

WISCONSIN FASTPITCH SOFTBALL



COACHES ASSOCIATION

Brad Ceranski

President

Cindy Suess

*Vice President
Clinic Director
Membership Director*

Greg Lampe

*Executive Director
Awards Committee*

Jane Briehl

Treasurer

Tom Drohner

*Border Battle Coordinator
District 1: Large School Rep.*

To Be Determined

District 1: Small School Rep.

Tim Whitford

All-Star Coordinator

Sue Stoltenberg

*Secretary
Newsletter Coordinator
District 2: Small School Rep.*

Jeff Agnew

Hall of Fame Coordinator

Jeff Hodgson

District 3: Small School Rep.

John Ruffolo

District 4: Large School Rep.

Scott Ritzema

*District 4: Small School Rep.
Clinic Vendor Coordinator*

Jared Faherty

All-Star Game Coordinator

Melinda Hull

*District 2: Large School Rep.
All District/State Awards
Academic All-State Awards*

Jamie Olson

District 3 Large School Rep.

Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association

THE LINE DRIVE

January 2, 2023

Message from the WFSCA...

I hope 2023 is off to a great start as we all look forward to the upcoming softball season. Cindy Suess has put together another spectacular lineup for our Coach's Clinic on February 11th and 12th at Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. We all owe Cindy Suess (WFSCA Vice-President / Clinic Director) a debt of gratitude for the hard work she puts into providing us with such an outstanding educational and networking opportunity each year. She is a tremendous ambassador of the game in our state. She works tirelessly to provide opportunities for our coaches and athletes. I hope you can join us for a weekend of learning, camaraderie, and networking to prepare for the spring.

After last year's season, Tammy Rademacher and Dave Borge stepped down from their positions on the WFSCA Board. Tammy served the board as a District Representative and Secretary for seventeen years. Many of the smooth operations of our Clinic and All-Star Series are a direct result of Tammy's hard work, organization, and passion for the sport of softball in the state of Wisconsin. Her efforts have been remarkable and will be greatly missed! Dave served the board as a District Representative for the past eight years and helped coordinate our vendors. He has also been a huge part of growing the sport of softball during his career at Arcadia.

Again this fall, an analysis of the conference assignments in the WFSCA Districts took place. There have been slight changes to balance members across districts and assign conferences to the same district regardless of level. The updated district assignments are included in the newsletter.

Jeff Agnew has put together another excellent program to honor four outstanding coaches who will be inducted into the WFSCA Hall of Fame. We will again have a social before the banquet for Hall of Fame members. Jeff has done a fantastic job making this a memorable event for the inductees and their families since he took on the Hall of Fame Coordinator in 2016. Please join us to honor these legendary coaches on Saturday night at our clinic.

Finally, I want to make sure to thank the WFSCA Board Members and the entire WFSCA membership for the memorable experiences you provide your athletes. The growth of the sport of softball over the years is a direct result of your hard work and passion. The excitement is building to start the 2023 campaign, and we are always open to coach's thoughts and ideas to improve the experience for the players and coaches. Please contact your District Representatives, Greg Lampe or myself, with any thoughts or ideas for the upcoming season.

Good luck in your preparations for the season, and we look forward to seeing you at the Clinic in February!

Brad Ceranski
WFSCA President

WFSCA 2023 Updated Districts

Division One (Large Schools)

District 1 (Rep - Tom Drohner)

Big Rivers	Mississippi Valley
Lake Superior	Wisconsin Valley

District 2 (Rep - TBD)

Bay Conference	Fox Valley Association
Fox River Classic	North Shore

District 3 (Rep - Jamie Olson)

Badger East	Big Eight
Badger West	Classic Eight

District 4 (Rep - John Ruffolo)

Greater Metro	Southern Lakes
Milwaukee City	Woodland East
Southeast	Woodland West

Division Two & Three (Medium Schools)

District 1 (Rep - TBD)

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

District 2 (Rep - Melinda Hull)

Bay Conference	Marinette & Oconto
Central Wis. East	North Shore
East Central	Northeastern
Fox River Classic	Packerland
Great Northern	

District 3 (Rep - Jane Briehl)

Badger East	Six Rivers East
Badger West	South Central
Classic Eight	Southwest Wisconsin
Rock Valley	

District 4 (Rep - Scott Ritzema)

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

Division Four & Five (Small Schools)

District 1 (Rep - Brad Ceranski)

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

District 2 (Rep - Sue Stoltenberg)

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

District 3 (Rep - Jeff Hodgson)

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

District 4 (Rep - Cindy Suess)

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

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

Pitchers - 1

Catchers - 1

Infielders - 4

Outfielders – 3

At-Large (players from any position) - 9

The number of selections on the All-District Team for large schools will be prorated based on the number of member schools in each district during the current season.

This adjustment is to balance the number of players recognized proportional to the member schools in the districts. The position make up will be adjusted if there are less than eighteen selections on a team.

At the All-State level, an eighteen member 1st and 2nd Team will be recognized for the large, medium and small schools along with Honorable Mention selections. It is important to remember this is a WFSCA selection process so only athletes from schools in which their Head Coach is a member are eligible for recognition. Please make sure to register as a WFSCA member and nominate the deserving members of your team this year.



WFSCA Announces 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees

The Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association would like to congratulate the 2023 Hall of Fame Inductee Class:

Jane Briehl- Potosi and River Valley High School

Presented by her daughters, Taylor Briehl and Emily Briehl



Jane Briehl enters her 29th year as a head softball coach in the state of Wisconsin. Jane started her coaching career at Potosi High School where she was hired in 1994 to teach middle school math and to be the head volleyball and head softball coach. While at Potosi she compiled a softball record of 105-33 in the process of winning 5 conference championships. After 7 years, she left Potosi to teach and coach at her alma mater, River Valley, located in Spring Green. During her first year at River Valley, the 2002 softball team took her to the state tournament where they ended the season as State Runners Up. Between the years of 2010 and 2022, Jane received 9 SWC Coach of the Year Awards, and has coached in the WFSCA Softball All Stars games multiple times. To date, Jane's teams have won 14 Conference Championships, 6 Regional Championships, 1 Sectional Championship and 1 State Runner-up. Her current career coaching record is 418-185.

Jane has served on the Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association Board since 2002 in the role of either District Representative or Treasurer and she is currently still

volunteering as both.

Jane resides in Spring Green, where she and her husband Eric raised two daughters, Taylor and Emily.

Todd Felch- Wausau East and Mosinee High School

Presented by Sarah Schueller

Todd Felch started his Fastpitch coaching career at Wausau East before heading up the Mosinee program for 14 seasons. A state championship in 2014 and a runner-up finish in 2018 were the results of 2 state appearances. During his 24 years as head coach he accumulated 367 career wins, 269-73 record at Mosinee, 12 regional championships, 11 consecutive conference titles, 20 all-state players, 8 conference coach of the year honors, and coached WFSCA all-star teams on 3 occasions.

Todd is married to his best friend and soulmate Leslie and has two daughters, Michelle and Savannah and two stepdaughters, Kelley and Ashley.



WFSCA Announces 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees (Continued)

Bill Greskiw- Burlington Catholic Central High School*Presented by long time assistant, Tedd Shellberg*

Bill Greskiw took over the Burlington Catholic Central softball program in 1996 and held that position until retiring after the 2018 season. The Hilltoppers were members of WISSA from 1996 till 2000 when they won the State Championship. Their overall record was 354 - 155. They won conference 17 of his 23 years with an overall conference record of 212 - 33. Their non-conference record, primarily against Southern Lakes teams, was 93 - 101. They won 16 Regional championships, 9 Sectional Championships, made 7 State appearances, including 2 State titles, 2000 and 2004.

Bill has had fastpitch schools in Burlington, Waterford, Wilmot, and Woodstock, IL., and has been a pitching coach for 26 years. He has been involved in assisting with the Elkhorn Express, Woodstock Heatwave, South Milwaukee Aces, Kenosha Vipers and the Lakeland Brat Stop.

Bill is married 50 years to Debbie and has two daughters, Shelley, who was an outfielder on Wilmot's 1995 State Champion team, and Amy who was a 3rd team All-State pitcher for Wilmot. He also has 3 grandchildren, Ben, Anna (pitcher), and Charlie (horseback rider).

**Brian Phelps- Gilman High School***Presented by wife Kathy, children Kelly and Nick Phelps*

Brian Phelps was hired by Gilman Schools to teach Social Sciences, coach wrestling, and coach softball in 1993. Under his leadership, Gilman softball has recorded 390 wins, 12 regionals championships, 3 Sectional Championships, 3 State series final 4 appearances (2002, 2006, 2019) and a conference championship. Brian has coached 54 All Conference Players, 21 WFSCA All Stars and has had the honor of coaching six WFSCA All Star teams. He also has been a WFSCA district representative since 2012.

Prior to arriving in Gilman, Brian began coaching youth ball programs and middle school wrestling in 1980, accumulating 43 years of coaching experience. He has retired from teaching and coaching wrestling, but will continue as head softball coach at Gilman.

Brian is married to his best friend and Asst. coach, Kathy. They have two children: Kelly and Nick (Melissa). Five grandchildren: Kylie, Jackson, Miayla, Morgen, Davina.



HALL OF FAME
- INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED -

WFSCA HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

Class of 2009

- David Jones – Platteville
- Mary Lou Jones – Platteville
- Tory 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 / Green Bay 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 – Beloit Memorial
- 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
- 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
- Joel Claassen – Pius
- Gary Haus – Rice Lake
- James (Louie) Lawinger – Hamilton / Platteville
- Dan Bayreuther – Janesville Craig

Class of 2021

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

Class of 2022

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

SPEAKERS:

RANDY SCHNEIDER

Softball Consultant
Former Owner Gritty Hitters
Former Coach at Iowa State, Wisconsin, Valparaiso



Randy is a former collegiate Softball Coach at Iowa State, Wisconsin, Valparaiso, and Wartburg College. He also was the owner of Gritty Hitters, an online softball training program. Randy has over 20 years of experience as a hitting instructor, running camps coast to coast and speaking for the NFCA and National Sports Clinics. Randy has earned Coach of the Year honors, participated in over 25 NCAA tournament games, is the winningest coach at Valparaiso University, and holds over 100 offensive records at three different universities.

Known for his creativity, Randy has produced over 15 coaching videos with Championship Productions. As the offensive coach for the Wisconsin Badgers, Randy helped Wisconsin win the 2013 Big Ten Tournament Championship for the first time in school history. After finishing a twenty-five-year career in softball in 2017, Randy continues to assist high school and college programs as a consultant. Randy is still very active and recently participated in the USA Racquetball US Open. He currently lives in Ankeny, Iowa, is married to Kristy, and has three children. He currently manages a top-line appliance store.



LAUREN HAEGER

Pitching / Hitting Instructor

STATS

- A University of Florida Gator hailing from Peoria, Arizona.
- 2010 Gold Junior Pan-American Champion.
- 2011 Junior Women's National Team.
- 2011 Gold Junior World Championships winning pitcher.
- Two-time all-American.
- Two-time ESPY nominee.
- 2015 SEC Pitcher of the Year.
- 2015 National Player of the Year.
- 2015 WCWS MVP.
- 2015 SEC Female Athlete of the Year.
- 2015 Honda Award Winner.
- The only player in softball or baseball history besides Babe Ruth to hit 70 home runs and win 70 games in the circle.
- 4-year professional softball player for the Texas Charge and Scrap Yard Fastpitch.
- 3 times all NPF.



CHAD MCGEHEE

Director of Meditation Training - UW Athletics
Inner Edge Meditation - Owner



Chad McGehee, M.A., M.Ed., became the first ever Director of Meditation Training in major college sports when he joined Wisconsin Athletics in March of 2020. In this role, he oversees all aspects of meditation training, collaborations and research.

McGehee provides trainings for staff, coaches, teams, and individuals. He works closely with coaches, leadership, and Forward360 colleagues to integrate meditation into the overall training for the Badgers.

Prior to joining Wisconsin Athletics, McGehee was based at the Center for Healthy Minds where he collaborated with world-leading scientists to understand the impacts of training the mind across a wide range of populations, K-12 educators, law enforcement officers, and athletes. McGehee is currently an honorary affiliate of the Center.

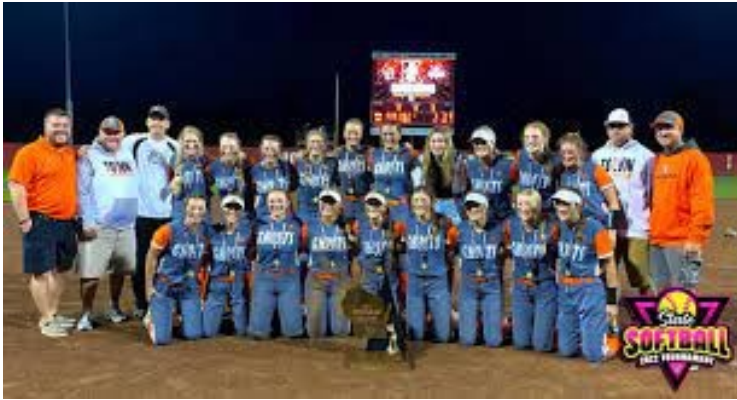
McGehee's philosophy is to bring together the insights from modern science and contemplative practice in order to train the mind for performance and well-being.

McGehee lives in Madison with his partner and their son.

Congratulations to the 2022 State Qualifiers:

Congratulations to the 2022 State Qualifiers and Champions

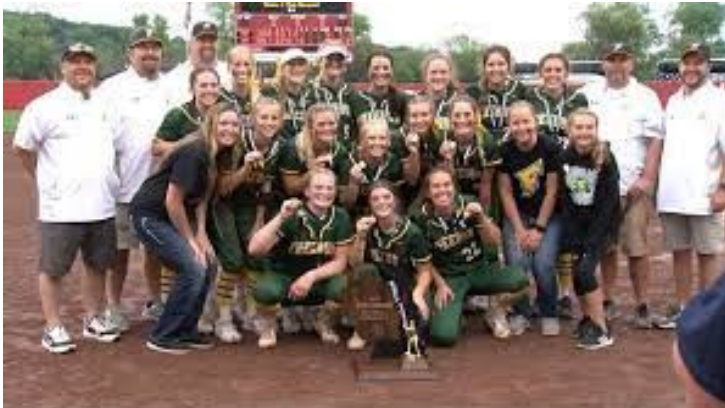
Division 1



**Sun Prairie
Milton
Oak Creek
Hamilton
Kaukauna
Oshkosh West
Cedarburg
Superior**

**Division 1 Champions
Kaukauna**

Division 2



**Jefferson
Wisconsin Lutheran
Freedom
New London**

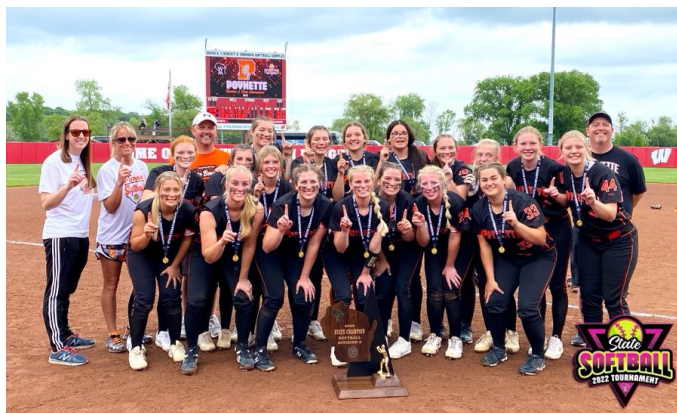
**Division 2 Champions
Freedom**

2022 State Qualifiers, continued:

Division 3

**Baldwin-Woodville
New Holstein
Poynette
Wautoma**

**Division 3 Champions
Poynette**



Division 4

**Grantsburg
Luther
Horicon
Iola-Scandinavia**

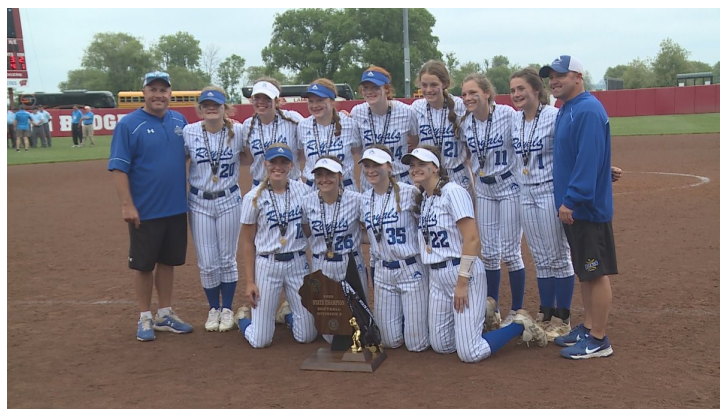
**Division 4 Champions
Grantsburg**



Division 5

**Assumption
Thorp
Barneveld
Edgar**

**Division 5 Champions
Assumption**



Save the Dates 2023

February 11th, 12th	Coaches Clinic (Chula Vista – WI Dells)
March 13th	Earliest Date for Practice
March 18th	Earliest Date for Scrimmage
March 21st	Earliest Date for a Game
May 18th, 23rd, 25th	Regionals for (D2 - D5)
May 23rd, 25th	Regionals for (D1)
May 30th and June 1st	Sectionals
June 8th, 9th, 10th	State

Please check the WFSCA Web Site on a regular basis for other upcoming important deadlines such as All-District nominations, Academic All-State, and Coaches Awards.

www.wfsca.org

