

# CONNECTICUT RAIDERS 20-21

## 18U

Rising 10<sup>th</sup> grade – Rising College Freshman with 18U eligibility

Connecticut Raiders 18U is a team fully committed to preparing its players for life and **possibly** softball at the collegiate level and beyond. Our coaching staff takes the development of our players seriously and provides the best softball education/experience around. Connecticut Raiders 18U plays a full Fall, Winter, and Summer schedule to ensure our roster of dedicated high school softball players get the training and exposure needed to succeed at the highest level of their choosing. 18U players have the talent to play softball at the highest level, regardless of their desire to.

## GOLD

Rising 10<sup>th</sup> grade – Rising College Freshman with 18U eligibility

Connecticut Raiders Gold is a team fully committed to preparing its players for life and softball **at** the collegiate level and beyond. Our coaching staff takes the development of our players seriously and provides the best softball education/experience around. Connecticut Raiders Gold plays a full Fall, Winter, and Summer schedule to ensure our roster of dedicated high school softball players get the training and exposure needed to play at the collegiate level. If your player can answer yes to the following questions, then Gold may be for them – Do you have an unwavering dedication to playing softball in college? Does your passion for the game match your commitment to becoming the best softball player you can be? Do you have a winning attitude and a team first mindset? Do you routinely work on your own, outside of practice, to refine your craft and improve as a player?

## 16U

Rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Rising 11<sup>th</sup> grade

Connecticut Raiders 16U is fully committed to preparing its players to compete at the high school varsity level and introducing its players to the college recruitment process. Players' commitment to the process of becoming the best softball player than can be is unmatched, as is their love and passion for their team and the game. Playing softball in college is now a realistic goal.

## 14U

Rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade and Rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade

14U is where players learn to play like a Raider. The coaching staff is committed to teaching its players what to expect and how to play the game of softball at the highest level. Players must have a love and passion for the game, a commitment to becoming the best softball player they can be and have a team first mindset. Players at this age may not know if they can or want to play in college but should have an interest.

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## FAQ

- **WHO ARE THE CONNECTICUT RAIDERS?**

*Connecticut Raiders is non-profit fastpitch softball organization dedicated to preparing young women to play softball at the highest level while also preparing them for success in life outside of the game. We pride ourselves on teaching the value of hard work, commitment to team and creating a strong softball family where players hold themselves accountable. For our college-bound players, our focus on recruiting promotes and facilitates finding the best academic fit where they can also play softball. Not the other way around.*

- **WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 18U GOLD AND 18U?**

*Our Gold and 18U teams are not separated by talent, but by desire/commitment to playing softball at the next level. Age can also be a factor. If you – 1) Are highly competitive and love the game and your teammates, but are unsure, or don't want to play in college, 2) Work hard at practice, but can't/don't put as much softball work in your own time due to desire, conflicts with multiple sports or work, etc., and/or 3) Are a talented younger player still learning the game, then 18U is the right fit.*

- **WHAT AGE BRACKET SHOULD MY CHILD REGISTER FOR?**

*Rule of thumb is that players should be playing against the level of competition they hope to compete against after the summer. (Ex. A highly competitive rising Freshman should look to play 16U so they are competing against HS varsity players in the summer going into their Sophomore year.)*