RECRUITING INFORMATION

Haverford College offers one of the finest liberal arts educations in the world and attracts bright and dedicated students from nearly every state and 40 foreign countries. Located just eight miles from the vibrant city of Philadelphia, life at Haverford is campus-centered and the community is close-knit. Haverford provides a rigorous and intensely personal undergraduate education and also features a broad-based athletic program with teams regularly contending for conference championships and competing at the NCAA Division III national championships. As an athlete at Haverford, you can compete and challenge yourself at the highest level without sacrificing your identity as a student, scholar, or community member.

For details about the admission process, interviews, and campus tours, visit haverford.edu/admission.

HaverfordSoftball.com

Haerford Athletics

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PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Haverford College softball program creates an athletic experience that reflects the College’s competitive, challenging, and rewarding academic curriculum. With excellence as our intent, hard work complemented by universal teamwork and care for others is at the core of our identity. Using Haverford’s community principles of trust, concern, and respect as our compass, the foundation of our culture is built on open and honest communication with the acceptance and mindfulness of differences.

Our program emphasizes the intellectual, physical, and personal development of each student-athlete as a communal effort. Consequently, we strongly believe that the framework of our program contributes holistically to her growth. It is important that every student-athlete feel great about the continuation of her softball career at Haverford. Therefore, we are committed to producing collaboratively the experience that each athlete identifies and seeks during her tenure.

At Haverford, we play an extremely fun, aggressive style of softball while competing against top quality teams across the country. We are confident that maximizing our strength of schedule prepares us to compete for a conference championship every season and ultimately to achieve athletic excellence.

For more information about Haverford softball, please contact:

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2018 Season

Haverford advanced to the Centennial Conference Championship Game for the third time in five seasons.

- The Fords posted a 14 win improvement under first-year head coach Kate Poppe
- Julia Blake ’19 and Temma Levis ’20 were named All-Centennial Conference performers
- Jessica Koshinski ’18 was selected to the Centennial Conference All-Sportsmanship Team
- Six student-athletes were named to the Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll

Team Honors

- Centennial Conference Championships: 2006, ’14, ’16
- NCAA Regional Championship: 2016—defeated No. 1 and No. 2 teams in entire country to advance to first NCAA Super Regional before losing decisive game three to national runner-up Messiah.
- NCAA Regional Finalists: 2014, ’16
- Centennial Conference Player of the Year: Nora Spriggs ’06
- Centennial Conference Rookie of the Year: Jessica Koshinski ’18
- 54 Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll selections in the last eight years.
- 54 All-Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll selections in last 11 years.
COACH PROFILE

Kate Poppe
Head Softball Coach

Kate Poppe is in her second season as head coach of the Haverford College softball team. During her first season leading the Fords, Poppe guided the team to the Centennial Conference Championship game. Haverford finished with a 21-12 record, a 14 win improvement from the previous season. A standout student-athlete at nearby Villanova, Poppe brought coaching experience from previous stints at Providence College and Rider University.

“I am so excited to become a part of the Haverford College community. I can tell Haverford is a special place and its values align well with my own,” said Poppe at the time of her hiring. “I look forward to taking Haverford softball to the next level on and off the field.”

Before her season at Providence, Poppe spent a year as an assistant coach at Rider University, where she worked with pitchers, hitters, and infielders. One area in which the Broncs saw huge improvements was in their pitching staff, which nearly doubled its strikeout-to-walk ratio from 0.63 to 1.13 in Poppe’s first season. Rider was honored with the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) All-Academic Team award that season while 10 student-athletes were named to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll.

Poppe’s coaching career followed a standout playing career as a student-athlete at Villanova University. A two-year team captain, she broke Villanova’s career record with 977 strikeouts and finished with a 2.52 ERA. Named the Big East Pitcher of the Year and an NFCA All-Mideast Region selection in 2016, Poppe was a three-time All-Big East selection and tossed five no-hitters throughout her playing career. She was also recognized on the Big East All-Academic Team during each of her four seasons.

Poppe graduated with a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Villanova’s School of Business in 2016, earning Cum Laude honors, while minoring in business analytics and entrepreneurship. During her time at Villanova, she was also a member of the Wildcats’ Athletic Leadership Institute.

Getting her start in coaching while a student-athlete at Villanova, Poppe coached the Pennsbury Gems U18 Gold team from 2014-16. She has also worked as a coach/counselor at College Coaches Skills Camps, Diamond Nation, and Headfirst Camps.

FACILITIES

• Class of 1995 Field
  Located in the heart of the College’s Arboretum, Haverford offers the premier softball facility in the Centennial Conference

• Douglas B. Gardner ’83 Integrated Athletic Center
  $40 million, state-of-the-art indoor facility
  - Am ’76 and Nancy Tellem Fitness Center:
    - 7,200 square-foot state-of-the-art weight room
    - Conference Room with video analysis capabilities

• Alumni Field House
  Indoor practice and hitting facilities

• Swan Field
  FieldTurf surface with lights for preseason and inclement weather practices

“Haverford Softball has given me the opportunity to continue playing the game I love, while getting an exceptional education. Being a student-athlete at Haverford has enabled me to grow as a person, a player, and a teammate. I have made lifelong friends on this team and have learned a lot about myself. I have experienced what hard work, grit, leadership and commitment truly mean.”

—Rachel Wolfson ’19