

**SWA Softball Spring 2014 Season
Frequently Asked Questions (REVISED 12/31/2013)**

Who are the league officers?

President – Todd Lewis
Coach Pitch/Slow Pitch Commissioner –
Fast Pitch Commissioner – Jeff Jordan
Travel Team Commissioner – Jerry Walling
Treasurer – Sherry Tull
Secretary – Shannon Gould
Administrator – Casie Dietrich

When will the season start?

Practices will start on or around February 17, and games will start on or around March 24th.

How long will the season last?

The season will end on or around the last week of May. No games will be scheduled during WCS Spring Break (March 17-21) or during WCS TCAP Week (May 5-9).

How many practices will be held a week?

You can expect at least one practice a week. Before the season begins, each coach will typically practice twice a week (one week night and one on Saturday). Once the season begins, field space will limit teams to one practice a week.

How many games will there be?

There will be up to 14 games scheduled. All rainouts will try to be rescheduled, but the season will not be moved past May 24th due to the tournament scheduling. Weeknight rainout games at Fly Park will usually get re-scheduled for the next available Wednesday night. All other parks will re-schedule as field space is available. Generally teams will play on Saturdays and one game during the week.

How much does it cost to play?

U6 (T-Ball) - \$95.00
U8 (Coach Pitch) - \$105.00
U10 - \$115.00
U12 - \$115.00
U14 - \$115.00
U16 - \$115.00
U18 - \$115.00

*There will be a \$25.00 late fee for sign-ups made after Sunday, February 9.

What do the fees go toward?

Uniforms and costs of umpires represent approximately 70% of the entry fees. The remainder of the entry fees goes toward things such as field maintenance, equipment and chalk.

How are coaches chosen?

Coaches must fill out an application and return it to the softball board. The board will then select coaches based on prior experience and needs. The softball board reserves the right to not bring back coaches from past seasons if deemed necessary.

How are teams selected?

In the t-ball (U6) and coach pitch (U8) divisions, the league attempts to honor all requests to play for a certain team/coach. While we do make the attempt, requests are not guaranteed. After requests have been considered, the remainder of the team will be developed through a modified draft.

Slow pitch will no longer be offered in the County for 10U and 12U. The plan is to have two 10U fastpitch divisions this Spring. The “A” division will be for the more competitive teams that have better pitching and catching. The “B” division will be for younger and new players, and is intended to be a “training ground” for pitchers and catchers. There will be some slight rules modifications for the B division. Requests for a specific team/manager will be accepted, but we do not guarantee that the requests can be honored. Our first priority will be to make sure each team has adequate pitching and catching. Some requests may have to be broken up to accommodate this. The remainder of the team will be developed through a draft.

In the U18 slow pitch division, it is permissible to enter with an existing roster. Players not on an existing roster will be placed into the draft for open team selection.

When will the teams be picked?

Teams will be picked by Sunday, February 16th. The coaches meeting/draft will take place after the coaches meeting on February 16th. Assessments will take place at Heritage Park as weather permits as follows:

U8 (Coach Pitch)

- Date: Saturday, February 15th.
 - Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 - Location: Heritage Field 3

U10

- Date: Saturday, February 15th.
 - Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 - Location: Heritage Field 3

U12/U15

- Date: Saturday, February 15th.
- Time: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- Location: Heritage Field 3

At what age do kids start pitching?

Kids start pitching in the U10 division (fast pitch or slow pitch) and they are typically between the ages of 9 and 10 years-old.

Within what age group should my child play?

Williamson County will continue to use September 30, 2013 as the age deadline for all age groups. SWA Softball will allow this as well. However, if your child wishes to play All-Stars in the summer of 2014, then a December 31, 2013 cutoff date should be used to determine the division in which they should play. SWA teams will be sanctioned by ASA (Amateur Softball Association) during 2014.

Where are the practices held?

Practices are mostly held at Heritage Park. However, due to limited field space, some practices may be held at other locations (including Spring Station Middle, Bethesda Park, Summit High School, and Evans Park).

Where are the games played?

Games are played throughout the county. Most (but not all) weeknight games are played at Fly Park in Franklin, while Saturday games are spread out between Heritage Park, Bethesda Park, College Grove Park, Brentwood Civitan Park, Crockett Park (in Brentwood), Fairview, Franklin Softball Fields (behind Franklin High), Grassland Park, Hillsboro Park, and Nolensville. Depending on the age group and field availability, there will be an attempt to schedule about half the games at Heritage Park (or other possible fields in the Spring Hill/Thompson's Station area).

Are practices and games held on Wednesday's and Sunday's?

Regular season games are typically not scheduled on Wednesdays or Sundays. However, rainout games are typically made up on these days as needed. Practices, however, may need to be scheduled on these days due to limited field space for softball and baseball teams.

What equipment does my child need?

Your child will need to have a glove, helmet, and cleats. The league will provide each player with a uniform. The league will also provide catchers gear and a batting helmet with a face mask to be shared, as well as one bat per team. While batting helmets and a team bat are provided, it is recommended that each child have their own helmet, and optionally provide a bat that is suitable. Facemasks are REQUIRED for batting helmets. For those players playing the pitchers position, a facemask is required. The league will provide one pitcher's mask per team as well.