

New Prague Girls Fastpitch Association

Parent/Player Meeting
2026



Mission Statement



New Prague Girls Fastpitch Association is committed to teaching the fundamentals of competitive fastpitch softball. We are here to promote leadership, cooperation, team skills, to deal with accomplishments and disappointments, to improve self-confidence and self-esteem, and to have FUN! We do this as a feeder system to the New Prague Schools.

Communication



- ❑ SportsEngine
 - Download app
 - main form of communication with coach
 - RSVP- this helps prepare or practice and game plans
- ***Inform coaches of vacations ASAP
- ❑ Website
- ❑ FaceBook Page

Off Season Training

- We still have a few weeks left!
 - Feb 15th and Feb 22nd
- Pitching and Catching Training
- Great opportunity to grab some DIBs hours
- If you aren't registered, please sign up on our website.

Summer Season



Player and Team Commitment

- Attend **all** practices, games, and tournaments! Please keep your daughter's schedule open.
- Team practices will begin on Sunday afternoons starting March 1st.
- Teams **WILL** travel to neighboring communities to play league games (BP, Jordan, PL, St. Peter, Bloomington, etc).
- 10U, 12U, 14U play doubleheaders each night.
- Teams **WILL** also travel to play in league tournaments.

Summer Season



Practices

- Sundays at MS/HS until we can get outside
- 8U—2x/wk on Mondays and Wednesdays
- 10U—2x/wk on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- 12U—2x/wk on Mondays and Wednesdays
- 14U—2x/wk on Tuesdays and Thursdays

*****Parent Helpers must have a background check to help at practices.**

Summer Season



League Play

- 8U—1x/wk on Wednesdays
- 10U—1x/wk on Tuesdays (June-T/Th)
- 12U—1/wk on Mondays/Wednesdays (June M/W)
- 14U—2x/wk on Tuesdays and Thursdays

8u/10u-

- Athletes will be rotated around to all positions
- All pitchers will receive equal pitching time during league games (we need to create pitchers)
- Batting line ups will be rolled during league games
- Bench time will be equal

*****Tournaments- we play to WIN**

12u/14u-

- More position specific

Tournaments



League Tournaments

-League pays for 2 tournaments 8U and 3 tournaments for 10u/12u, anything beyond, the team must pay for.

8U

- 8U Black- May 2 and June 13th
- 8U Red- May 16-17 and June 13th
- 8U White- May 16-17 and June 13th

10U

- 10U Black- May 3rd, May 31st, and June 5-6
- 10U Red- May 16-17, June 5-7, June 19-21
- 10U White- May 9-10, June 5-7, June 19-21

12U

- 12U Black- May 9-10, May 31, and _____
- 12U Red- May 16-17, June 5-7, June 19-21

Tournaments



State Qualifiers

- Must win at least 1 game to qualify for State
- 8U– NONE
- 10U/12U– June 27-28

State Tournament

- 8U– June 27-28
- 10U/12U– July 11-12

Nationals

- Teams will qualify for Nationals by placing at any of their previous tournaments.
- Typically hosted in metro area
- Team decision to attend and pay for this event
- Dates: End of July/beginning of August

Uniform/Gear



- NPGFA Jersey– purchased at registration
- Pants (black)
- Sliding shorts (optional)
- Black socks (provided by NPGFA)
- Helmet (black)
 - NOCSAE Certified Helmet with face shield (black)
- Cleats
- Fielding Glove (11.5 - 12 inches)
- Player's Gear Bag
- Bat (sizing-refer to our website for recommendations)
- Batting Gloves (optional)

***Refer to our [Garage Sale Site](#) for equipment

Volunteer Hours

**Volunteer Requirement is...
15 volunteer hours per family**



☐ All volunteer hours **MUST** be claimed using DIBS through SportsEngine.

- If you're new to DIBs, steps on how to claim DIBs items can be found on the Volunteer page.

-Utilizing this method will allow families to choose the volunteer shifts that work for their schedule, and take into account the needs of each family.

-Families can grab DIBs hours from any team.

-If you are in a hardship, please reach out to Kelly Cox to discuss options.

Volunteer Hours



The success of NPGFA is determined by our volunteers!

- Board Member
- Trojan Youth Day (TBD)
- Field prep/finish
- Clinic helper
- Coach
- Team DIBs Coordinator
- Grounds crew
- Practice Helper
- Etc... anything approved by the board to benefit
NPGFA

Fundraisers



☐ Gertens Flower Fundraiser

- Begins February 16th
- Ends March 27th at 10:00PM –online orders
- Pick Up: Saturday, May 3rd
location: Michelle's House~PM times
- MUST sell at least 5 flowers per athlete
- If you need to know how many you have sold,
reach out to Michelle Fischer!

☐ Kwik trip Car Wash Cards

- Begins end of May (more info to come)
- Pick Up: Late June
- MUST sell at least 10 cards per athlete, max 20
per family

Fundraising Buyouts



Gertens Flower Fundraiser

-\$90 at registration

Kwik Trip Car wash Card Fundraiser

-\$90 at registration

***You are committed to fundraising if you do not select the Fundraising Buyout Option. If athletes do not sell the minimum amount, they will be charged the prorated amount for flowers and cards. All players' fees, including DIBs and fundraising, must be paid in full by the beginning of the next season, or player's participation will cease until paid in full.

Umpires



We are in NEED of umpires

- ❑ Doubleheader- in New Prague \$110/night CASH
- ❑ Umpire Clinic

UMPIRES
NEEDED



Chain of Command



After you have waited 24-48 hours, the “cool down” period, follow these steps in the Chain of Command:

- 1) Coach and Player
- 1) Coach, Player, and Parent
- 1) Coach, Player, Parent, and Board President

Parent's Role



- Support your daughter
- Be her biggest cheerleader!
- Emphasize fun and effort
- Work on softball skills outside of practices
- Promote positive attitudes
- Encourage your daughter
- Control the controllable
- Be respectful of all players, parents, umpires, opponents, and coaches
- If you have a concern, please let us know right away
- Let the coaches coach
- Please refrain from talking to your daughter during the game. Once warm-ups start, we need their focus on the game

Zero Tolerance



□ Policy

Coach Ejection Policy

Coaches, Minnesota Softball is initiating a coach ejection rule in support of umpire with bad behavior by either parents or coaches.

- Coach Ejection Rule a. The coach ejection rule as written below is how it will be applied. Coaches are responsible for their parent's behavior. There will be an online form for umpires to fill out the ejection report. Once the report is filled out the state office will handle contacting directors and umpires as quickly as we can.
 - First offense – A verbal warning to the offending coach.

Revised 4.21.2019

- Second offense – An out will be assessed to the team but not to an individual player.
- Third offense – The coach will be ejected from the game and asked to leave the park.
- An ejection results in a three (3) game or seven (7) day suspension, whichever is longer.
- A second ejection results in a thirty (30) day suspension.
- A third ejection results in a lifetime ban from coaching.

During the pregame meeting with the umpire, coaches and captains this rule will be discussed. Additionally, Minnesota Softball is currently working with Youth 1st and will incorporate their pregame philosophy as well.

Field Maintenance Guidelines

Before and During Games or Practice

- ❑ Hitting stations in the grass are prohibited to reduce divots.
- ❑ Rotate warm up locations; **STAY OFF THE FOUL LINE**
- ❑ Hitting or throwing into the fences is prohibited.
- ❑ If the ground is wet, do not use cleats at practices.

Fields should be ready for chalk the next day.

After Games or Practices

- ❑ Remove the bases and put in plugs, make sure they are all the way in so a drag can go over them.
- ❑ Pick up or sweep ag lime chunks from grass areas.
- ❑ Hand rake edges of infield being careful to not get ag lime in grass.
- ❑ Rake and drag the infield areas and warning track when used.
 - Rake with long movements, slowly to prevent chatter washboard.
 - Remember to rake the foul region and in front of dugouts.
- ❑ Fill in any divots and tamp down.
- ❑ Fill in ALL areas around home plate and the pitchers mound with loose ag lime.
- ❑ Rake the batting cages to fill in all holes.
- ❑ Sweep BOTH dugouts.
- ❑ Place all litter in garbage bins.
- ❑ Store all equipment and lock up.
- ❑ Set a good example to all by respecting the field.

Save the Dates:

Flower Fundraiser Begins:

February 16th

Team Practices Begin:

March 1st

Flower Fundraiser Ends:

March 31st-10:00PM

Team Pictures:

April 12th -TBD

Flower Pick Up

May 2nd -early afternoon

League Games Begin:

Week of May 3rd

Kwik Trip Fundraiser Begins:

May 26th

8u State Tournament:

June 27-28

10u/12u State Qualifiers:

June 27-28

10u/12u State Tournament:

July 10-12

Team	Date	Tournament
12 Black	5/9-5/10	St. Peter
12 Black	5/31	Mankato
12 Black		
12 Red	5/16-5/17	Jordan
12 Red	6/5-6/7	Watertown
12 Red	6/19-6/21	Becker
10 Black	5/3	Belle Plaine
10 Black	5/31	Mankato
10 Black	6/5-6/6	Buffalo
10 Red	5/16-5/17	Jordan
10 Red	6/5-6/7	Watertown
10 Red	6/19-6/21	Becker
10 White	5/9-5/10	St. Peter
10 White	6/5-6/7	Watertown
10 White	6/19-6/21	Becker
8 Black	5/2	Belle Plaine
8 Black	6/13	Monticello
8 Red	5/16-5/17	Jordan
8 Red	6/13	Monticello
8 White	5/16-5/17	Jordan
8 White	6/13	Monticello



Questions

