

De Pere Girls Softball Association (DGSA)

Parent & Coach

Expectations

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Board

The Executive Board

Alex Krukowski

President

Darci Brittnacher

Vice President

Jory Ough

Treasurer

Hannah Johnson

Secretary

Board

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

Board

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.

"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.
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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

1 SPRING SET-UP

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!

2 YOUTH DAY

Tuesday, April 28th

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

3 PARADE FLOAT

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.

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

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ 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

- Facebook: DGSA Softball

3

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.

4

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!

5

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

1

Intro to CrossBar

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.

2

Team Socks

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.

3

Jerseys

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.

4

Pictures

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.

5

Fire On The Fox

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?

Visit our website at
www.dpgsa.com
Contact Us

Thank you!

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