



Outfit a New 6U or 8U Player for Softball

Basic equipment needed:

- 1) **10" – 11" Fielding glove maximum.** Glove size is noted on inside of glove. These division plays with a 10" softball so the glove needs to be able to fit around the ball. Try to get a glove that is pigskin leather as it more pliable than a synthetic leather glove or plastic glove that you can find at discount stores. Buy a glove that fits, not one that is big to grow into. Keeping a ball in her glove will help the glove keep its shape and not become a flat glove while it is stored in her equipment bag.
- 2) **Batters helmet with a NOCSAE approved faceguard.** Both the helmet and facemask need to a NOCSAE stamp on them to be sure the helmet and faceguard are safe enough to protect a player. The helmet should be easy to get on and off with the facemask and fit snugly on your daughter's head. It should not wobble on their head.
- 3) **Softball or soccer molded cleats should be worn.** Make sure any cleats fit.
- 4) **At the 6U division, Tball bats are fine.** These will not have the ASA Softball stamp on them. **Typical bat length for the 6U division is 24 – 26" long.** Your daughter's height controls the length of the bat. Cost should be \$25-\$50. Get a size that fits her now.

For the 8U division, bat lengths may be anywhere from 24-28" long depending on your daughter's height. Cost of the bats should be in the \$25 - \$75. There is no need to buy a composite bat costing \$250 or higher for an 8u player as this division plays with a restricted flight safety ball.

- 5) **Fielders masks are mandatory for the 6U and 8U divisions.** Try to find a Schutt or Rip it steel fielders mask rather than a plastic mask for visibility and comfort.
- 6) **Smaller Batpacks** are very practical for the 6U and 8U players to carry their equipment in rather than a wheeled bag.

Optional equipment:

- 1) Batting gloves. Make sure to try them on to make sure they fit your daughter's hand with no wrinkles in the palm and the tips of the gloves are close to the end of your fingers.
- 2) Sliding shorts or compression shorts should be worn for the 8U division players.
- 3) Sliding knee pads.

ALWAYS keep in mind that the equipment should fit her now and not too big for her. We want her to enjoy playing softball.