

Big Lake Fastpitch

Parent Information Meeting



Agenda

- Introductions
- Program Overview by Age Level
- Evaluations & Play Up Policy
- Uniform Information
- Volunteering Requirements
- Coaching Information
- Behavior Expectations
- Communication
- Upcoming Events
- Questions



BLFPA Organization

- Board Members:
 - °President: Shelly Fjone
 - °Vice President: Wayne Howe
 - °Secretary: Kris Lund
 - °Treasurer: Tony Loftus
 - °Travel Coordinator: Kris Knodle
 - °In-house Coordinator: John Windorski
 - °High School Coach: Kim Bowen



BLFPA Organization

- Non-voting Positions:

- Equipment Manager: Matt Baufield

- Concession Coordinator:

- Volunteer Coordinator:

- Advertising/Informational Coordinator:

- Fundraising Coordinator:



2020 Age Requirements

Established by Minnesota Softball

Age Level	Year of Birth
6u	Currently in kindergarten or will be in kindergarten (2020-2021 school year)
8u	2011/2012/2013
10u	2009/2010
12u	2007/2008
14u	2005/2006
16u	2003/2004
18u	2001/2002

6u Program

- Registration Fee: \$35
- Skill clinic included in cost:
 - Saturdays - April 4, 11, 25 and May 2nd
- Practice starts May 19th or 26th
- Games Tuesday nights June 9th- July 28th
- Games in Elk River, Zimmerman, Rogers, Princeton, Monticello, or Becker



8u Program

- Registration Fee: \$65
- Skills clinic included in cost
 - Saturdays - April 4,11,25 and May 2nd
- One practice and one game each week
- Games on Wednesdays May 6th-June 24th
 - Game times 6:30 pm play for 80 minutes
- Team can choose to play in one tournament either:
 - Becker June 13th
 - Zimmerman May 30th
- League games at Becker, Monticello, Zimmerman, Elk River,
 - Princeton, or Annandale

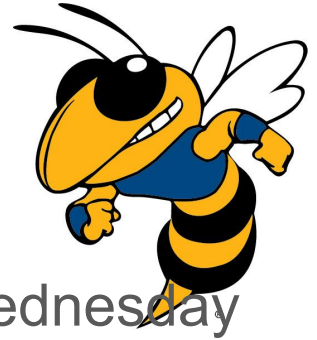


10u Program



- Registration fee: \$135
- Games start May 5th
 - Double header games played on Tuesday nights at 6:15 pm
- One weekend tournament:
 - Icebreaker: May 15-17th
- State Qualifier: June 26-28
- State Tournament (if spot earned with at least one qualifier win):
July 17-19

12u Program



- Registration fee: \$185
- Games start May 4th
 - Double header games played on Monday and Wednesday nights at 6:15 pm
- Two weekend tournaments:
 - Icebreaker: May 15-17th
 - One additional tournament: TBD
- State Qualifier: June 26-28
- State Tournament (if spot earned with at least one qualifier win):
July 10-12

14u Program

- Registration fee: \$185
- Games start May 19th
 - Double header games played on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6:15 pm
- Two weekend tournaments:
 - Icebreaker: May 15-17th
 - One additional tournament: TBD
- State Qualifier: July 10-12
- State Tournament (if spot earned with at least one qualifier win): July 17-19



16u Program



- Registration fee: \$185
- Games start June 1st
 - Double header games played on Monday and Wednesday nights at 6:15 pm
- Two weekend tournaments: TBD
- State Qualifier: July 10-12
- State Tournament (if spot earned with at least one qualifier win): July 17-19

18u Program

- Will only have a team if we have enough girls registered at this level.
- Registration fee: \$185
- Games start June 2nd
 - Double header games played on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6:15 pm
- Two weekend tournaments: TBD
- State Qualifier: July 10-12
- State Tournament (if spot earned with at least one qualifier win): July 17-19



Evaluations

- February 29th Times TBD
- Skills Evaluated:
 - Hitting
 - Ground Balls
 - Fly Balls
 - Throwing
 - Pitching
- Equipment to bring:
 - Bat
 - Helmet
 - Glove
 - Facemask
- Evaluations Guide available on website - PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT!
- Parents are not allowed in the gym
- Wear tennis shoes and comfortable clothes with hair pulled up



Play Up Policy

- Must notify Kris Knodle in writing by Feb. 22nd if player wants to play up.
- Player must try out at own age level and the level she wishes to play
- Player must make the top team and may not be a coach's pick in order to move up
- If a player elects to try up at a higher age group, the board reserves the right to place them on a lower tier team at that higher age group if numbers are needed to fill rosters.



Uniform Information



- May use uniform from last year if it still fits.
- New travel players must order jersey when registering.
- Players also need black pants, solid blue socks, and blue belt which may be purchased with registration or elsewhere (Dick's, Softballmonkey.com, etc)
- Must also purchase a helmet with a facemask
- Optional equipment:
 - Fielding facemask (highly recommended)
 - Cleats 6u-12u rubber cleats, 14u-18u may wear metal cleats
 - Softball Bat
 - Batting gloves
 - Water bottle
- 6u and 8u registrations include a t-shirt with number and do not need a jersey.

Volunteer Requirements

- Must submit a volunteer check of \$175 per family. The check will be shredded upon completion of the required volunteer time.
- Each family must complete a minimum of 8 hours of volunteer time.
- Go to the DIBS tab in the upper right corner of the website to claim your volunteer hours.
- Must be at least 16 years old to volunteer.
- If volunteer hours are not fulfilled at the end of the season your volunteer check will be cashed.
- May earn one hour of volunteer time by attending a board meeting.

Coaching Information

- If you would like to coach fill out coaching application under Coaches Corner of website.
- Must complete a background check, ACE certification, and concussion training in order to be on the field helping.
- Participation in coaching clinic is strongly encouraged.
- May also attend pitching clinics to learn how to help your players pitch.
- Must attend Big West Coaches meeting on April 9th in Medina, MN
- Must comply with BLFPA Coaches Code of Conduct

Behavior Expectations



Minnesota Softball Zero Tolerance Policy.

- First Offense: Verbal warning to coach.
- Second Offense: Results in an out for the offending team.
- Third Offense: Coach and possibly daughter of offending team ejected with a three game or seven day suspension, whichever is greater.
- Should there be a second ejection, coach will be suspended for 30 days.
- Should there be a third ejection, coach is suspended for life.
- Umpire may choose to escalate or skip over offenses if warranted.

Communication

- BLFPA communicates mainly by email. If you have not been receiving emails check the email address you are using to register your player.
- Announcements are also made on the website and facebook page.
- Coaches or team managers will email teams directly with information on practices, games, and tournaments.
- Should hear from your coach within a week of teams being posted.



League Information

- We play in the Big West league under Minnesota Softball.
- See <http://fastpitch.mnsoftball.com/bigwest> for information on league schedules, sites, and qualifier tournaments.
- See <http://fastpitch.mnsoftball> for information on state tournaments.



Conflict Resolution

- Wait 24 hours after the game to discuss any issues.
 - In-person or phone call discussion preferred over email/text.
- If needed, after discussing the issue with the coach, call or meet with the in-house or travel director.
- If unresolved, contact the president, Shelly Fjone.



Upcoming Events

- Registration closes February 28th. Cost goes up \$20 after Feb. 22nd.
- 10u-18u Evaluations: February 29th at Big Lake High School gym
 - Must contact Kris Knodle if player is unable to attend.
- Open gym: Feb. 16th 6-8 pm BLHS, Feb. 21 6-8 pm BLMS
- Teams posted by
- 6u-8u Clinic: April 4,11,25 and May 2nd



Questions?

