



The Best in the Game. The Future of the Game.

Alliance Fastpitch History

Overview

Alliance Fastpitch is a national organization designed to bring together the youth fastpitch softball community under a unified, athlete-focused structure. Established in 2020, the Alliance emphasizes collaboration, competition, development, and accountability.

Founding Purpose

The organization was born out of a desire to address fragmentation in youth softball. Prior to the Alliance, teams and organizations operated largely in silos, often lacking consistent rules, rankings, or pathways for athlete development. Recognizing the need for a more cohesive and sustainable ecosystem, a group of forward-thinking coaches, event organizers, and stakeholders came together to build something new.

Key Objectives

- Unify the sport through regional and national structures.
- Prioritize athlete experience with meaningful competitions and developmental resources.
- Promote transparency and accountability for players, coaches, and teams.
- Support long-term growth of the sport from grassroots to elite levels.

Structure and Model

The Alliance is composed of multiple Member Leagues—regionally based competitive leagues that follow shared standards, rules, and point systems. These leagues culminate in a National Championship Series (NCS) where the best teams from across the country compete.

Each Member League has autonomy to serve its region while aligning with national Alliance standards. The unified point system allows for nationwide rankings and ensures competitive consistency.



Welcome Letter

Dear Athletes, Families, and Fastpitch Community,

Welcome to the 2025 Alliance All-Star Team Announcement and congratulations to the top 40 seniors selected as this year's Alliance All-Stars! The Alliance Fastpitch team is honored to welcome you into one of the most exclusive and elite groups in our sport.

Now in its fifth year, the Alliance All-Star Game, presented by EvoShield, continues to represent the pinnacle of individual achievement in the Alliance Fastpitch. This year's game will be played on Sunday, July 20th at Kokomo High School in Indiana during our Alliance Fastpitch Championship Series and will be streamed live on ESPN+, bringing national visibility to your talent, hard work, and dedication.

Becoming an All-Star is no small feat. You were selected through a year-long evaluation process that began with a Fall Watch List and involved collaboration from travel ball coaches, college recruiters, and our All-Star Committee. After extensive conversations and consideration, 40 seniors were chosen for their ability to compete at the highest level in every position, from power hitters to elite slappers, ace pitchers to defensive anchors.

You now join a sisterhood of athletes who have gone on to become National Champions, NFCA All-Americans, Gold Glove winners, and even professional softball players in the AUSL. Among our alumni are names like Bri Ellis (2025 National Player of the Year), NiJa Canady (2024 National Player of the Year), and Teagan Kavan (2025 WCWS Most Outstanding Player). You're not just part of a team. You are a part of a legacy.

This year's All-Star Class represents 22 organizations, 20 states, and an impressive 29 different colleges. From National Honor Society members and Valedictorians to multi-sport state champions and community leaders, this group exemplifies excellence both on and off the field.

All-Star Weekend kicks off on Saturday, July 19th, leading into Sunday's game. It's more than a showcase. It is a celebration of your journey, your teammates, your families, and the entire Alliance Fastpitch community that's supported you every step of the way.

We can't wait to celebrate you in Kokomo.

The Alliance Fastpitch Team
The Best in the Game. The Future of the Game.



Event Schedule

Athletes Arrive at Kokomo High School



2:00

The Player Drip Entrance will open at 2:00 for our athletes to get the All-American treatment they have earned. Additional gear and athlete gifts are staged in the locker room and dugouts. Team photos will be taken on the field, and snacks are available.

Skills Challenges

Beginning at 2:30, the All-Stars will compete in a series of skills challenges, with the finals set to begin at 3:45.

2:30



Warm-ups Begin

Cages will open for All-Star hitters, and the back field is available for warm-ups. The American Team will use the 1st floor, while the National Team will warm up on the 2nd floor.



4:30

Cages Open for Pitchers and Defensive Lines Begin

Cages are now open for pitchers. The American Team will use the 1st floor, and the National Team will use the 2nd floor. Defensive lines are to follow at 5:30 on the stadium.

5:15/
5:30



Lineup Announcements

The lineups will be announced on the field for the American and National teams. The announcements will be followed by the National Anthem before the first pitch.



5:45

First Pitch

The first pitch is set for 6:00, barring any delays. The game will be broadcasted on ESPN+. For more details, visit page (FILL IN).

6:00



The All-Star Selection Process

The Alliance All-Stars are selected by the National All-Star Committee, led by Derek Allister, founder of OnDeck Softball, and composed of representatives from each of the nine Alliance Member Leagues. The selection process kicks off in the fall with an initial Watch List, which is then narrowed down to League All-Star Teams. From these teams, the final Alliance All-Star roster is chosen. All selected athletes must be active members of Alliance Fastpitch.

Throughout the season, the National All-Star Committee carefully evaluates multiple criteria to determine the final All-Star selections. The committee collaborates closely with college coaches to gain insights on athletes they've signed or recruited. To ensure a fair and thorough process, input is also gathered from travel ball coaches, and internal cross-checks are conducted. League voting plays a key role in narrowing down the pool of candidates.

The final roster is built with balance in mind, focusing on primary positions and standout performers from the League All-Star lists. Considerations include pitching and catching depth, defensive and offensive strengths, and overall versatility. Outfielders are evaluated for both power and defensive range, while the infield is composed of middle infielders, corner players, and utility athletes. All selected players are committed to begin their collegiate softball careers at NCAA Division I programs this fall. Every Power 4 conference (formerly Power 5) is represented, with the SEC leading the way with 17 athletes, followed by the Big 12 with nine.

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EXPLORE
KOKOMO
INDIANA



American Team Roster



#0 Allysa Parker



#2 Lexi McDaniel



#3 Natalie Cable



#6 Melody Acevedo



#7 Kaiya Fabela



#10 Charley Butler



#11 Marley Teasley



#11 Allie Thomsen



#12 Ava Zachary



#12 Gabrielle Gradishar



#12 Alexa Riddel



#14 Rylie Holder



#15 Abigail Byrd



#16 Sidney Forrester



#22 Kai Minor



#22 Bri Alejandre



#24 Jaycie Nichols



#25 Addyson
Sheppard



#32 Saylor
Timmerman



#41 Alyssa Hopkins

National Team Roster



#2 Taryn Ho



#3 MaTaia Lawson



#6 Mackenzy
Glenn



#6 Makenna Sturgis



#6 Zayda Rocke



#13 Mikayla Watts



#13 Hannah Wells



#20 LaTerra Foster-
Frison



#21 Avery Layton



#21 Brinkley
Moreton



#22 Elsa Morrison



#22 Lexie Hames



#23 Isabel Cruz



#30 Khamari Hall



#32 Scarlett Kuhn



#34 Tru Medina



#44 Ci'ella Pickett



#44 Kailey Plumlee



#66 Sarah Breau



#77 Hailey Nutter

hamilton
county
sports
authority



All-Star History

The Alliance Fastpitch was officially formed in the summer of 2020, but the story began two years prior as a shared desire for change emerged among leaders in youth fastpitch. This collection of individuals - ranging from club directors to coaches and former athletes - had a vision to work together and put the athlete back at the forefront of all decision-making. The founders believed teams needed equal access to resources and an equal opportunity to earn berths to National Championship play. They believed that working together off the field would actually make us stronger, and that merging our efforts and creating one central hub was the solution to sustainable growth in the sport.

We started with the statement, "Together, we are the Alliance Fastpitch." Rivals and competitors decided to work together off the field to achieve the same goals, challenge current trends, and create more equality to move our sport forward. Our regional leagues embody the spirit of collaboration and competition, where 'rival' clubs work together to meet the needs of their region and act as spokespeople on a National level.

Our Core Values

What we believe. What we live by.

- 1** We put the athlete first.
- 2** We focus on player development and recognition.
- 3** We understand coach development is an important part of player development.
- 4** We encourage collaboration and cooperation between associations, leagues, events, teams, coaches and athletes.
- 5** We ask ourselves, 'Is this what's best for the athlete and the game?'
- 6** We strive to connect all generations of the game.
- 7** We support professional softball and National Team Programs.



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Alumni Player Spotlights



Nijaree Canady

Nija Canady's softball journey began with the Alliance Fastpitch, where she emerged as an All-Star and one of the most promising young arms in the game. Her dominance on the field carried seamlessly into her collegiate career, where she became one of the most decorated pitchers of her era.

Canady began her college career at Stanford University, where she was named the 2023 NFCA National Freshman of the Year and Pac-12 Freshman of the Year, quickly earning national recognition for her power, poise, and precision in the circle. She went on to become a 2× NFCA All-American and the back-to-back NFCA Pitcher of the

Year in 2024 and 2025, an achievement that placed her among the all-time greats.

In 2025, Canady transferred to Texas Tech University, bringing her elite talent and leadership to the Big 12. Whether dominating in the circle or mentoring her teammates, Canady's impact is felt far beyond the stat sheet.

From her roots at the Alliance Fastpitch to the pinnacle of college softball, Nina Canady exemplifies what it means to rise through the ranks with grit, excellence, and purpose.

Teagan Kavan

Teagan Kavan's rise to the top of collegiate softball began with the Alliance Fastpitch, where she was recognized early on as an All-Star with elite-level talent and composure beyond her years. That foundation paved the way for one of the most decorated seasons in recent NCAA history.

As a standout pitcher for the University of Texas, Teagan helped lead the Longhorns to the 2025 National Championship, anchoring the team's success with dominant outings throughout the postseason. Her performance in Oklahoma City earned her the ultimate honor: Most Outstanding Player of the Women's College World Series, a testament to her poise, power, and presence on the sport's biggest stage.



In addition to national recognition, Teagan was named an NFCA All-American in 2025, further solidifying her place among the game's elite. With a fierce competitive edge and unwavering focus, she continues to represent the very best of what the Alliance Fastpitch develops: leaders, competitors, and champions.

From her beginnings as an Alliance All-Star to becoming the face of college softball's biggest moment, Teagan Kavan has proven she's built for greatness.



Alumni Player Spotlights



Bri Ellis

Bri Ellis's softball journey began as an Alliance Fastpitch All-Star, and her path since has been nothing short of remarkable. Known for her explosive bat and commanding presence at the plate, Bri quickly became one of the most feared hitters in college softball. She began her collegiate career at Auburn University, where she earned SEC Freshman of the Year honors in 2022 and made a name for herself as a top national talent. Later transferring to the University of Arkansas, she continued her dominance in the SEC, earning All-SEC honors and national recognition for her leadership and power hitting.

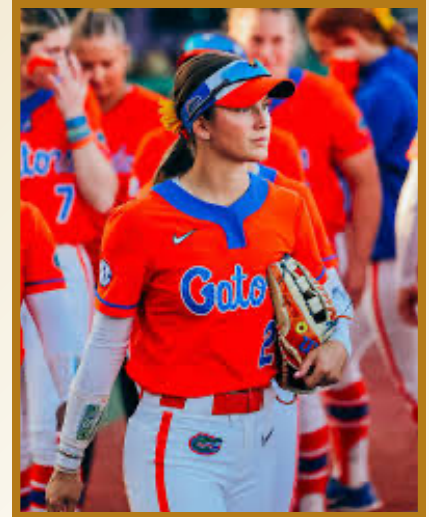
In 2025, Bri capped off her collegiate career by being named the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year, one of the highest honors in the sport. That same year, she was also named an NFCA All-American, cementing her place among the game's elite. Now playing professionally, Bri Ellis serves as a shining example of what it means to grow through the Alliance Fastpitch system—fueled by talent, built through hard work, and defined by excellence.

Taylor Shumaker

Taylor Shumaker is a shining example of what it means to rise through the ranks of the Alliance Fastpitch system and make a national impact. A graduate of the OC Batbusters Stith program, Shumaker helped lead her team to an Alliance Fastpitch National Championship in 2023 and earned Alliance Fastpitch All-Star honors in 2024. Her dominance continued at the collegiate level, where she made an immediate splash as a freshman outfielder for the University of Florida. In her debut season, Shumaker was named the 2025 NFCA Division I Freshman of the Year, as well as Softball America's Freshman of the Year.

She posted eye-popping stats, including a .389 batting average, 22 home runs, and 86 RBIs—tying for the national lead.

Taylor's journey from Alliance Fastpitch standout to collegiate star is a testament to her work ethic, talent, and the strength of the developmental pipeline she came through.



American Team Introductions



#0 Allysa Parker

Allysa is a standout senior from Aces Fastpitch KC, committed to play softball at the University of Oklahoma, where she plans to major in Health and Exercise Science with aspirations of becoming a physician's assistant. A true leader on and off the field, she is the valedictorian of her class, Class President, Prom Queen, a member of the National Honor Society, and Vice President of Student Council.



#2 Lexi McDaniel

This Aces Fastpitch KC standout is committed to the University of Oklahoma, where she plans to major in sports business with the goal of becoming a sports agent. A National Honor Society Secretary and Community Engagement Award recipient, she also excelled in All-Conference basketball. Off the field, she's passionate about her faith, inspired by players like Tiare Jennings. She hopes to be remembered as someone who encouraged others and stood firm in her values.



#3 Natalie Cable

Natalie, a standout from East Cobb Bullets is headed to UCLA, where she will major in biochemistry and pursue a career as a cardiothoracic surgeon. A member of the National Spanish, English, and Science Honor Societies, she balances her academic excellence with a love for high-level competition. Raised in a military family, she's lived in five different states, experiences that shaped her resilience and adaptability. She hopes to be a role model that younger athletes can look up to.



#6 Melody Acevedo

This confident and smooth middle infielder from FC Select 18U is committed to the University of Washington, drawn to the program's unmatched energy and family-like culture. Melody plays with heart, energy, and joy, much like her role model, Sis Bates. Some of her favorite memories come from hotel stays and bonding with teammates, proving it's the little moments that matter most to Melody.

American Team Introductions



#7 Kaiya Fabela

A catcher from Impact Gold Jackson 18U, Kaiya is committed to Brigham Young University, where she plans to major in psychology and pursue a career as a school psychologist. A member of the National Honor Society and Green Cord Club, she's as dedicated in the classroom as she is behind the plate. The multi-sport athlete also carries a black belt in tae kwon do.



#10 Charley Butler

A pitcher for Tampa Mustangs Rene, she is committed to Auburn University, where she plans to major in sports psychology and become a mental health coach. Taught by her mom, Heather Butler—a 2x All-American and 2-time national champion at UCLA—she's been shaped by a strong softball legacy, including an aunt with 3 national titles and a brother currently playing for the Seattle Mariners.



#11 Marley Teasley

A shortstop representing Sluggers Huecker, Marley is committed to the University of Washington, where she plans to major in Pre-Physical Therapy. Marley is a National Honor Society member and her school's Female Athlete of the Year. She helped lead her high school to its first-ever state championship, pitching throughout the tournament despite not being a regular pitcher, and holds the Oklahoma single-season home run record.



#11 Allie Thomsen

Allie, a high-energy infielder from Al Bandits Breer, is committed to the University of Washington, her dream school. Inspired by her cousin Bailey Stenson, a former Husky and national champion, she plays with positivity and heart. She's excited to help the Huskies chase another national championship, just like her cousin did. One of her favorite softball memories is winning back-to-back state titles with her high school team and lifelong friends.

American Team Introductions



#12 Ava Zachary

Ava is committed to play softball at the University of Notre Dame, where she will major in Business with a focus in Strategic Management. A product of Indiana Magic Gold 18U Green, she thrives against elite national competition through Alliance Fastpitch. Her leadership, grit, and love for the game were on full display when she helped her team win a state championship as a sophomore, one of her most memorable softball moments to date.



#12 Gabrielle Gradishar

This pitcher is committed to play softball at Penn State University, where she plans to major in Kinesiology and pursue a career in physical therapy. Ranked in the top 10 of her class and a RAD Grad honoree, Gabby brings relentless effort to both sides of the game. A proud product of Thunder Elite Premier Steiner, Gabby credits her softball journey with taking her across the country and helping her grow through adversity, including a full ACL recovery.



#12 Alexa Riddel

Alexa is an outfielder committed to play softball at the University of Kentucky, where she plans to major in marketing. A key competitor for Unity Slezak, Alexa credits her mom, who played for The Ohio State University, as her biggest role model and the reason she fell in love with the game. Whether it's walk-off home runs in Colorado or long road trips with her team, Alexa cherishes every moment on the field.



#14 Rylie Holder

Rylie, a powerful pitcher known for her intensity and composure on the mound, is committed to play at The University of Arizona. Representing Impact Gold Jackson 18U, Rylie has earned honors like Academic All-District and is a member of National Honor Society. Off the field, Rylie proudly wears a size 13 men's shoe. Backed by a strong athletic family, she hopes to one day coach college softball and leave behind a legacy as a leader.

American Team Introductions



#15 Abigail Byrd

Abigail is a poised pitcher known for her command and composure. She is committed to Northern Kentucky University, where she plans to major in Exercise Science and pursue a career in physical therapy. A member of the Louisville Lady Sluggers and the National Honor Society, Abigail models her pitching after Greg Maddux, aiming to keep hitters off balance through smart execution.



#16 Sidney Forrester

Sidney, an outfielder known for her mental toughness, is committed to the University of Missouri, where she will major in Business. A graduate with honors and distinction, National Honor Society member, and Homecoming Queen, Sidney brings both leadership and energy to the field. Inspired by her hitting coach and teammates like Kinsey Fiedler from Aces Fastpitch KC, she focuses on becoming the best version of herself each game.



#22 Kai Minor

Kai, a speedy and versatile outfielder, is headed to the University of Oklahoma, where she'll major in Biochemistry with plans to become a dermatologist. Named Female Athlete of the Year, Kai is known for her relaxed but relentless approach to the game. A product of the OC Batbusters, she values the late-night tournament wins and the bonds formed with teammates she's played alongside since 8th grade.



#22 Bri Alejandre

Bri, a middle infielder, is committed to UCLA, where she plans to major in Psychology to become a sports psychologist. She grew up playing baseball with boys until age 11 and made the full transition to softball at 12—something she now calls the best decision she's ever made. Known for her love of competition and team-first mindset, Bri hopes to inspire future generations by sharing the values that have shaped her journey as a member of the Corona Angels Tyson organization.

American Team Introductions



#24 Jaycie Nichols

Jaycie is a corner infielder committed to The University of Texas at Austin, where she plans to major in Exercise Science with the goal of becoming a physical therapist assistant. A 10-time state champion across multiple sports, she's a 2x long jump state champion, 2x basketball state runner-up, class valedictorian, and a 1500-point scorer in basketball.



#25 Addyson Sheppard

Addyson is a middle infielder headed to Stanford University, where she plans to major in Human Biology and pursue a career as a team physician in pro sports. A power hitter and versatile athlete, Addyson is inspired by Lauren Chamberlain. Off the field, she's a member of the National Honor Society and was voted Most Athletic and Most Well Rounded in her school.



#32 Saylor Timmerman

Saylor is a pitcher committed to the University of Arkansas, where she plans to major in Sport Management with dreams of becoming an SEC athletic director. A member of the U-18 Women's National Team, one of her most memorable moments was playing in the U-18 World Cup Stage Event. She hopes to one day represent Team USA in the Olympics.



#41 Alyssa Hopkins

Alyssa is a catcher committed to George Mason University, where she will major in Sports Management. A Female Athlete of the Year and National Honor Society member, Alyssa brings passion, leadership, and resilience to the field. Despite a five-year medical battle that nearly ended her playing days, Alyssa never gave up on softball, choosing to fight through pain and setbacks to chase her dream. Alyssa was part of her high school's first-ever state championship.

National Team Introductions



#2 Taryn Ho

Taryn hails from Hawaii and is headed to the University of Oregon to study Accounting and chase her dream of winning a national championship. A consistent Honor Roll student and standout athlete, Taryn's softball journey was inspired by her older brother and fueled by her admiration for players like Sis Bates and Hawaii's own Nelly McEnroe-Marinas. Taryn is proud to have represented her home state at the Little League World Series.



#3 MaTaia Lawson

MaTaia, a lethal lefty with speed, is bringing her game to the University of Texas at Austin, where she plans to major in Business or Social Work and dreams of launching her own clothing line. A product of Iowa Premier, her goal is to inspire younger players to stay the course, have fun, and never forget the joy in the game.



#6 Mackenzy Glenn

Mackenzy, a passionate and intense outfielder from Colorado, is set to bring her drive and energy to the University of Tulsa, where she plans to study Nursing or Sports Medicine with dreams of becoming a Labor & Delivery Nurse or Collegiate Athletic Trainer. A product of Batbusters National Smith, Mackenzy has built a reputation as a hard-working, composed leader who plays with fierce intention and joy.



#6 Makenna Sturgis

Makenna, a fast and focused shortstop from Florida, is headed to Florida State University, where she'll study Sports Management with a minor in Business. A member of the Tampa Mustangs – Rene and a two-time state champion in flag football at Alonso High School, Makenna is no stranger to high-pressure moments and leadership, serving as both Junior and Senior Class President and participating in NHS, Rho Kappa, and Blue Crew.

National Team Introductions



#6 Zayda Rocke

Catcher Zayda will continue her academic and athletic career at the University of Maryland. Zayda is not a stranger to running, accumulating four straight softball state titles. Zayda models her game after Kinzie Hansen, combining strong leadership behind the plate with clutch power at the plate. Zayda says that her biggest asset is her unshakable belief in herself.



#13 Mikayla Watts

Mikayla “Miki” is a catcher with Texas Bombers Gold American 18U and future Ragin’ Cajun at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. A 4.0 student, multiple-time javelin champion, and Beta Club member, Miki blends academic excellence with electric on-field presence. Known for her quickness, smooth technique, and leadership behind the plate, she lives for comeback wins and draws strength from her sister’s miraculous recovery after a life-threatening brain injury.



#13 Hannah Wells

Hannah is a pitcher committed to the University of Texas. The hometown hero is a two-time Texas State Champion known for her leadership, competitiveness, and spin mastery inspired by Cat Osterman. Nicknamed “Wellsy” by teammates, she’s a homecoming queen, standout student, and passionate baker who values family, faith, and fun.



#20 LaTerra Foster-Frison

LaTerra, a speedy shortstop headed to Michigan State University, plays with fearless passion and pride passed down from her mom and grandma—both former shortstops who introduced her to the game at age five. A standout leader off the field as a Media Manager and Senior Class Officer, she models her dynamic style after players like McKenzie Clark and Janae Jefferson, bringing intensity and impact to every play.

National Team Introductions



#21 Avery Layton

Avery, a pitcher from Indiana Magic Gold 18U Green, is committed to Virginia Tech, where she plans to major in Exercise Science and pursue a career as a Pediatric Occupational Therapist. A member of the National Honor Society, Avery models her game after Rachel Garcia, striving to stay composed and positive in the circle, even during tough outings.



#21 Brinkley Moreton

Brinkley, a standout two-way player headed to Mississippi State University, brings a fast-paced presence in the circle and a disciplined approach at the plate. The DECA President and Female Athlete of the Year from a beef cattle farm family has made her mark on the field with Iowa Premier 18U National Dickel/James, helping her team to back-to-back Alliance Elite 8 appearances and capturing a national title in Des Moines with her 12U squad.



#22 Elsa Morrison

Catcher Elsa will pack her bags for the University of Tennessee in the fall, bringing championship pedigree and academic excellence to the field while pursuing an Industrial Engineering degree. A 2024 Alliance National Champion with the Texas Bombers and a standout volleyball player (1st Team All-State, Server of the Year), Elsa is a true student of the game who prides herself on her competitiveness and high softball IQ.



#22 Lexie Hames

Right-handed pitcher Lexie will be wearing orange and blue at Clemson University after a standout travel ball career with Fury Platinum x 18U. A recipient of the Sherman Award and future Business Finance major, Lexie chose Clemson for its family-like culture, elite coaching, and academic support. Beyond the field, she's an advocate for female empowerment in sports, having led youth camps and spoken on mental health and authenticity.

National Team Introductions



#23 Isabel Cruz

Isabel 'Izzy' is an infielder who is set to continue her softball journey at the University of Utah. A Texas Bombers Gold standout and former "Female Athlete Most Likely to Go Pro," Izzy's love for the game was shaped early playing for her dad, and she now trains under Olympian Cat Osterman. Despite an ACL reconstruction, Izzy made a powerful comeback and helped lead her team to an Alliance Championship.



#30 Khamari Hall

Khamari will be taking her talents to the University of Arkansas, where she'll pursue a degree in biology with dreams of becoming a dermatologist. A four-year superintendent scholar and National Honor Society member, the outfielder has proven she can shine both on the field and in the classroom. One of her proudest memories includes winning the USA All American Games at Hall of Fame Stadium.



#32 Scarlett Kuhn

Scarlett is headed north to the University of Minnesota where she'll major in finance and entrepreneurship with hopes of becoming a business owner. A member of the National Honor Society, the middle infielder brings a calm, composed energy to the field, taking inspiration from elite defenders like Sis Bates. Representing Texas Glory 18U, Scarlett cherishes moments like team dinners and deep playoff runs, including a trip to the Elite 8.



#34 Tru Medina

Tru, a shortstop for VA Glory National Gagliardi 2025, balances fierce competition with a lighthearted and passionate spirit on and off the field. Committed to Northwestern University for its strong academics and welcoming atmosphere, she plans to study psychology and pursue a career as a sports psychologist. Known for her hardworking attitude and infectious smile, Tru is proud to represent her Chicago roots and hopes to leave a legacy of joy and dedication.

National Team Introductions



#44 Ci'ella Pickett

Ci'ella is a confident and gritty athlete from the Corona Angels who is set to bring her elite-level versatility and passion to Louisiana State University (LSU), where she'll study criminology or psychology with a focus on forensics. A four-year honor roll student and homecoming queen, Ci'ella draws inspiration from legends like Shay Knighten and Mia Scott, striving to deliver in big moments while being a consistent offensive threat.



#44 Kailey Plumlee

Kailey, the 2024 Gatorade Player of the Year and 2023 Miss Softball, is a dynamic competitor headed to the University of Tennessee to study Kinesiology with dreams of becoming a sports chiropractor. A proud product of Fury Platinum, Kailey built her game on passion, speed, and mental toughness.



#66 Sarah Breaux

Sarah, an infielder representing Fury Platinum 18U, is taking her talents to Clemson University, where she'll pursue Health Sciences. A top student in a class of 600 and inspired by legends like Lauren Haeger, Bri Ellis, and Jocelyn Alo, Sarah brings energy, aggression, and leadership to every game. Her small-town roots in Miami Springs, where she first tasted victory at ESPN's Wide World of Sports, shaped a relentless work ethic.



#77 Hailey Nutter

Hailey is a pitcher from Texas Bombers Gold who is signed to the University of Kentucky to continue her journey. Inspired by Cat Osterman's grit and guided early on by her parents, Hailey blends fun and competitiveness on the field, earning a National Honor Society spot along the way. Her proudest moment was winning the 2024 national championship, sealed with a team hug she'll never forget.

Darby Myers is the Honorary Captain

On the first weekend of July, Darby Myers stood in line at Dunkin' Donuts, dressed in her Louisville Sluggers- Dorman softball uniform and ready for a tournament. A woman approached her and asked, "Do you actually play softball?" Darby smiled and said yes. Not only does she play, but she's also committed to continuing her academic and athletic career at the collegiate level.

The woman, a mother, was visibly moved. "If you can do it, I know my daughter can too," she told Myers.

As a softball player myself, I have never been approached in public and admired for my bravery, but Myers is different.

For the last 14 years, Myers has played softball, and excelled, with one arm, defying expectations and redefining what's possible in the sport.

Myers was born with a fused elbow. According to the National Institutes of Health, a fused elbow, or congenital radioulnar synostosis, is a rare condition where two bones in the forearm are unusually fused together near the elbow joint.

In Myers' case, she is significantly restricted in her ability to pronate or supinate her left arm. Limited rotation can hinder the performance of everyday tasks, such as eating, turning a doorknob and playing sports.

Despite of the odds, Myers is a standout outfielder, first baseman and lefty power hitter—all with one hand.

Myers has a reputation for rising above challenges. Her relentless spirit has earned her the honor of being named the honorary game captain for the 2025 Alliance All-Star game.

The Early Years

Her story did not begin with a mission to defy odds. It began with a glove, a bat and a group of friends in a small Philadelphia neighborhood where softball was simply part of growing up.

"I always felt like this is what I was meant to do," Myers said.

Once she moved on from her neighborhood team, Myers became part of the Mystics Dorman travel softball team under coach Adam Dorman, for whom she has great appreciation.

Darby Myers is the Honorary Captain

"I am so thankful to (Coach Dorman) for giving me the opportunity to play and seeing past my disadvantage," Myers said. "He treated me just like all the other girls and made me feel at home."

At this time, Myers sought out athletes that could relate to her and give her advice on efficient techniques to adopt, such as the fastest way to the glove off her hand and throw the ball. Most notably, Myers developed a relationship with Jim Abbott, former professional baseball pitcher who was known for being born without a right hand.

Rising Above Doubt

Like many athletes, Myers faced her share of slumps, particularly when it came to hitting for power, which she noted can be especially challenging with one hand. Still, she never thought about walking away from the game. Softball had given her so much, and she felt a deep responsibility to keep pushing forward.

"Softball has taught me so many life lessons," Myers said. "Since I played softball, I knew I could do other things too. I can drive a car, and I have a job as a waitress. I can do anything because at such an early age softball instilled that mindset that can't means won't."

That mindset carried Myers through a successful high school softball career at Merion Mercy Academy. In her final season, she was honored as the league's Most Valuable Player.

Her story does not end there. Myers will continue her academic and softball career this fall at Holy Family University, an NCAA Division II institution in Philadelphia. Myers will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

At Holy Family University, Myers hopes to use her platform as a collegiate athlete to inspire the next generation of athletes.

"It does not matter what kind of disadvantage or disability you have," Myers said. "You can always adapt and overcome it. Everything is possible if you have your mind towards something."

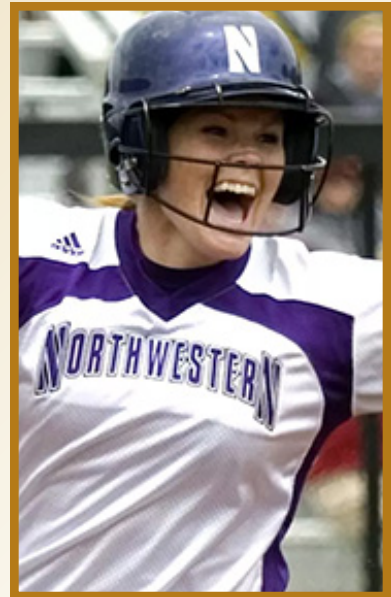
You can catch Myers at the Alliance All-Star game, presented by EvoShield, on July 20 at 6:00 p.m. ET. The game will be held at Kokomo High School in Kokomo, Indiana. For those that cannot make it in person, the game will be aired on ESPN+.

American Team Coaches

Head Coach: Tammy Williams

Tammy Kay Williams brings a legacy of excellence, leadership, and championship experience to the field as Head Coach. A four-time collegiate All-American and four-time professional All-Star, Coach Williams is one of the most decorated athletes in the history of Northwestern softball. From 2006 to 2009, she dominated at shortstop, setting all-time career records in batting average, home runs, hits, and total bases. Her impact was instrumental in leading the Wildcats to a national runner-up finish at the 2006 Women's College World Series.

Following her collegiate success, Williams was selected 10th overall in the 2009 NPF Draft by the Chicago Bandits, where she went on to win two Cowles Cup championships in 2011 and 2015. She also represented Team USA, showcasing her elite skills on the international stage.



ATHLETESGOLIVE



American Team Coaches

Assistant Coach: Ashley Burkhardt

Ashley Burkhardt brings elite-level experience and a competitive edge to the coaching staff. A standout infielder at Purdue University from 2012 to 2015, Burkhardt earned three consecutive All-Region honors from the National Fastpitch Coaches Association, solidifying her place among the top collegiate players in the country. Her exceptional performance on the field led to her selection by the Dallas Charge in the National Pro Fastpitch (NPF) Draft, where she continued to compete at the highest level of the sport.



Assistant Coach: Taylor Shumaker

Taylor Shumaker brings explosive talent and championship-level experience to the coaching staff. A dynamic outfielder for the University of Florida, Shumaker was named the 2025 NFCA Division I Freshman of the Year, after being a part of the 2024 Alliance All-Star team. During her breakout season, she started all 63 games and posted staggering numbers: a .389 batting average, 22 home runs, and 86 RBIs—tied for the national lead. She also recorded 17 doubles, 72 runs scored, and 18 stolen bases, with an .818 slugging percentage and a .490 on-base clip.

Shumaker's accolades include All-SEC First Team, NFCA All-Region, multiple Freshman of the Week honors, and recognition as a finalist for USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year.

Her impact on the game is undeniable, and she now brings that same energy, insight, and leadership to her coaching role—ready to inspire and elevate the next generation of athletes.



American Team Coaches

Assistant Coach: Parker Zbaraschuk

Parker Zbaraschuk is a Centralia, Washington native whose softball journey began with a dream she wrote on her bedroom mirror at age 12: "Play big ball." A record-breaking athlete at Centralia High School and former Razorback at the University of Arkansas, Parker has turned that dream into a mission to uplift the next generation of fastpitch athletes.

Alongside her wife, Rylleigh, a former University of Washington standout, Parker co-founded The Yard PNW, a growing hub for elite camps, clinics, and tournaments in the Pacific Northwest. Her passion lies in creating year-round opportunities for athletes in underserved regions, especially in Lewis County, where she grew up.

Now serving as an assistant coach for the Alliance All-Star Game, Parker brings not only elite playing experience but also a deep commitment to mentorship, equity, and community-building in the sport.



[Press here to find out more about The Yard PNW, co-founded by Coach Parker!](#)



LOUISVILLE®



National Coaches

Head Coach: Carol Bruggeman



Carol Bruggeman is a trailblazer in the world of softball, bringing decades of elite coaching experience, leadership, and advocacy to the game. A former standout infielder at the University of Iowa, Bruggeman was a four-time letter winner, earning All-Big Ten, All-Mideast Region, and Academic All-American honors. Her passion for the sport led her from the field to the dugout, where she built a remarkable coaching career spanning over 700 victories.

Bruggeman began her coaching journey as a graduate assistant at Iowa before serving as an assistant coach at Michigan. In 1994, she made history by launching the Purdue softball program

from the ground up. She later joined the University of Louisville, where she helped guide the team to nine consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances from 2006 to 2014. She also coached internationally with USA Athletes International in the Czech Republic and Australia.

After stepping away from coaching in 2014, Bruggeman became the Executive Director of the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA), where she continues to shape the future of the sport through education, advocacy, and innovation. She's also a respected softball analyst for the Big Ten Network and ESPN.

A 2022 inductee into the NFCA Hall of Fame, Bruggeman is not only a coach but a mentor, speaker, and visionary leader dedicated to growing the game and empowering the next generation of athletes.



National Coaches



Assistant Coach: Rylleigh Zbaraschuk

A former standout at the University of Washington, Rylleigh Zbaraschuk was part of the Huskies' nationally ranked softball program that reached as high as No. 2 in the NCAA Division I rankings and advanced to the Super Regionals in 2014.

Today, Rylleigh is a driving force behind the growth of youth fastpitch in the Pacific Northwest. She is the co-founder of The Yard PNW (along with her

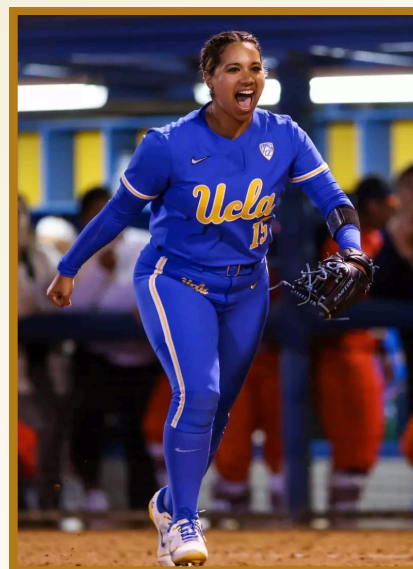
wife), an organization dedicated to creating elite-level camps, clinics, and tournaments for athletes of all backgrounds. She also serves as the Director of the Northwest Futures Fastpitch League, helping expand access to high-quality training and competition for young players across the region.

As an assistant coach for the Alliance All-Star Game and a leader of the AFCS Youth Camp, Rylleigh brings a passion for mentorship, development, and building community through the game.

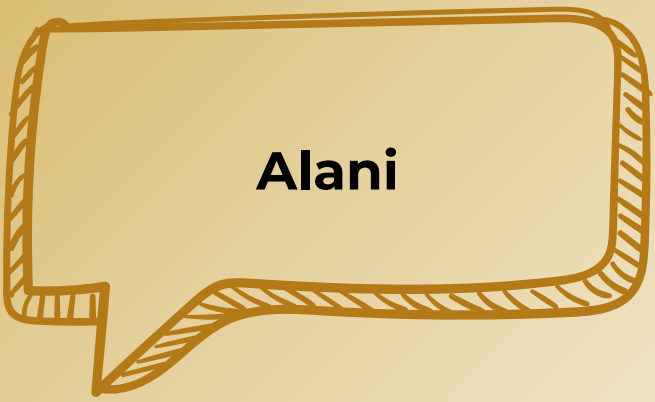
Assistant Coach: Jordan Woolery

Jordan Woolery is one of the most dynamic young talents in college softball. A two-time NFCA All-American and the 2023 Pac-12 Freshman of the Year, Woolery has made a major impact at UCLA. In 2025, Woolery earned the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Top 10 Finalist recognition. Known for her power at the plate and consistency in the field, she boasts a career .353 batting average, 20 home runs, and a .988 fielding percentage.

As an assistant coach for the Alliance All-Star Game, Jordan brings elite-level experience, a deep understanding of the game, and a passion for helping the next generation of athletes rise to the occasion.



We asked our All-Stars which brands they dream of partnering with, and these were the top picks!



Alani



Nike



Liquid IV



Lululemon



All-Star Advice to Young Athletes

You play softball for nobody other than yourself! Don't let the opinions of those around you take away the fun of the game.

-Addyson Sheppard

Trust the process even if it's hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

-Kai Minor



All-Star Advice to Young Athletes

Don't let the failures defeat and define you!

-Sidney Forrester

Don't get discouraged with bad outcome. This is a game of failure and it's impossible to be perfect. Always take meaningful reps instead of just going through the motions.

-Elsa Morrison



More Than Athletes

Being an All-Star goes beyond softball! Check out these awesome off-the-field honors:

National Honor Society Members

15

Homecoming Queens

4

Valedictorians

2

Prom Queen

1

Long Jump State Champion

1



Alliance Fastpitch Supports the Natasha Watley Foundation



Mission:

To support underserved youth through softball

About the Foundation:

The Natasha Watley Foundation (NWF) is a mission driven nonprofit that champions young girls from historically marginalized communities by exposing them to the game of softball. Natasha, a softball olympian and four time All-American and national champion from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), founded the nonprofit in 2009. She has since served more than 8,000 girls throughout the Southern California region.

For more information on Natasha and the impact NWF has had, please visit <https://natashawatleyfoundation.org>



SportsRecruits



How You Can Support the Natasha Watley Foundation



Support the Natasha Watley Foundation (NWF)

Your donation helps empower the next generation of softball athletes!

All proceeds go toward:

- 👉 Geri Ann Glasco Memorial Scholarship
- 👉 Alliance x NWF Scholarships
- 👉 Apparel and Equipment for Future Alliance Athletes

Donate Today

Donate via Venmo: @nwfoundation29

OR scan the QR code



The Alliance will match a portion of donations!



INJURE FREE



Geri Ann Glasco Home Run Derby

The Geri Ann Glasco Scholarship, established in partnership with the NWF and the Glasco family, was created to honor the legacy of Geri Ann Glasco, a former collegiate softball player and rising coach who tragically passed away in 2019.

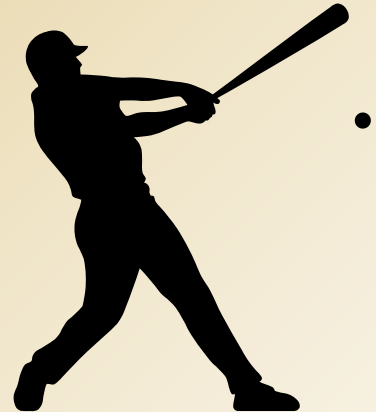
Geri Ann Glasco Home Run Derby

This is held annually at the AFCS to honor Geri Ann Glasco's legacy.

🏆 18U vs. 16U Final Round Showdown

💰 Pledge per Home Run

🏆 Winner receives a bat donated by Jerry Glasco



Supporting NWF at AFCS

💧 Dunk Tank – Pay to dunk your favorite coach or player!

🗣️ Coach Skills Challenge – Nominate a coach to compete in:

- Throwing
- Running
- Home Run Derby

Nominate a Coach Here



Streaming and Contact Information



To watch the All-Star game, visit ESPN+



Follow us on Instagram @thealliancefastpitch



Follow us on X, formally known as Twitter @thealliancefastpitch

