

The Spartan Athletic Club

The Spartan Athletic Club of St. Catharines was founded in 1963, by Rose and Joe Engemann who were inspired by the honour, dedication and courage of the ancient Greek army. The club's red and white colours were even chosen as a nod to the crimson tunics of the Spartans.

At its peak throughout the 1970s and '80s, as many as 2,000 boys and girls participated in lacrosse, hockey, soccer, basketball, and softball under the banner of the Spartan Athletic Club. The organization's philosophy was that no child would ever be turned down because of a lack of equipment or an inability to pay registration fees. Within the lacrosse and hockey programs alone, there were as many as 50 house league and travelling teams.

In 1979, the Club took over the Niagara Junior B Warriors, going on to win the Founders Cup, Canada's National Junior B Championship, in 1981 and 1996. The team adopted the name the St. Catharines Spartans in 2001.

