

WA Ladyhawks 14U Premier - Matlick

COACHES: Austyn Matlick, Jess Kuhn, Jeff Matlick, Emily Martinez
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Our Team:

The WA Ladyhawks 14u Premier team aims to be one of the top regional teams while competing at the national level.

- As a program, we break down the game of softball into teachable pieces; from the mechanics of the game to the situational awareness athletes face in competition and game readiness. The coaching staff will prepare our players to compete at the highest level by building on fundamentals with the advanced skills needed to do so.
- Our players are expected to be committed to being student athletes. That means that academics are just as important as softball skills.
- We will assist them in being recruited to a college that fits their personal goals both on the field and in the classroom. This includes how to contact college coaches and promote themselves. It is our responsibility to provide opportunities for each athlete to be seen by college coaches across the country.
- Be a good representative of the Ladyhawks. Respect each other, respect the coaching staff, respect the game. Be a role model to our younger players. Play the game with heart and enthusiasm.

Who We're Looking For:

We want athletes with the drive to play at the highest level and who want to get themselves in front of college coaches. Our players will be dedicated to their craft and are the type to always ask for the extra rep. Players will compete, talons out, for what they want but celebrate the success of those around them just as they would their own. "I get better when WE get better." #YEAHHAWKS

All positions will be considered to help foster an "iron sharpens iron championship mentality" and training style. Surrounding yourself with like minded athletes is a proven way to elevate your own skill and knowledge growth.

Schedule:

We have an aggressive schedule planned, playing a mix of 14A and 16u tournaments both locally and out-of-state. We are planning to play four (4) tournaments in the fall. The fall tournaments will be the PNW New Team Invite (WA,) a local TBD (WA,) Triple Crown Ronald McDonald (TX,) and the PGF Early Thanksgiving Showcase (CA.) We will resume tournament play after the conclusion of the High School season. This plan currently consists of six or seven (6/7) tournaments including Triple Crown Valley Invite (OR,) IDT or Triple Crown Sparkler (CO,) PGF Premier 14u Nationals (CA.) Other local tournaments will be finalized at a later date when the schedule for 2026 is posted.

Meet the Head Coach - Austyn Matlick

We are excited to announce Austyn Matlick as the Head Coach of the Ladyhawks 14u Premier team for the 25-26 season. She has over a decade of coaching experience, having worked with players 8u through the collegiate level. In addition

to coaching, Austyn grew up playing for local softball organizations that competed at the national level. She wrapped up her club career with a top 25 finish at the PGF 18U Platinum National Championship. She continued her playing career at the DII level at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, CA. With Art U, she was part of the only team in program history to make the NCAA Regional tournament in 2018. Additionally, Austyn was recognized as a NFCA Academic All American her Senior year.

Coach Austyn will work with players on all aspects of the game. She specializes in coaching pitchers, catchers, hitters, and the corner infield positions. A power hitter at the plate, she brings a strong understanding of how to maximize a hitters' ability to drive the ball. She also leads our classroom sessions, putting a heavy emphasis on the mental side of the game. This includes situational defense and hitting knowledge along with how to start or continue the recruiting process.

Meet the Coaching Staff

Our coaching staff has a proven track record of developing players both skill and softball IQ.

- Assistant Coach Jess Kuhn attended Indiana Institute of Technology (NAIA) where she pursued her Electrical Engineering Degree while competing on the softball team as a catcher and utility player for the Warriors. She will primarily work with our catchers but also assists with infield and hitting training. Jess brings over 5 years of coaching experience, across both the club and high school levels. Coach Jess has been an integral part of Coach Austyn's staff for the past several seasons.
- Assistant Coach Jeff Matlick has been coaching baseball and softball for almost 40 years. Jeff played baseball for Michigan State (DI) before stepping

away due to the increasing demand of his Software Engineering Degree. A true lefty, he brings a wealth of knowledge and speed to our team. Jeff's primary focus is to work with our first baseman and outfielders. He will also be working with the baserunners as we push an aggressive baserunning mindset. In addition to this, Coach Jeff will be helping to incorporate the Austin Wasserman High Level Throwing program into our practices.

- Assistant Coach Emily Martinez competed at the 18G level as a middle infielder and outfielder before entering Montana State University - Billings (DII) where she was part of the Yellowjackets program. Emily is pursuing her Pharmaceutical Tech Degree. As a coach, her main focus areas are working with the middle infielders and outfielder positions. She also assists with our hitting training by providing a contact hitters approach for the players who specialize in that category. Coach Em will continue her coaching career by following Coach Austyn to the Ladyhawks.
- We will also be welcoming Darick Cailing, who ran track at the collegiate level, as a trainer this season. He will be providing speed and agility training as well as conditioning workouts to our athletes.