

BREW STATE SOFTBALL FAQ DOCUMENT FOR 2023 SEASON

Player Fee & Inclusions:

Age Level	Cost	# of Tournaments	Practices/Week	Open Times/Week
12U	\$2,750	8-10	1	2
14U	\$3,000	9-11	1	2
16U	\$3,600	10-13	1	2
18U	\$1,900	6-8	1	2

What is included in the player fee?

The player fee includes tournament fees, indoor costs, practices, & coaches' pay. Practices include 1 team practice per week & 2 additional scheduled days per week where players can come in on their own to get work in. This equates to players essentially receiving 3 “practice days” per week if they choose with 1 being a required team practice & the other 2 being scheduled days that are open for the player to take advantage of on their own. For the 2 additional days, coaches will be present to help players & lead drills if the players want to focus on anything specifically (pitching, catching, hitting, baserunning, etc.). Other expenses families incur for team events or tournaments including travel, hotel rooms, food, etc., are not covered in the above fees.

Are there payment installments or does the entire fee need to be paid upfront?

There will be payment installments throughout the fall, winter, & spring where the player fee can be paid so it does not have to be paid off in one large payment. We will communicate those dates & the amounts when teams are formed & after players accept offers.

Is there an indoor facility to practice at? Where is it located?

There is an indoor facility that teams will practice at & players can come in during scheduled open softball times to get work in. The address is N89W14400 Patrita Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051. The turf space has multiple drop down cages & large spaces to get work in with various equipment available.

Is there a field or complex to practice for outdoor practices?

Please keep Frontier Park (5300 N. Park Drive, Butler, WI 53007 - Ball Diamond 2) in mind. This is the location for tryouts & very well could be the location for outdoor practices as well. We will update once teams are formed.

When are tryouts? How can I get registered?

For information on tryouts or to register please visit <https://www.brewstatebaseballacademy.com/2023-softball-tryouts>. A player is only required to attend one tryout but can attend both if desired. Private tryouts are an option too if either scheduled day does not work.

How will tryouts work on the day of?

When you arrive, there will be a check-in table set up where you will go first. There, you will have a) a short waiver to sign & b) \$20 to pay (cash preferred) if you did not sign up on the website. If you did sign up on the website ahead of time, you will only have a waiver to sign. After that, it will be tryout time. Players will have time from 5-5:30 pm to stretch, throw, & get warmed up on their own. At 5:30 pm, the players will huddle up briefly before starting defense, hitting, & baserunning evaluation drills. Pitchers & catchers may be asked to stay longer, depending on how the tryout progresses. The plan is to get everyone out by or around 7:30 pm.

How many players will be on a roster? What is the philosophy on playing time?

Teams will most likely carry 11-12 players. We want a balance with each of our teams between coverage & not carrying too many players. We believe 9-10 players is likely not enough for long tournaments with travel & potential injuries. Although the best players will play & all playing time is to be earned, not given, we will construct rosters with the idea to not waste a player or family's time. Depending on various circumstances, rosters may include 13 players but that would only be a rare occurrence & if there are 9-10 players available during the season it could be due to injury or another factor.

How are players selected?

Players will be evaluated at tryouts. Players will be offered or not offered a roster spot based on talent level. The program does not prefer taking players from a specific city, region, school district, etc. The best players will receive offers.

What is the philosophy on players playing other sports?

We support players being involved in other sports. However, from May-July we expect players to be committed to the program & softball at all times. In August, there will be down time for the player & families to decompress or get involved in other activities. From September to early March, we expect the players to attend as many practices & open times as they can possibly make. Once teams are formed by early August, we will collect preferred days & times that work best for families & players to practice. While we will try to accommodate as best we can, please note that not everyone will receive their first choice or that it will work out perfectly. Any tournaments scheduled in the fall or winter we expect players & families to make time for. Once the high school season begins in mid-March, players are supported if they intend on competing with their high school teams. Practices & open times will be available for any players that do not intend on playing for their high school teams, which includes non-high school aged teams like 12U. Once all high school seasons conclude for all players on a team, the teams will immediately begin training & competing in tournaments around May or June depending on how far their high school seasons go. Beyond that, we ask that players & families communicate frequently & clearly with the coaches on any conflicts they may encounter.

How many teams will be at each age level?

This will depend largely on numbers at tryouts, talent level, & numbers specifically at pitcher & catcher. We do not & will not start 6,7,8 teams just for the sake of starting teams. Especially in year 1, we will be starting out slow & growing from there. The hope is to form a team at each age level, however, we do understand some age levels may see a higher turnout at tryouts than another. In this instance, there may be a situation where one age level could see one to two teams & another age level does not see a team. There will not be any more than two teams at an age level, especially in year 1, & it will take a lot for there to be more than one team. There must be enough numbers, talent, & adequate depth at pitcher & catcher to form teams.

Are coaches going to be parent or non-parent coaches? How many coaches will be at each level?

We, as a program, are committed to bringing on experienced, non-parent coaches to run our teams. Our coaching staff currently has four to five non-parent coaches with both playing & coaching experience. There will be a head coach & an assistant coach for every team. There may be an additional assistant coach depending on certain factors. If you or someone you know may be interested or you think is a good fit in coaching at Brew State, please contact brewstatesoftball@gmail.com. Our current staff can be found here: <https://www.brewstatebaseballacademy.com/softball-coach-bios>

When will training start? What will the calendar entail, generally speaking?

Training will start in the fall. It will depend on the team & other factors, but the coaching staff will build out a schedule & receive preferences from player's families that might work best for them (i.e. please provide 3 days per week that work best for you & your family to hold practices). The coaching staff will take this into consideration when building out practice scheduling & programming but be ready to adjust if need be. In September, team practices will begin. Teams will train through the fall & winter, playing anywhere from 1-2 fall tournaments & 0-2 winter (dome). Once spring rolls around, training will halt for high school aged players & teams. We support the players in going off to compete with their high school teams from March-June. In May or June, whenever all high school seasons are complete for every player on the team, the team will reconvene training & compete in tournaments in the summer. Teams will play, on average, 5-7 summer tournaments. The season will conclude sometime in late July.

Will my player get assistance in being recognized & recruited by colleges?

Players will play in some tournaments with college coaches present & receive help from the Brew State Softball coaching staff in communicating with college coaches in some capacity. The coaching staff has experience & connections within the college game. The coaching staff will leverage that to potentially send emails, call coaches, find camps & showcases to attend, assist in getting various recruiting profiles set up, etc.

What is travel like? Where will the tournaments be held?

Teams will be "regional." Teams will play tournaments both in Wisconsin as well as regionally in the Midwest. Potential states where tournaments will be held include IL, MO, MN, IN, MI, IA, TN. The ratio of WI tournaments vs. non-WI tournaments will be determined once teams have been formed.

Is there a jersey/uniform package?

There is a jersey/uniform package that families will be required to purchase (separate from the player fee). The package is under \$150.

When will the tournaments be played? Fall/Winter/Summer?

The general structure for teams when it comes to tournaments are as follows: 1-2 fall tournaments, 0-2 winter (dome) tournaments, 5-7 summer tournaments. This will be at all age levels. The ratio of fall vs. winter vs. summer tournaments will be determined after teams are formed.

What level are teams competing at?

We anticipate playing at an A/B/Regional level. This will depend a lot on tryout numbers & talent level at tryouts but the aspiration for the program will be to reach competing at an "A" level on a traditional "A/B/C" scale. We understand & are realistic that, especially in year 1, that it could be different. However, the teams will be & are expected to be competitive. The teams will always play at a "B" level or above & even at "B" level they are expected to fare well at that level/play in "A" tournaments.

Are there weightlifting & strength & conditioning programs available? Throwing programs? Hitting, Pitching, Catching Coaches?

There is a coaching staff assembled at Brew State Softball Academy that can assist, especially in the two scheduled additional days per week where players can come in on their own to get work in, to focus on certain facets of the game with players in a 1:1 or small group setting. After these offerings are taken advantage of, players are welcome to visit outside pitching/catching/hitting coaches to further work on their skills. Additionally, separate from team costs, there is a baseball & softball performance company available called Diamond Metrix that operates at the Brew State indoor facility. This program will be open to softball players in the program at a discounted rate. Chad Tindall, Lead Hitting Instructor for the program, is the owner & operator of the program & players are welcome to take advantage of it if able. For more information on Diamond Metrix, please visit <https://www.diamondmetrix.com/>.

Will teams compete in leagues or play games outside of tournaments?

The teams will not play in any leagues. The teams may play in exhibition games with other programs if the team (coaches, players, & families) are all on board. Otherwise, it will be a tournament team only.