

Whitemarsh Girls Softball: Equipment Requirements and Recommendations

The following list has both requirements and recommendations for equipment at each WGS division. Dick's Sporting Goods is a long time sponsor of WGS so many of the links are to their products. WGS has a [year-round discount available](#) at Dick's and a weekend in March where players can receive 20% off their purchase. If you have any questions, please ask your team's coach or email admin@wgssoftball.com.

Equipment and Gear Required for all WGS Divisions

- [Batting helmet with face shield](#) - The league has loaner helmets by request.
- [Fielding mask](#) - All players must wear a fielding mask (or for younger players their batting helmet with face shield). The league has loaner fielding masks by request.
- Fielding Glove (see guide below for glove size)
- [Softball pants](#) - Black or gray
- [Plastic cleats](#) (e.g. softball, soccer, or similar) - Sneakers OK at Beginners level.

Equipment and Gear Recommended for all Players

- [Softball bat](#) - An appropriate sized bat will be beneficial for the girls as they learn to hit. If a player doesn't have their own bat, bats will be available in the sheds of each field to use during practices and games. Bats must have a ASA/USSSA stamp on them. See guide below for bat size.
- [Softball equipment bag](#) - Many of the girls have bags to store their helmet, mask, bat and glove that can hang from the fence.

Equipment Recommended for Pitchers - [chest/heart protection](#) that meets NOCSAE standard for Commotio Cordis.

Equipment and Gear Optional for all Divisions

- [Batting gloves](#) - As the girls get older (Minors and above), batting gloves will offer some protection for the girls who swing a lot and for sliding.
- [Softball socks and belt](#) - Socks and belt make a uniform look sharp, but are not required. Socks may protect the girls lower legs, especially if they only have calf or knee length pants.
- Catcher's equipment (the league has catcher's gear in each field shed) - Catchers must wear a catching mask/helmet with throat guard and chest and leg protectors.
- Speciality fielding glove - Most girls use a regular softball glove for all positions up through at least Minors division. First base and specialized infield/outfield gloves and catchers mitts may be useful as the girls get older and specialize in a position.
- Softballs for personal practicing
 - Beginners - [Softie](#)
 - Rookies/Minors - 11 inch balls. [These](#) are game quality.
 - Majors - 12 inch balls. [These](#) are game quality.

How to Determine Bat Size

To determine what bat size to buy, parents should consider bat length, weight, and drop. Here is a [guide to help decide](#) and [here's another](#). Here are some general guidelines:

Division / Grade	Bat Length
Beginners - Pre-K - 1st grade	24" - 26"
Rookies - 2nd and 3rd grade	26" - 28"
Minors - 4th and 5th grade	28" - 31"
Majors - 6th through 8th grade	31" - 33"

How to Determine Glove Size

There is [a lot to consider](#) when choosing a glove as your player gets older. The best way to ensure the proper glove size is if your daughter can squeeze it closed. That's difficult to assess in a store when the glove isn't broken in. Here's a general guide to help decide.

Division / Grade	Glove Size
Beginners - Pre-K - 1st grade	9" - 10.5"
Rookies - 2nd and 3rd grade	10" - 11.5"
Minors - 4th and 5th grade	11" - 12"
Majors - 6th through 8th grade	11.5" - 12.5"