

SECTION 10 – TEAM SELECTION: DRAFTING PLAYERS

Please note: This document only covers the draft portion of the League Rules, Section 10, Team Selection, and Appendix A: Draft Order Outline. For the full NWGS League Rules, please see the Rules section of the NWGS website at <https://northwestgirlssoftball.com/>.

Draft

The Player Advocate and the Draft Committee will conduct a player draft as soon as possible after evaluations have been completed.

- Spring teams can return their entire team from the immediately preceding Fall Season.
- Fall teams can return up to six (6) age-eligible players from their preceding Spring Season.
- A player may only be placed on a team (or drafted) if they are fully registered and have paid registration fees in full prior to evaluations.
- In age groups with subdivisions (i.e. “B/C” or “Gold/Silver”), the “B” or “Gold” Subdivision will draft first.
- The draft is open to one (1) representative per team only.
- The Coach will have two (2) minutes to submit a draft choice when it has been announced it is their turn.
- The draft order will be determined by the previous regular season standings. The team with the lowest overall standing will draft first and the team with the best overall standing the prior season will draft last. Newly formed teams to the League will have the first draft pick. Teams moving up age divisions will pick after any new team(s) with their standings dictating order. Team(s) moving up a classification (“C” to “B” or “Silver” to “Gold”) will pick next with their standings dictating order.
- In case of no subdivisions in an age division, the draft order will be as follows: new teams, “C” or “Silver” teams coming up divisions, “C” or “Silver” existing, “B” or “Gold” team coming up divisions, existing “B” or “Gold” teams.

Example – 12u Division

Draft order would be as follows: new team, 10C coming up to 12s, 12C existing, 10Bs coming up to 12s.

Classification Guidelines

- It is up to the Board to subdivide or not an age division. In situations where an age division is subdivided, it is up to the Board to classify teams into “B/Gold” or “C/Silver” subdivisions. Subdivision teams reclassified as “C/Silver” are ones that finished with a less than .500 record.
- For a team to be reclassified from a “C/Silver” to a “B/Gold” team, they must finish above .500 and finish in 1st or 2nd place in their division.
- The Board may reclassify teams in order to balance divisions.
- A team cannot be reclassified from “B/Gold” to “C/Silver” without permission from the Board and USA Softball.
- No team is guaranteed to move in any age division and/or classification status.
- If necessary to complete divisions, the Board has discretion to exempt a team from any rule.
- 16/18u Summer league teams are not considered intact teams unless they come as a High School team.

Trades

- There are to be no trades discussed until AFTER the draft concludes. There is no trading of draft picks during the draft, only like players AFTER. If it is deemed that any manipulation has occurred, both coaches are subject to removal from the League.
- Player trades must be completed at the draft prior to leaving the draft room. No trades will be considered afterward.
- Trades can be rejected by the Draft Committee.
- Blind draws and keeper players cannot be traded. Pitchers and catchers selected in the pitcher or catcher round may only be traded for a pitcher or catcher also selected in the pitcher or catcher round.

Known "B/Gold" Player, Pitcher, and Catcher Definitions

- Players not attending player evaluations will not be eligible for primary selection in the draft. These players will be placed into a "blind draw." These girls will be placed on a team in a "C/Silver" Subdivision. A known "B/Gold" player (KBP), known pitcher (KP), or known catcher (KC) not attending evaluations may be identified by the Board and be made available for the "B/Gold" draft or made available in the pitcher or catcher draft round as applicable.
- Known "B/Gold" Player is defined as a player who played on a "B/Gold" team in the same age division in the immediately preceding season, was rostered to an All-Star/B-Select team in the same age division in the immediately preceding season or is coming to NWGS from an A-ball team.
- A known Pitcher/Catcher is defined as a pitcher or catcher who made 20% of their team's innings in a "C/Silver" Subdivision or 30% of their team's innings in a "B/Gold" Subdivision at that position in the immediately preceding season.

Pitchers and Catchers Selected in "B/Gold" Draft

- In an age division with subdivisions (such as "B/C" or "Gold/Silver") a "B/Gold" team may only select a player qualifying as a pitcher or catcher, a player who tried out as a pitcher or catcher, or a known pitcher or catcher:
 1. In the pitcher or catcher draft round, as applicable, or
 2. With any of the team's first three (3) draft picks regardless of round in the general player draft.
- Once a "B/Gold" team has two (2) pitchers and/or catchers who must make 30% of outs on their roster, they may not select a 3rd player at that position in ANY ROUND.
- The Head Coach must ensure that the drafted player pitches or catches, as applicable, 30% of the team's outs in the upcoming season during league play. Coaches should consult with their Division Representative during the season to keep track of their percentage usage. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended for the rest of the season and the following season.
 - There is no limit to the maximum use on a weekly basis so long as coaches meet the 30% minimum usage by the end of the season.

Draft Day Procedure

- It is imperative that an exhaustive list of all players eligible to be placed on teams be created and posted prior to the start of the draft. Players eligible to be drafted will be listed and all players in the blind draw will be listed at the bottom. Pitchers and catchers will be evaluated by the Division Representative and will be disclosed at Draft Day for selection as "Starting" Pitchers/Catchers.
- Pitcher and catcher round picks will be slotted prior to the draft to align with eligible pitchers and catchers to be drafted. Keeper players will be slotted into their occupying draft positions, so coaches are aware of where they are picking.
- Once the draft is complete, including trades, rosters will be printed and all players who are required to make 20% of outs in "C/Silver" Subdivisions or 30% of outs in "B/Gold" Subdivisions pitching or catching will be marked on the roster. The Head Coach or Team Representative at the draft will sign the roster acknowledging their understanding.
- If a team has an existing pitcher or catcher (Player A) and another player (Player B) that qualifies for both, they must declare Player B as the opposite of Player A.
- If requested by a family, age-eligible siblings (Sisters/Stepsisters) must be placed on the same team. If a girl with one (1) or more siblings is chosen, then her siblings will be assigned to the team's lowest draft slot. Once all teams have drafted the allotted number of players, as determined by the Player Advocate in advance of the draft, any players having not been drafted shall be entered on a waiting list.
- In an age division with subdivisions (such as "B/C" or "Gold/Silver"), a "B/Gold" team may only

select a player qualifying as a pitcher or catcher, or who tried out as a pitcher or catcher, in the pitcher or catcher draft round, as applicable, if they do not already have two (2) players designated at that position. The Head Coach must ensure that the drafted player pitches or catches, as applicable, 30% of the team's outs in the upcoming season during league play. Coaches should consult with their Division Representative during the season to keep track of their percentage usage. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended for the rest of the season and the following season.

- There is no limit of the maximum use on a weekly basis so long as coaches meet the 30% minimum usage by the end of the season.

All Pitchers and Catchers Will be Designated Prior to the Draft

1. "B/Gold" Subdivision

- Any pitcher/catcher drafted must make designated outs percentage unless directed by player/parent to Player Advocate prior to the draft.
- No Qualified/Designated pitcher/catcher may be drafted AFTER the team has two (2) designated at that particular position.
- If a Known Pitcher is selected in the third round (Player Round 1) they must have a form on file indicating their desire to play in a "B/Gold" Subdivision as a general player and understand they may not pitch or catch one inning.

2. "C/Silver" Subdivision

- Not permitted to take a pitcher OR catcher, if the team already has two (2) known players at that particular position in the first two athlete rounds (unless the player has signed a waiver form stating they will not pitch/catch this season OR all other teams have two (2) known players at those particular positions).
- All issues concerning pitchers and catchers are subject to review and decisions made by the Player Advocate, the Division Representative, and the President.

APPENDIX A

DRAFT ORDER OUTLINE

Draft Order Outline

“C/Silver” Draft

1. Pitcher (P) Round 1

- a. New teams without a pitcher select in the order drawn.
- b. Upcoming teams without a pitcher select in reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- c. Returning teams without a pitcher select in reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- d. If a team has 1 pitcher, they will not pick this round.

2. Catcher (C) Round 1 (snake back)

- a. Returning teams without a catcher select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
- b. Upcoming teams without a catcher select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
- c. New teams select a catcher in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
- d. If a team has 1 catcher, they will not pick this round.

3. Player Round 1

- a. New teams redraw for order and pick first.
- b. Upcoming teams select in the reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- c. Returning teams select in the reverse order of the previous season’s standings.

4. Remaining Player Rounds

- a. Starting in full reverse order from Player Round 1, teams draft Round 2.
- b. Returners are slotted in the following rounds: 4, 5, 6, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2, 11, 1, 12.
- c. Pitcher/catcher picks are represented within the player round in rounds surrounding keepers. Top and bottom.
- d. Draft order continues in snake fashion until all the available players are selected.

“B/Gold” Draft

1. Pitcher (P) Round 1

- a. Upcoming teams (age) without 2 pitchers select in reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- b. Upcoming teams (division) without 2 pitchers select in reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- c. Returning teams without 2 pitchers select in reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- d. If a team has 2 pitchers they will not pick this round.

2. Catcher (C) Round 1 (snake back)

- a. Returning teams without 2 catchers select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
- b. Upcoming teams (division) without 2 catchers select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
- c. Upcoming teams (age) without 2 catchers select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
- d. If a team has 2 catchers, they will not pick this round.

3. Player Round 1

- a. Upcoming teams (age) select in the reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- b. Upcoming teams (division) select in the reverse order of the previous season’s standings.
- c. Returning teams select in the reverse order of the previous season’s standings.

4. Remaining Player Rounds

- a. Starting in full reverse order from Player Round 1, teams draft Round 2.
- b. Returners are slotted in the following rounds: 4, 5, 6, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2, 11, 1, 12.
- c. Pitcher/catcher picks are represented within the player round in rounds surrounding keepers. Top and bottom.
- d. Draft order continues in snake fashion until all the available players are selected.