

# De Pere Girls Softball Association (DGSA)

## Parent & Coach

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# The Executive Board

Alex Krukowski

President

Darci Brittnacher

Vice President

Jory Ough

Treasurer

Hannah Johnson

Secretary

# The Commissioners

Amanda Abel

Tournament Team - East

Brian Walters

Tournament Team - West

Angela Sexton

Registration & Social Media

Tyler Johnson

Home Tournament

OPEN

Summer Rec League

# The Coordinators

Jessica Abendroth

Sponsorship

Dustin Wery

Fields & Facilities

Kristy Frisque

Apparel

Julie Green

Player Development

OPEN

Concessions

# Other Members

Annette Krutz

Umpire

Jake Burt

Open

Rob Wordell

Open

Gina Wordell

Open

Travis Piper

Head Varsity Coach - East De Pere

Jennifer Nelson

Head Varsity Coach - West De Pere

## Our Core Purpose

DGSA is dedicated to providing a safe, fun and positive environment in which to teach girls the fundamentals of softball. Our organization's mission is to prepare girls for high school softball by offering a cost-effective venue to develop softball skills and teamwork through league and tournament play.

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**"Strong skills build strong players, but strong confidence builds strong young women."**

**"When girls learn the game, they learn their power."**

**"Every inning is a chance to grow, every teammate a chance to shine."**



★ Board Members are expected to:

- Always represent the Association in a positive manner.
- Put the Association's interests over that of any individual player, team, or age level.
- Be capable of handling confidential information and engaging in difficult conversations.
- Attend monthly meetings.
- Communicate in a timely manner.
- Must successfully pass a background screening.



Parents are expected to:

- Support all the players: encourage effort, improvement, and teamwork over winning.
- Partner with your coaches: trust their decisions that support the overall team development.
- Should a disagreement arise, please allow a 24-hour cooling period before reconnecting with your coach to talk things through.
- Model great sportsmanship at the field and at home.
- Volunteer anywhere possible: team parent, scorebook, gamechanger, scoreboard, meals, etc.



Players are expected to:

- Bring a positive attitude to every practice and game.
- Come to practice prepared and ready to work.
- Support your team members at any level they are at.
- Practice outside of scheduled team practice.
- Show good sportsmanship.
- Embrace your mistakes and learn from them.
- Understand that your effort, attitude, and improvement matter way more than the scoreboard.

## THE FOCUS OF TODAY

### Setting expectations.

- Ensuring parents and coaches are on the same page.
- Creating a common understanding.
- Strengthening parent-coach-board alignment.

### Why is this needed?

- Create clarity and build trust.
- Best possible experience for everyone especially the girls.
- Prevent conflict before it starts.
- Support player development.
- Strengthen the culture.

### What is the solution?

- Alignment of intention supported by communication.
- Prevention of uncomfortable situations where disrespect may arise.
- A clearer path for addressing concerns in a constructive, solution-focused way.

### How will we do it?

- Clear communication.
- Consistent reminders.
- Timely follow-up when concerns arise.
- Direct feedback.

## Fun

Excitement, Smiles, and Games

- Build the love of the sport.
- The experience should feel playful, positive, and pressure-free.
- The real win is wanting them to come back next practice/game.
- Celebrate effort, not outcomes.

## Safety

Correct Equipment Use

- Helmets on when batting or running.
- Bats remain in the designated area until it is your turn on deck or up to bat.
- Facemasks for every player when playing defense..
- Coaches on the field helping with position placement and game awareness.

## Game Format

Gameplay Overview

- Bases: what they mean, where to stand, when to run.
- Fielding positions: where to stand and ready position.
- Bat full lineup every inning.
- Scoring not necessary.
- Encourage everyone to try all positions.
- Cheer for each other.

## Fundamentals

The Building Blocks

- Throwing: simple grip, stepping toward the target.
- Gloves: squeezing the ball, angle and height of glove.
- Catching: using two hands, tracking the ball.
- Hitting: mostly off a tee, learning stance and swing path.
- Running: where to run, how to run through first base.

## Effort & Improvement

### Try Hard and Practice

- Try your best even when skills feel new or challenging.
- Celebrate progress over perfection.
- Practice will lead to growth.

## Game Awareness

### Basic Rules and Situations

- Pay attention to game format and reasons why a play ended and what that means.
- Begin to understand the responsibility with each position.
- Continue to try all positions.
- Learn from the mistakes, do not fear them.
- Be confident in the batter's box.
- Players start to make simple decisions on their own.

## Sportsmanship

### Everyone is Watching You

- Winning with humility and losing with grace.
- Showing respect in all interactions.
- Encouraging teammates in the highs and the lows.
- Follow safety rules especially with balls and throwing to your partner.
- Take direction from coach.

## Teamwork

### Makes the Dreamwork

- Learning to call the ball, listen to teammates, and support one another.
- Communicate positively when misunderstood between players and/or coaches.
- Create an environment where joy fuels development.
- Keep softball fun, positive, and exciting.

## Accountability

Develop More Responsibility

- Players begin taking ownership of their gear, effort, and focus.
- Understanding that their actions impact the team.
- Showing up ready to learn and contribute.

## Commitment

Self Growth

- Working together with purpose and helping teammates when something doesn't make sense.
- Communicating clearly on the field (How many outs? Mine! Where's the play?).
- Handling wins and losses with maturity.
- Encourage curiosity, effort, and working hard to be better.

## Skill Development

Game IQ

- Positions start to be more defined.
- Embracing more advanced skills and situations.
- Knowing where the play is before the pitch. This can be different for infield to outfield.
- Basic strategy, force vs tag, cutoffs.

## Sportsmanship

Respect

- Attitude matters.
- Support teammates through mistakes and successes.
- Learning to stay composed under pressure.
- Building resilience when things don't go their way.
- Keep enjoying the game even as the expectations rise.

## Dependability

Ownership

- Owning mistakes and learning from them.
- Understand the needs of your position and act on them confidently.
- Be fierce in the batter's box and want it every time.
- Warmup, stretch, and be prepared without direction.

## Mentality

Confidence with Composure

- Staying mentally steady in high-stress moments.
- Believing in your abilities even when the game gets tough.
- Learning to reset quickly after mistakes.
- Stay focused.
- Succeed together.

## Game Format

Advanced Game Awareness

- Playing time is not equal.
- Positions are more defined and getting more limited.
- Players understanding situational strategy (rundowns, cutoffs, bunt defense, baserunning reads).
- Anticipate plays before they happen.

## Leadership

Respect

- Lead by example through your efforts, attitude, and communication.
- Build your team up when needed.
- Be consistent with warm ups and stretching as a whole group.
- Staying curious, coachable, and eager to learn.

## Advanced Game IQ

### Strategic Thinking

- More player decision making and less coach telling you what to do.
- Decisions become more natural.
- Recognize how individual choice impact team outcomes.

## Competitive

### Level Up for High School

- Player is responsible for your actions.
- Best player at each position.
- Earn your time on the field.
- Prove yourself in the batter's box.

## Mental Toughness

### Know Your Capabilities

- Stay steady in high-stress moments. Shake it off.
- Rebound quickly from errors or setbacks.
- Believe in your abilities.
- Don't dwell during the game - acknowledge, accept, learn, and pick apart after the game.
- Be open to feedback.

## Sportsmanship

### Still a Team Sport

- Communicate clearly and consistently on the field.
- Support your teammates through tough moments.
- Lead by example.
- Demonstrate honesty and fairness in all situations.
- Compete hard while maintaining class.

## KEY DATES

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### SPRING SET-UP

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### YOUTH DAY

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### PARADE FLOAT

Tentatively Saturday April 18th

- Same day as 1st Rec coach meeting.
- Usually done in 2 hours if enough people help.
- Kids are encouraged to come help and play!

Tuesday, April 28th

- All DGSA youth kids are encouraged to attend!
- West De Pere is hosting this year.
- More details to follow.

Monday, May 25th

- Our first year doing this was in 2025.
- Kids had a blast and parents did too.

#### Main Focus

- Prep equipment bags and bucket of balls for TT and Rec teams.
- Hang Sponsor banners on each field.
- Fill field sheds with field/game/practice equipment.
- Prep and clean concessions.
- Confirm scoreboards are working and ready for use.
- Test out catcher's gear for catchers/teams.

#### West De Pere vs East De Pere

- Parents come join this friendly rivalry and enjoy some light banter between both sides of the bridge.

#### Needs

- Help to decorate float
- Trailer to decorate
- Truck to pull the float
- Music!
- Teaching lesson on how to make our candy last until the end!
- Freeze Pops might be a fun alternative.

## OTHER INFO

1

### Team Formation

Tournament Team formation is one of our hardest jobs as a board.

- Factors include: district, overall numbers, position needs, skill level, coaching, and more.

- Every level is different. Every year is different.

- Healthy discussions are had at length. Final decisions are not made lightly.

2

### Social Media

Stay connected!

- Website: [www.dpgsa.com](http://www.dpgsa.com)

- Facebook: DGSA Softball

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### Rainouts

-DGSA Rec League (6U/8U)  
-Fox River Rec league (10U/SR)  
-Bay Area TT League (10U/12U/14U)

- Decision made by Summer League Commissioner, any board members available, or City of De Pere.

- All decisions will be made day of event by 3:30 PM. Email and Facebook.

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### Volunteer

The more help we have, the easier everything becomes.

- When families stay engaged, the whole program becomes stronger.

- Your involvement in your child's love of softball will leave a lasting impact.

- Every year kids age out and so do volunteers. We need more!

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### Sponsors

Support and thank our sponsors!

- Hope Clothing: our apparel partner for family apparel and spirit wear.

- Levels are on our website. Emails are going out January for this season.

- Always happy to see new sponsor names.

## OTHER INFO

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Intro to CrossBar

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Team Socks

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Jerseys

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Pictures

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Fire On The Fox

The switch from SportsEngine to CrossBar is here.

- Our mock CrossBar site is almost ready to go live.

- We've weighed the pros and cons and feel this is what we need to function better as an organization.

- Please be patient as we navigate the changes. Coaches will need to re-do schedules already entered.

Approved colors and vendor options coming soon.

- Each team can decide what they want.

- DGSA will cover one pair. Extra pairs will be parent funded.

- Every player should wear the same color for the same game/day.

Sleeveless option coming.

- We've received a lot of requests for no sleeves. Design has been approved.

- Waiting on vendor and sizes and will coordinate with each team.

- If an undershirt is worn, must be black or white and team must match.

Individual and Team Pictures in process.

- We have been researching new vendors for a more seamless and timely return of prints.

- Team banners are optional.

Best tournament around!

- 8U & 10U  
May 29th - May 31st

- 12U & 14U  
June 5th - June 7th

- Don't forget each family has 2 required shifts: One concessions and One Field worker.

# Questions?

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Visit our website at  
[www.dpgsa.com](http://www.dpgsa.com)  
Contact Us

# Thank you!

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*"Together, we shape an experience our players will carry long after the season ends."*