugout

An email with a sign-up genius will be available after the teams are announced.

**NOW ABOUT THE ACTUAL SEASON…**

**When do the players practice?-**After being notified of making their respective team, the coach will communicate to the girls the time and location of their first practice. The coaching staff will also provide a schedule to the girls showing when the subsequent practices, scrimmages, and games will be held. Note that state law prohibits practices and games on Sunday.

**VARSITY/JV/LEVEL III- Descriptions**

**VARSITY-**represents the highest level of competition at the high school level. This is the level whose scores are reported on by the news media, and the team that may compete for the state championships at the end of the year.

**JUNIOR VARSITY-**Often referred to as “JV”, Junior Varsity represents the second level of competition at Chatfield and the beginning of what is referred to as “varsity level “Generally speaking, JV teams are closely associated with the Varsity level team.

**LEVEL III-**represents the third level of competition at Chatfield and occurs if more than 32 players are signed up to participate. These players work on skill and player development and also play scheduled games during the season. The hope is that these players will develop into future JV and Varsity players.

**SWING PLAYER?** At the coach’s discretion, players may be asked to help another level before or after their own game. While often those players who single themselves out during their game through performance, skills, and/or effort will be the ones that the coach selects, the decision may also be dictated by needs of the team. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES does “swinging up or down” mean that the players have been “moved up or down” permanently to the other team… Your coach will notify you if this happens. Also, just because you are “swinging up” for a game, doesn’t mean that you will play. However, when not playing, you can contribute by “cheering” on the girls that are playing. Trust us, the coaches notice **POSITIVE** attitude and welcome it.

**ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR GIRLS PLAYING HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS? -** With respect to the NCAA, the governing body for collegiate sports, YES THERE IS! You may have had a prior relationship with a college, possibly to ask for advice in raising your student-athlete, or even your Alma mater. This was perfectly acceptable when your child was in elementary, or middle school, but as of the first day of high school activity, your daughter is considered “recruit worthy” by the NCAA. What this means, in a nutshell, is that you can no longer have unrestricted “communication” to coaches. Likewise, they cannot contact you with regard to your daughter. Activities such as skills camps, etc. are still ok as they are open to everyone, and coaches encourage girls to talk with them “on campus”, but if you have been in the habit of talking to coaches about your player, those types of communications are not appropriate except within certain constraints. Even during the summer, during national club tournaments, coaches who are there to assess talent are segregated from the parents and players to prevent inappropriate contact. If you have concerns about this, please contact your coaches or the NCAA liaison at our school for guidance before doing something that might injure your daughter’s chances of attending the school of her choice.

**ATTENDANCE-**inevitably a player will need to miss a practice, team function, or even a game. Illness, injury, death in the family can happen at any time. Communication is the key. IN CASE OF AN ABSENCE FROM A TEAM ACTIVITY, PLASE CONTACT YOUR IMMEDIATE COACH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Given the importance of attendance to the team, please make every effort to **not** schedule vacations, etc. (planned activities) during softball season to minimize the time away from team events if at all possible. Coach Lazzeri will discuss specific attendance requirements in the fall. Her expectation is that players attend **EVERYTHING** unless players experience the things listed above.

GOOD LUCK TO YOUR PLAYER IN THE UPCOMING SEASON! PLEASE CONTACT COACH LAZZERI WITH QUESTIONS

**COACHING STAFF**

**Jen Lazzeri “COACH LAZZERI” –Varsity Coach** **chatfieldsoftball@yahoo.com** **OR** **jlazzeri@jeffco.k12.co.us**

**Darin Shepard- Assistant Varsity Coach**

**Rich Lerudis- Junior Varsity Coach**

**Dave Moore- Junior Varsity Assistant Coach**

**Jackie Dunlap- Level III Coach**

**DDBC MEMBERS: For Board Member Emails, please refer to the team website: chatfieldsoftball.org**

**Jenny Klausing - President/Website/Social Media**

**Christina Chismar-Vice President**

**Kerry Wittwer-Treasurer**

**Annie Packard-Secretary**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Gina Roesner-Fundraising**

**Cara Hochevar-Co-Concession Coordinator**

**Christy Chismar-Co-Concession Coordinator**

**Nicole Dunham-Player Pack/Spirit wear**