

SGSA – 2025
Fall Ball Parent Information

Fall Ball Philosophy:

The fall season is a great opportunity for players to continue playing from their spring/summer season and to gain interest from new players. Our focus will be on developing fundamentals and sharpening players' knowledge of the game. Players will share the playing time equally.

All players should expect to learn and play in the infield and outfield. We will do our best to find opportunities to play players in their favorite positions.

Communication:

Please download the Crossbar app on your phone, if not completed already.

We ask parents to RSVP to all practices and games so that coaches can plan practices and games accordingly. If you already know that your daughter will be gone for one of the game days, please let your coach know soon as possible so that subs can be found, if needed.

Practices:

Practices generally begin the second week of August and will be twice a week through Labor Day. After Labor Day, practices usually drop to once a week, depending on the team. The practice schedule will be posted on Crossbar once teams are finalized and fields are confirmed. The practice duration is typically 1-2 hours.

Please have your players dressed in full gear (cleats, softball pants, socks, belt and t-shirt/jersey). Players are expected to be dressed and ready for practice at least 5 minutes before the scheduled practice time starts. We understand that there are schedule conflicts and unexpected delays, but please do your best to have your daughter at the field on time.

If there are any weather cancellations, notification will be sent as soon as possible. Excessive heat warnings will be on a case-by-case scenario. If we were to practice in an excessive heat warning, it would be in shorts, adjusted practice time, and include additional water/shade breaks every 15 minutes (attendance optional).

Games:

There are doubleheaders (back-to-back games) held on Saturdays-only for 8U & 10U; Sundays for 12U & 14U. Start times are either 12:00 PM/1:30 PM or 3:00PM/4:30 PM. Games are 65 minutes each. **Game times are announced during the week of the upcoming weekend, typically on Wednesdays.**

Our Neil Johnson Softball Complex is a potential fall ball and state hosting site. This doesn't guarantee that we will play all or any games in Shakopee. It is likely that there will be some weekends in Shakopee, but not all. The league tries to limit teams from traveling further than 30 minutes from their home city. However, this is not guaranteed.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS:

Each family is required to volunteer 6 HOURS at games hosted by Shakopee. (Max of 9 hours per family with 2+ players)

When we host, it supports all SGSA programs. The funds raised allow SGSA to significantly reduce the registration fee per player and provide funding for field improvements (i.e. new scoreboards on NE & NW, fixing the scoreboard on West, new clay for C, W, NE, & NW fields, and a total rehaul of the infield dirt on Central – just a few of our plans for 2025!) We appreciate your understanding and dedication to helping our softball community thrive!

If you are unable to fulfill your required volunteer hours, you can ask a friend or family member to fulfill them for you.

If the volunteer requirement is not met by the end of the season, a **\$300 FEE** will be automatically charged to the card on your account in lieu of hours not worked.

Head coaches are not required to complete volunteer hours.

Equipment:

All players will be required to own a glove, cleats, fielders mask, batting helmet (red, white or black), black softball pants, red socks, and red belt. It is highly recommended for players to own their own bat that best suits your daughter's size.

If you do not own these items, please let us know -- SGSA's has a free equipment exchange donated by past and current families.

Players will wear the black 2025 spring jersey. Anyone new to the program will be charged \$45 to cover the cost of a new jersey.

Player/Parent Code of Conduct:

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, parents, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports events. SGSA reserves the right to dismiss at any time a player, coach, parent or spectator, who by their conduct creates significant problems for the team or disrupts practices or games. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.

Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct includes (but are not limited to): fighting, foul language, derogatory acts, disparaging or insulting remarks to or about opposing players, officials, coaches or spectators.

Schedule Outlook 8U/10U: SATURDAY GAMES

Week of Aug 12: Practice Starts
Aug 23: Fall Ball Week 1 – games
Aug 30: NO GAMES – Labor Day Weekend
Sept 6: Fall Ball Week 2 - games
Sept 13: Fall Ball Week 3 - games
Sept 20: Fall Ball Week 4 - games
Sept 27: Fall State – tournament (all teams qualify)

Schedule Outlook 12U/14U: SUNDAY GAMES

Week of Aug 12: Practice Starts
Aug 24: Fall Ball Week 1 – games
Aug 31: NO GAMES – Labor Day Weekend
Sept 7: Fall Ball Week 2 - games
Sept 14: Fall Ball Week 3 - games
Sept 21: Fall Ball Week 4 - games
Sept 28: Fall State – tournament (all teams qualify)