



Executive Board

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District 4, Division 1

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District 4, Division 4/5

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Tom Drohner

Border Battle Coordinator
District 1, Division 1

Brittany Carl

District 3, Division 1

Brad Ceranski

District 1, Divisions 4/5

Jamie Elsing

District 3, Divisions 4/5

Jared Faherty

All-Star Coordinator

Ellie Olsen

District 2, Divisions 2/3

Morgan Stenslein

District 1, Divisions 2/3

John Garvey

District 2, Division 1

Scott Ritzema

District 4, Divisions 2/3

Jean LeVash

District 2, Divisions 4/5

THE LINE DRIVE

JANUARY 2026

The WFSCA begins 2026 focused as always on advancing fastpitch softball in the state of Wisconsin. Vice President Cindy Suess, our clinic coordinator, has secured another outstanding lineup of clinicians for our annual Coaches Clinic. After many requests from our members, we have moved the clinic to a Friday-Saturday format at Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells on February 6-7. The Friday session will include the induction of five new Hall of Fame members at the banquet followed by the coaches' social in the vendor hall for great conversation and *free beer!* Coaches are encouraged to bring their families for the weekend to enjoy Chula Vista's indoor water park. Clinic registration as well as a hotel discount code are posted on our homepage at WFSCA.org.

The WIAA has made some changes for Softball in 2026. The 10-run rule will apply to all state tournament games, including the championship finals. Teams at the state tournament will now be allowed to add a fifth free admission for a coach, manager, athletic trainer or physician, in addition to 18 student-athletes. The WFSCA will continue to monitor the work of the WIAA Calendar and Contact Committee, which is currently reviewing season start dates and game maximums for all sports. The WFSCA looks forward to working with new WIAA Assistant Director Jake Beschta, who will oversee Softball. Jake will present the NFHS rule changes and points of emphasis for 2026 at the Coaches Clinic.

WFSCA membership opens the door for your players to receive All-District and All-State recognition, selection to the Senior All-Star games and recognition for Senior Academic All-State. Member coaches are eligible for coaching awards and perks such as half-price tickets to Brewer games and other Wisconsin regional baseball venues. Most importantly, your membership gives you a voice through WFSCA, as we work with the WIAA, to advance high school softball throughout the state.

If you have a question, concern, or idea that you'd like to share, please reach out to myself or your district representative. The WFSCA is here to make the high school softball experience special for our athletes, and we welcome your input. We look forward to seeing you at the clinic in February!

Sincerely,

John P. Ruffolo
WFSCA President



2026 COACHES CLINIC



Carie Dever-Boaz

Extra Inning Softball - Director of Operations
Former Fresno State Pitcher
Former Professional, College, High School and Club Coach



Lauren Haeger

Softball Project - Pitching/Hitting Instructor
Current Club Coach for Team NC
Former University of Florida Pitcher
Former NPF Player



Michaela Edenfield

Softball Project - Catching/Hitting Instructor
Former Florida State Catcher
Current AUSL Player

SPEAKERS

- Registration for WFSCA membership and the clinic, along with additional speaker information, is available on our website at: [wfsca.org](https://www.wfsca.org)

- Clinic dates are Friday, February 6 & Saturday, February 7, 2026 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells



SAVE THE 2026 DATES

March 16	Earliest Day for Practice
March 21	Earliest Scrimmage
March 24	Earliest Day for First Game
April 24	Senior All-Star Nominations Due
May 21, 26, 28	Regionals for Division 2 through Division 5
May 26, 28	Regionals for Division 1
June 2, 4	Sectionals
June 5	All-District/All-State Nominations Due
June 10, 11, 12, 13	State Tournament
June 15, 16	Senior All Star Games
June 19	Academic All-State Nominations Due
June 19	Coaches Awards Due



ALL-DISTRICT AND ALL-STATE TEAMS

The All-District Teams for medium and small schools will be comprised of 18 selections and broken down in the following manner:

- Pitchers - 1
- Catchers - 2
- Infielders - 4
- Outfielders - 3
- At-Large (Players from any position) - 9

At the All-State level, an 18 member 1st and 2nd team will be recognized for the large, medium, and small schools, along with Honorable Mention selections.

Division 1 will have a prorated number of selections based on the membership in each district.

It is important to remember this is a WFSCA selection process so only athletes from schools in which the head coach is a current member are eligible.



Districts and Conferences

DIVISION 1

District 1 - Tom Drohner

Big Rivers
Lake Superior
Mississippi Valley
Wisconsin Valley

District 2 - John Garvey

Bay Conference
Fox River Classic
Fox Valley
North Shore

District 3 - Brittany Carl

Badger Large
Badger Small
Big Eight
Classic Eight

District 4 - John Ruffolo

Greater Metro
Milwaukee City
Southeast
Southern Lakes
Woodland East
Woodland West

DIVISIONS 2 & 3

District 1 - Morgan Stenslein

Big Rivers
Cloverbelt East
Coulee
Mississippi Valley
Dunn-St. Croix
Heart O'North
Cloverbelt West
Lakeland West
Middle Border
Wisconsin Valley

District 2 - Ellie Olsen

Bay Conference
Central WI East
Marinette & Oconto
North Eastern
Fox River Classic
North Shore
Packerland
Glacier Ridge
Great Northern

District 3 - Jane Briehl

Badger Small
South Central
Classic Eight
South West WI
Six Rivers East
Capitol North
Rock Valley

District 4 - Scott Ritzema

Big East
Southern Lakes
Capitol South
Eastern WI
Woodland West
Midwest Classic
Milwaukee City
Trailways South
Wisconsin Flyway
Woodland East
Metro Classic

DIVISIONS 4 & 5

District 1 - Brad Ceranski

Cloverbelt East
Cloverbelt West
Coulee
Dairyland
Dunn-St. Croix
Heart O'North
Lakeland East
Lakeland West

District 2 - Jean LeVash

Central WI East
Central WI West
Central WI South
Indianhead
Marawood North
Marawood South
Marinette & Oconto
Northern Lakes
Packerland

District 3 - Jamie Elsing

Ridge & Valley
SWAL
Six Rivers East
Scenic Bluffs
Six Rivers West

District 4 - Cindy Suess

Big East
Capitol South
Eastern WI
Metro Classic
Trailways North
Trailways South
Wisconsin Flyway



THORP/FALL CREEK

BRAD CERANSKI



Brad Ceranski served as the varsity softball coach at Thorp High School for 19 seasons from 1998 through 2016. In 2020, he was named the varsity softball coach at Fall Creek High School, where he will be entering his seventh season at the helm. Over his 25-year coaching career, his teams compiled a 464-149 record. He has been fortunate to be part of 13 Conference Championships, 17 Regional Championships, and 6 Sectional Championships. His teams won State Titles in 2016 and 2024, with State Runner-up finishes in 2008, 2009, and 2025. He has been blessed with outstanding assistant coaches, players, parents, and community support throughout his career. Brad served as the WFSCA president for seven years and as a district representative for 15 years. Thirty-five of his players were named WFSCA Senior All-Stars, and he has had the honor of coaching the All-Star Games three times. He was named the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Coach of the Year for the State of Wisconsin in 2016.

Brad has been married to his amazing wife and best friend, Jamie, for 18 years. They have two incredible children, Brayden and Kenadi.

GALE GRAHN

Gale Grahn will be entering his 33rd year as the Varsity Softball Coach at Plymouth High School. Gale started the program in Plymouth, along with his longtime and still current assistant, Paul Krzyzaniak, in 1991. He has a career record of 417-241, including 8 Regional Championships, 2 Sectional Championships, and two State appearances, 2006 and 2012. The 2006 team was the D2 State Runner-up. Gale has coached in the WFSCA Senior All-Star Game 3 times (2002, 2007, & 2023), along with serving as a conference representative to the WFSCA for over 20 years. He has been named conference Coach of the Year six times, and has coached 66 First Team All-Conference players and 6 All-State players. The PHS Softball Complex was named 'Gale Grahn Fields' in 2013 by the Plymouth School District Board of Education, in appreciation of his dedication to softball in Plymouth.

Gale was a Social Studies teacher for 30 years at PHS, and served as Athletic Director his last three years, as well. He has coached football for all 38 years that he has been in Plymouth, including the past 19 as Varsity Offensive Coordinator. Gale was a WIAA basketball official for over 30 years, retiring from that when he became Athletic Director in 2015, and he is still currently a substitute teacher at PHS. Gale also started the youth softball program in Plymouth in 1993, and coached all levels of youth teams for over 20 years. For his dedication to the youth program, he was inducted into the Plymouth Youth Athletic Association in 2015.

Gale has been married to his wonderful wife, Renae, for 40 years. They have 3 children (Lindsey, Danielle, and Alex), and 7 grandchildren (Lincoln, Riley, Cooper, Colton, Harrison, Hudson, and Audrey). When not coaching or spending time with family, he likes to be on his pontoon boat pondering a possible new football play or thinking about what new work needs to be done on the softball fields. Gale would like to thank all his past assistant coaches for their hard work and dedication to softball at PHS and in the Plymouth community. Without them, none of this would have been possible.



PLYMOUTH



WESTOSHA CENTRAL

TOM & KONNIE LAMPE



Tom and Konnie Lampe coached softball for 18 seasons at Westosha Central, serving the final 14 seasons as co-head coaches. Upon their retirement after the 2024 season, they accumulated a 259-92 overall record. Their teams won seven Southern Lakes Conference titles and had a record of 146-36 in conference games. Their teams compiled a .766 winning percentage in the WIAA playoff series with 10 regional titles, seven appearances in the sectional title game, four state tournament appearances, one state runner-up (2014), and two Division 1 state titles (2013 and 2015). The 2014 title game was 15 innings and the longest title game in championship history.

Over 13 seasons, their teams amassed 2,718 runs and they never coached a team with a below .500 record. They were fortunate to have coached 29 players that went on to play in college, including 8 that played Division 1 college softball. Additionally, they were the 2013 WFSCA Coaches Of the Year and coached in the 2014 Senior All Star games. Tom was also the WFSCA conference representative for the Southern Lakes Conference from 2017 to 2024.

Tom and Konnie have been married for 43 years. They have three children, Ian, Erin, and Hannah and ten grandchildren. They reside in Paddock Lake.

JOHN P. RUFFOLO

Coach Ruffolo has been at the helm of the Kenosha Bradford Softball program for 22 years, leading the Red Devils to a WIAA Division 1 State Championship in 2024 and Runner-Up finishes in 2025 and 2013. The 2024 title earned Coach Ruffolo the WFSCA and NFHS Regional Coach of the Year awards. Since Ruffolo took over the Bradford program in 2004, the Red Devils have accumulated a .765 winning percentage with an overall record of 416-127-1. Ruffolo's teams have won 10 Southeast Conference championships and advanced to the WIAA state tournament seven times since 2009 while notching 18 Regional Championships.

Bradford Softball has produced multiple all-conference and all-state players with many going on to play college softball at a variety of levels. Ruffolo has also coached middle school softball in Kenosha for 32 years and served as an assistant coach at Kenosha Tremper High School for eight seasons prior to taking over at Bradford. In 2000, Ruffolo founded the Kenosha Cyclones Softball Club, which provided opportunities for hundreds of girls in all age groups to compete in fastpitch softball regionally and across the nation, peaking in 2011 when the Cyclones won the title in every age group of the Wisconsin ASA Class A State Championship. In 2017, Ruffolo started the Red Devil Softball Club for girls who live in the Bradford High School boundary area. The players from the first Red Devils 10U team eventually formed the core of Bradford's 2024 WIAA State Championship roster. Coach Ruffolo has contributed to the advancement of softball throughout Wisconsin by serving on the board of the Metro-Milwaukee Fastpitch League and on the WIAA Softball Advisory Committee. He joined the WFSCA board as a district representative in 2007 and is currently in his second year as the president.

Earning a BA in English from UW-Parkside and an MA in Exercise and Sport Science from UW-La Crosse, Ruffolo taught Language Arts and Reading in Kenosha schools for 29 years and directed Bradford's Athletics program for five years, retiring in 2024. Coach Ruffolo is thankful to all of the coaches who he has worked with over the years in both club and high school softball, with special gratitude for current Bradford assistant coaches Jamie Atkins and Amy Bostetter for their friendship and outstanding coaching over the past two decades. Most of all, he would like to thank all of the Bradford Softball players and families over the years who have allowed him the honor of being their coach.



KENOSHA BRADFORD



Hall of Fame Members

Class of 2009

David Jones - Platteville
Mary Lou Jones - Platteville
Troy Acheson - Tennessee Tech,
Whitnall
Phillip Adam - Ashwaubenon
Pete Kopplin - Marshfield
Darrell Laschen - Loyal
Debbie Mauleg - Marion

Class of 2010

Greg Lampe - Oak Creek
Bob LeCaptain - Denmark/GB West
John Malin - Kimberly
Russ Shaub - Middleton
Bob Tomlinson - Poynette
Rod Wilterdink - Cedarburg

Class of 2011

Steve Ryan - Waunakee
Diane Yager - Seneca
Steve Schmikla - McFarland
Jim Haines - Pepin

Class of 2012

Mike Regner - LaCrosse
Del Schneeberger - Johnson Creek
Kris Allison - Westosha

Class of 2013

Dale Buvid - Monroe
Jim Turner - Altoona
Paul Olson - Fort Atkinson

Class of 2014

John Schroeder - Beloit Memorial
Don Vruwink - Milton
Glenda Smith - Tigerton

Class of 2015

Tim Pederson - Amherst
Bob Sulser - Madison Memorial,
Beloit Turner
Marvin Youngbeck - Mayville

Class of 2016

Dave Keel - Homestead
Roger Schlieve - Horicon
Jim Wickert - McFarland,
Madison College

Class of 2017

Jeff Setz - Eisenhower
Tim Hering - Whitewater
Denny Coppernoll - River Valley

Class of 2018

Cindy Suess - Verona, UW-Oshkosh,
Oshkosh North
Tom Drohner - Stevens Point
Doug Mock - Oakfield
Don Bjelland - Grantsburg

Class of 2019

Dale Gray - Wisconsin Dells
Jerry Cognetta - Elmwood,
UW-Stout
Jim Kivisto - Hurley
Ken Franke - Kewaskum, Mayville
Sandy Waltzer - Antigo

Class of 2020

John Peterson - Madison (WIAA)
Joel Claassen - Pius
Gary Haus - Rice Lake
James (Louie) Lawinger - Hamilton,
Platteville
Dan Bayreuther - Janesville Craig

Class of 2021

Jeff Agnew - Fort Atkinson,
Jefferson
Rich Anderson - Germantown,
Brookfield East
Jack Miller - Greenfield
John Rosenberg - Muskego
Ken Stille - Carthage College,
Private Pitching Coach
Tim Whitford - Winneconne

Class of 2022

Janel Batten - Oshkosh West,
Appleton East, Pulaski
Patty Jansen - Watertown
Stephanie Hauser - WIAA
Jeff Hodgson - Belmont

Class of 2023

Jane Briehl - Potosi, River Valley
Brian Phelps - Gilman
Todd Felch - Wausau East, Mosinee
Bill Greskiw - Burlington Catholic

Class of 2024

Tom Anderson - Necedah,
Iola-Scandinavia
Deb Braatz - Waterloo
Tim Roehrig - Kaukauna
Gene Van Dyck - Dodgeville



Hall of Fame Members

Class of 2025

Virgil Berndt - Medford
Tony Porath - New London
Ann Molski - Pacelli Catholic
Sue Stoltenberg - Wausaukee



SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us on Facebook, X and Instagram!

The WFSCA has officially joined the social media world. You can now find us on [Facebook](#), X ([Twitter](#)), and [Instagram](#) as we expand how we connect, share, and celebrate fastpitch softball across Wisconsin.

These channels are more than just announcements and reminders; they're a place to spotlight coaches and programs, share clinic insights and coaching tips, promote opportunities, and highlight the incredible work happening in our softball community every day. Think timely updates, useful content, a little fun, and a lot of passion for the game.

Most importantly, this is a two-way street. We want to hear from you. Share ideas, celebrate wins, amplify great stories, and help us showcase what makes Wisconsin fastpitch special.

Follow us, engage with us, and help shape the voice of WFSCA online. We've made the move to social—now let's continue to #GrowTheGame together!



Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association



WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Hello Softball Coaches:

My name is Jake Beschta; and, as of June 5, 2025, I am the newest Assistant Director of the WIAA. I oversee 11-player football, girls and boys hockey, boys golf, softball, the new athletics director workshop, the WIAA Scholar-Athlete Program, and the Calendar and Contact Committee. Prior to beginning my role at the WIAA, I was the high school principal at Denmark for the past five years. I have also served as high school principal at Oconto Falls High School, an athletics director at Sheboygan Falls High School, and a middle school teacher, high school football and girls basketball coach in the Coleman School District.

I am honored to serve as the WIAA Director of softball. My primary goal is to collaborate with the WFSCA and our member schools to ensure the continued growth and success of softball in our state. I look forward to our future conversations regarding all things softball as we work together to create an education-based, competitive environment for our students that prioritizes player development, sportsmanship, and a shared love of the game. I will always prioritize making my role one built on collaboration, communication, and a shared purpose.

The WFSCA is an exceptional association that continues to be a statewide leader in sport-specific advocacy and leadership, coach and umpire development, and support of its teams and student-athletes. I look forward to connecting with many of you throughout the season and beyond. Please do not hesitate to contact me to introduce yourself, discuss any ideas you have, or to share a question. I also look forward to seeing you all at your coaches clinic in February!

Enjoy the rest of your winter and I look forward to seeing you soon!

Jake Beschta, WIAA Assistant Director





WFSCA/WIAA APPROVED SOFTBALL UMPIRE CLINIC

The Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association is sponsoring a WIAA Approved Softball Umpire Clinic for Level 0 through Level 4 umpires. Three Person Mechanics will NOT be covered in this clinic. There is no cost to attend and registration is limited to the first 100 WIAA registered umpires.

WIAA Level 0, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 Umpires will advance one level for attending the clinic in addition to completing the rules video and exam. Level 4 Umpires will be given credit for one varsity game, in addition to completing the rules video and exam.

Three Master Level Umpires, all with State Tournament experience, will present classroom and simulation training. Plate Mechanics, Base Mechanics and Game Management/Communication/ Professionalism will be covered.

The clinic will be held at the Chula Vista Resort (Riverview Ballroom on the Lower Level), 1000 Chula Vista Parkway, Wisconsin Dells, on Saturday, February 7, 2026 from 12:00PM to 4:00PM. Umpires must attend the entire clinic to receive credit. Dress in comfortable clothing, uniforms are not required. **Please arrive by 11:45AM for check in.**

Registration is available at: www.wfsca.org

Please email csuess@wfsca.org with questions.



STATE CHAMPIONS

DIVISION 1



KAUKAUNA

DIVISION 2



DENMARK

CONGRATULATIONS 2025 STATE QUALIFIERS

Kaukauna <i>(Champion)</i>	Tim Roehrig
Kenosha Bradford <i>(Runner-Up)</i>	John Ruffolo
Cedarburg	Mark Jessup
DC Everest	Katie Shulfer
Hamilton	Kaylee Gendrich
Oregon	Scott Mirkes
Sun Prairie East	Erin Weber
Watertown	Matthew Meracle

Division 1

Denmark <i>(Champions)</i>	Todd O'Brien
Jefferson <i>(Runner-Up)</i>	Jeff Agnew
Lakeland	Whitney Furtak
Whitnall	Michael Gappa

Division 2



STATE CHAMPIONS

DIVISION 3



POYNETTE

DIVISION 4



MISHICOT

DIVISION 5



BELMONT

CONGRATULATIONS 2025 STATE QUALIFIERS

Poynette <i>(Champions)</i>	Matthew Ramberg
Fall Creek <i>(Runner-Up)</i>	Brad Ceranski
Laconia	Scott Ritzema
Valders	Steven Dietrich

Division 3

Mishicot <i>(Champions)</i>	Dawn Shimek
Pacelli <i>(Runner-Up)</i>	Ann Molski
McDonnell Catholic	Rick Ruff
Mineral Point	Quinn Schultz

Division 4

Belmont <i>(Champions)</i>	Jeff Hodgson
Almond-Bancroft <i>(Runner-Up)</i>	Randy Yonke
Ithaca	Paula Boland
Thorpe	Kurt Rhyner

Division 5