

## ADULT SOFTBALL

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### THE PROGRAM AND ELIGIBILITY

Players must be 16+ and on the team's roster to be eligible to play. Players can only be on one roster in each division.

Teams must follow the Code of Conduct and league rules, the team captains are the contacts and responsible party for their team.

League follows Utah National Championship Sports rules. SS Rec rules will override NCS and if that's the case, the override will be in the league rules, otherwise NCS rules apply.

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### GAME SET-UP

50 minutes or 7 innings. No new inning will be started after 50 minutes.

- In the event of a tie, one international tie breaker inning will occur (last out starts at 2<sup>nd</sup> base). If game remains a tie after tie breaker inning, the game will end in a tie.

53' Pitching rubber, 70' bases. All leagues will have safety bases at 1<sup>st</sup> base.

NCS, NSA, USSA stamped balls will be used, men 12" and women 11"

Pitching mat is used

Music in the dugout is welcome, it must be "dugout volume" and not explicit. Umpire and Rec staff ALWAYS have the authority over dugout music

Only rostered players may be in the dugout. No children or un-rostered people, please.

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### ROSTERS AND UNIFORMS

All players must be added to the roster and signed applicable waivers to play in the regular season and post-season tournament.

Players can be added through the Team Site on Team Sideline or at the field.

- Using illegal players will result in a forfeit

Players must have played in the regular season and be on the team roster to be eligible for the tournament.

- Minimum roster -10
- Maximum roster -25
  - Maximum awards per champ/non-champ team is 15



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

Teams do not need to have matching jerseys, but players should have legible numbers on jersey.

Jerseys should be worn over hoodies/jackets/etc.

Metal cleats are not allowed

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## LINEUPS

Scorekeepers will not be used. Umpires will keep time, lineup, runs scored, and will provide final scores to Rec staff.

Provide line-up to Umpire prior to game time, Site Supervisors will check line-up to rosters

Late additions will be added to the bottom of the line-up.

- o If coed, add players alternating gender

Teams can have a maximum of 12 players on the line-up

- o Batters may be "subbed" once for the same person, at the same spot in the order
- o Sub can only "sub" once

Teams can play with 8 without an auto-out, 7 or less is a forfeit

Umpires will not keep track of batting order

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## GAME TIME

No warming up on field, foul territory is fine. Stay out of batter's boxes and don't mess up lines!

Warm-ups for first inning only

Any team concerns should be communicated through the team captain to the umpire

Forfeit time is 10 minutes after scheduled game time for the 6:00 game only. The clock will be running, all other games- game time is forfeit time.

Forfeited games will not be officiated

Forfeits should be communicated to league coordinator by 12:00pm of game day. If forfeits are not communicated, a \$30 forfeit fee will be charged to the team captain's account. 2<sup>nd</sup> forfeit will be the fee and ineligible for tournament play. 3<sup>rd</sup> forfeit is dropped from league with no refund.

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## WEATHER

Game status is determined at 4:00, the weather hotline (801-766-6509) will be updated and email communication will be sent. If games are on at 4:00, they may be delayed or cancelled at field. Games will be rescheduled if game was not started or less than half of the game was played.



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

- Lightning 10 mile radius
- Fields unsafe/potential damage
- Wind speed 30mph, gusts over 30mph

Regular season delays could impact tournament schedule

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## BATS/BALLS

Legal bats must be stamped 2012 or newer. USSSA, NSA, and ISA stamps are allowed. No senior bats, no illegal or altered bats are allowed. Using a senior or altered bat will mean immediate ejection and suspended from NCS play until cleared by State Director.

Umpire may inspect bat at any time and may rule the bat illegal to use. If the bat is used after the Umpire declared it illegal:

1<sup>st</sup> time- an out will be issued

2<sup>nd</sup> time- ejection of the player and the coach

NCS, NSA, or USSSA with current and visible association stamp and 44/400 and 44/375.

Pitchers/defensive players are responsible to make sure ball has proper stamp prior to pitch. If in doubt, call time and show the Umpire.

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## AT BAT

3 balls, 2 strikes (Umpire may call a 1 strike 1 ball count at start of at bat). No courtesy foul (one strike and then fair only)

HOME RUN RULE: Three home runs per team, per game. Any HR after the 3<sup>rd</sup>, will be an out.

- Batter can "hit and sit"
- Batter (team) is responsible for retrieving HR ball
  - If ball was not retrieved/attempt was not made by the HR hitter's next at bat, they will be declared out

Courtesy runner: One courtesy runner per team, per inning for the batter only.

- Courtesy runner DOES NOT need to be last out.
- Courtesy runner must occupy base once time has been called prior to the next pitch
- If CR at bat occurs while on base, at bat will be called an out

Batter must remain in the batter's box. If a batter makes contact with pitched ball while foot is completed outside of the box, it will result in a dead ball and the batter will be called out. Runners will return to base occupied at the time of pitch.

Safety Base: Runners must use safety base at 1<sup>st</sup>. If the runner only contacts the inside base, the Umpire can call the runner out. A runner contacting both bases OR any part of the safety base, is considered to touch the whole safety base.



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

If a pitcher or defender leaves the game because of a batted ball injury, the bat will be taken by the Umpire or Field Monitor and removed from play until the State Director has tested/inspected the bat. A \$10.00 testing fee will be charged to the owner/player swinging the bat before it will be returned. State Director can and will ban individuals caught with an illegal or altered bat.

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## IN THE FIELD

Teams can play a maximum of 10 players and a minimum of 8

Pitching helmet/mask IS REQUIRED, Rec dept. has masks for loan

Pitch height is 5'-10' and must be pitched underhand

Pitcher must be in contact with rubber at time of release

No pumps, fakes, or jukes- any will result in a dead ball

If a foul ball is caught, the play is dead and no runners may advance

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## SCORING

Run rule is 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 after 4 innings, and 10 after 5 innings. The "Flip Flop Rule" rule will be used at the discretion of the Umpire.

If a tie, International tie breaker will be used for one extra inning- Last out will start at 2<sup>nd</sup> base. If runs are not scored during that inning to break the tie, the game will end in a tie.

Captains- At the end of the game, please initial Umpire's scorecard agreeing to the final score. If the captain is not present at the game, whoever turned in the team line-up will verify the score. If the score is not initialed, it will be assumed to be accurate.

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## PROTESTS

If protesting a play, it must be a rules protest, not based on a judgment call. The Captain will notify the Umpire of the protest and the protest must be reported to the Site Supervisor at the end of the game. Umpire/staff will document game state at time of protest.

Rec coordinator will follow up on the Captain to continue the process (written protest submitted, protest fee). If upheld, game is reschedule and played from protest point and fee refunded. If protest is denied, game result will stand and fee non-refunded.

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## SPORTSMANSHIP/CODE OF CONDUCT

Players are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct and be models of sportsmanship.

Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated

Use of the "F" word will result in an automatic ejection



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

Fighting/aggressive contact will not be tolerated

Fighting/aggressive contact will result in an ejection from the game and all NCS leagues and tournaments

Team captains are responsible for the behavior of their players.

If a player is ejected from a game, the team captain will also leave the game

- Auto-outs will apply
- Ejected players will be suspended from the next game
  - Including tournament games
- Captains are not suspended from the next game

A second ejection will be a minimum two game suspension and possible further action

Recreation staff and Umpires reserve the right to discipline players as necessary for Code of Conduct violations.

Recreation staff/Umpires will be rating each team with a Sportsmanship score each game. The ranking is a 0-3:

3= Team was great, no issues, jovial, had fun with other team

2= Team was fine, minor issues (remarks to umpire, other team, minor aggressions)

1= Team was not fun, issues with sportsmanship, language, warnings were issued, etc

0= Players were ejected

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## TOURNAMENT PLAY

A consolation tournament will be played at the end of regular season games. Players are eligible to play in the tournament if they played in the regular season and were added to the roster during that time.

Tournament format is subject to regular season delays. Coordinator reserves the right to schedule games on different days/times, as well as moving teams to different divisions/brackets to support more competitive/even play.

Tournament ranking is established by regular season win/loss record. If there is a tie, tie-breakers are:

- Head to head
- Record vs. higher seed
- Coin toss

Home team is higher seeded team for the first round, other rounds will be determined by a coin toss.



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

Game time is forfeit time

All regular season rules apply

Use of illegal players will result in forfeit

## COED SPECIFIC RULES

### LINEUPS/IN THE FIELD PLAY

Coed will use 5/5 format, 6/6 if using extra players

Lineups must alternate genders, M/F / F/M. Max of one additional male batter.

Females can request 12" ball, if not requested and played, the at bat team can choose to take the result of the play or choose to re-do the at bat.

Females can outnumber males in the field and at bat, lineups must have a minimum of three males

If males outnumber women:

- At bat: an automatic out will be called in the missing female batter's spot
- In the field: men cannot outnumber females

If a male batter walks, he is awarded second base.

- If there are two outs and the male batter just walked, the female at bat has the option to walk or bat

Five males/five females will be in the field

- Two males and females in the infield/outfield
- Female/male pitcher/catcher combo

If a team has eight or nine players, there can be any number of male to female ratio as long as no more than five men are playing at a time. An automatic out will be applied at missing female batter's spot.

No rovers are allowed in the coed league, all infielders must start with both feet on the dirt before the ball is pitched.

If playing a fielder down the defensive alignment you start with you must use the entire inning, no making adjustments for a female/male batter.



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

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## COURTESY RUNNERS

In the coed league, one runner per inning per gender. Runner gender must be the same, but it does not need to be the same runner each time. All other Courtesy Runner rules apply!

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## HEADING HOME

A "commitment" line will be marked in foul territory between 3<sup>rd</sup> base and home. Once a baserunner crosses this line, they are committed to running home.

- If they return to 3<sup>rd</sup> base, they are not safe at that base.
- Force play only and no tags allowed at home,

A scoring line will be used as home plate. Baserunners running home MUST ALWAYS use this line. If a baserunner uses home plate, they will be called out.

The defensive player will use home plate. All plays at home are force plays. To be clear- there are no tags at home. All plays at home are a force play.

To be safe at home, the runner must have a foot on the ground on OR through the line. Being above the line, in the air, does not count. ☺

The scoring line is intended to provide safety for all players. Please make sure your baserunners know to use the line, instead of the base.

## FAQS

Q. Can I have a rover?

A1. Coed league NO. There must be four distinguishable outfield positions and outfielders may not change positions based on batter.

A2. Men's league YES. Rovers are allowed, can also play five infielders.

Q. Explain the infield fly rule

A. A few things are at play

1. Runners are on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> (must be a force play at 3<sup>rd</sup> or bases loaded)

2. Umpire's judgement

3. Infielder's "ordinary effort"

Runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> or bases are loaded pop fly that infielder can get to in ordinary effort (Umpire's judgement) then an infield fly is declared, batter is out, runners can advance at their own risk.



# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

Q. Can I add someone to the batting order that showed up late?

A. Yes, they can be added to the bottom of the line-up

Q. I can only bat 12 on my lineup, what's the process to "sub" batters?

A. Original batter can be subbed out, can reenter one time subbing back in for same person at same spot. Sub can only enter once.

Q. What determines if a ground ball is foul or fair?

A. If the ball hits the ground in fair territory **before** crossing the base and lands in foul territory, it is foul.

- o If the ball hits the ground in fair territory and curves over any part of base, it's fair.
- o Ball that hasn't hit ground and on line or fair to be fair ball
- o If it touched by a defender while in fair and goes foul, still fair
- o Point of home plate outward is fair territory

Q. What happens if the baserunner is hit by the ball?

A. depends on where hit, infielder had chance to field ball and miss, and hits runner nothing

- o Hits runner before then dead ball, runner is called out, batter takes first base
- o Batter is out, runner returns to base
- o Thrown ball is live unless baserunner is trying to intentionally interfere with play

Q. What happens if an infielder interferes with a baserunner or a play?

A1. Interference is on offense, intentional interference by baserunner, dead ball or runner is called out

A2. Obstruction is on defense, runner runs into fielder, delayed ball call signal from umpire-umpire will award bases to runner bases would have earned if not for obstruction

Q. When does play end when game time has expired?

- o If the home team is batting with lead, time expires- game is over
- o Home team trailing they get their at bat
- o Home team trailing by 1, time expires- last inning
- o If the clock hits zero, home team is trying to win game or start new inning, ball is hit and the out is recorded **after** the time expired. Third out must be recorded before time expires

Q. Do runs count if a third out is made?

A. If the run scores prior to a non-forced out, run counts. If a forced out, the run does not count

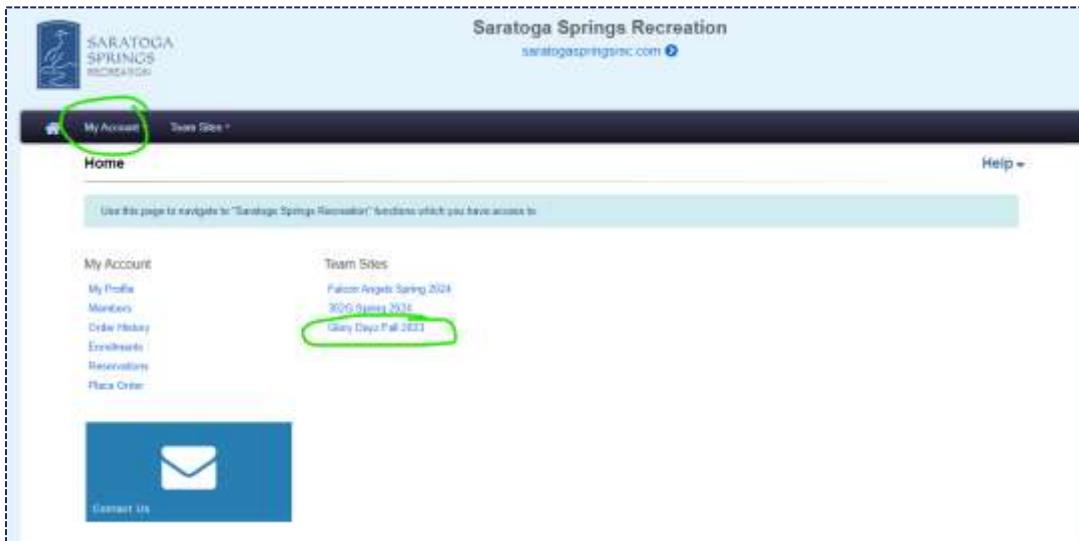
- o Runs count if non-force out, the out will supersede the run
- o Tagged/non-force out, pop fly, runs will count



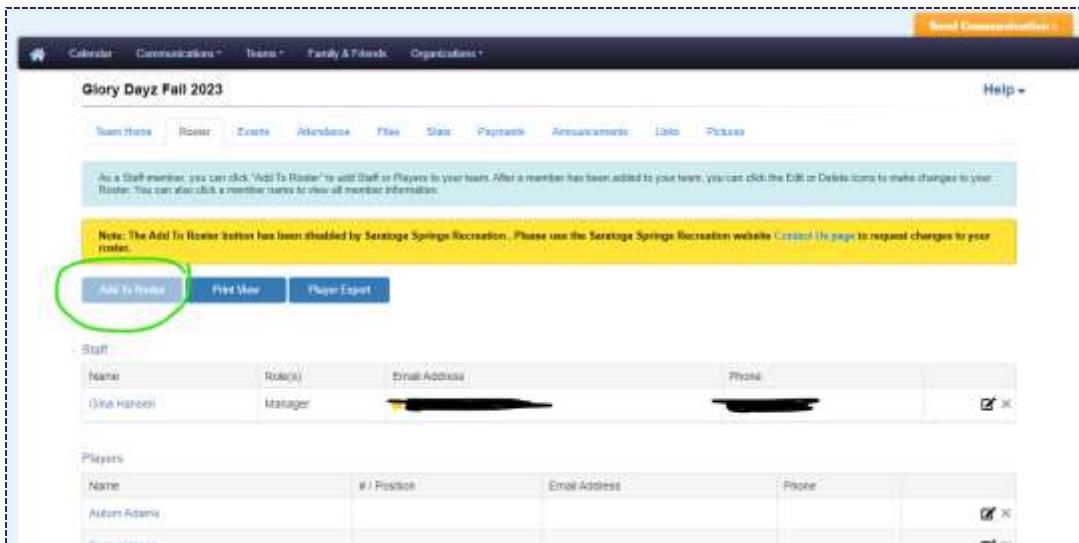
# SARATOGA SPRINGS RECREATION

## TEAM SIDELINE

Log in to your SaratogaSpringsRec.com account, under Team Sites, select your team.



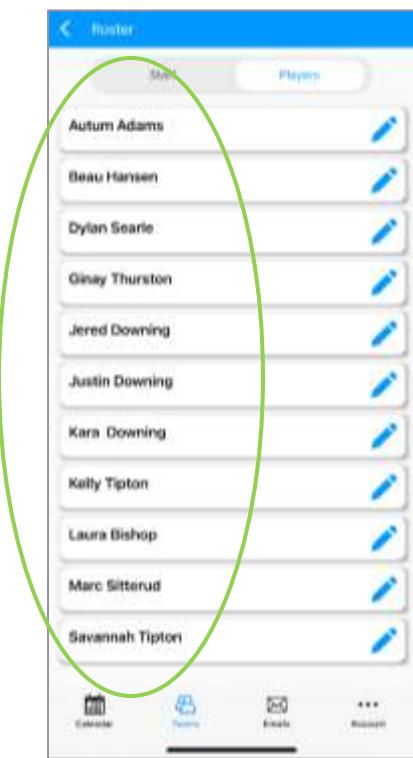
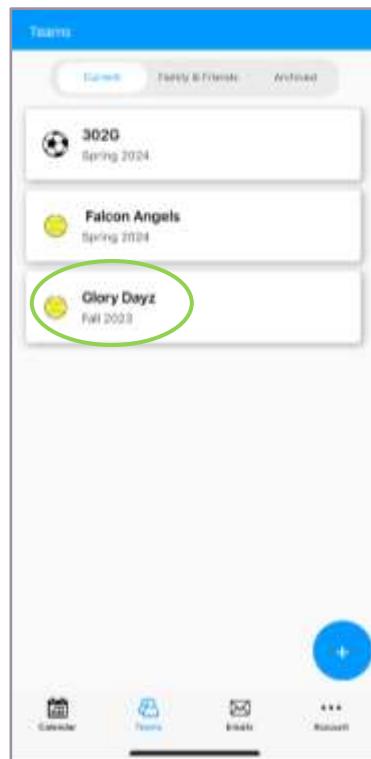
Under your team, select “Add to Roster”, you’ll enter your player’s name and email to send the roster invitation. The player will receive the invite and complete their registration on their account. If they do not have an account, they will need to open one to complete the registration. They will accept Code of Conduct, league rules, and waivers through this process.



Adding your player to the roster online, gives them access to the Team Site through the app or their account online. They will also receive reminder for games and can enable push notifications, will receive league updates, and can subscribe to the team calendar. Make sure “subscribed” to receive league communications.



## TEAM SIDELINE APP



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