My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  and I have the pleasure of coaching your girls this season for softball along with\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   We are looking forward to this Spring Softball Season.

Our season will officially start after spring break and expect around 2-3 practices/week as soon as we know the schedule, I’ll get that to you. Of course, feel free to get those gloves out and start practicing a bit in the yard on the nicer day. The girls will definitely need to be practicing at home this year also.

We are asking the girls to complete this short survey to let us know their favorite positions, other positions, candy, and favorite drills, if you can send/share it with them.

[https://forms.gle/YNRCPS5TeB66DrYD9](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://forms.gle/YNRCPS5TeB66DrYD9%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349952011%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw3z299vC7bSdwsK9-FuWvG6&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349964816&usg=AOvVaw3alpk134qMQTdEvtrRs0Vx)

A couple of things for the season:

* **We will be using the**[**Game Changer App**](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://gc.com/home/download%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349952874%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw3v_SxYxQyMH27sQ7ly0HJZ&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349965151&usg=AOvVaw20vqN61CeNVbBaCzsnb3nt)**-** You should have gotten an invite today. You can download on Apple and Android, all of our communication will go through there. I'll be using this for all of our games/practices/etc and you can let me know if you are going to miss a game.  This will be our primary way to communicate during the season, so I'll send messages there as well.   Feel free to invite any other relatives to join in on the app. It helps for them to know when games are moved or rescheduled.
* [**Team Coordinator:**](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.canva.com/design/DAF_s-JxUeA/iXxsgg-NkTwsFr9zU5Jtyw/view?utm_content%253DDAF_s-JxUeA%2526utm_campaign%253Ddesignshare%2526utm_medium%253Dlink%2526utm_source%253Deditor%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349953453%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw1WL-rsbRVQMlvSuIq1wx-t&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349965315&usg=AOvVaw38TQyNtXmAcXJt8el47Kn3) Our team is looking for a Team Coordinator this season, please let me know if you are interested. See the link for details.
* **Face Masks –** Highly recommended and required for pitchers.
* **Gloves**– Make sure their gloves are broken in and they can squeeze them.  We play with an 12 inch ball for Juniors, 11 inch ball for Majors,
* **Bat**– everyone should have a bat that meets [regulations here](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.littleleague.org/help-center/does-my-bat-meet-the-softball-bat-standards/%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349954385%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw3RgWmaGX0S7RYrVvYeYdng&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349965522&usg=AOvVaw0JzJnvui8fJdbo755ZjbNL)
* **Pitchers – should be practicing daily.**  Here’s [some drills](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.softball-spot.com/softball-pitching-drills/%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349954988%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw3T_RUHumHBA6zagtMFTHpj&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349965652&usg=AOvVaw2qZbpd-ooupcnl42hSC4YX), but YouTube of course has millions of drills too to help.
* Pitchers mound is 43ft from home in Juniors, so practice with this distance
* You can get [some foam softballs](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.amazon.com/Avesfer-Practice-Baseballs-Softballs-Training/dp/B07CK15327/ref%253Dsr_1_5?crid%253D2KBG1QQOUG2XH%2526keywords%253Dfoam%252Bsoftballs%2526qid%253D1678718407%2526s%253Dsporting-goods%2526sprefix%253Dfoam%252Bsoftballs%25252Csporting%25252C133%2526sr%253D1-5%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349955778%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw03-RhJNBGE8s6jL93rX8yA&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349965830&usg=AOvVaw2YMhGay5IXwnIcHA49x7xg) to practice inside against a wall
* **Catchers –** also a crucial position for us as we have been stealing.  Every ball that goes past our catcher is a run/steal.  So catchers should also be practicing outside of practice.

Another fun thing to do at home are these [WebGloves](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.amazon.com/MaxBP-WebGlove-2-Pack-Training-Glove/dp/B0B7KM513H/?_encoding%253DUTF8%2526pd_rd_w%253DFcl1T%2526content-id%253Damzn1.sym.bc5f3394-3b4c-4031-8ac0-18107ac75816%2526pf_rd_p%253Dbc5f3394-3b4c-4031-8ac0-18107ac75816%2526pf_rd_r%253DZYAD7HQPF3RBDD3VG743%2526pd_rd_wg%253DebhsE%2526pd_rd_r%253Df142324e-d5b3-4732-b002-acccb0f84fbb%2526ref_%253Dpd_gw_ci_mcx_mr_hp_atf_m%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349956662%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw0vt327NCYdRN5x9b8mswb0&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349966046&usg=AOvVaw3pRpjGadswtxMi7n9BdaKK). We recently purchased these and I swear it’s helping all of us with our catching and it’s truly so fun.  We all look forward to playing it.  It helps with understanding that the ball should be caught with the web of the glove and how to properly turn your glove.  Highly recommend!!

**Deadlines/Upcoming Events:**

* [Spirit wear is on sale until 3/24](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://dangelosdesigns.square.site/%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349957301%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw3afzQow9fpjAJTeokDYdYY&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349966228&usg=AOvVaw0fzAOkxjKsat8gED55-drw)!  Get your orders in!
* Chick Fil A Fundraiser (Team Dinner) - March 21st
* [NIU Softball Game](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHUFVv0zM4Aj5z4e60Vu6Zy7MfhRw5t0BhiL0nmX3jProufA/viewform?fbclid%253DIwAR1mgx7LDBODVS_0rL-sxKz6s4diNJlYtSZ3FMTqncitycKPELemPilSSL0%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349957921%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw2pE2TKe82GCpESNayi8qve&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349966387&usg=AOvVaw2YNgDMdieabqGBOFurPDIU)- March 30th at 1PM
* [**Future Rockets Day at Rocket Hill - April 6 9am**](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.facebook.com/events/1828077094300249%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349958365%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw07rXzocKLPRk1RfuVDj-EX&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349966493&usg=AOvVaw02pg9JCYEGvyUCh-RBBeRo)
* Field Days will be held March 30, April 6, April 7 f you are around please think about coming out and helping get our field ready**-**[**More info is on our Facebook page**](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.facebook.com/CDGS301%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349958836%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw0grNjF-4q6-Kt9UH_FTsmH&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349966600&usg=AOvVaw1skt21j5orHhck0d2qHONs)
* [**Opening Day is April 22**](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.google.com/url?q%3Dhttps://www.facebook.com/CDGS301%26amp;sa%3DD%26amp;source%3Deditors%26amp;ust%3D1710957349959213%26amp;usg%3DAOvVaw3tBqjxxywdtt1EzEAZlRKD&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1710957349966687&usg=AOvVaw3bRhIoDQCAlhH8Do7yMxmi)
* CDGS Kick Off Event - May 4th
* Picture Day - May 13 & 14
* Old Republic Fundraiser (Team Dinner) - May 21st
* Home Run Derby - July 14th

I’m looking forward to a great season with an awesome group of hard-working softball players!

If you ever have any questions, feel free to message me