



Saguaro Cup Sports Festival
April 10 – April 12, 2026

Coach Packet

Dear Saguaro Cup Coach,

On behalf of the **Cactus Cities Softball League (CCSL)**, welcome to Phoenix, Arizona! We are thrilled to host you once again in the Valley of the Sun for a weekend of competition, camaraderie, and community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the sponsors and partners who make the **2026 Saguaro Cup Sports Festival** possible. Their support plays a critical role in promoting self-respect, inclusion, and visibility for LGBTQ+ individuals both on and off the field. We encourage you to support these local businesses during your visit:

- **Charlie's Phoenix**
- **Nu Towne Saloon**
- **Corona**
- **Spectrum Medical**
- **SCHEELS - Chandler**

Exploring Phoenix Beyond the Fields

The **Saguaro Cup** is about more than just softball—it's about connecting with community. Discover Phoenix's LGBTQ+ nightlife and the many welcoming businesses that support CCSL.

Transportation Tip:

The Phoenix Metro Light Rail provides convenient access across the city, including direct service from Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport (44th St/Washington station). Charlie's Phoenix (727 W Camelback), home to both our Opening and Closing Parties, is located near the 7th Ave/Camelback light rail stop. Ride services like Uber, Lyft, or taxis are also available—please use them responsibly, especially if you've been drinking.

Special Thanks

We sincerely appreciate the efforts of our 2026 Saguaro Cup Committee Members, Field Managers, Umpires, and Volunteers. If you see them this weekend, be sure to thank them!

We're looking forward to a fantastic tournament. If you need any assistance, feel free to reach out we're to help.

Good luck and have fun!

Len Branham

Saguaro Cup Tournament Director

 commissioner@cactuscities.com |  (803) 242-2990

Schedule of Events

Friday April 10, 2026

- 6pm 2026 Saguaro Cup Sports Festival Opening Party – Charlie's Phoenix
- Player Check-in 6p-9p
 - Get your coach bag!
 - Saguaro Cup Trucker Hat (We also have a limited stock of extra for sale \$20)
 - Saguaro Cup MVP Medal
 - SCHEELS Scorebook & Pen
 - Cooling Towel & Electrolytes
- 9pm Janet Experience – Charlie's Phoenix

Saturday April 11, 2026

- 7am Player Check-in opens at all softball complexes
(This time is approximate / if your team is playing at 8am Saturday we strongly recommend checking in Friday night at Charlie's.)
- 6pm Banda Llega Finix 🎺🔥 - Charlie's Phoenix
- 8pm Steamy Wet Jock Contest 🐾💧
- 9pm The Selena Experience 🎤🌟

Sunday April 12, 2026

- 530pm Champions Closing Party – Charlie's Phoenix
- Trophy ceremony
- 7pm Rihanna Rewind! 🎤🔥

Important Saguaro Cup Reminders

Hydration: Water will *not* be provided in dugouts. Players may bring non-alcoholic beverages. Concessions are available at each complex. You can bring coolers, ice & water, food, comfortable chairs, sun protection canopies.

No Pets are allowed inside any sports complex.

Player Check-In: All players must register and present a valid Saguaro Cup QR Code issued through OneTap. Players may also be required to show a government-issued photo ID that matches the roster. Any player who does not register and complete check-in or whose identity does not match the submitted roster will be disqualified.

Saturday Arrivals: Must check in *before* playing to be eligible.

Roster Changes: Allowed until the end of Friday's check-in party (pending Tournament Director approval). No additions on Saturday.

Ratings: Current IPride ratings apply. All players must be present and rated in the iPride database.

Uniforms: Jersey numbers must be at least 6" tall and no more than 2 digits. 3-digit jersey numbers are not allowed (no tape or handwritten numbers). Shorts or pants are acceptable. No metal cleats.

Headgear: Headbands, caps, or visors permitted. Sunglasses must be worn properly.

Jewelry: Allowed but may be restricted for safety reasons

Park Concessions and Merchandise

Rose Mofford, Desert West, and Papago Sports Complexes

The City of Phoenix operates full concessions at these locations. Beer and some other alcoholic beverages are available. You may **NOT** bring alcoholic beverages in or take it out of any complex. Park rangers do frequently visit these complexes and check coolers to be sure they do not contain outside alcoholic beverages. Pets are **NOT** allowed inside any complex. No drinking of alcoholic beverages is allowed in any parking lot and could result in fines, arrest or removal from the premises by police or park rangers.

Merchandise

We have a limited number of 2026 Saguaro Cup Trucker Hats – available Friday at Charlie's. \$20 Cash, Venmo, or Zelle.

Saguaro Cup Code of Conduct

All rules will be strictly enforced. Misconduct (perceived or otherwise) may result in an Individual and/or team being penalized with respect to the Saguaro Cup Sports Festival and/or Cactus Cities Softball League, where applicable.

Coaches are responsible for reviewing the Code of Conduct with their players and addressing any behavior that falls short of good sportsmanship.

The term "Individual" includes but is not limited to: Manager, Coach, player and spectator. The term "Official" includes umpire, Tournament directors and city/sports complex staff

Each team is responsible for the conduct of its Individuals.

No Individual Shall: Be guilty of any demonstration of unsportsmanlike conduct.

No Individual except the Manager, Coach or Captain Shall: Discuss with an Official, in any manner, the decision reached by such Official.

No Individual Shall: Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent during any game by throwing gloves, bats, balls; or any other forceful action.

No Individual Shall: Use profane, obscene or vulgar language in any manner, at any time, on or off the playing field.

No Individual Shall: Drink alcoholic beverages in any facility parking lot.

No Coach, Manager or Player Shall: Drink alcoholic beverages while playing in any Tournament games.

No Individual Shall: Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any Official or Individual on or off the playing field.

No Individual Shall: Be guilty of throwing gloves, bats, balls or any objects in the direction of other Individuals.

No Individual Shall: At any time threaten any form of physical attack upon an Official or Individual.

No Individual Shall: Be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics in the play of the game.

No Individual Shall: Appear on the field of play at any time in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of any type of drug that will infringe upon the Individual's safety or the safety of others.

No Individual Shall: Be guilty of damaging, destroying or stealing property of any kind.

No Individual Shall: At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike or be guilty of any form of physical attack upon an Official or Individual.

Tournament Rules/Code of Conduct Enforcement

All tournament rules will be strictly enforced. Officials have the authority to issue penalties such as warnings and ejections during gameplay, and their decisions will be upheld by the Tournament Directors.

Tournament Officials (Field Managers, Tournament Directors, etc.) may administer penalties at the time of the infraction, at their discretion.

Any individual ejected from a game by any Official will be suspended from all Tournament play until the incident is reviewed and an appropriate penalty is determined.

Possible Penalties Include (but are not limited to):

- A formal warning
- Ejection from the current game
- Suspension of the individual and/or team for one or more games
- Suspension of the individual and/or team for the remainder of the Tournament

Any individual has the right to appeal a penalty, which will be reviewed at the discretion of the Tournament Directors.

Contact Information – Tournament Directors & Field Managers

Tournament Director – Len Branham (803) 242-2990

Papago Sports Complex Jaime Hojdila – (480) 252-5551

Desert West Sports Complex – Angelo Alemndarez – (623) 293-2329

Rose Mofford Sports Complex – Len Branham – (803) 242-2990

We're proud to say that Saguaro Cup has always been a fun and respectful event, with very few conduct issues. We are confident this year will be no different, thanks to the leadership and sportsmanship of our coaches and managers. Your efforts in guiding your teams to uphold the code of conduct are truly appreciated.

Thank you for bringing your teams to Phoenix! Your participation and support are what make Saguaro Cup such a success year after year. We couldn't do it without you.

Good luck—and have a great time!

Heat Safety

Preventing Heat-Related Illness:

Dress for the heat. Wear light weight, light colored clothing, as light colors will reflect some of the sun's energy away from the body. It is also a good idea to wear hats or use an umbrella.

Drink water. Carry water or juice with you and drink continuously even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, which dehydrate the body.

Eat small meals and eat more often. Avoid foods that are high in protein, which increase metabolic heat.

Take regular breaks when engaging in physical activity on warm days. Take time out to find a cool place. If you recognize that you, or someone else, are showing the signals of a heat-related illness, stop activity and find a cool place. Remember, have fun, but stay cool!

What to look for:

Heat cramps: Heat cramps are muscular pains and spasms due to heavy exertion. They usually involve the abdominal muscles or the legs. It is generally thought that the loss of water and salt from heavy sweating causes these cramps.

Heat Exhaustion: Heat exhaustion is less dangerous than heat stroke. It typically occurs when people exercise heavily or work in a warm, humid place where body fluids are lost through heavy sweating. Fluid loss causes blood flow to decrease in the vital organs, resulting in a form of shock. With heat exhaustion, sweat does not evaporate as it should, possibly because of high humidity or too many layers of clothing. As a result, the body is not cooled properly. Signals include cool, moist, pale, flushed or red skin; heavy sweating; headache; nausea or vomiting; dizziness; and exhaustion. Body temperature will be near normal.

Heat Stroke: Also known as sunstroke, heat stroke is life-threatening. The victim's temperature control system, which produces sweat to cool the body, stops working. The body temperature may rise so high that brain damage and death may result if the body is not cooled quickly. Signals include hot, red and dry skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. Body temperature may be very high - sometimes as high as 105°.

Remember: The effects of the sun may be exaggerated here in Arizona. Please wear sunscreen and drink plenty of water!

Enjoy your Stay in Arizona!



WEATHER DELAYS

If weather, facility or other unavoidable issues occur, the Saguaro Cup Tournament Directors, Tournament Officials and the Umpire in Charge reserve the right to modify the format of play as needed.

Should there be a rain delay at your location, your first point of contact in this situation will be the field manager at the field you are scheduled to play on. This is because he/she is at the location and can make decisions based on the conditions at those fields.

Should adverse weather affect play, we will do our best to try to minimize the impact. As a coach or manager, please have your team ready to play once a field becomes playable as we will want to resume play as quickly as possible.

SAMPLE RULES OF A ONE PITCH TOURNAMENT FORMAT

One-pitch softball is designed to move quickly so many games can be played in a particular day or night of softball.

In one-pitch softball, each batter gets to see one pitch only.

If the pitch is a ball, the batter walks to first base and the next batter is up.

If the pitch is a strike, the player must put the ball in play.

If the pitch is called a strike by the umpire, and the batter does not swing, the batter is out.

If the batter hits a foul ball, the batter is out and the next batter is up.

If the batter hits a fair ball, the ball is "live" and played accordingly.

If the batter hits an unassisted, over the fence home run, appropriate divisional home run rules apply.

Play continues until the defensive team makes 3 outs, then the sides switch.

Games are 7 innings in length or a maximum of 30 minutes, with no new innings allowed to start after 25 minutes of play.

In the case of a round robin or pool play game, the game may end in a tie; however, in the case of an elimination game, international tie break rules take effect at the end of the last inning or when time expires, until a winner is determined.