

Kelly Gardner Fast Pitch Softball Bio

Kelly Gardner, a Stamford, Connecticut native, has an extensive background in fast pitch softball, she has excelled on the mound since the age of 12, helping the Stamford Babe Ruth team earn a National Title in '94 and '96 and named MVP of the '96 National Championship team. She went on to Westhill high school where she helped the Vikings win back to back FCIAC Championships with an ERA of .04 on the mound and a Rieling percentage of .960. She was named All Conference, All Region and All State 3 years in a row. Kelly was named News Channel 12 Scholar Athlete, Knights of Columbus Scholar Athlete and North Stamford Exchange Club Scholar Athlete.

After graduating from Westhill with honors she went to DI Stetson University her freshman year then transferred to DII Lynn University where she received a full scholarship to pitch. Kelly broke 3 LU records; lowest ERA, 7 consecutive shutouts, and most wins. She was named National Collegiate Athletic Association NCAA 2nd team All Sunshine State Conference. Kelly graduated cum-laude from LU with a degree in International Business.

After college Kelly continued her softball career playing professionally in Sweden, France, Austria and The Netherlands. She was voted best pitcher in Sweden in '05 with an ERA of .03 and a record of 33-0. In Vienna, Austria she was head coach and player and voted best pitcher in the league with an ERA of 0.78. In The Netherlands Kelly promoted her team up to a higher division and also coached the clubs 3 junior teams. She had an ERA of 1.10 and batting average of .331.

Kelly has a true passion for softball and for teaching, she has over 12 years of experience as a softball instructor of private lessons, operating camps and clinics and coaching everywhere she has played.

Primary Position: Pitcher
Secondary Positions: 1b, Outfield, 2b

Highschool: Westhill High School, Stamford CT
University: Stetson, DeLand FL + Lynn University, Boca Raton FL

European Professional Season: Sweden, France, Austria & The Netherlands
3 time National Champion US + Sweden

Age 12 through High School, Highlights, Stamford Connecticut

1994
12U Babe Ruth National Champions, Stamford All-Stars. Pitcher

1994
Kelly featured in Sports Illustrated 'Faces in the Crowd'

1996
13-15 Year olds Babe Ruth National Champions, Stamford All-Stars. Pitcher Most Valuable Player

1997-2000

Westhill High School
Team captain 1999 & 2000
F.C.I.A.C Champions, MVP 1998 & 1999
ERA overall .04 1997-2000
Fielding percentage .960

1998-2000

3 year All-State, 1st Team All-Conference & All-Region
Connecticut High School Senior All Star MVP 2000

2000

Graduated with Honors from Westhill High School, G.P.A 3.6
News Channel 12 Scholar Athlete
Knights of Columbus Scholar Athlete
North Stamford Exchange Club Scholar Athlete

2001

Chosen Miss A.S.A 18 & Under at A.S.A National Qualifiers,
in Florida

1995-2006

Successful summer travel team seasons for CT Charmers,
CT Chaos and CT Classics* (*junior club for The Stratford
Brakettes women's professional softball team)

College Career Highlights

2000-2001

Stetson University, DeLand Florida, Division I
Freshman year, pitched 1 full game against
University of Hawaii (highly ranked in NCAA &
20-5 at home) lost in Hawaii, 1-0, on an
unearned run.

2001-2004

Lynn University, Boca Raton Florida, Division II
Broke 3 Lynn University records
1) Lowest ERA 1.03
2) Most consecutive shutouts (7 games)
3) Most wins
National Collegiate Athletic Association
(N.C.A.A) Sunshine State Conference pitcher
selection
N.C.A.A Second team All Sunshine State
Conference
Member of S.A.A.C (Student Athlete Advisory
Committee)

2004

Graduated Cum Laude Lynn University, B.A.
International Business G.P.A 3.8
Member of Sigma Beta Delta International
Business Honors fraternity

Post College, European Professional Career, Highlights

2005

Nälsta, Bulldogs (Stockholm, Sweden)

Swedish National Champions. Team Record: 33-0

Voted best pitcher in Sweden, ERA 0.03

Champions of '2005 International Fast-pitch Tournament' (in Amersfoort, The Netherlands),

defeating the US for the championship.

2006

Nice, Cavigal Softball Club (Nice, France)

Pitcher/shortstop/outfielder, helped team placed 5th in European Championships

A-Cup (a

few Olympians were competing in this tournament)

2008

Vienna Mosquitoes (Vienna, Austria) Head Coach and Player

Played Pitcher & Short Stop simultaneously Coached (with no assistant coach, had a senior

player as third base coach during Kelly's at bats)

Improved team record and placement in the Austrian league to the top tier

Voted best pitcher, ERA 0.78

2010

Almere Softball Club (Almere, The Netherlands)

Promoted the team to 1st class as pitcher/short stop

ERA 1.10, Batting average .331

Assistant coach for the clubs 3 junior teams

Private pitching lessons to the junior clubs pitchers

2011 + 2012

Amsterdam Pirates (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

2 successful seasons, pitching

Top class Netherlands Softball

Invited to play on All-Star team against The Netherlands Olympic Team

Coach / Instructor / Umpire

1999-2014

Connecticut, Florida, New York, Sweden, France, Austria & The Netherlands private lessons and clinics

2003-2007

Personally organized and directed summer softball camps in Stamford, CT for over 50 girls

2004-2007

I.S.T (Integrated Sports Training CT) Head Softball Instructor year round, including winter clinics and summer camps

Certified as an A.S.A and Babe Ruth Softball Umpire.