

WNSL Fall Baseball League Frequently Asked Questions

If you have a question, start here. If you still cannot find your answer, E-Mail scott@wnsl.net.

Sign-Ups, Cost and Division Questions

When can we register? Registration is now open and will close in early August.

How do I register and pay online? Go to www.wnsl.org and click on one of the sports you would like to register for. Once on a sport-specific page, log into your WNSL account (see the Login button on the right side of the screen). Once logged into your account, click "Register Now" in the top left corner to select the sport you would like to register your child for. If you do not have a WNSL account, click the "Register" button on the right of the screen to register/create an account. You will then "Add Participants" to your account and select which sport(s) you would like to register them for.

What if I do not want to register online? You can download a paper registration form on the Fall Baseball page at www.wnsl.org. You may mail it in with a check but there will be a \$10 paper registration fee as indicated on the application.

What if I forget to register? The price will increase after the published registration deadline. Late registrations will be taken on a case by case basis and players will be added to existing teams or new teams created if the need arises.

Do you give refunds if my child decides not to participate? Refunds are only given with a Doctor's excuse that a child cannot play due to injury (minus a \$35 processing fee). Registrations may be transferred to another sport up until the time the uniforms are ordered. After uniforms are ordered refunds are not available.

What are the age divisions? We have 5 divisions that are based on the age of the player as of April 30 of the upcoming spring:

Wookies – Ages 4, 5 and 6

Rookies – Ages 7 and 8

Minors - Ages 9 and 10

Majors - Ages 11 and 12

Prep - Ages 13, 14 and 15 (13/14 year olds are together and 15 year olds are together)

Why do you use the age based on May 1st? We use this age because it determines what division the player will play in during the Spring season. We use the Fall Season to prepare players for spring and therefore want them to play in the correct division to learn the rules, skills, etc.

Are players allowed to play up or play down? Players are allowed to play up a division. However, players must have approval from Scott Tygard (scott@wnsl.net) in order to play down. Remember, participants should be registered based on the age of the player as of May 1, 2015.

If my player is not on a preformed team how and when do I know which team he/she is on? Individuals not on a team (Free Agents) will be contacted by their coach after the Coaches' Meeting.

Can a player play on two teams? Players may not play on two teams in the same age group, however, a player may pay to play on two teams in separate age groups. Example: An 8-year-old may play on a Rookies and a Minors team. To play on two teams a player must pay two registration fees.

How much does it cost? Wookies is \$100, Rookies, Minors, Majors, and Prep are \$125.

What is included in the registration fees? 8 games, umpires (except Wookies), participation medallion, a jersey and cap, insurance, a newsletter, excellent fields, equipment and some teams receive a sportsmanship trophy.

How do you form teams? The WNSL is open to full teams, partial teams and free agents. All players are welcome to request a coach on their registration, however, this is just a request -- there is no guarantee that the participant will be placed on the team they request. We try our best to accommodate requests, however, coaches with pre-formed or partially formed teams submit rosters with the players they intend on playing on their team. We go by this roster first. Players not on a pre-formed team are free agents and we work to place them on a team with classmates/players from their area or create an entire team from free agents.

What happens if there are too few teams in an age group? The WNSL teams in the Prep, Majors and possibly the Minors will play teams from other close by leagues. WNSL understands that the older players may be playing football and numbers have a tendency to drop considerably in the older age groups.

How many players are on a team? Nine or 10 players play at one time. Most teams carry 10 to 12 players.

Is this league Co-Ed? Yes, Fall Baseball is Co-Ed.

Coach-Related Questions

Who coaches the teams in the Fall Baseball League? The WNSL relies on volunteers to coach. Some teams bring coaches with them and often parents coach. If you are interested in coaching or being an assistant you may indicate this on the “Volunteer” portion of the registration site.

How are coaches certified? Coaches are screened at the Coaches’ Meeting and sign a “Code of Conduct” as well as complete an informational form in case a background check is necessary.

How does a parent notify the league that he or she would like to coach or be a team parent? During the online registration process there is a “Volunteer” page. Click on the volunteer position you would like (Coach, Assistant Coach or Team Parent) and fill out the requested information. You will then be assigned to your child’s team once the registration process is closed.

Once I register, how long will it be before I hear from a coach? The coaches’ meeting is held in mid-August to finalize all rosters. After that meeting a coach will be in touch with you.

How do you come up with team names? There are no team names in Fall Ball but teams are welcome to come up with a name of the team. *Note: Players receive a “generic” jersey and hat for Fall League so team names are strictly for scheduling purposes.*

Weather, Fields, Equipment and Fall Ball Basics

What type of Fall Baseball league does the WNSL offer? The WNSL feels all youth sports should be recreational in nature yet also competitive. For Fall Baseball, the season is more laid back with the focus being on preparing for the Spring Baseball Season. The sports program is not a baby sitting service but it is a league that does not encourage a “win at all cost” attitude. Sportsmanship, camaraderie, fun and learning the game are the most important aspects of our flag football league. The WNSL feels that the casual recreational player as well as the more serious competitive player will both be accommodated. In short, the WNSL wants players of all different levels to have fun,

excel and feel good about what they are doing. The older age groups (Majors and Super Majors) play more competitively than the other age groups.

How long does the season last? The Fall Baseball season begins early September (See the site for details) and runs 8 or 9 weeks. Games are played every Saturday throughout the day with the season ending in late October or early November. Some weekday games may be played if coaches desire.

Where are the games played? All of the games are played at either Harpeth Hills Church of Christ Baseball Fields or the Warner Park Complex (Vaughn Road and Old Hickory Blvd.)

What happens in case of inclement weather? Are games rescheduled? How will a parent/coach know if games are canceled? Games may be rescheduled for Sundays or on weekday afternoons. Cancellations are posted on the website, on the phone line (376-4700) and if time permits an e-mail is sent out as well.

When and how often do teams practice? Teams usually practice one time per week, however, practice frequency and location is determined by each coach. Official WNSL Practice begins after the Coaches' Meeting.

Does the league provide photos for teams and individuals? Yes, on Opening Day, teams and individuals can have photos taken by DImage.

What equipment does the League provide? The WNSL provides the balls, batting helmets and catcher's equipment as well as a cap and jersey for Fall Ball.

What equipment does the Individual player need? The players will need a glove and cleats or tennis shoes. Baseball pants and his/her own bat and batting helmet are optional. The League has a Dick's Sporting Goods Day to assist players with their sporting goods needs.

Does the WNSL provide umpires for games? Yes. One or Two trained umpires are provided for every game. No umpires are needed for the Wookie Division though.

What are the rules for the different divisions? You can review the rules on the Fall Baseball Page of www.wnsl.org.

Does WNSL post standings? No, The WNSL does not provide standings for we do not want to promote over the top competitiveness and focus on the "Love of the Game" instead.

Is there a post season tournament for Fall Baseball? Not at this time.

Are league trophies given out at the end of the season for league champions?
No.

Sponsorships and Financial Aid

What if I am interested in sponsoring a team or the league? Please let your participant's coach know and then contact scott@wnsl.net or jenny@wnsl.net.

Are there any opportunities for corporate sponsorships (other than the team sponsorships)? Yes. The WNSL offers corporate sponsorships for each individual sport, as well as the overall league.

Does the WNSL provide financial assistance or scholarships? Yes. If you are in need of a full or partial scholarship, fill out and submit the financial assistance information at www.wnsl.org. Someone will be in touch regarding to the amount of financial assistance available for your participant.

Miscellaneous Questions

What is the difference between WNSL and other Fall Baseball Leagues? The West Nashville Sports League is a top-notch youth sports organization that emphasizes all players valuing the pure love-of-the-game over a winning-at-all-costs attitude. We work hard to keep everyone heavily involved in the community by promoting and being involved in local organizations, colleges and events. Providing fun Opening Day with special events, the best field conditions possible, certified umpires, excellent communication to all participants, parents and coaches and an informative and user friendly website, the WNSL goes above and beyond to create a memorable and positive experience for all involved.