

Muscatine Girls Softball Association – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How old does my daughter need to be?

MGSA welcomes players ages 6 through 18. Teams are organized by age divisions to ensure appropriate competition and fun for all skill levels. Starter ages 6-7, Bantam 8-10, Junior 11-13, and Senior 14-18. MGSA utilizes the USSSA age chart.

<https://www.ussa.com/fastpitch/ageCalculator>

What days and where are practices and/or games?

Practice and game schedules vary by age group and team. All practices and games take place at Kent-Stein Park in Muscatine, IA.

- Practices and Games are held 2 evenings per week, 75-90 Minutes (depending on age division).
- All practices and Games are scheduled on weeknights Monday through Friday with start times between 5:30pm and 7:30pm.
 - Once rosters and teams are finalized, they will receive an introduction from their child's coach. Once the Schedule is approved, families will receive the schedule with specific dates, times, and field locations from their child's head coach and it will also be available on the website.

What if I can't afford the registration fee?

We believe all girls should have the opportunity to play softball, regardless of financial situation. Financial aid is available through MGSA during the registration process.

- We've partnered with United Way, which covers \$50 of the registration fee. (Families are responsible for the remaining \$25.) **Select Financial Aid option while signing up your daughter and we will connect you with United Way

What equipment does my daughter need?

Players will need the following personal equipment:

- Softball glove
- Fielding mask (required for infielders)
- Uniform - Softball long black pants, tall black socks, and cleats (no metal spikes)

***Optional** Batting helmet (must have face mask), Softball bat (USA/ASA approved), Cooling Rag, Large Water Bottle, A softball to practice with at home

MGSA provides:

- Team Jersey's
- Softballs for practices and Game Balls
- Softball bats
- Full Catchers gear
- Batting Helmets
- Coaches will communicate any additional gear requirements before the season starts.

How much does registration cost and what does it cover?

Registration is \$75 per player. This fee covers:

- Team jersey
- Game balls and all team equipment
- Field maintenance fees
- Insurance
- League operations
- Umpires

Do I need a coaching certificate?

MGSA welcomes volunteer coaches of all experience levels. While a formal coaching certificate is not required, head coaches and assistants must complete a background check and be approved by The Board of Directors.

Do I need to provide equipment for the team?

No. MGSA supplies all necessary team equipment, including softballs for practices, game balls, batting helmets, bats, first aid kits, coaches bags and catcher's gear. Coaches and volunteers are welcome to bring their own gear, but it is not required.