

RANDY YATES MEMORIAL FIREBIRDS SCHOLARSHIP

NVGSA will issue a \$500 scholarship to a former Firebirds player in memory of Coach Randy Yates. The scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior who plays (or played) with the Firebirds at the 16U or 18U level. To apply, please complete the following application and return it to info@firebirdsfp.com. The deadline for this year's application is May 15, 2019.



About Coach Yates:

Coach Yates had an illustrious career with NVGSA, the Firebirds, South County High School, and the SYA Xplosion. His players went on to play everywhere from college to the pros. He was so proud of his players and always tried to deflect any credit for their development. He epitomized the spirit of sportsmanship.

Coach Yates had more than 15 years of competitive coaching experience at both the high school and travel levels. Coach Yates was the Associate Head Coach at South County High School from 2005-2017, helping guide them to 7 District titles, 2 Regional titles, and a State championship in 2014. Coach Yates also coached the very successful '97 Firebirds to 19 tournament victories, including a VA ASA State Championship, USSSA State Championship, a top 5 (out of 55 teams) finish at an NSA World Series in Orlando, and a Pony Nationals Runner-up finish. Coach Yates was an experienced and respected instructor in the softball community and took teams to tournaments in Italy. He was the recipient of a Fairfax County Champion of Character Award, awarded annually to only 9 youth coaches, in any sport, who demonstrate the highest levels of character and sportsmanship.

Coach Yates continued to give back to the Firebirds in recent years, serving as an advisor to the club and helping our players improve. He was a friend and a mentor to many in the club. The entire NVGSA community, from the Firebirds through the Dimensions to our house program, is better today because of Coach Yates. Coach Yates passed away in December 2017.

Scholarship Eligibility:

Applicants must:

1. Be a high school senior graduating in 2019.
2. Be planning to attend college (4-year or 2-year) beginning no later than 2020. Applicants do not have to plan to play softball in college.
3. Be a current or former Firebird at the 16U and/or 18U level.
4. Submit a completed application, by May 15, 2019, to firebirdsfp@gmail.com.

Scholarship Criteria:

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of current Firebirds coaches and the NVGSA Vice President for Travel. Applicants' parents are not eligible to vote. The panel will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

1. Exemplified excellence in keeping with Randy's values of hard work, leadership and character;
2. Years of association with the Firebirds;
3. Quality of the essay response;
4. Academic achievement; and
5. Community involvement.

RANDY YATES MEMORIAL FIREBIRDS SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION

Please submit the completed application, along with a copy of your most recent report card, to firebirdsf@gmail.com no later than May 15, 2019.

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	

High School:	
College Attending:	

Most Recent Firebirds Team:	
Number of Years Playing for the Firebirds:	

Briefly describe any volunteer and community engagement you've participated in during the last two years:

In no more than 250 words, what does it mean to you to be a Firebird?