



# **Wasco Diamonds 2007 Program Guide**

The Wasco Diamonds fields highly competitive teams at the following age levels: 10U Gems; 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U & 23U Diamonds

For more information, contact [info@wascodiamonds.com](mailto:info@wascodiamonds.com) or call (630) 584-3060.  
[www.wascodiamonds.com](http://www.wascodiamonds.com)



## **Wasco Diamonds Mission Statement**

*The mission of the Wasco Diamonds program is to model character, reward commitment, serve community and build confidence.*

## **Introduction**

The Wasco Diamonds Traveling Fastpitch Softball Program has a strong history of fielding competitive teams with an emphasis on sportsmanship, teamwork, skills development and enjoyment. We are further committed to the promotion of girl's and women's fastpitch softball. Since 1995 when the program was founded, Wasco Diamonds' teams have enjoyed great success in local, regional and national tournaments.

## **Program Objectives**

It is the objective of the Wasco Diamonds to be one of the top fastpitch softball programs in the Chicago area. The Diamonds is a true travel club program with the objective of fielding highly competitive teams capable of playing other highly competitive teams. It is the objective of the Wasco Diamonds to prepare players to enable them to play at the college level. It is the objective of the Wasco Diamonds to offer the finest available coaching, training, facilities and equipment.

## **Training & Development**

The Wasco Diamonds are committed to teach sound fastpitch softball skills and a thorough understanding of the sport to each athlete. We emphasize skills development through the instruction and repetition of proper fundamentals. Practice is critical for the development of skills and players are expected to attend practice sessions. Diamonds coaches are required to attend a series of annual coaching clinics. Various materials will be issued to players with guidelines on skills fundamentals, pitching, hitting and conditioning routines. Players will be expected to maintain a skills and conditioning regimen year round including attendance at all off season team sessions. Team indoor training from November – March is an important part of our training program and is included in the player's registration fees. Players are encouraged to attend our indoor pitching, catching, hitting, and speed clinics to further enhance their skills. There is an additional charge for participation in individual clinics.

Wasco Diamonds' teams play competitive schedules that will demand a high level of commitment from both the players and their families. Depending on the age level of the team, games could start in the fall and continue with the possibility of indoor games in the winter. Outdoor play could begin as early as April and continue through early August. Athletes should expect to participate in tournaments on weekends during this time frame with practices and games during the week. Some tournaments will require an overnight stay. Due to IHSA regulations, girls playing high school softball will not start games until the completion of their high school season.

Attendance at practice sessions, training clinics and games is extremely important. Tournament schedules are generally finalized in March so we ask families to delay any vacation planning until after tournaments are announced.

## **Selection Process**

August and September are the months when the managers, coaches, athletes and teams are selected for the next year. Athletes are evaluated by their on field performance and in various skill areas demonstrated at annual tryouts (usually in August and September). Athletes must try out each year. Skilled evaluators rate each player based on performance in several areas: throwing, catching, running, hitting, bunting and fielding. Offers to play on a Wasco Diamonds team are made to players with the potential, ability and/or skill to play fastpitch softball at a high level. Not all players attending tryouts will be offered positions. If a roster is not filled following the annual tryouts, every attempt will be made to recruit players through the off-season. Rosters typically contain twelve to sixteen players. Rosters of at least thirteen players are recommended. Larger rosters are usually found at the older age level teams due to availability conflicts associated with older players.

Managers and coaches work with the evaluators and the board to determine which athletes they would like to make offers to. All players attending tryouts will be notified with an offer letter or a non-offer letter. Players receiving offer letters must return an acceptance form along with all or part of their registration fee by a stated date to assure their spot on the team roster.

Following selection of each team, players and at least one parent are required to attend a registration meeting to meet their manager, coaches, and teammates, pay fee balances and complete all required paperwork.

## **Schedules**

Our home games and practices will be played at the Campton Township Community Park fields located on Brown Road. The Wasco Diamonds have a long term lease with Campton Township for the primary use of fields # 1 and # 2. We sponsor fall and winter clinics to help build and maintain softball skills throughout the off-season. Outdoor practices will begin in April for teams that do not have high school players.

Team managers of individual teams will set the game and tournament schedule for each team. Some teams participate in fall leagues and tournaments. Some teams participate in winter leagues and play indoor games. During the summer season, players can expect weekday practices and games and multiple tournaments. Tournaments generally involve pool games on Friday and Saturday, and the championship rounds on Sunday. It is usually a busy weekend with up to eight games or more in three days.

## **Code of Conduct**

Every manager, coach, parent and player must sign and adhere to the Diamonds Code of Conduct. Violations to the Code of Conduct are taken seriously and could result in disciplinary action including dismissal from the program.

## **Clinics and Conditioning**

The Wasco Diamonds sponsor individual specialty skills clinics from October to March utilizing professional trainers. These indoor clinics include (but are not limited to) pitching, catching and hitting lessons, along with speed training. We strongly encourage our players to attend these lessons. These clinics are for WASCO DIAMONDS PLAYERS ONLY and are at an additional cost. Times and locations will be announced by each team's head coach or the clinic coordinator.

The Wasco Diamonds also sponsor team practices, and team hitting, fielding and general skills clinics. The cost of these team clinics and practices is included in the player's registration fee. IHSA rules restrict the number of players from the same high school participating in the same clinic or practice; the Diamonds fully support IHSA rules and schedule clinics and practices accordingly. Times and locations of any clinics and practices will be announced by each team's manager. In addition to sponsored clinics we expect players who do not participate in fall or winter school sports to maintain an off season conditioning program. We can provide exercises and training guidelines to help in the activity.

## **Playing Time**

It should be noted that no amount of playing time is guaranteed to any player. The coaching staff of each team decides playing time. Playing time is determined by the team age level, player skills, effort, attitude and game situations. Generally, the better performing players get greater playing time. Each team is run independently, but the basic overall philosophy is to treat the weekday games (non-tournament) as a time for greater playing time equality. It is a time to allow players who desire to play certain positions the opportunity to do this where it makes sense.

The situation may be different during tournaments. There is greater emphasis placed on performance, particularly in the elimination rounds. It is likely that the top performing players will have a large majority of the playing time in tournaments. It is the individual coach's decision on who plays and when and where they play. Please remember that each coach is dedicated to doing what he/she feels is best for the entire team – not just certain individuals. Whereas each coach understands that every athlete wants to play, the coach also understands that the team wants to succeed and play the sport at a high level. It is the coach's responsibility to balance those factors to the best of their ability.

## **Fees**

The registration fee for participation is set each year by the Board of Directors. The registration fee consists of two components: A Program Fee and a Team Fee. The Program Fee portion of the registration fee is due shortly after try outs. The Team Fee portion of the registration fee is due March 1.

The Program Fee includes all set costs for the individual team including indoor and out door team training, home games, field maintenance, training facilities and administrative costs. The Program Fee also includes two (2) full uniform sets, a visor, two (2) pairs of socks, and a batting helmet with face mask.

The Team Fee covers the variable costs for the specific team including fall and/or winter games and leagues, summer league costs, the number of and cost of tournament entered, and any team specific equipment or uniform needs. The total registration fee paid by a player can differ due to age level of the team, team schedule and the number of players per team.

## **Wasco Diamonds 10U Gems**

The Wasco Diamonds 10U Gems program is a developmental program to bring younger players into the Wasco Diamonds program. The 10U Gems team was created to attract 10U age eligible players with little or no previous travel experience. The Gems program includes reduced fees through underwriting from the Wasco Diamonds Classic tournament. The Gems program also includes a less intense time commitment from players, coaches and families by limiting the number of games and tournaments and by delaying the start of indoor practices and training.

## **Wasco Diamonds Classic Tournament**

The Wasco Diamonds stage a Fastpitch "Classic" Softball Tournament in the month of July at Campton Community Park in Wasco, Illinois. The field is typically comprised of over 40 teams from 10U – 18U. The tournament has been a National Qualifying event the past two years and has drawn teams from Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. The proceeds from the tournament go directly to the benefit of the program's lower level development and our intern program. If the applicable age level is included in the WD Classic, same age level Wasco Diamonds teams can play in the WD Classic at no charge.

## **Web Site - [www.wascodiamonds.com](http://www.wascodiamonds.com)**

Our program has a web site to promote our teams and players. This is maintained internally which gives us the capability to update the information regularly. Detailed resumes can also be provided for players interested in playing softball at the college level. Each coach and the Board of Directors have an e-mail address listed on the web site. Feel free to contact your coach or the board at any time.

## **Board of Directors**

The Wasco Diamonds is a non-profit organization governed by a board of five directors. The Board of Directors meets monthly on the first Monday of each month at 7:00PM at the Campton Township Community Center on LaFox Road (just north of Rt. 64). The meetings are open to Wasco Diamond's parents and coaches. The board can be contacted @ [board@wascodiamonds.com](mailto:board@wascodiamonds.com).

## **Managers and Coaches**

The managers and coaches in our program have had many years of travel ball experience. They are all required to attend coaching clinics and are members of the NFCA. Wasco Diamond's coaches are required to have ASA ACE certification as well as Basic First Aid Certification from the American Red Cross. Wasco Diamond's coaches are required to undergo criminal background checks and must sign a detailed Code of Conduct. If you or someone you know is interested in coaching with the Wasco Diamonds, contact the board at [board@wascodiamonds.com](mailto:board@wascodiamonds.com).

## **Academics**

The Wasco Diamonds organization places a high value on the academic performance of each student athlete member of the program. We expect our players and families to support high academic performance and to balance activities to allow students to have sufficient time to handle school responsibilities.

## **Golf Outing**

The Wasco Diamonds have held a golf outing since 2003 and have raised a significant amount of money each year. The 4 person scramble format has been a successful endeavor in every way. The entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, a motorized cart, lunch, four on course beverages, and a great steak dinner with all of the trimmings. 100% of the proceeds of the Wasco Diamonds Golf Outing go to the Joe Garbarski Scholarship program.

## **Scholarship**

The Joe Garbarski Scholarship program was created to provide financial assistance to Wasco Diamonds players or teams for payment of registration fees or other team expenses that the team manager identifies where payment may create a family(s) or team hardship. Following the Wasco Diamonds Golf Outing, each 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U team will be given an equal share of the Golf Outing proceeds. The team manager will determine on how the funds are used for his/her team. Board approval is needed prior to the use of scholarship funds.

## **Program Contact**

For questions about our program please contact the Diamonds by calling (630) 584-3060 or via email at [info@wascodiamonds.com](mailto:info@wascodiamonds.com) or contact your head coach via our website.

## **Conclusion**

We hope that our program provides a very rewarding and enjoyable experience for your daughter(s). You should see clear growth in her softball skills and understanding of the game. We will work diligently to prepare your daughter for competitive play. We realize that girls at these ages are involved in multiple sports and activities and we encourage such participation. We do require that girls participating in our travel program do not play in any other traveling softball program.

# Wasco Diamonds Accomplishments

## 2006

12U JD	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Winfield
12U JD	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Schaumburg
12U JD	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Geneva at 14U level
12U JD	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place ASA Regional
12U JD	1 <sup>st</sup> Place ASA Metro
12U JD	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Wasco Diamonds Classic
14U TR	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Horicon Wisconsin
16U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Wasco Diamonds Classic

## 2005

12U Blue	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Rockford
12U Black	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Wasco Diamonds Classic
12U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Rockford
12U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Woodstock
14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Gurnee
16U Blue	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Rockford
16U Black	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place ASA Nat'l Qualifier
16U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place ASA Metro – Chicago
16U Blue	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Bettendorf, Iowa

## 2004

10U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Rockford
10U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elgin
10U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Sycamore
10U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elk Grove
12U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Rockford
14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place St. Charles
16U Blue	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Schaumburg
16U Blue	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Alsip
16U Blue	2 <sup>nd</sup> Streamwood
16U Blue	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Sycamore
16U Blue	1 <sup>st</sup> Place USSSA "A" State Championship
18U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place USSSA "A" State Championship
18U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Bourbonnais

## 2003

10U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Rockford
10U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Sycamore
14U Blue	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Streamwood
14U Blue	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Rockford
14U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elgin
14U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Glen Ellyn
14U Black	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Sycamore
14U Black	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Roselle
14U Black	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Winfield
14U Black	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Rockford
18U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Beaver Dam, WI
18U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Sycamore

## 2002

10U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Glen Ellyn
10U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
10U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Elk Grove
12U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
12U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Streamwood
12U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Glen Ellyn
16U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Rockford
16U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Buffalo Grove at 18U level

## 2001

12U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Streamwood
16U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place West Chicago
18U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place River City, IA

## 2000

10U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
10U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Winfield
12U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
14U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place West Chicago
16U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Rockford
16U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elmhurst

## 1999

14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place West Chicago
14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
14U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elk Grove
16U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place ASA North Metro

## 1998

12U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elk Grove
12U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
14U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place West Chicago
14U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Fox Valley Firecracker
14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place ASA North Metro

## 1997

14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place West Chicago
14U	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Itasca

## 1996

12U	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Elk Grove
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# National Tournament Appearances

## **2006**

12U JD Tie 33<sup>rd</sup> Place ASA "A" Nationals  
14U TR Tie 5<sup>th</sup> Place ASA "North" Nationals  
16U Tie 49<sup>th</sup> Place USSSA "A" World Series  
18U Tie 17<sup>th</sup> Place USSSA "A" World Series

## **2005**

16U Black Tie 65<sup>th</sup> ASA "A" Nationals  
18U Tie 17<sup>th</sup> Place AAA Nationals

## **2004**

10U Tie 9<sup>th</sup> Place ASA "North" Nationals  
16U Blue 5<sup>th</sup> Place USSSA "A" World Series  
16U Black Tie 17<sup>th</sup> Place ASA "North" Nationals  
18U Tie 17<sup>th</sup> Place USSSA "A" World Series

## **2003**

14U Black 4<sup>th</sup> Place ASA "North" Nationals  
16U 64<sup>th</sup> Place USSSA "B" World Series  
18U 2<sup>nd</sup> Place AAA Nationals

## **2002**

16U Tie 17<sup>th</sup> Place AFA "A" Nationals  
16U Tie 33<sup>rd</sup> Place ASA "A" Nationals

## **2001**

16U Tie 25<sup>th</sup> Place AFA "A" Nationals  
18U Tie 33<sup>rd</sup> Place USSSA "A" World Series

## **2000**

14U Tie 33<sup>rd</sup> Place AFA "A" Nationals  
16U Tie 49<sup>th</sup> Place USSSA "A" World Series