

# SOFTBALL

## At *Denver Lutheran High School*

Denver Lutheran High School is part of the Metropolitan (Metro) league. There are only six schools that have softball programs, so we have included four teams from the Frontier League to play in our league, which makes our league the right size with 10 teams. We are a Class 3A school which means schools with enrollments of 585 and smaller play softball in this class. Denver Lutheran is one of the smallest schools in this classification, however, each of the last two years Softball has been seeded for the State Softball tournament in the top tier of teams (12<sup>th</sup> in 07, and 14<sup>th</sup> this year).

With only nine league games we have 10 non-league games each year. This gives us an opportunity to play other top 3A schools and some 4A schools that are not afraid to play a 3A team. This past season we played 4A Englewood, Golden and Skyview. This type of schedule also gives us a chance to travel outside the Front Range. These overnight trips are a welcome change for our team and provide us with some enjoyable times both on and off the field.

The Metro league is also home to some of the most powerful and most well respected Softball programs in the State regardless of classification. It is not unusual to see our league rivals, Holy Family and Faith Christian, with a roster full of the top players in the State. Again, these are top players in the state regardless of classification.

In the last five years Denver Lutheran has had 6 players continue their playing career and go on to college and play softball. So much for the myth that 3A players don't get the same exposure as players in the bigger schools.

### SOFTBALL Last 10 Years History

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Head Coach</u>	<u>Asst. Coach</u>
2007	16-7	Joe Garmatz	Stan McKinster & Dave VanOtterloo
2006	11-9	Joe Garmatz	Stan McKinster
2005	5-13	Joe Garmatz	Stan McKinster
2004	3-15	Joe Garmatz	Phil Beekman & Sean Trueax
2003	19-2	Joe Garmatz	Phil Beekman
2002	14-4	Joe Garmatz	Phil Beekman
2001	12-7	Joe Garmatz	Phil Beekman
2000	15-6	Joe Garmatz	Don Aspegren
1999	8-8	Joe Garmatz	Don Aspegren
1996	11-9	Nick Tarabocchia	Glenda Rhodes



**Prayer is a big part of our Program**

*If you need to contact our head Coach feel free to call Joe Garmatz anytime or send an email using the numbers below.*

*303-274-6760 (evening-weekend/home)*

*303-909-0084 (all other/cell)*

*[jjgarmatz@msn.com](mailto:jjgarmatz@msn.com) (home e-mail)*

**YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR WEB PAGE ON  
THE DENVER LUTHERAN WEB SITE & LOOK  
UNDER ATHLETICS**

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### **What do other coaches think about Softball at DLHS.....**

*"Lutheran High School runs a top notch softball program that has stability and the support of the facility, administration and the Lutheran High School Community. The coaching staff is second to none they are very knowledgeable and will teach you to compete with integrity and sportsmanship. Their student athletes always come first. We are always invited to pray with them after a game of tough competition not as competitors but as friends and family."* **Glen Ramos, Head Coach, Holy Family High School**

### **What do present players think about Softball at DLHS.....**

*"I was nervous at first that I had made the wrong decision to play softball, but once I started playing and getting to know the players and coaches, all those butterflies went away I love this team, and program. You have fun, yet you're serious enough to win games."* **Liz Mashburn, Senior**

*"To me softball is about family. It's about the joy of the team, the fun of the competition, and the love of the game".* **Susan Bland, Senior**

### **What do Alumni of Lutheran High think about Softball at DLHS.....**

*"I cannot say enough positive things about the softball program at DLHS. The leadership I was under and the lessons I learned from my time on the team have so strongly influenced who I am right now, and will continue to for the rest of my life. The laughs, the tears, the victories, the heartbreaking losses; my best memories from high school are all directly wrapped up with the friendships I had on the team and the relationships with my coaches. I am very thankful for the opportunity God blessed me with to be a part of something so special. It doesn't matter who you are or where you are coming from- you have something unique to give AND receive from the softball program at DLHS."* **Jessie Hock, Class of 2007**

*"I am glad I chose to play softball at DLHS. The camaraderie among the team is a bond that will last a lifetime and memories I will cherish forever."* **Elyse Cattau, Class of 2007**

*I learned so much from DLHS softball it is hard to focus on just one. As a teacher, the stories I share with my students almost always relate back to my time as a "Lady Light" softball player. I will keep these memories close to my heart forever.* **Melissa Cattau, Class of 2000**

### **What do Teachers at Lutheran High think about Softball at DLHS.....**

*"The softball team is such a blast to watch. They have so much fun together and are a fantastic team. They are going to do great at State!"* **Mark Hollenbeck, Art Teacher**

*"The players and coaches for our softball team truly represent what it means to be a Christian competitor- they play with great attitude, passion, and effort, and it is always evident that they have a lot of fun doing it."* **Ryan Bredow Teacher/Coach**

### **What do parents of former players at Lutheran High think about Softball at DLHS.....**

*"DLHS softball was a wonderful blessing for our daughter. When Shayla started at DLHS, it was the softball team that supported her as she adjusted to the new school. We found that the softball team really supports and encourages each other. Under the skilled leadership of a fine coaching staff, Shayla went from being a 98-pound bench-warmer to starting in the Colorado High School Softball All-State Game. Coach Joe and his staff always put the girl's needs first, which means academics are more important than sports. He means it, our daughter graduated with Honors. As parents, the best thing about the Lutheran Softball program was that our daughter learned the most important lessons in life while playing on the team: trust in God, work hard, respect others, the value of teamwork, the importance of perseverance, and knowing she's capable of far more than what she once believed was possible."* **Marlyce and Dave Bowdish**

*"The experience was GREAT. The DLHS softball team/parents are a very close knit group which made it easy to watch and participate at the games".* **Diane L. Abeyta**