



Tips and Tricks for Managers and Team Parents

Dugout Management

Responsibility

- Your team parent should be the one taking charge of managing your dugout. This will allow your coaches and manager to get the girls warmed up before the game, and where they need to be on the field and at bat.

Roster organization options

- Pocket chart - Put each girl's name on a card and set batting order top to bottom. Use a small clip to put positions next to each girl's name. This is an inexpensive option found on Amazon, but you can also find these at teacher supply stores. <https://a.co/d/6hqIwPO>
- Dry erase lineup clipboard - Fill in batting order and positions. This is a nice option for those players who need the visual reminder where each position is. These can be found at Amazon or sporting goods stores. <https://a.co/d/773vkaV>

Bench organization

- Get a container for each girl. The laundry baskets or trash cans from Dollar Tree are a great low cost option. Put the player's name/ number on each one. At the beginning of each game, set the baskets on the bench to mark the players spot. Match the order of their seat to the batting order, so the first girl who bats sits closest to the entrance to the field. As each girl arrives they move the baskets underneath their spot. All the players gear goes into their basket - glove, helmet, batting gloves, water bottle, etc.
- Hang bags above the bench above the girls' seats. This leaves the fence to the field open so the girls on the bench can watch the game.

Gear

- We highly recommend putting each girl's name on their visor - either with puff paint, or if you have a parent with a cricut or embroidery machine that's even better. Visors without names will get mixed up and lost.
- As soon as it's your team's turn to bat, every girl should have her helmet on. This will ensure the game moves as quickly as it can.
- Once players come in from batting, the helmet comes off and goes back in the basket, and the visor goes on.
- As soon as your catcher comes in from batting, put their gear on. It takes longer than you think, and this will also ensure that the teams aren't waiting on your catcher to get ready.
- Bats should stay on the bat holder or with coaches. Girls should not have bats in the dugout unless they are headed out to the field to hit. This will remove the temptation for them to swing them around and possibly have someone get hurt.

Cheers

- There are lots of fun positive cheers out there. Youtube is a great resource, or you can search for some printed versions online and print out the words for each girl to practice at home.

Reminder

- Just as a reminder, only players and members of the coaching staff are allowed in the dugout. All other parents and siblings need to stay outside of the dugout.

Other Things to Consider

Snack Calendar

- Each team can decide amongst themselves whether they want to do do snacks or not. If your team decides they want to, I would suggest assigning each family one game to provide snack. They typically consist of a drink, some sort of crackers/chips/fruit/ maybe a sweet.
- We recommend asking at the beginning of the season if there are any food allergies on the team that need to be considered. If you have a severe allergy kiddo, snacks might not be the best option for your team.

Team Socks/Bows

- Bows can be ordered on Amazon- you might have a parent add numbers with a Cricut. Some teams have also done DIY ponytail holders with ribbon.
- Socks can be found from a ton of online vendors, or even Party City or the Dollar store, depending on your team's color or theme. Epic Sports has very inexpensive options.
<https://www.epicsports.com>

Team Banners/Pennants

- Teams have liked pennants because that way the girls can take them home at the end of the season. They like to sign them like yearbooks at the end of season party. A known vendor is <https://fasteambanners.com> but there are many options out there, including local vendors.

Trophies

- Many teams have ordered trophies from Wilson's - they are inexpensive and usually have a quick turnaround time. They are also local in Sacramento, so they do offer in-store pickup instead of shipping. <https://www.wilsontrophy.com/>
- As the girls get oldre, the more they want something like a sweatshirt or water bottle instead of a trophy, but the little girls absolutely love the trophies.