

The Villages Softball FAQ's

The purpose of the Recreation and Parks Softball Program is to provide The Villages Residents a safe, enjoyable environment to participate in softball with their friends and neighbors. For more information about the softball program, including season dates, league websites, and contact info please visit <https://www.districtgov.org/departments/Recreation/softball.aspx>

1. What type of softball leagues are offered in The Villages?

a. Recreation Leagues

Recreation leagues play twice a week Monday through Friday. Recreation leagues offer Resident players of all abilities an opportunity to play in a friendly, fun, competitive environment. There are three softball seasons per year: winter, summer, and fall. Each player must sign a waiver of liability and a code of conduct.

b. Neighborhood Leagues

Neighborhood leagues play each Saturday. Neighborhood leagues are designed to build camaraderie of the Residents participating from the same or nearby village. There are three softball seasons per year: winter, summer, and fall. Each player must sign a waiver of liability and a code of conduct.

c. Resident RLVG Leagues

Resident RLVG leagues are leagues that are formed and implemented by residents of The Villages. These leagues play 1 to 2 times per week, depending on the league. Each player must sign a waiver of liability and a code of conduct. Their seasons vary from league to league.

2. Where are the Softball Complexes located?

a. Knudson Softball Field: 1422 Paradise Drive, Lady Lake, FL 32159

Knudson is located just north of US 441 adjacent to the Paradise Regional Recreation Center.

b. Buffalo Glen Softball Complex: 305 Tatonka Terrace, The Villages, FL 32162

Buffalo Glen is located on CR-466 just west of The Villages Charter School Buffalo Ridge Campus.

c. Saddlebrook Softball Complex: 2890 Saddlebrook Lane, The Villages, FL 32162

Saddlebrook Softball Complex is located off Buena Vista Blvd adjacent to The Villages Polo Fields and Saddlebrook Rec Center.

d. Soaring Eagle Softball Complex: 4390 Morse Boulevard, The Villages, FL 32163

Soaring Eagle is located just north of CR-44 on Morse Blvd.

e. Everglades Softball Complex: 5467 Marsh Bend Trail, The Villages, FL 32163

Everglades is located just south of Florida's Turnpike.

f. Farragut Softball Complex: 1288 Pearl Place, The Villages, FL 34762

Farragut is located just south of Florida's Turnpike on Bexley Trail

3. How do I get involved in The Villages Recreation Softball Program?

The first step for anyone interested in participating in The Softball Program is to complete Player Evaluations. Evaluations are held at the Buffalo Glen Softball Complex every Tuesday morning during the season at 8:00 am. Pre-registration is not needed; just arrive in time to check in with a glove, your Villages ID, and photo ID. Evaluations are conducted by a team of resident volunteers.

4. I have completed the evaluation process...what's next?

Once you have completed the softball evaluation process you are eligible to become a roster player or sub in your designated Recreation and Neighborhood softball leagues. Applications for all the Recreation and Neighborhood softball leagues can be picked up and returned at the Saddlebrook or Everglades Recreation Centers, or by contacting the specific league directly.

5. What rules and regulations govern the Softball Program?

The Softball Program is governed by the Recreation and Parks Softball Program Guidelines. The in-game rules that each league follows are located on the individual league websites. Anything not covered in the Softball Program Guidelines or league rules reverts to Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA) rules.

6. Are the Recreation and Neighborhood Leagues sanctioned by a national governing body?

The Recreation Softball Leagues are not sanctioned by a national governing body; however, the leagues recognize the SSUSA rules as the governing rules.

7. What equipment is legal in the Recreation and Neighborhood Softball Leagues?

- Footwear – Rubber cleats, turf shoes, tennis shoes, or anything equivalent are legal in the Recreation and Neighborhood leagues. Metal spikes are not permitted.
- Gloves – Position specific Mitts are permitted for catchers and first basemen only. Please see SSUSA rules for complete rules on gloves.
- Bats – Recreation leagues are permitted to use any bat with a 1.21 bpf and/or approved for SSUSA play.
- Balls – The Recreation and Parks Department provides .44/375 optic yellow Trump softball. Men use a 12" softball while the ladies leagues use an 11" softball.

8. Where can I find a softball schedule?

The softball complex schedules can be found in the weekly Recreation and Parks publication or the Recreation Softball website. Team schedules can be found on the league websites.

9. Can we practice or rent the softball fields?

Any resident or guest with a valid ID can utilize the softball facilities at any time that league games or Recreation sponsored events are not taking place.