

Williamsburg Senior Softball League



Membership Business Meeting
December 8, 2022

2022 Board of Directors

- Jim Ratkus, Commissioner (through August)
- John Antretter, Deputy Commissioner**
- Steve Chisholm, Secretary
- John Stout, Treasurer**
- Ben Di Vito, Webmaster
- Dick Hoell, Comm. Director** ** Term Over

History and Future

2019 - Inaugural season, 35 players/3 teams/24 games

2020 - Covid season, 56 players/4 teams/25-26 games

2021 - ~85 players/6 teams/32-33 games

2022 - ~100 players/7 teams/28-32 games

2023 - Planning for 115+ players, 2 Divisions, 8-9 teams:

- Yorktown Division (younger, competitive)
- Jamestown Division (older, relaxed)

Corporate Sponsors (1)



Javier Fuentes, Agent



Tidewater Orthopaedics
Specialized Care You Can Trust



Corporate Sponsors (2)



Volunteers Are Vital

- WSSL relies on a cadre of volunteers to make the league work.
- Many important jobs:
 - Umpires
 - Scorekeepers
 - Scheduler for umpires, scorekeepers and substitutes
 - Field setup and shutdown
 - Committee work
- 2022 saw an increase in volunteer participation.
- We thank you for your contributions!
- We encourage others to step up in 2023.

Planning for Two Divisions

- November league (NL) was all about learning
 - What did it feel like to just play with a bunch of old geezers?
 - What did it feel like to play a different position?
 - What was it like to have everyone play a minimum of 5 innings?
 - Kiwanis vs Quarterpath?
 - Short fielder vs no short fielder?
- Informal and formal feedback suggests the NL was a smashing success!
 - 13 players hit 23 home runs including one walk off 3 run shot and one walk off grand slam, led by Ed Ewell's 4 taters!
 - Average runs per game in November was 14.7 vs 12.4 during regular season
 - Many comments about the more relaxed and supportive "feel" playing in the NL

Planning for Two Divisions

- On to April! But there are a lot of questions to be answered
 - Where will Jamestown Division play their games?
 - Will there be specific rules for each division, and if yes, what are they?
 - Will there be an age cutoff between the two divisions?
 - Will players have any choice in which division they play?
 - How many teams in each division?
 - How many players on each team in each division?
 - And the REALLY big question . . . Will we even have two divisions in 2023?

Planning for Two Divisions

- On to April! But there are a lot of questions to be answered
 - Where will Jamestown Division play their games?
 - Kiwanis vs Quarterpath (QP)
 - Clearly, there are differing opinions as gleaned from informal discussions
 - Many want to ensure we stay connected to players in Yorktown Division by playing at QP on the same days
 - Many want to play at Kiwanis because they like both the opportunity to hit out-of-the-park HRs, and that the fence restricts how far the ball can roll
 - There are some logistical issues that need to be considered like maximizing the number of umps and scorekeepers we have, storage of equipment, etc.
 - We will also survey those who were eligible to play in the November league to hear the views from a larger population of probable impacted players

Planning for Two Divisions

- On to April! But there are a lot of questions to be answered
 - Will there be specific rules for each division, and if yes, what are they?
 - For the Jamestown Division, we made some changes for the November league to a few of our rules based on the responses to a pre-season survey – these included use of the short fielder, minimum innings, courtesy/substitute runner, and how to handle multiple HR's
 - We learned a lot in November and will be re-surveying the players
 - For the Yorktown Division, there has also been some informal discussion about both whether to use the short fielder and whether to move the distance between bases to 70 feet – Andy will be investigating both of these, plus any others which may come up

Planning for Two Divisions

- On to April! But there are a lot of questions to be answered
 - Will there be an age cutoff between the two divisions?
 - Will players have any choice in which division they play?
 - There will be a “soft” cutoff such that players younger than whatever the age is will not be able to choose to play in the Jamestown Division*
 - Both divisions will have a draft with the Yorktown Division going first
 - Players older than the soft cutoff age can declare for the Yorktown Division draft
 - We do not anticipate **telling** players they cannot declare for the Yorktown Division draft
 - Players not drafted by a Yorktown Division team will automatically be placed in the Jamestown Division draft

Planning for Two Divisions

- On to April! But there are a lot of questions to be answered
 - How many teams in each division?
 - How many players on each team in each division?
 - And the REALLY big question . . . Will we even have two divisions in 2023?
 - Last question first – we really believe we will have two, 4-team divisions in 2023
 - BUT . . . it is a numbers game

Planning for Two Divisions

- In 2022, we brought in 46 new players, but also lost 30 players
- Our recruiting committee (Bud, Marcia, and Ric) organized a number of promotional/recruiting activities during the year which both helped get visibility on the league into the community and led to attracting a number of individuals into the league
- However, the best recruiting engine we have is YOU!
- Think about people you know, especially in the ~50-60 year old range and reach out to them
- Lots of information on our website to help you sell the league
- If half the current players brought in one person each, we would easily have enough for 4 more teams!

Planning for Two Divisions

- Next Steps
 - 1st step – elect division presidents (today)
 - Andy and I both want to quickly identify at least 4 managers for each division which would operate as a Management Council (MC) with their respective president
 - Contact Andy or me directly if you have interest in being considered for a manager role
 - Andy: 757 707-6402; andmaur@gmail.com
 - Dick: 425 591-4878; rhoell@hotmail.com
 - Jamestown MC will create the survey regarding play location, rules, etc. to be sent to those who were eligible for the November league
 - These results will be used to finalize decisions on these areas – early January
 - Finally, our goal is to have answers to all your questions by March 1

Softball has never been more fun!
A fabulous slow-pitch softball league for men over 50 and women over 40.



THE WILLIAMSBURG SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE



Weekday mornings in April-October at Quarterpath Park
Rookie and former players welcome. Join over 80 local players, sign up today! Visit wsslva.org or call 425-591-4878.

WISC Off-Season Training

- Purpose: Provide a safe and comfortable environment within which members (current and prospective) can work on skills and conditioning
- 2022 was first structured WSSL off-season program
- Inputs received from focus group to enhance the program
- Program dates: 16 January - 10 March 2023
- Structured sessions (i.e. hitting, infield, outfield and base running)
- Scheduled open sessions and scrimmages will also be part of the program
- Williamsburg Indoor Sports Complex (WISC) membership (\$20/mo)
- Use of Team App required to participate (details to follow)

2023 Calendar

- WISC Off-season Program - 16 January to 10 March
- Rookie Camp - 14/16/20/23 March
- Draft for Jamestown/Yorktown Divisions - 23/24 March
- Team practices - 27 to 31 March
- Season Kick-off Party - 31 March
- Season start - 4 April
- Summer break - TBD
- End of season TBD

WSSL By-Law Proposals for Vote

Issue: Membership vote required to establish, change, remove or modify WSSL By-Laws

Proposed Changes:

1. Remove Deputy Commissioner Board of Directors position
2. Establish Jamestown Division President as a Board of Directors Position*
3. Establish Yorktown Division President as a Board of Directors Position**

*Initial term for 1 year to balance BoD terms

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Financial Report

Number of Players (2022 Dues)	119	Season Costs:		Season Costs:	
Teams	7	Fields	\$3,170.00	Website Renewal	\$125.95
Number of Games (APR-OCT)	31*	Jerseys	\$1,200.00	Liability Insurance	\$150.00
* November Games	8	Caps	\$600.00	Pre-Season Party	\$334.34
Cash in Bank - Start of Season	\$5,018.59	Balls	\$618.51	Mid-Season - Billsburg	\$285.56
Dues & Sponsors		WISC Promo T-shirts	\$1,629.04	Mid-Season - Party	\$642.39
Players Dues	\$8,420.00	Hitting Tees, Lineup Boards, Pitching Rubbers, Strike Mats, Rookie Camp Jerseys, etc.	\$572.23	End of Season Party	\$645.52
Sponsors	\$5,500.00	Score Books & Supplies	\$102.64	Christmas Parade	\$484.96
Total	\$13,920.00	Printing	\$173.80		
		Marketing – 2 Second Sundays	\$210.00	Total Season Costs	\$11,019.83
		Admin Supplies	\$74.89	End of Season Cash in Bank	\$7,918.76

What did I get for my \$75.00??



31 Games = \$2.42/game

39 Games (Nov. League) = \$1.92/game

Jersey + Hat = \$22.00

Fields Costs = \$27.00

Equipment, Softball Supplies = \$10.00

Marketing/Admin. Support = \$3.50

WSSL/WISC T-Shirt = \$15.00

Socials= \$20.00

Total = \$97.50

Umpires/Scorekeepers = \$00.00 (\$30.00)

Website (wsslva.org)

HOME

ABOUT

OPERATION

SEASONS

PLAYERS

DOCUMENTS

CONTACT

- Recruitment info on home page: **New Player Information**
 - Point your friends to this content (will be updated for 2023)
- Website will undergo revision for two-division league
- 2023 rosters, schedules, etc., will be updated in early 2023
- Note the sponsor logos are links to sponsor websites
- Navigation and pages adapt to mobile devices
- Please send problem reports, corrections, etc.
- Thanks to Carl Olexa , our backup webmaster in 2022

Get the Team App



Installing the Team App

Latest News

Registration for 2022 is [now open](#).

Preseason training sessions will be held at WISC from Jan 31 through Apr 1. Players need to RSVP to participate. See [this description](#) with links to other information.

Our annual membership meeting is planned for February 17 at 11am at WISC. Lunch afterwards will be at the [Revolution Golf and Grille](#).

Check here for updates as the weather or other circumstances might change.



Quick Links

- [Register for 2022](#)
- [Game schedule and scores](#)
- [Member photos](#)
- [Installing Team App](#)
- [COVID-19 information](#)
- [Map to ball fields](#)
- [Team rosters](#)



ELECTIONS

Commissioner

Treasurer

Communications Director

Yorktown Division President

Jamestown Division President

Questions?