

NEW ULM GIRLS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION – PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDELINES

The general purpose of the NUGFP is to provide a positive opportunity for every eligible girl in the New Ulm area to play, and a chance to participate in fast pitch softball according to their ability, no matter what skill level they possess. We believe we can accomplish this in several ways:

1. By competing in the Southern Star summer softball league
2. By participating in weekend softball tournaments, the state tournament and post-season tournaments, if your team qualifies.
3. By remembering the general goals of the team should include playing hard, improving throughout the season, playing aggressively, focusing on fundamentals, raising our level of play, getting along as a team, becoming friends, being positive in every situation, stressing the concept of TEAM (Parents are part of the team, too), hustle – always, looking sharp in our uniforms, and of course, HAVING FUN!!

TEAM SELECTION AND PHILOSOPHY

NUGFP is divided into 5 levels: 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, HS.

1. These teams are based on the player's grade level.
2. In evaluations, players will be evaluated by the Selection Committee in accordance with criteria set forth in the approved Evaluation Form.
3. Decisions as to whether players unable to attend evaluations (i.e. because of injury, illness, other activity, etc.) may be evaluated by the Selection Committee and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
4. Teams will be determined following evaluations. **Evaluations are IMPORTANT at all age levels.**
5. The evaluation sessions are but one of the guides to the Selection Committee's decisions, and do not bind their decision.
6. The NUGFP Board may decide to roster some players at a higher age level to achieve optimum rosters for all teams.
7. The NUGFP Board has final authority on all roster decisions.
8. All coaches must accept the players assigned to their teams.
9. Teams will roster only those players that have been assigned to their team, no player may be added to a team without the consent of the NUGFP Board of Directors.

8U, 10U and 12U:

- Teams will be drafted equally by coaches with board members present.
- There should be equal playing time during league.
- To be competitive at our tournaments, we want to put the best team on the field. Playing time may not always be equal at tournaments.

14U/HS:

- Teams will be drafted based on ability. Tryouts are especially important at this level to determine the player's ability. Pitchers and Catchers are drafted first. Positional players are drafted second. NUGFP recognizes that pitchers and catchers are especially vital to any team at this level and the team will be built around them.
- The goal of tournaments is to be competitive and have the best team on the field. All players do not have to play at this level during tournament play. "Batting the Roster" is not a requirement.

*How a coach determines playing time and positions can be a concern. The level of competition increases with each age group. Everyone will be evaluated at the positions they signed up for. However, since many players signed up for the same position, the coach may be asking your daughter to play a position other than the one she signed up for. As the season progresses the coach will focus on the position(s) where a player has the most chance for success and where they can most help the team. Everyone should get playing time, but it won't necessarily be equal. Factors affecting these decisions will be dedication, attitude, improvement, coachability and skill level/stats. As the age group increases, it is likely that a core group of players will evolve into playing most of the time with the remaining players being platooned, with the goal of getting at least a couple innings in per game – some games less, some games more. Your coach will explain this more in the pre-season Parent/Player Meeting.