

Mercer 50+ Senior Softball 2021

Once again Covid-19 rules are in effect and players are prohibited from using the dugouts. Please ensure that all players bring portable seating with them. For further rules on this, please visit our website.

Roberto's team (aka. Marty's Place) has rejoined the League making a League total of 7 teams. The addition of his team will create byes in the schedule for all teams. His team will compete in Division II.

We requested fields #1 and #3, for early and late games as per 2020. This was denied as the Park reverted back to the assigned fields for 2019 and pre Covid. This leaves us with field # 4 for early games and #3 for both early and late games on Mondays. On Wednesdays we have field # 3 for both games and field # 1 for late games. This creates a 50-50 split between early and late games for each team.

The vast majority of games will be against opponents in your Division. Attempts will be made to keep all Division I games in a fenced ballpark. In token games between Division I and Division II teams' field #4 will be used accordingly.

THE SEASON WILL OPEN ON APRIL 12. Marty's place will draw the first BYE. My team will open on field #3 for the early game, mainly to distribute the softballs to the teams. Please see me for your balls. Marty's Place will receive their equipment and balls on April 14.

We are on the waiting list at Mercer Park in the event a better field pops-up.

Since the schedule is going to take considerable time to make up, it should be ready by the beginning of next week for distribution. Save any issues you may have until then.

On the budget front, Lenny's group was retained as the low bidder of \$37 per game and lower contingency prices. We were able to secure the insurance at a reduced price of \$35 per team for Covid consideration. Softballs were ordered from BSN in Texas at a 2018 price match of \$ 40. per dozen. **The total dues for each team this year will be \$ 675. Please arrange payment by June 1.**

In the event of make-up doubleheaders, full games will be played with a 10- run mercy rule.

In the event of darkness on field #4, please use common sense in halting play. Rainout rules will apply.

The following rules were enacted last year and remain in effect this year:

*Revert back to the rule which allows the home team to score as many runs as the visitors in the first inning plus an additional 5 runs.

*FLIP/FLOP rule – (test run only this year) – If after 6 innings the visitor team is ahead by 12 or more runs, the teams will change positions for the following inning. Thus, the visiting team will again take the field and the home team will remain at bat for the last inning. If the home team does not score enough runs to catch the visitors, the game is over. If they do then the visitors get to bat.

*In the event of a tied game at the end of 7 innings, extra innings will be played. The player that made the last out for each team will be placed at second base with the opportunity to score. A substitute runner is not allowed and that player must score himself. The game continues in this fashion until there is a winner.

Regards,

Steve