

Spring Softball Programs

Spring programs run from late April – early June. Spring program age groupings are based on grade level.

Grades Pre-K/K: K-Ball

Program description: K-Ball is our introductory softball program. Players learn the fundamentals of softball and begin to experience the value of teamwork and good sportsmanship. We play on a smaller scale grass field (35-foot base paths) and use a 10" soft safety softball during play. Players hit off a tee until the coaches determine that they can hit "coach pitch".

Sessions: 1 game each week, typically on Saturday afternoons with 1 weekday practice. **Equipment Needed**: A glove, bat, and helmet are needed. Balls will be provided. If the child doesn't have a helmet or bat, these can be loaned to you for the season.

Grades 1-2: AA Softball

Program description: AA Softball is a "coach pitch" non-competitive division (no scores kept) where players continue to learn the fundamentals of the game. More emphasis is placed on developing skills and learning the game. A 10" soft safety softball is used and games are played on a standard softball diamond infield.

Sessions: 1 game each week, typically on Saturday afternoons with 1 weekday practice **Equipment Needed**: A glove, bat, and helmet are needed. Balls will be provided. If the child doesn't have a helmet or bat, these can be loaned to you for the season.

Grades 3-4: Minors Softball

Program description: Minors Softball teams play in the recreational Metrowest Girls Softball League and introduces player pitching and catching, stolen bases, and three outs/inning. Coaches are still allowed on the field to provide instruction and emphasis is on fundamentals and increasing situational awareness. Coaches pitch when a batter has 3 balls. An 11" soft safety softball is used at this level.

Sessions: Two games per week on Monday and Wednesday nights in Ashland or nearby towns. Typically, one practice each week.

Equipment Needed: A glove, bat, and helmet (with facemask) are needed. Bats and helmets will be provided for those who don't have them. Fielding masks are required for pitchers and encouraged for all other positions.

Grades 5-6: Majors Softball

Program description: Majors Softball "Softball teams play in the recreational Metrowest Girls Softball League. This league is full player pitch using a 12" hard softball. At this level, most of the players have developed an understanding of the game and have

several seasons of experience. Emphasis is on skill development/improvement, situational awareness, communication, and understanding the game.

Sessions: Two games per week on Tuesday and Thursday nights in Ashland or nearby towns. Typically, one practice each week.

Equipment Needed: A glove, bat, and helmet (with facemask) are needed. Bats and helmets will be provided for those who don't have them. Fielding masks are required for pitchers and encouraged for all other positions.

Grades 7-8: Senior Softball

Program description: Senior division of the competitive Franklin Girls Softball Association recreational league.

Sessions: Two games per week on a weeknight and on Saturday mornings.