

Champlin Park Fastpitch Association (CPFA)

About Us

The Champlin Park Fastpitch Association program is intended to provide girls with an opportunity to play fastpitch softball at a higher competitive level than the CDAA and BPAA recreational (in-house) slowpitch program.

The Champlin Park Fastpitch program is focused towards players who reside in the Champlin Park school district. This alignment will help players who desire to play school ball to be instructed with a similar philosophy. Players residing outside of the Champlin Park school district are welcome and may still apply for and tryout for the traveling teams.

Registration

All players must participate in skill evaluations every year. Before a player can try out, their registration fees, volunteer fees, and birth certificate must be paid or on file.

Refund Policy

A 100% refund is possible up to the time of team formation. After teams are formed, no refunds will be given. Any player not placed on a team after tryouts will be given a 100% refund, minus the tryout fee.

Team Formation

CPFA teams are formed based on ASA age regulations:

- 8U - Girls 8 years of age or younger on Dec 31 of the previous year
- 10U - Girls 10 years of age or younger on Dec 31 of the previous year
- 12U - Girls 12 years of age or younger on Dec 31 of the previous year
- 14U - Girls 14 years of age or younger on Dec 31 of the previous year
- 16U - Girls 16 years of age or younger on Dec 31 of the previous year
- 18U - Girls 18 years of age or younger on Dec 31 of the previous year

Coaching Obligations and Selection

CPFA believes development of players, particularly at the younger age levels, is valued over a winning record. The goal of every coach should be to create an environment where every girl on the team can reach her fullest potential in a challenging, but rewarding, atmosphere.

Coaches will be required to teach and develop all players and support the entire CPFA Fastpitch Program. CPFA provides support to the traveling fastpitch coaches through clinics and other training opportunities intended to improve their skills as a coach. Background checks will be run on all head coaches and assistant coaches.

Head Coaches will be selected from a pool of applicants. In some situations, interviews may be required to determine placement. The CPFA board members will approve final selections. "A" team coaches will be

selected and announced before tryouts.

Tryout Process

All players must participate in skills evaluation every year. CPFA strives to make the tryout process as impartial as possible. During tryouts, a minimum of two judges, one from outside the CPFA program, will evaluate each player in the areas of hitting, bunting, fielding, and base running. In addition, pitchers will complete additional evaluations for their specific positions.

The tryout process will be closed to all but the players, evaluators, and coaches. No parents are allowed to be present during tryouts. This approach is necessary to make the tryouts as impartial as possible and to avoid conflicts during the tryout and team formation process. Your cooperation with this policy is appreciated.

After player evaluations are completed, a Team Selection Committee will be formed by the CPFA Board members. The Team Selection Committee will strive to place all players that try out for traveling fastpitch on a team, although in some cases, there may be players cut. In situations where there are insufficient or an excess number of eligible players for teams, there may need to be some adjustments of teams between tiers and age groups. All teams will have a goal of having no more than a 12-player roster.

The following player situations will be given priority for placement on a CPFA team:

- A) All players attending school within the Champlin Park High School boundaries. This applies to those players living within the CPHS boundaries and those attending through open enrollment.
- B) All players living within the CPHS boundaries, including those who go to school outside the CPHS boundaries.
- C) All players who have participated in at least two consecutive seasons on a CPFA team.
- D) Exceptions may be given to pitchers.

Anyone not satisfying the requirements of A, B, and C above are encouraged to register as it is CPFA policy to make every effort to place all who register on a team; however, should the registration numbers make cuts necessary, those satisfying the criteria above must be placed on teams first and the remaining openings would be filled by those registrants from outside the association based on evaluation scores and coach selection.

CPFA recognizes that it has an obligation to our players and to our opponents to form teams with skill levels commensurate to age and competitive ability. Therefore, different tiered teams at all age levels will be formed on the basis of tryout evaluations. The highest tier level team at each age level will include at least 8 of the top 12 players determined through the tryout scores. The remaining players shall be selected by the team coach from the remaining pool of eligible players, taking into account years of experience, tryout evaluations, and participation in CPFA clinics. In addition, the highest tier level team at each age level will include the #1 rated pitcher, as determined through tryout evaluations, "B" & "C" teams will be formed with

remaining ball players as the number of kids allow. The CPFA Board and the coaches at that age level will approve final decisions. Appropriate level of play is essential for each girl to compete and learn as much as possible at each age level.

Players may request to play down to a lower tier team, subject to approval by the CPFA Board. Specifically, this allows a pitcher or catcher not rated high enough to play that position on the higher level team an opportunity to play down in order to pitch/catch on a lower tier team.

Tryouts may be waived if enrollment at a particular level is less than or equal to the number of players needed to form a team.

Playing Up

ASA generally dictates age groupings. The association exists to provide opportunities for girls to perform at the best of their ability and the board recognizes that there may be athletes with exceptional ability who are best served by playing at a more competitive level. Players wishing to play up must petition in writing to the CPFA board before tryouts. Determination for allowing a player to try out at a higher age group will be done by the CPFA board based on a number of factors. If a player is eligible to tryout for a higher age group, she may play at that level if she scores in the top 3 at the higher age level based on the results of the tryouts for that age group. The player cannot be a coach's selection player. If that player does not make the top 3 in the higher age group, that player will be placed on a team in their age group at the discretion of the board based on the best fit.

No player may play up if it causes another player to be cut from playing on a traveling fastpitch team.

The CPFA Board must approve all exceptions. The CPFA Board also reserves the right to request a player to move up to a higher age level to fill out rosters in order to maintain the best interests of the program.

Tryout Attendance

Players are required to attend the full tryout process. Illness, injury, or extraordinary personal circumstances may cause players to request an exemption from tryouts. Requests to miss tryouts must be made prior to the start of tryouts unless an injury or illness occurs during the tryouts. Submission of supporting documents, including doctor's reports, etc. are highly recommended and should be submitted prior to the end of tryouts for anyone requesting a waiver from tryouts.

The CPFA Board will review the request for exemption and determine the appropriate course of action based on the best interest of the program. Anyone choosing not to participate in tryouts will be placed on rosters at the discretion of the Team Selection Committee and in the best interests of the program.

Questions

Questions regarding these procedures may be directed to either the CPFA President or other CPFA Board.