



WEST VALLEY SOFTBALL PARENT MEETING
APRIL 3, 2023

WELCOME BACK TO SOFTBALL SEASON!!

- 2023 Season – Changes, Important Dates
- Equipment Required
- Safety
- Uniforms – Team Gear
- Weather Policy
- FAQs
- Off Season Activities
- Parent Questions

WEST VALLEY BOARD MEMBERS

- Paul Seipp, President
- Lance Block, Vice President
- Chris Robertson, Past President
- Sara Gauthier, Silver Springs Program Coordinator

Board Members

Chad Dennis

Kyla McMullin

Nadine Saunders

Theresa Wawrykow

Craig Cameron

Jeremy Crouteau

2023 NEW INITIATIVES

- Fall 50/50 Raffle – Proceeds to Diamond Equipment
 - Diamonds to have new equipment boxes with umpire equipment, Chalker, drag, and rake in addition to bases and cones
- 2023 Season Equipment
 - Purchased 6 new sets of catcher equipment, new bownets, new pitching machine for batting cage
 - Long delivery required to purchase in June 2022, some equipment was not delivered until January 2023
- Coaches
 - 9 coaches take their Level 1 certification this season
 - 3 coaches take their Level 2 certification this season
- Equipment Swap
- Try Softball Day
 - ~50 players from 5-13 years old
 - Led by the U17 & U19 players
- Porta-Porties
 - Partnered with Tuscany Slo-Pitch to have access to those facilities
 - Calgary Minor is developing a city-wide contract that will incorporate other diamonds

VOLUNTEERS

- Team Level Volunteers:
 - Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager
 - Umpire, Score Keepers, Umpire Liaison, Diamond Set-Up
 - Parent to help with warm-ups
 - Fundraising Coordinator
 - Tournament Organizer
- Organization Volunteers:
 - Board Members
 - Diamond Maintenance
 - Equipment
 - Uniforms
 - Age Group Coordinators

SOCIAL MEDIA - CONTACTS

- Facebook – West Valley Softball
 - Equipment Swap
 - Coaches Group
- Instagram – @westvalleysoftballcgy
- Website - <https://www.westvalleysoftball.ca/>
- Calgary Minor Softball - <http://calgaryminorssoftball.com/>

Silver Springs Community Center

- Sara Gauthier – Registration, General Inquiry
- Paul Seipp – Off-season training
- Lance Block – Pitching Clinics
- Chris Robertson – Catching Clinics

2023 SEASON

- April 28-30 – Opening Weekend – All teams play up to 4 games that weekend
- Staggered length of the season
 - Division 3 + U9-U11 - City Championship End Date - Sunday, June 25th
 - Division 2 - City Championship End Date - Sunday, July 9th
 - Division 1 - City Championship End Date - Thursday, July 27th

2023 SEASON

- Implement a structure where all levels of athletes have the ability to achieve success
- Provide multiple levels of competitive play – all teams want to be competitive no matter the level of play
- U11 and U15 – Play on Tuesday and Thursday nights
- U9, U13 and HS – Play on Monday and Wednesday nights

TIMBITS SOFTBALL

What is Timbits Softball?

The Timbits Softball program (formerly known as the Learn to Play program) is designed to be a young person's introduction to the sport of Softball. The program is designed with small area games and drill stations as set out by Softball Canada to engage each child and to develop the basic movement and techniques required to progress in softball and sport in general. Through the Timbits program there is a consistent national softball program for children, coaches, and parents. This is an introductory level, and no prior softball experience is required.

Timbits Softball provides children aged five to seven (5 to 7) with maximum opportunity to practice the skills necessary to successfully take part in the game of softball. This program is designed to allow your child to progress at their own rate in a fun and positive environment, and to give them the confidence to succeed in the next level. The drills and activities will allow players to develop their skills in the basics of throwing, catching, batting and running. The drills also offer a high success rate for every child, which improves every player's self confidence.

Timbits Softball allows children of all skill levels to achieve the same number of skills repetitions. Players will get to experience the thrill of getting their first hits, outs and home runs in exciting game play.

The emphasis is on FUN, ACTION, and a POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE, with a gradual introduction to non-stressful competition.

U9 SOFTBALL

U9 is the exciting bridge between Timbits and the U11 category. The goal is to give every player the ability to succeed while introducing the positions and more of the rules. To allow players to hit and have more opportunity to make defensive plays, the Association has modified the rules for the U9 division. The U9 modified rules have the basic rules of softball applied such as double plays, tagging up on a fly ball, etc.; however, the following modifications are designed with the majority of eight and nine (8 and 9) year old player abilities in mind.

The Principles of U9 are:

- No walks – every run will come off a hit ball. Encourages more hitting and defensive plays for the infield
- This is a player pitch format – encourages more players to try pitching without the worry about walking batters.
- The home run line will become a major factor and the home run will be an exciting play for all players and fans to look forward to.
- Roster size is limited to no more than nine (9) players allowing more time on task
- There are unlimited substitutions – no player will sit out two (2) consecutive innings

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- Required
 - ASA approved batting helmet with a softball faceguard
 - Glove
 - Fielding mask
 - Jill
- Recommended
 - Cleats (non-metal spikes)
- Optional
 - Batting Glove
 - Personal Bat
- Team bat, balls, bases, hitting tee, catcher gear and other team gear provided.

SAFETY

West Valley Rule All Age Division

- All players must wear a fielder's mask during gameplay in the infield.
- When warming up all players must wear the fielder's mask

Calgary Minor Softball Rules All Age Division

- All players on the bench must wear a batting helmet unless the field has a dugout
- Anyone warming up the pitcher must wear a face mask

UNIFORMS

- West Valley introduced new jersey for 2022 season
- Other items required: Red belt, black pants, team matching socks
- Div. 2&3 players have been fitted for team hoodies – Delivery first week of May

TEAM GEAR

- West Valley Online Store
 - Option to purchase other styles of apparel for parents or players
 - Headwear, t-shirts, long sleeve shirts, crewneck, fleece, hoodies, jackets, tumbler
 - <https://tuxedo.itemorder.com/shop/>
 - Code: westvalley

- 10% Discount with West Valley on equipment purchase at Tuxedo Source for Sports
2520 Centre Street North, Calgary, AB, Canada

WEATHER POLICY

- Lightning Rule 30/30 – Within 30 seconds/Stop play for 30 minutes
- Cold Weather Limit +4C
- Air Quality Index – High Limit of 7
- Heat Policy – Will be finalized before the season
- Rain – Coach's discretion based on the safety of the field
- City-Wide Cancellation – Will be communicated by CMSA by 4 PM by email and facebook

FAQS

- Diamonds – West Valley rents diamonds from the City of Calgary. The diamonds are maintained by the City of Calgary.
 - Pre-Game fit for play or safety of the field is everyone's responsibility
 - A few diamonds were released this season due to the quality and safety of the field.
 - City of Calgary diamond costs increase by 60% this season
- TeamSnap – Team management software allows for easy schedule and information communication.
- Respect in Sport – All families must have a certification
- Team practice and batting cages session to be set by team coaches with input from players and parents

OFF SEASON ACTIVITIES

- September ID Camps
- West Valley Winter Training Program runs from mid-October to mid-December
- Association Fund-Raising
- West Valley Indoor Spring Training starts in February and until early April
- Calgary Minor Softball Fall League
- Pitching Clinics
- Catching Clinics

PARENT QUESTIONS

- Please type in the chat or raise your hand to be called on