

# 2025 DONOR GUIDE





## WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND

#### WHAT IS THE WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND?

The Weisbecker Athletic Fund generates financial support for 450+ Illinois State University studentathletes with a responsibility to facilitate, promote, and enhance academic and athletic experiences. The Weisbecker Athletic Fund takes great pride in connecting Redbird alumni, friends, and community members to Illinois State Athletics, all in an effort to further advance the student-athlete experience.

#### **BREAKDOWN OF WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND**

#### **REDBIRD ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The general scholarship fund for student-athletes at Illinois State University. Gifts to the Redbird Athletic Scholarship Fund, above and beyond seating requirements, will help support the \$4 million annual bill for the fully-funded scholarships of the athletic department.

#### **REDBIRD PRIORITY SEATING**

Redbird Priority Seating is any contribution associated with the

minimum seat requirement for a season ticket purchase to volleyball, football, men's basketball, and women's basketball. This contribution is not tax-deductible and may not count toward a matching gift program. This amount is subject to change yearly based on seating minimums and the number of tickets a donor purchases.

#### **MAJOR GIFTS**

Philanthropic gifts or commitments of \$25,000 or above (pledged over 1-5 years) constitutes a major gift. These investments can be designated toward capital projects, endowments, or coaches clubs. Major gifts help donors build a lasting legacy while ensuring continued success for future generations of Redbird student-athletes.

NOTE: Gifts made to specific campaigns will no longer count towards your WAF Membership levels.







#### **ABOUT THE BATTLE BIRD**

The Battle Bird is a prominent part of ISU Athletics and is a tradition that lives on during each home athletic competition. The touching of the Battle Bird ceremony signifies a dedication to Illinois State and a common bond to the school's other student-athletes, past and present. This society will be the backbone of enhancing the student-athlete experience and elevating our programs to new heights.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

- Promote a culture of athletic and academic excellence
- Compete for championships
- Enhance relationships with our alumni, students, fans, partners, and donors
- Grow our resources through external relationships and private giving
- Prepare our student-athletes for life after ISU

#### **AREAS OF IMPACT**

- Capital Projects
- Facility Enhancements
- Team Travel
- Health and Nutrition
- Coaches and Staff Retention

#### **FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**

Donors to the society can provide gifts of at least \$5,000 annually, which can reoccur each year for up to five years (Ex. \$5,000 pledged over five years = \$25,000). Gifts occurring on an annual basis will allow us to provide additional resources for all sports. The funds can be used to support any departmental needs outside of scholarship support including but not limited to capital projects, coach and staff retention, team travel costs, and much more.

#### **EXCLUSIVE BATTLE BIRD SOCIETY BENEFITS**

To show our appreciation of your support, all Battle Bird Society members will have access to special benefits. These benefits are designed to strengthen your relationship with the department's leadership, coaches, and student-athletes.

- Two Battle Bird Society event invitations
  - Dine and socialize with our current administration, coaches, and student-athletes
- Battle Bird Society exclusive apparel
- WAF membership/benefits eligible (optional)
- Annual financial impact summary sheet (where dollars are being spent annually)



#### CONTRIBUTIONS

- Cash or Check: Please note that two separate payments are required for your donations and season tickets.
  - For donations and priority seat contributions, please make checks payable to the *ISU Foundation*.
  - For season tickets, parking and hospitality passes make checks payable to ISU Athletics.
- Credit Card: The Weisbecker Athletic Fund accepts American Express, Discover, MasterCard, and Visa.
- Online: Please visit www.GoRedbirds.com/tickets
- By mail: Weisbecker Athletic Fund

CEFCU Arena Campus Box 2660 Normal, IL 61790-2660

#### **MATCHING GIFTS**

As a contributor to ISU Athletics, you can increase your level of giving by combining your contribution with the matching funds of your employer. If your company will match gifts to ISU Athletics, please enclose your company's form with your contribution. Check with your employer to find out if they will match your donation to ISU Athletics.

#### **GIFT-IN-KIND**

Donated services or items (food and beverage, athletic equipment, printing, air travel, etc.) that would normally be purchased by the ISU Athletics Department are considered gifts-in-kind. Subject to approval and IRS regulations, the value of the contribution is credited to your annual giving level.

#### CAMPAIGNS

Facility improvement projects help us to continually enhance the Redbird student-athlete experience as well as help our coaches with their recruiting efforts. Campaigns focused on practice facilities, locker rooms, academic facilities, student-athlete wellness, and competition fields/courts are a crucial component to elevating ISU Athletics. During the 2024-25 athletic season, the Support Your Sport campaign raised \$207,019 on 1,039 individual gifts, and the Birds Give Back campaign raised \$63,712 on 241 indivudual gifts.

**NOTE:** Gifts made to specific campaigns will no longer count towards your WAF Membership levels.

#### **PLANNED GIVING**

Illinois State invites you to make a generational impact through thoughtful estate planning. An estate gift allows you to leave a legacy at Illinois State. Many planned gifts lead to substantial tax advantages and other unique benefits while still supporting Redbird student-athletes. Those who choose to include ISU in their estate plans will also become members of the University's Heritage Society.

#### TAX INFORMATION

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act legislation passed in December 2017 impacted contributions associated with tickets to college athletic events. This includes any contribution associated with season tickets or priority points, which are currently not tax-deductible. This information is not intended to be provided or should not be relied on for tax, legal or accounting advice. Please consult your tax advisor concerning the application of tax laws to your particular situation.



#### **REDBIRD POINTS**

The ISU Athletics priority point system - Redbird Points is intended to promote equality, generate support for Weisbecker Athletic Fund (WAF) members and rewards giving. This points system provides fairness for beginning, renewing, and increasing participation as an ISU Athletics donor and season ticket holder. Redbird Points allow for the objective allocation of benefits that exist, such as: season ticket location (additional seats, relocation of seats, and new seats), away game ticket allocations, and distribution of tickets to postseason events. Our Points system incapsulates the WAF and ISU Ticket Office.

This priority points system will organize WAF donors by their WAF membership level first, and their Redbird Priority Points total second.

#### **REDBIRD POINTS ALLOCATION FUNDS**

As a donor and season ticket holder, here are the funds that you can support and receive Redbird Points for in return: Redbird Athletic Scholarships, Redbird Priority Seating, coaches club, endowments, and capital projects.

#### WAYS TO EARN REDBIRD POINTS

#### ANNUAL

	1 POINT	<b>REDBIRD PRIORITY SEAT GIFTS</b> 1 REDBIRD POINT PER \$100				
	<b>1 POINT</b>	COACHES CLUB 1 REDBIRD POINT PER \$100				
	1 POINT	<b>PLANNED GIVING</b> 1 REDBIRD POINT PER \$500 IN PLANNED GIVING				
	<b>1 POINT</b>	<b>SEASON TICKETS</b> 1 REDBIRD POINT PER SEASON TICKET IN EACH REDBIRD TICKETED SPORT (FB, VB, MBB, AND WBB)				
	<b>3 POINTS</b>	<b>REDBIRD ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS</b> 3 REDBIRD POINTS PER \$100				
	<b>3 POINTS</b>	ENDOWMENTS 3 REDBIRD POINTS PER \$100				
	<b>3 POINTS</b>	<b>CAPITAL PROJECTS</b> 3 REDBIRD POINTS PER \$100				
ONE TIME ALLOCATION						



5 POINTS

5 REDBIRD POINTS AWARDED TO ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY GRADUATES FORMER STUDENT-ATHLETES IO REDBIRD POINTS AWARDED TO FORMER ISU STUDENT-ATHLETES

**NOTE:** Your points total will remain true and will not be zeroed out. We are simply combining the previous point systems (Raise the Banner and Redbird Points) into one.

Go You Redbinds DONOR BENEFITS CHART	<b>Hall of Fame</b> \$10,000	<b>All-American</b> \$7,500
Support the Success of Redbird Student-Athletes		
BBQ with the Birds Invitation		
Priority for Away Games and Post Season Tickets		
Recognition on WAF Website		
Quarterly Newsletter		
<b>FB Parking Pass</b> (Must be a FB season ticket holder to qualify) FB Donor Lots - F62, G83, F83, G64, F64		
MBB Parking Pass (Must be a MBB season ticket holder to qualify) MBB Donor Lots - Upper G82, Lower G82, F71, F61, G53		
WBB/VB Parking Pass (Must be a WBB or VB season ticket holder to qualify) WBB & VB Donor Lots - F62		
WAF Gift		
Weibring Golf Club Package (Access to Redbird Rate & 20% discount in Pro Shop)		
Aaron Leetch Club Access (Open to all FB season ticket holders at the presidential level and above)		
Meet the Redbirds Event Invitation		
FB & MBB Premium Parking Pass (Must be a season ticket holder to qualify) FB Premium Donor Lot - G73   MBB Premium Donor Lots - GOLD Lot & F62		
Legends Room Access* (Must be a MBB season ticket holder to qualify)	8	6
FB Sideline Passes for One Game (Available upon request, limited quantity, passes not guaranteed - max of 2 per WAF account)		
Football Travel Opportunity		

\* If you wish to obtain additional Legends Room passes above the number available at your giving level, you may purchase additional at \$200 per season long booklet

The number available to purchase may not exceed the number of season tickets in your account

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<b>LEGENDS</b> \$5,000	<b>champion</b> \$3,500	_ 8	<b>Presidential</b> \$1,500	<b>e</b> o	<b>Scholarship</b> \$500	<b>REDBIRD</b> \$250	<b>Walk-Dn</b> \$50
<b>Legen</b> \$5,000	<b>Cha</b> m \$3,500	<b>VIP</b> \$2,500	<b>PRESI</b> \$1,500	<b>MVP</b> \$750	\$500	<b>REDI</b> \$250	<b>WA</b> \$50
			<b>V</b>				
4	2						

WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND Go You Redbirds

### FOOTBALL SEATING & PARKING MAPS







WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND

Go You Redbirds



# MBB SEATING 8 PARKING MAPS

WEISBECKER Go You Redbirds

# VB/WBB SEATING & PARKING MAPS





\$150 RPS CONTRIBUTION + \$200 SEASON TICKET (\$350 PER SEAT)





**GENERAL ADMISSION SEASON TICKET** NO RPS CONTRIBUTION REQUIRED + \$65 SEASON TICKET (\$65 PER SEAT)

STUDENT SECTION

\*REDBIRD PRIORITY SEATING (RPS) CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS ARE PER SPORT





## **WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND & TICKET OFFICE STAFF**

WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND IS LOCATED AT THE NORTH ENTRANCE OF CEFCU ARENA, SUITE 206 ATHLETICS TICKET OPERATIONS IS LOCATED AT THE NORTH ENTRANCE OF CEFCU ARENA, SUITE 207 ATHLETICS TICKET SALES IS LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF HANCOCK STADIUM



**Dr. Jeri Beggs** Director of Athletics



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Kate Heyl Director of Ticket Operations e: skheyl@ilstu.edu



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#### **CONNECT WITH WEISBECKER ATHLETIC FUND ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Weisbecker Athletic Fund



 $\otimes$  @WeisbeckerFund



(O) @WeisbeckerFund

#### **ISU ATHLETICS**

Weisbecker Athletic Fund North Entrance, 206 CEFCU Arena (309) 438-1506 ISU\_WAF@ilstu.edu

