

2018 MINNESOTA SOFTBALL FALL LEAGUE

- Fall League provides an opportunity for your players to learn about the game and gain experience playing fastpitch. The games should be used as prep for next season
- **We MUST HAVE your name, phone number, email, and SportsEngine account user name. NO EXCEPTIONS! This is how we get your contact information on your team page and grant you permission to edit your team page.**
- When you register you rate your team 1 to 10, 10 being high. This is only a starting point. If you end up 6-0 you will be playing against better teams later in the season. Do not get hung up on a letter rating/classification.
- Your registration fee covers the state tournament entry fee, league fee, and umpire fees. You do not need to pay for umpires or schedule them, we do that.
- Team pages will be built on the <https://fastpitch.mnsoftball.com/fallball>. Your roster goes on this page.
- Be patient on pages being built and schedules being done. Week 1 schedule will be posted by August 21st.
- You will create your roster on your team page, **NOT** on josoftball.com.
- Check the Fall Ball home page often. ALL communications will be completed there. It is a really good idea to check it after Noon on Friday before games occur.
- We use approximately 30-35 sites every weekend. If you would like to host games register your fields on line. For your association to be considered to host a State Tournament must host 3 of 4 weekends at a minimum. Contact Dan Pfeiffer at dan@josoftball.com for more information. There are host forms here.
- If you cannot make a set of games on a weekend or need early or late games, we will accommodate those requests. The requests need to be in next week and done via email to Tom Bye (tbye@josoftball.com).
- The conduct by coaches and parents at summer games has been intolerable this season. You are all good coaches. You do not need to stomp around and scream at umpires to prove anything. Bad calls happen. Deal with it in a way that teaches your players to overcome this just like they would a strike out or committing an error. Players do not want to deal with this drama. If you need to discuss something with an umpire, go to them, speak quietly, do not point or wave your arms about, and make your point. Then move on and adjust. You as the coach are responsible for your parents.

2018 MINNESOTA SOFTBALL FALL SCHEDULE

- August 9th - League Meeting - Location: Medina Entertainment Center.
- August 26th - **Week 1**
- September 9th - **Week 2**
- September 16th - **Week 3**
- September 22nd - **Week 4** (8U, 10U & 12U)
- September 23rd - **Week 4** (14U, 16U, & 18U)
- September 29th – **Fall State** (8U, 10U & 12U)
- September 30th - **Fall State** (14U, 16U, & 18U)

GAME PLAY AND RULES

- All games are rain or shine. The decision to play is made at the fields by the two (2) coaches and umpires. Thirty (30) minute delay if lightning is present, all games will be scheduled for 65 minutes with allowance for the last inning to be completed, and one (1) inning using the tie breaker rule if the game is tied.
- Don't add your games to schedule until they are final. I would wait until Friday afternoon to add them to your schedule.
- Each team brings one (1) new softball for each weekend.
- Games are scheduled to start every 90 minutes (12:00PM, 1:30PM, 3:00PM, 4:30PM)
- Batting the bench is mandatory. You may freely substitute defensive positions during fall ball.
- Five (5) runs per inning rule for 10U.
- 8U will use the summer rules, see pdf on-line. To keep cost down there will be no umpires used.
- **ALL teams advance to State.**
- There may be dates where you have extensive travel. We are always in need of host sites. If you do not want to travel, consider hosting.
- The first three weeks we will do our best to keep you in your geographic areas. Week four you might have more travel as we are looking for comparable talent to schedule you against. State you can plan on ending up outside of your geographic area.

FALL STATE TOURNAMENT DETAILS

- Each tournament will have 16 teams unless otherwise noted.
- \$100 gate fee made payable to the host location for each team attending Fall State.
- Remember to bring your roster you created on your SportsEngine team page and turn in.
- Each team will be seeded based on their fall season record.
- We will use a two (2) game guarantee bracket. After the first round, teams will go into an 8-team single elimination championship bracket or an 8-team single elimination consolation bracket.
- All tournaments are one day tournaments rain or shine.
- 8U, 10U and 12U play on Saturday. Starting at 8:00am or 9:00am.
- 14U, 16U and 18U will play on Sunday. Starting at 8:00am or 9:00am.
- It is very important for any team not wanting to attend the Fall State Tournament to notify us before the games on Week 4.
- Softballs are provided at state.
- Top teams will get medals and plaques.
- Top two (2) will get berths for 2019 USA Softball Northern and MOA Championships. First place in Tier 1 will get a USA Softball National Berth. Teams are eligible to accept berths to next year's nationals if the team's current or succeeding year's age classification provided the team has five (5) participating players from the previous year's roster on the current year's roster and physically present at the current championship tournament site prior to the start of their first game.

Minnesota Softball Website: <https://fastpitch.mnsoftball.com/fallball>

2019 MINNESOTA SOFTBALL SCHEDULE (TENTATIVELY)

These dates are posted here just to give you an idea at what we are thinking for the 2019 season. The dates might change.

- October 16, 2018 - Metro Area Directors Meeting
- December 3, 2018 - Tri County League Director Meeting
- February 4, 2019 - Big West League Director Meeting
- March 4, 2019 – Tri County League Director Meeting (Deposit)
- April 1, 2019 – Tri County League Director Meeting
- April 7, 2019 – Gold League Coach/Schedule Meeting
- April 8, 2019 – Big West Coach/Schedule Meeting
- June 15, 2019 – Roster Deadline
- June 28-30, 2019 – Gold State
- June 29-30, 2019 – 10U & 12U Qualifier
- July 6-7, 2019 - Off
- July 13-14, 2019 – 10U & 12U State, 14U, 16U, & 18U Qualifier
- July 20-21, 2019 - 14U, 16U, & 18U State
- July 27-28, 2019 – Off
- July 29, 2019 – Tryouts Begin
- August 1-4, 2019 - MOA Championships
- August 8, 2019 – Fall League Meeting
- August 9-11, 2019 - USA Softball Selects
- August 18, 2019 - Parade of Champions/Target Field
- August 25, 2019 - Fall Ball Week 1
- September 8, 2019 - Fall Ball Week 2
- September 15, 2019 - Fall Ball Week 3
- September 21-22, 2019 - Fall Ball Week 4
- September 28-29, 2019 - Fall State
- October 15, 2019 - Metro Area Directors Meeting