

MYA SOFTBALL NEWS

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Merrimack Youth Association Girls Softball

January 2008

Let's Play Ball!

Spring is upon us and it's time to get ready for a new season of the most exciting game in town – Girl's Softball! This past year over 300 girls from 5 to 18 took the field as a part of the 24 teams that make up the Merrimack Girls Softball Program. From the skills clinics in Feb/Mar to the season start in May through the championship weekend and into the tournaments team summer, MYA Girls Softball once again proved that they have what it takes for top competition and some of the very best games around. Any family that has been part of the program knows that this is where it's at, and if you haven't tried softball before, we hope 2008 will be the year that you'll give it a try. If you love softball, we have what you are looking for – instructional skills training, recreational league games, summer tournament competition, and just plain fun!



Over the past year the Board of Directors have made improvements that are designed with the players in mind – we want you to have the best experience possible and will continue to work toward that goal in 2008.

We hope that this newsletter will give you the information you need to know what we offer and to get ready for the season. If there are any questions, please let us know. You can reach the Director of the Softball Program at director@myasoftball.com or visit us at our new website – <http://www.myasoftball.com>

It is our desire to make this season the best ever! We hope you'll be a part of it.

Girl's Softball Program

The softball season starts with indoor skills in April, the start if the season on May 1 and through the end of June. Last year there were 24 teams in four leagues. These leagues are organized to fit the needs and desires of all girls from beginner to experienced player.

The Instructional League consists of girl's ages 5 through 8 and is designed for the beginning player. The league is a combination of traditional T-Ball progressing to "Coach-pitch" during a 10 game season. Emphasis is on teaching the basic skills and sportsmanship instead of scores.

The Minor League consists of girl's ages 8 through 10. Here the emphasis is still strong on instruction and good sportsmanship with the introduction of competitive team play. Scores and standings are kept. Playoffs determine a league champion and runner-up. Two All-Star teams are assembled from the top players from each team to participate in a Red-Blue game.

The Major League consists of girl's ages 11 and 12. Instruction and sportsmanship are the main goals but competition becomes more evident. Special emphasis is placed on developing pitchers and catchers. Playoffs determine a league champion and runner-up. All-Star teams are also selected.

The Senior League consists of girl's ages 13 through 18. Here we see an equal emphasis on sportsmanship and competition. Freshmen, JV and Varsity High School players are eligible to play of course and are welcome. Playoffs determine a league champion and runner-up. All-Star teams are also selected.

Spring Season Registration

Registration for the spring season is scheduled for a weekend in February and one in March. The softball registration fee is \$50 and we support registration in person at the dates below or you can register online through our web site! **That's right – you can register online anytime and avoid the trip to the MYA building - go online at www.myasoftball.com and select the "registration" tab for more information!** You can also download the forms from our website if you want to come in person but fill the forms in ahead of time.

Registration dates are as follows:

Friday	February 8th	5:30-9pm
Saturday	February 9th	8am-noon
Friday	March 14th	5:30-9pm
Saturday	March 15th	8am-noon

Winter Softball Clinics

Winter clinics have been a great success over the past few years and we are proud to announce that they will grow again this year! This year we will offer clinics at no cost so we hope all of you will come out and "tune up" for the season.

Clinics will start on Sunday the 10th of February and will run for 6 successive Sundays with a hitting/fielding clinic from 12-1:30 and a pitching clinic from 1:30-3. Girls ages 11-18 will be at Reeds Ferry School and girls ages 5 – 10 will be at Thorntons Ferry School.

We hope to see you there – it's a great way to get the season started!

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