The purpose of this short guide is to prepare you and your child for the AGSL Player Skills Evaluation (PEG) session and help put them at ease if they’ve never been through the PEG process before.

Most importantly, HAVE FUN!

Who must attend

All players in age groups 10u, 12u and 14u that did not play AGSL softball last Spring, or will be moving up an age bracket since last Spring, or will not be returning to the same team they played on last Spring.

What to bring

Each player should bring their fielder's mitt, not a catcher's mitt or first baseman's mitt! Bats are optional, and will be provided if a player doesn’t bring their own. If a player has her own batting helmet they can bring that, too, otherwise one will be provided.

What to wear

Dress the same as you would for softball practice: sneakers (NO CLEATS!), tee shirt or sweatshirt, softball pants, sweatpants, or shorts.  Leave the jewelry behind.

How it works

For each age group (10u; 12u; 14u), the players will be evaluated in softball skills. The players are rotated through Fielding (a few ground balls; a couple of fly balls) and Hitting (5 swings) stations. Those players who want to be pitchers or catchers will also go through a short Pitching & Catching station.

Coaches from the different age groups will rate the girls on their various skills; and the evaluations will be consolidated for the individual coaches to use in the upcoming team drafts.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Under no circumstances will any AGSL board member, evaluator, or coach reveal the ratings or ranking of any individual player.  So please don't ask!!!

Batting - Each player is given 5 swings in the batting cage against medium speed pitching.  They are evaluated based on how well they swing the bat and their technique (swing mechanics), how well they hit the ball (contact).

Fielding - Each player will be hit three ground balls and thrown two pop flies.  While the player's success in catching the ball is factored in, the evaluators are mainly looking at the player's form, technique, and footwork (fielding mechanics). They are also assigned a throwing rating, which includes their throwing mechanics and accuracy.

Pitching/Catching - For those players who want to pitch or catch, we will match pitchers with catchers according to their stated ability. Pitchers will be given two warm up pitches, and then 5 pitches; throwing to assigned catchers.

Pitchers will be evaluated on their pitching technique, how hard they throw (velocity), and how accurately they hit the strike zone (control).

Catchers will be evaluated on their catching technique, ability to catch the pitches, and how well they throw back to the pitcher.

WE CAN'T STRESS THIS ENOUGH:  The evaluation ratings will not be shared with any player or parent (other than managers), so please don't ask!!!

How to make a good impression on the coaches

1. If at all possible, show up at the time designated for you.  We understand conflicts happen, but if late, coaches may wonder whether your child will be on time for practice.  Coaches love players who arrive on time!
2. Follow the directions of the volunteer running the drill station.  Coaches also love players who listen and follow directions!
3. Have your child come prepared and dressed appropriately.  Nothing screams, "Rookie!" like showing up to a PEG in jeans and a flannel shirt, or going through the fielding station with a catcher's mitt!
4. Practice, practice, practice!  Most players put the bat and glove away after the World Series ended and won't take it out again until PEG’s.  Mistake!  Get out there the weekend before and take some light batting practice and throw the ball around, no matter how cold it is.  Or visit a batting cage.  Shake the rust off so when PEG’s come the coaches will see "the real you".
5. Most importantly, HAVE FUN!  Let the coaches see what a great kid you are and how much you love the game.  SMILE!  RUN to and from your position at the fielding station.  If you make a mistake, shake it off, grit your teeth, and give it another try.  Make it clear you love the game and you're ready to learn.  Most coaches would rather have a player with average skills and a great attitude than a player with very good skills and a poor attitude.

Have fun; see you at the skills evaluations!