

2023 Southeast Region Junior & Senior Softball Tournament Manual



July 20-23
Salisbury, NC

host: Rowan Little League

Dear Southeast Region Tournament Participants:

Congratulations and welcome to the 2023 Junior League and Senior League Softball Southeast Region Tournaments. We are pleased to welcome you and other Southeast Region State Champions to Salisbury, NC for what we have affectionately termed the Rowan Regionals.

We have prepared a wealth of information to assist you as a participant in the 2023 Southeast Region Tournament. Please review the contents of this booklet. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The next page outlines items that require your IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. **We need information on your team to be provided to us within 48 hours of your State tournament victory.** Please review with your coaching staff and league president.

The first step for your team is to call and report your victory. As soon as possible following your team's victory, your tournament director has been instructed to meet with you and call Mike Hirschman at 336.383.7498. We will gather some initial information and ensure you have received all of the provided materials.

Of note, ALL members of your team (manager, two coaches and players) must arrive in Salisbury on Thursday, July 20. You will have hotel rooms available to you beginning at approximately 2 p.m. on Thursday. Information regarding housing and team arrival is covered further in this booklet, along with the mandatory meeting schedule and tournament festivities for Thursday.

We look forward to your arrival and hope we can make your time here as enjoyable as possible, no matter what the outcome on the scoreboard.

Chris Swink, District Administrator – North Carolina District 2

Dan Wales, Tournament Director | President – Rowan Little League

Mike Hirschman, Deputy Tournament Director

First Steps

Please complete the next items in order and complete them within 48 hours so we can properly prepare for your team's arrival.

1. If you did not call Tournament Staff with the tournament director, ***please call Mike Hirschman*** (cell: 336-383-7498) to report your team's victory. Ignore this item if you have already made the call.
2. Following your phone call, you will receive an email that will require you to fill out some vital information. The word document that is sent to you includes team information, roster information and hotel rooming list.

When completing your hotel rooming list, **CHOOSE YOUR ROOMMATES WISELY**. There will be four players assigned to each room. A female coach may be paired with players in some cases. Male coaches will be expected to room together where necessary.

When you call Mike Hirschman, you will receive your hotel assignment and information on where to send your rooming list, etc. This tournament utilizes three different hotels, located in the same vicinity. Hotel assignments are determined based on availability and roster needs.

3. Please have each player, manager and coach complete a Form Release and Waiver. Each parent or guardian will need to complete the release for each player along with the manager and coaches that are consenting. These will be turned in when you arrive.
4. Please submit your t-shirt order form prior to arrival. Teams are permitted to purchase up to 25 tournament t-shirts at the discounted price of \$17 each. (During the tournament, these shirts will be sold for \$20 each.)

Tournament Contacts

Dan Wales, President, Rowan Little League | Tournament Director
Phone: 336.409.6342
Email: rowanregionals@gmail.com

Mike Hirschman, Deputy Tournament Director
Phone: 336.383.7498
Email: mwh1217@gmail.com

Chris Swink, District Administrator, NC-02
Phone: 336.813.0943

While You Are Packing

Before you depart for Rowan Regionals ensure you and your players have, at the minimum, the following items and information.

- ___ Tournament Team Eligibility Affidavit (all pages) from Data Center, which should be signed by all appropriate parties (Junior teams note: if your roster includes players who missed regular season games due to the scholastic season, you **must** have the Supplemental SL form with your affidavit)
- ___ Player Residency/School Documentation, including TPV forms (**TPV is mandatory**)
- ___ Waivers and application for tournament combination (if applicable)
- ___ League map from Data Center affidavit with player's residency or school location properly marked plus proper league president and district administrator signatures
- ___ Approved playing equipment (if not handled by players)
- ___ Player uniforms with properly affixed Little League® patches
- ___ Proper manager/coach attire, including shorts or pants (see later in this document)
- ___ Contact list for parents/guardians of players
- ___ Hotel security deposit of \$500 (see later in this document)
- ___ Completed Little League® Medical Release for all players (blank copy is included for reference)
- ___ Form Release and Waiver for all members of the team (blank copy is included for reference)

Before the First Pitch

Affidavit Check: Tournament Affidavits will be checked at the Holiday Inn Express on Thursday (July 20) beginning at 12:30 pm. Prior to Thursday, you will schedule a meeting time so tournament staff can swiftly check tournament documentation. Items that you should have at your affidavit meeting:

- Tournament Team Eligibility Affidavit, including Supplemental SL form for scholastic participation as needed
- Map of the boundaries of your league with players properly plotted and proper signatures
- All supporting residency/school documentation for players including properly completed Tournament Player Verification forms
- Documents showing approved waivers, tournament combination for players and/or league
- Form Release and Waiver for each consenting player and coaching staff member
- Medical release for each player

Pre-tournament Meeting: All managers will attend a mandatory meeting with the umpires and tournament staff on Thursday at 4:30 pm at Holiday Inn Express meeting room (first floor). This meeting is expected to last about one hour. However, you should have arrangements for your team to get to the challenger game / cookout without you in case this meeting runs longer than expected.

Tournament Format: The format for the 2023 Junior and Senior Little League Softball® Southeast Region Tournaments is modified double-elimination. The championship game will be winner take-all, with no “if game” played. This format is similar to the same used at many regional level tournaments and the Little League Softball® World Series for the past few years.

Through early round games, the bracket follows the normal movement of teams in a double-elimination tournament, which means any two losses eliminate a team from contention. In a standard double-elimination tournament, the team coming out of the losers’ bracket, which would have one loss, would have to twice defeat the winners’ bracket finalist in order to advance. However, under the modified double-elimination format, the winner’s bracket finalist and the losers’ bracket finalist are the two teams in each bracket that move on to the championship game.

This format and bracket draw are determined by the regional advisory committee and are utilized for all Southeast Region Tournaments.

Pictures: Each team scheduled to play on Sunday is required to have a team photo taken prior to their first Sunday game for potential use in World Series materials. More information about this will be available at Thursday’s meeting.

Before the First Pitch

Hotels: Rowan Regionals will utilize multiple hotels for teams, umpires and staff. They will be the Courtyard Marriott (120 Marriott Circle, Salisbury, NC 28144; exit 76 on I-85), the Holiday Inn (125 Marriott Circle, Salisbury, NC 28144; exit 76 on I-85) and Hampton Inn (1001 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC 28144; exit 75 on I-85). With as many as 14 teams in hotels this year, we could be adding a fourth hotel depending on our needs.

Teams will receive their hotel assignments when they call to check in with tournament staff.

Rowan Regionals will cover each team's room and tax expenses at your assigned hotel. Any other hotel expenses incurred by your team members will be the league's or team's responsibility. You will be assigned a quantity of hotel rooms based on the number of players and coaches on your roster.

All players listed on the team's eligibility affidavit, plus the one manager and two coaches on the affidavit, will be housed. Tournament staff will do their best to accommodate hotel requests, keeping in mind space limitations and restrictions on rooming assignments.

At NO TIME shall individuals outside of the players, manager and coaches listed on the team use the provided rooms. Violation of any rules regarding housing may result in additional expenses or loss of rooms. Parents, family members and more are responsible for their own housing and rooms may not be available at the team hotels (dependent on availability). A list of other hotels are provided in this packet. Many of these reputable hotels are located in the same vicinity as these hotels. **The tournament staff works diligently throughout the week before the tournament to communicate with managers when rooms are moved out of the team hotel blocks and into availability for parents. Please ask your parents to be patient with this process. The staff will alert you when parent rooms are about to be moved into a separate block and when they become available by email.**

Each team/league is required to place a \$500 security deposit via credit card or check upon check-in. Check may be made payable to Rowan Little League.

Each team and individual utilizing rooms provided by Rowan Regionals is expected to adhere to the following rules along with any other rules in place by the hotel. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in additional expenses or loss of rooms.

- Players are to be in their rooms by 11 p.m. unless curfew is altered by tournament staff due to the playing schedule.
- Adult supervision is always required when players are at the hotel.
- No horseplay or running of any kind throughout the building.
- Individuals must be respectful to other guests, includes teams, at the hotel at all times.
- Teams must be respectful in terms of noise to other guests. Noise complaints will result in a reduction from security deposit.
- No individuals outside of the players and coaches shall utilize the assigned rooms.
- The use or possession of alcohol in the rooms is strictly prohibited.
- Rooms should be kept respectable and at no time shall there be destruction of property.

Before the First Pitch

Admission: Little League allows admission charge for tournaments in the teenage divisions. Rowan Regionals will use this policy in lieu of the “pass the hat” donation many are accustomed to. **Admission for the Rowan Regionals will be \$5 per person for a day pass.**

Credentials: Each manager will be presented with his/her team’s credentials on Thursday, along with lanyards. These credentials should be worn when entering the complex, practice facilities, batting cages and playing field. They can be removed during activities.

Equipment: Each team will provide its own equipment (bats, helmets, catcher’s gear, etc.) and uniforms during the Region Tournament. Equipment will be examined daily by umpires and should be outside the dugout for inspection prior to each contest unless otherwise instructed.

All helmets, bats and catcher’s equipment brought onto the field must be available for inspection. A team’s equipment must be in compliance with Little League® Rules and Regulations. Any equipment found to not be proper during the tournament will be held in the umpire locker room by tournament staff until the team’s exit from the tournament. Each catcher’s mask must have a dangling throat guard properly attached to it.

Each uniform must be in compliance with rule 1.11, including 1.11 (a) (2) in regards to the Little League® Official Shoulder Patch. Each team and league are also reminded of Regulation XIII (f) which prevents a reference to a company, product or service from being added to a tournament team’s uniform or equipment once it plays in its first game in the International Tournament. Teams will be responsible for their own laundry.

Manager & Coach Attire: Managers and coaches shall wear a polo (collared) shirt which matches their team’s predominate uniform color during each game. Additionally, each must wear either shorts that are khaki or bermuda (walking) style that are khaki-color, or khaki-color long pants. No gym shorts, spandex, jeans, cutoffs, etc. are permitted.

Any coach requesting an exception to this policy MUST do so in advance of arriving at the regional.

Tournament Cookout & Challenger Game: Tournament participants will take part in a Little League Challenger Division Game with a cookout prior to the tournament. This will be held Thursday night at Salisbury Community Park. Teams are asked to arrive at the field by 6:15 pm. Each team is asked to select three players who will serve as Challenger Buddies for the game. Food will be served upon arrival for those who are buddies. Other players and coaches and managers will be served shortly thereafter.

Players participating as Challenger Buddies are asked to wear their uniform tops with casual shorts. All other players and coaches are asked to dress tastefully casual. (Uniform tops/team t-shirts are not required but are acceptable if that is what you choose.)

Beginning at approximately 7:15 pm, a Challenger Game featuring players from North Carolina District 2 will take place on Field 1.

Family members wishing to eat are asked to pay \$7 each to cover food and beverage costs. Food service for family members will begin when the game starts. North Carolina Barbecue, chips and sweet tea will be served!

All in attendance are asked to cheer on the Challenger Players and their Buddies.

Before the First Pitch

Meals: Except for the Thursday night cookout, teams are responsible for lunch and dinner each day. Each hotel will provide a complimentary breakfast for players and coaches each morning.

Coolers: **Teams will be allowed one “team cooler” for use in their dugout and will be designated as such. All other coolers are not permitted inside Salisbury Community Park.** Tournament staff will provide drinks for all players and coaches. Each facility (dugouts, batting cages, etc.) will have coolers available so that players can remain hydrated. Additional player coolers will be located at the concession stand.

Please ensure that your players’ families know that coolers and outside food and beverage are prohibited inside the softball complex. Alcoholic beverages at Salisbury Park are strictly prohibited and come with harsh penalties including police action.

Practices: Teams can be provided practice slots upon request away from Salisbury Community Park. Please contact Tournament Director Dan Wales for availability. There will be NO practices at Salisbury Community Park prior to the start of tournament games. Alternate fields may be available at Salisbury Community Park on a limited basis on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Each team will have on-site batting cages available. Water will be provided at the on-site batting cages. Teams will be responsible for their own water or refreshments at the practice fields away from the complex. **Players are required to wear batting helmets while inside a cage or hitting at all times.**

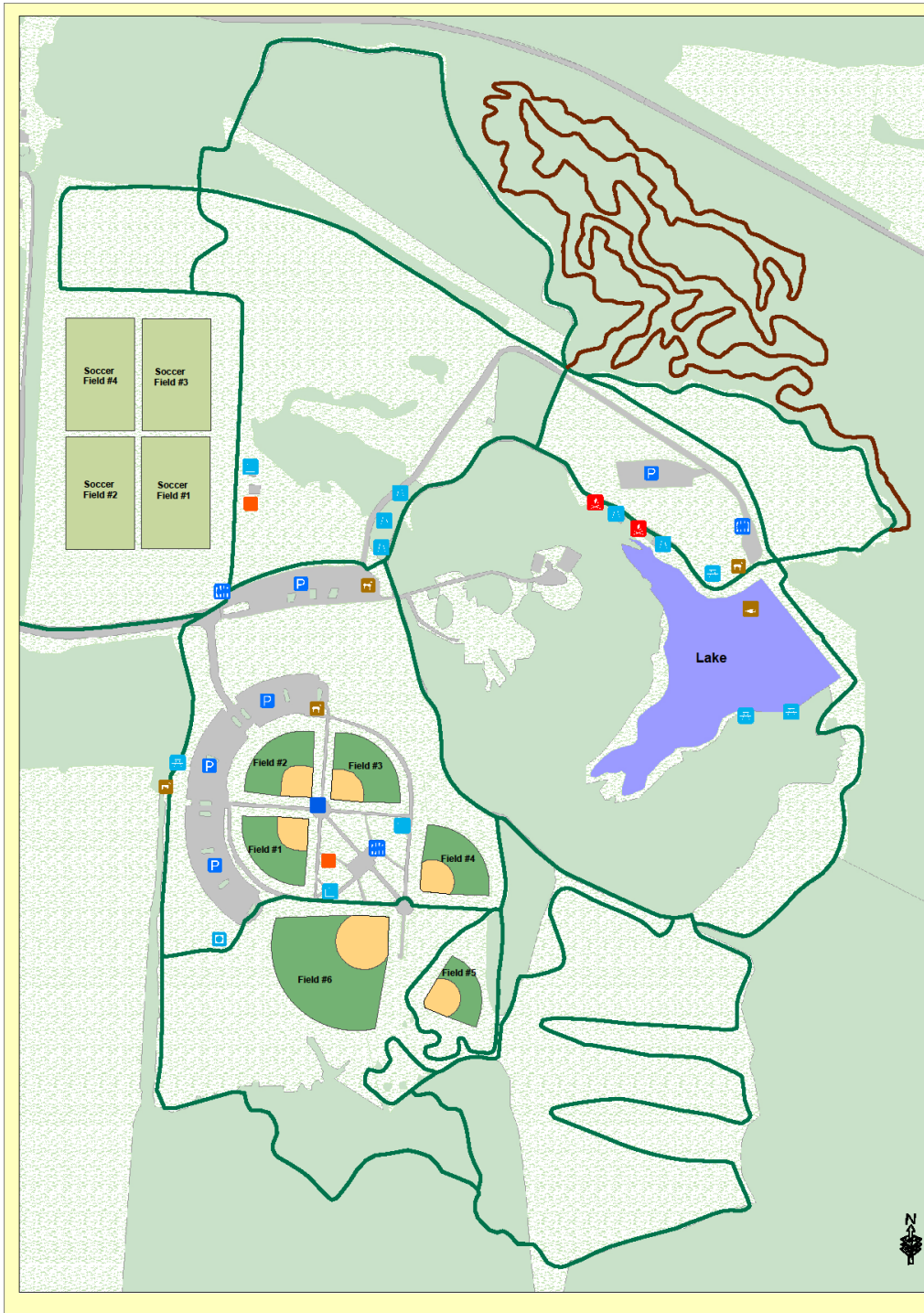
Teams MUST only use the field and cages during the days and times assigned to them. Any equipment provided at the practice site or batting cage must be returned to where it was found and shall not be damaged.

At NO TIME shall any individual who is not a player, manager or coach on the team affidavit participate in any manner, including entering the field or cages during practice and batting cage sessions.

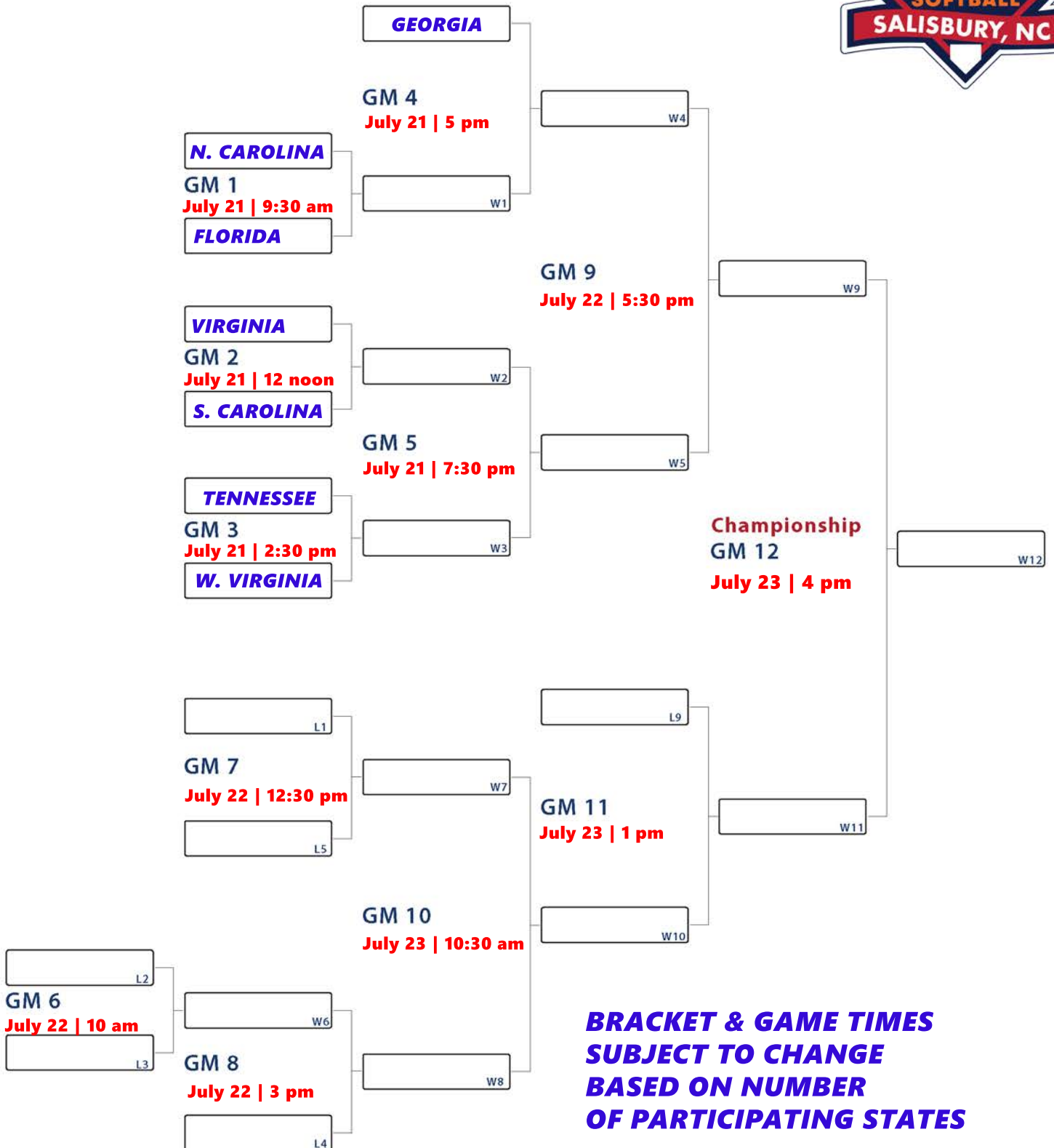
Failure to adhere to practice and batting cage policies may result in loss of use. Leagues/teams may not be covered by insurance if they practice at locations other than those assigned.

Tournament Schedule

You will notice that the four fields primarily used for Rowan Regionals are nearly identical. Therefore, our ground rules will not change should your field have to change for one reason or another during the tournament. Our plan is for all Junior League games to be played on Field 3, and all Senior League games to be played on Field 1. Field 4 is being held for infield practices when games run together. In case of significant weather delays, fields 2 and 4 will be used as needed.



2023 Southeast Regional Senior League Softball Tournament Bracket (7 teams)



2023 Southeast Region Junior League Softball Tournament Bracket



Game Procedures

Salisbury Community Park – Field Ground Rules:

Upon arrival, you will notice that the four fields primarily used for Rowan Regionals are nearly identical. Therefore, our ground rules will not change should your field have to change for one reason or another during the tournament.

There are no double first-bases on the fields, but all bases are breakaways as required by Little League rules. The fields at Salisbury Community Complex are enclosed with two exceptions. There are openings at the dugout doors on the first and third base sides. **A dead ball line will be painted from pole-to-pole at the dugout openings where the concrete begins.** Thrown or batted balls touching or crossing this line will be declared out of play and awards will be made according to rules. A fielder may reach into any out-of-play area for the purposes of making a catch. In order to make a legal catch, the fielder must have one or both feet over the playing surface and neither foot on the ground inside the dugout or other out-of-play area.

Coaches must always stay inside of the dugout and behind this white line, including those sitting on buckets inside of the dugout. Players must remain out of the doorway for safety reasons. No coaches or players shall communicate with people outside of the dugout, including scorekeepers. Electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, etc.) are only allowable for scorekeeping purposes and are not allowed on the field during play.

In foul territory, a box will be painted for a photographers' area (located approximately 120 feet from home plate). This is a dead ball area when the area is occupied by a photographer. If the area is not occupied, the area is live and in play.

All foul poles are positioned on the outside of the playing field. Any batted ball striking one of these poles in flight shall be deemed a home run.

Any ball that becomes lodged in/under the outfield fencing or banners attached to the outfield fencing shall be deemed out-of-play. The same applies to any backstop padding or windscreen.

Weather: We, along with you, hope that we will not experience any type of inclement weather throughout the tournament. However, should we encounter weather that will impact activities, we are prepared.

We take lightning safety seriously. Should lightning be detected by tournament staff within 10 miles from Salisbury Community Park, it will require a stoppage in all activities. This includes game action, pre-game warm-up and practice. Play will resume 30 minutes after the last lightning strike within 10 miles.

In conjunction with the umpires and tournament staff, play may be stopped because of rain. This includes stopping prior to rain falling to protect the field and the players.

Tournament staff will do their best to communicate with managers of severe weather either during delays or approaching weather. Teams are expected to be ready to play at the scheduled start time. Communication to all managers will be executed through group text messaging on the cell phone numbers they provide prior to the tournament.

Game Procedures

Pre-game Timing: Pre-game practice protocol will begin 70 minutes before each game. The coin flip will take place at that point with the deputy tournament director or his designee for your respective bracket. At the coin flip, the team that travels furthest (as the crow flies) will make the heads/tails call. The winner of the coin flip gets to choose either home/away or choice of dugout. The loser of the coin flip will then make the remaining option.

Following that, the following pre-game timing will be observed:

Line-up Cards Submitted to Tournament Director	:65 (lineups can be altered up to umpire plate meeting)
Batting practice in batting cages for 25 minutes	:60
Batting practice in batting cages ends	:35
Infield practice for home team for 7 minutes	:27 (infield practice will be on Field 4 or game field)
Infield practice for visiting team for 7 minutes	:20 (infield practice will be on Field 4 or game field)
Field touch-up by grounds crew (if necessary)	:13
Starting lineups / Anthem (if first game) / LL Pledge	:07
Umpire Meeting	:03 (lineups exchanged now become official)
Home Team Takes the Field	:01
First Pitch	:00

NOTE: EACH TEAM IS ASSIGNED ONE BATTING CAGE FOR BATTING PRACTICE. DO NOT USE BOTH CAGES WITHOUT DIRECT PERMISSION FROM THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OR DEPUTY TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR.

Field 6 in the complex is a full sized, 90-foot skin diamond with 400-foot fences. Should teams want to take ground balls and fly balls during batting cage time, this field can be shared. In addition, teams wanting to hit whiffle balls or compression balls should also use Field 6's outfield. **We ask that you do not attempt live hitting on Field 6 without permission from tournament staff.**

This pre-game practice schedule can be modified if game times become altered due to weather or other scheduling conflicts. Each team manager will be handed a copy of the pre-game timing for their game at the coin flip.

For the safety of everyone, please do not utilize Field 2 or 4 for any activity without expressed permission from the Tournament Director.

More Things to Know

GPS Addresses:

Courtyard Marriott: 120 Marriott Circle, Salisbury, NC 28144; exit 76 on I-85

Holiday Inn: 125 Marriott Circle, Salisbury, NC 28144; exit 76 on I-85

Hampton Inn: 1001 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC 28144; exit 75 off I-85

Salisbury Community Park: 935 Hurley School Rd., Salisbury, NC 28147

Parent Travel Planning: A great resource for parents trying to plan hotels and restaurants would be the area tourism website: <http://visitsalisburync.com/> . Along with the above listed hotels, the Home2Suites by Hilton (1300 Jake Alexander Blvd. South, Salisbury) and Comfort Suites (1040 E. Innes St., Salisbury) are convenient to the other three hotels and not in use by the tournament. For those parents possibly wanting to travel with an RV or utilize a campground, there is information on the tourism website, as well. (Camping is not permitted in Salisbury Community Park.)

Laundry: Laundry service is not provided, but we can provide you with a few laundromats between the hotels and the fields. There are also laundry facilities at your hotels.

Videorecording: Video streaming of regional tournament games is prohibited. ESPN is the rightsholder for all video content for this tournament. This includes on-demand content.

Seating at Salisbury Community Park: Salisbury Community Park features both bleacher and lawn seating. For those wishing to bring their own lawn chairs, we highly encourage finding a spot on the outfield berms. Canopy tents are permitted so long as they don't interfere with the playing area or other fans in the immediate vicinity. Tents should be removed each night before the park closes. We also ask that tents are properly secured in the event of inclement weather.

The areas near the dugouts and behind home plate will be roped off and restricted to tournament staff.

Medical Emergencies: Salisbury Fire Department and EMTs will be on-site throughout the tournament to attend to any immediate needs. For any off-site needs, Novant Health Rowan Medical Center is located at 612 Mocksville Ave. and is open 24 hours.

In any instance that medical assistance is required, at the first opportunity, managers must inform Dan Wales to ensure that proper documentation and protocol is exercised on your league's behalf.

More Things to Know

Social Media Usage: All players and coaches using social media during the tournament will limit the use of social media and only use it to express positive messages about their team. Additionally, it is not to be used to display negative messages toward players, coaches, managers, volunteers (including umpires), the tournament, or Little League International.

Social media accounts may be monitored for any inappropriate activity and may be subject to review of Little League International Tournament Committee, which may lead to disciplinary action.

Regional Champion Travel: The winner of Southeast Region Tournaments advances to their respective World Series. The Junior League World Series is in Kirkland, Wash., while the Senior League World Series is in Roxana, Del. near Rehobeth Beach. The Junior League World Series begins play on July 30. The Senior League World Series begins play on July 31. (Teams typically arrive two days before.)

Barring long weather delays, the winning teams will return home following the completion of the Region Tournament and will be flown to the respective World Series areas from an airport near the team's hometown. Little League® headquarters staff will work with the league regarding travel arrangements.



LITTLE LEAGUE® BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL MEDICAL RELEASE



NOTE: To be carried by any Regular Season or Tournament Team Manager together with team roster or International Tournament Affidavit.

Player: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender (M/F): _____

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Player's Address: _____ City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN AUTHORIZATION: Email: _____

In case of emergency, if family physician cannot be reached, I hereby authorize my child to be treated by Certified Emergency Personnel(i.e. EMT, First Responder, E.R. Physician).

Family Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Country: _____

Hospital Preference: _____

Parent Insurance Co: _____ Policy No.: _____ Group ID#: _____

League Insurance Co: _____ Policy No.: _____ League/Group ID#: _____

If Parent(s)/Legal Guardian cannot be reached in case of emergency, contact:

Name Phone Relationship to Player

Name Phone Relationship to Player

Please list any allergies/medical problems, including those requiring maintenance medication (i.e. Diabetic, Asthma, Seizure Disorder).

Medical Diagnosis	Medication	Dosage	Frequency of Dosage

Date of last Tetanus Toxoid Booster: _____

The purpose of the above listed information is to ensure that medical personnel have details of any medical problem which may interfere with or alter treatment.

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____
Authorized Parent/Legal Guardian Signature Date:

FOR LEAGUE USE ONLY:

League Name: _____ League ID: _____

Division: _____ Team: _____ Date: _____

WARNING: PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT CANNOT PREVENT ALL INJURIES A PLAYER MIGHT RECEIVE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL.

Little League does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, gender, sexual preference or religious preference.

_Sample Form Release and Waiver (formerly Model Release)

I _____ ,
(Name)

of _____ ,
(Address)

hereby give permission to _____ (Local League), to use photographs, voice recordings, or video taken of me during the games and events associated with Local League in any manner to help promote the league activities as determined in the sole discretion of the Local League. Such use could include publications, media releases, announcements, electronic or otherwise, and on league websites or social media pages. I understand that neither I nor my child/ward will receive any compensation if such image appears in any of the manners listed above or any other manner that the league deems appropriate. I agree that such image is the property of Local League.

(Signature) _____ (Date)

(If the above is a minor, the section below must be completed by a parent or guardian)

I _____ ,
(Name)

of _____ ,
(Address)

the parent guardian of the above listed minor, hereby give my permission to
(check one)

_____ (Local League), to use photographs, voice recordings, or video taken of the above listed minor during the games and events associated with Local League in any manner to help promote the league activities as determined in the sole discretion of the Local League. Such use could include publications, media releases, public announcements, electronic or otherwise, and on league websites or social media pages. I agree that neither I, nor the above listed minor, will receive any compensation if such image appears in any of the manners listed above or other manner that the league deems appropriate. I agree that such image is the property of Local League.

(Signature) _____ (Date)