



West University Softball Association

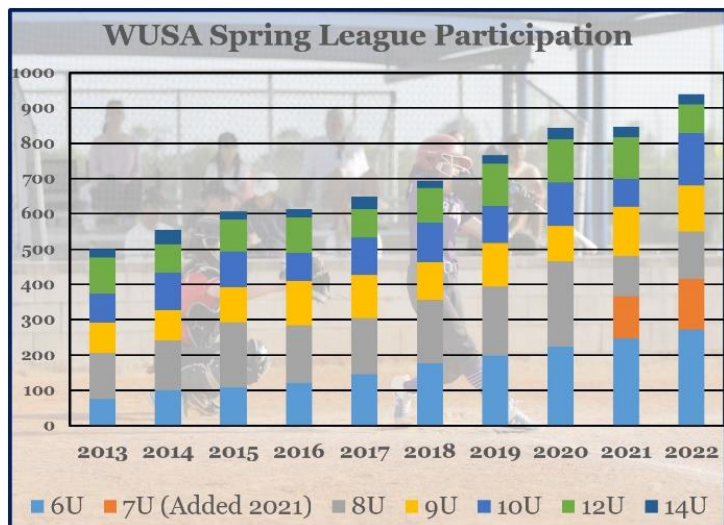
Winter 2021 – Spring 2022 Newsletter

WUSA Friends and Families:

As we wrap up our Spring Softball season we have much to celebrate. In this issue, we will recap some of the great on-the-field and off-the-field softball moments from our spring season, we will review plans for our facilities upgrades, and we will spotlight some of the participants in the league that not only help make WUSA an amazing place to play the sport but also help WUSA grow as a community of players, families and supporting staff.

Spring 2022 WUSA Recreation League Recap:

This spring, WUSA again exceeded previous years' enrollment and each age division saw increased participation. We noted significant enrollment in our 6U division which portends a strong future for WUSA in the coming years.



While the league prioritizes fun and skill development above winning, we want to recognize the division champions for the overall season and season-closing tournament. Congratulations!

Division	Spring Season Champions	Spring Tournament Champions
7U	Volcanoes	Volcanoes
8U	Hypernova	Cosmos
9U	Pumas	Tigers
10U	Moccasins	Rattlers
12U	Impact	Heat

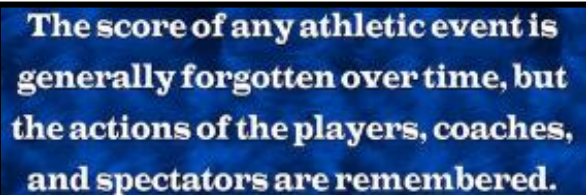
Quality of Play: Assessment of Recent Rule Changes

WUSA continues to implement rule changes and tweak our divisions to strengthen the quality of league play and the overall player experience. Starting Spring 2022, we introduced rule changes for our 6U and 10U divisions. For 6U, (hosting 5 and 6 year-olds), we added a coach pitch option the 2nd half of the season for those players who were ready for a challenge. This change helped prepare players for coach pitch that they will encounter in 7U. The change received rave reviews and may have also helped prepare a few coaches for that “coach-pitcher” skill position when they move to 7U!

At the halfway point in the 10U division spring season, we moved forward with the planned change to implement girl pitch for all the innings of the games. This change replaced the use of the pitching machine for the last 2 - 3 innings in our 10U division. These adjustments are a product of the growing depth of the league’s talent and commitment by players and parents to the development of this skill position.

Sportsmanship

WUSA prides itself on not only the high quality of play among our players but also the respectful quality of coaches and



The score of any athletic event is generally forgotten over time, but the actions of the players, coaches, and spectators are remembered.

parents. As the league has grown, unfortunately, so to have the number of instances where participants demonstrated disrespectful behaviors toward fellow players, coaches, officials and WUSA staff. To maintain a positive environment for players and families, participants and observers are reminded to review the [WUSA Sportsmanship Policy](#) and the consequences of violations.

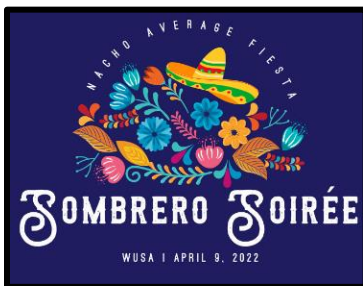
Abusive, rude, and unsportsmanlike behavior by a player, parent, spectator, or coaching staff may be determined by an umpire or a member of the WUSA Board of Directors. Anyone in violation of our Policy may be subject to the punishments outlined in the Policy, including but not limited to the immediate removal from the facilities and further suspension from attending WUSA events.

We encourage everyone to read the full policy on our website: [sportsmanship policy](#)

Auxiliary Activities Recap

Our [WUSA Auxiliary](#) was simply on fire this spring! Led by co-presidents, Megan Nicodemus and Nicole Louvar, the Auxiliary administered the successful coordination of our largest ever spring tryouts and associated division meetings to start the season and were active throughout the season with all our events.

A little bit of the old returned, as we resumed our traditional spring season opening parade and carnival with much fanfare. The familiar was combined with a little bit of the new where we blended the success of our covid-era outdoor movie night with the traditional father-daughter dance during our “Light the Night” father daughter night at our West University fields and Scout house. The WUSA Hit-a-thon was another huge success this spring and helped raise funds for our College Scholarship program and campus improvement project.



The Auxiliary kept the grown-ups engaged this spring as well by hosting a great Adult Social event at The Woodshed at Levy Park. The night was filled with fun and fundraising for the league. Thank you to all who led the event and participated.

WUSA College Scholarships

Also during our opening day celebration, WUSA rewarded alumni who are moving on to college after successful high school academic and athletic careers.

Congratulations to Vivian Montoya, Natalie Montoya, Ella Smith, Naya Olivia

Rhemtulla, Natalie Ou, Sadie Niermeyer, Annie McConn, Leah Beach, Lily Pesikoff, Caroline Steely and Jessie Beck. Good luck in college ladies!



WUSA Facilities Upgrades



For the safety of players and spectators, we recognized the need for safe warm-up space at South Campus. New this past Spring, we dedicated warm-up space for pre-game throwing and pitching behind Field #1. The space between the temporary fence and current fence was accessible for pre-game warm-ups and improved safety by eliminating throwing in the common areas. Building on the success of the change, WUSA is expanding access to the space by opening up a gate on the Left Field side of Field 1 in addition to the existing Right Field entrance. As part of our capital improvement project, we will also add new pitching lanes and other areas dedicated as warm up spaces.



Speaking of capital improvements, our existing facilities have shown some age and along with the growth of the league are in need of updates. Fulfilling a commitment starting several years ago, WUSA is expanding the central structure building to enlarge the concession space, add more storage space, and increase bathroom capacity. If you or your business are interested in contributing to WUSA's capital campaign,

including naming rights opportunities, please [contact us](#).

WUSA Alumni Update

Through a special relationship, Field 4 at South Campus is the home of the [University of St. Thomas' softball program](#). This past spring, St. Thomas senior [Taylor Le](#) played her last collegiate home game on Field 4. What made her game especially heartwarming was that Taylor began her softball career playing WUSA from age 11 to 14. Taylor also played for the WUSA Wave and Surge summer teams and graduated from St. Agnes in 2018. We are proud of Taylor's accomplishments and wish her all the best in her post-collegiate career.



Summer Tournament Teams

Congratulations to those players who are representing the league as part of our WUSA Summer Tournament Teams. We are proud to support two 12U division teams, four 10U division teams, and three 8U division teams. While many of these teams are winding down the summer season by the time you read this, we have had a number of successful showings throughout and beyond the Houston area. The WUSA homepage highlights a number of our victorious teams.



If you are new to the league or not familiar with our summer program, these tournament teams play between 5 and 8 weekend tournaments between Mother's Day weekend and the middle of July. Teams typically play between 30 and 50 games against select ball and recreation

teams throughout the Houston area. This summer season, our teams traveled farther and participated in tournaments in OKC, Galveston, Gulf Shores, and San Antonio to name a few. At these events, our girls



met competition from all over the US and some of our teams qualified for national, invitational events. WUSA hosts both Summer and Fall Tournament teams. To find out more about tournament teams formation, please refer to Section V. of our [Administrative Rules](#).

Sponsorships

We are deeply appreciative for our sponsors who help us provide these great softball experiences to our WUSA families year after year. Please support [our sponsors](#) from 2022 and let them know you appreciate their commitment to the league.

WUSA has several sponsorship options at different price points and can create customized sponsorship opportunities to meet a sponsor's specific interest. To discuss sponsorships, please [contact us](#).

Recognitions and Thanks!

We want to thank all the parents, volunteers, and officials who helped make this a successful spring season. WUSA could not operate without your time and support. We hope you treasured the memories and friendships gained during the Spring season. We wish you a happy summer and look forward to seeing you for our fall recreation season.

A special thank you for our outgoing Treasurer, Tracy Hale, and outgoing President, Jenny McCarthy who have each served on our Board for several years. These two individuals and their families have been an integral part of the continued success and development of our league. We owe them our deepest gratitude not only their years of administrative service, vision and guidance, but also their example of how to bring an infectious joy of the game which they shared with so many players and families!

Michael Liebl

WUSA Vice President



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fall 2022 Early Registration Opens – July 24th – 31st, 2022
- Fall Regular Registration – August 1st, 2022 – August 24th, 2022
- Manager Meetings Begin – August 29th, 2022
- Fall Season Practices Begin – Week of September 5th, 2022

If you missed any of our past newsletters, link to them here:

[Summer/Fall 2021](#)

[Winter-Spring 2021](#)

[Fall 2020](#)

[Summer 2020](#)

[Spring 2020](#)

[Winter 2019](#)

[Fall 2019](#)

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