

What Softball programs are available?

We provide the following programs in Spring and Fall:

- Softball T-Ball: girls 4-6 years old
- 8u Coach Pitch: coach pitch softball for 6-8 years old
- 10u: fast pitch softball for 9-10 years old
- 12u: fast pitch softball for 11-12 years old
- 16u: fast pitch softball for 13-16 years old

*We also have a summer Softball All-Stars program dependent upon participation numbers at GCAA and within the Tar Heel League.

Click [here for age chart](#) to help determine league

When does registration open?

Spring registration is open during January and Fall registration is open during July. Watch our website and GCAA Rec Softball Facebook page for reminders.

What if my child gets placed on the waitlist during registration?

If your child gets placed on the waitlist, we're waiting for additional coaches and/or players to register to fill another team. Please give us time to work our magic, before moving onto another sport or program. We do our best to ensure we don't turn anyone away.

When will the season begin and end?

Spring Season:

Spring season practices typically start in March. Games start in April and the season ends at the end of May/early June.

Fall Season:

Fall season practices typically start in August. Games start late August/early September, and the season ends in October.

*These dates are dependent upon playable weather.

What days are practices and games?

Typically, practices are 1 weekday and 1 weekend for up to 1.5 hours per practice (T-Ball practices are 1 hour). When games start, the weekday practice ends, and the

weekend practice will continue throughout the season. You will be notified of your team's practice time/day after teams are assigned.

Games are 1 to 2 days per week (weather permitting) and schedules are subject to change. We try to schedule games the following days:

- Softball T-Ball- Mon/Tues/Thurs
- 8u-Mon/Thu
- 10u-Tue/Thu
- 12u-Mon/Tue
- 16u-Mon/Tue

*There will not be any Rec games or practices on Wednesdays or Sundays as those days are reserved for our travel program.

Where are practices and games located?

T-Ball practices and games are held at GCAA on the dedicated T-Ball field located behind Field 1.

8u, 10u, 12u, & 16u practices are held at GCAA fields 1 & 2 and Westview Elementary School. Games are held at GCAA.

**If 12u or 16u divisions play other teams within the county they will play games at GCAA and away. Schedule will be announced once finalized.*

GCAA Complex Address: 8994 Cleveland Road Clayton, NC 27520

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/38xoqL5PvV5pczYp7>

Westview Elementary School Address: 11755 Cleveland Rd, Garner, NC 27529

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/ZYxhUai57PNuaELH6>

What does my child need?

T-Ball:

Water, glove, bat, helmet, fielder's face guard (recommended but not required), and cleats or athletic shoes. The coach will determine the color of the socks and softball pants needed, after teams have been assigned. Jerseys are provided.

8u through 16u:

Water, glove, bat, helmet with face guard (a face guard on the helmet is required), fielder's face guard (highly recommended), and cleats are recommended. The coach will determine the color of the softball pants needed, after teams have been assigned. Jerseys and socks are provided.

Are scholarships available?

Yes, we have some scholarships available to assist with registration fees. We may also have a limited supply of equipment that has been donated and available.

Please email softball@gcaasports.com.

What are assessments?

Assessments are NOT tryouts - everyone that registers and pays the registration fees will be placed on a team.

Assessments are for 8u, 10u, 12u, & 16u age divisions and allow the coaches an opportunity to measure the current skills of the players at the beginning of each season. Then, coaches use that information to evenly distribute talent amongst the teams for team assignments. During assessments, girls will be asked to field grounders & fly balls, throw, hit, and run bases.

Assessments take place just before practices begin and the schedule will be emailed and posted on Facebook.

Does my daughter need to attend assessments?

** T-Ball does NOT participate in assessments.

Spring Season:

All 8u, 10u, 12u, & 16u players should plan to attend spring assessments (including coach's daughters). Watch your email and our GCAA Rec Facebook page for scheduled times.

Fall Season:

8u, 10u, 12u, & 16u players should attend fall assessments, **if:**

1. they did NOT play in the spring of that year, **OR**
2. they played in the spring, and they are moving up to a new age division this fall. For example, your child played T-Ball in spring, and they are moving to 8u in the fall.

* Watch your email and our GCAA Rec Facebook page for scheduled times.

Can I request a specific team or practice day?

We cannot honor requests for specific teams, coaches, or practice days for any reason other than placing siblings on the same team. Please notate siblings on your registration form.

What is the difference between Softball T-Ball vs Baseball T-Ball?

Our all-girls Softball T-Ball program is geared towards teaching softball fundamentals with a low player to coach ratio. We typically create teams with 5-7 girls and 1-3 coaches/volunteers. Baseball T-Ball is co-ed with mostly boy participants focused on baseball fundamentals.

Halfway through the season, Softball T-Ball works with the girls to hit underhand coach pitch to prepare to move up to our 8u coach pitch softball program. Baseball T-Ball prepares players to hit overhand baseball coach pitch.

*Make sure you register for the correct program during registration.

What do I do if I want to Coach/Volunteer?

1. Register using the online Coach/Volunteer Registration.
2. Submit your information for a background check here: <https://gcaa.quickapp.pro/>

What is the summer Softball All-Stars program?

GCAA Softball holds tryouts for 8u, 10u, 12u, & 16u (depending upon the GCAA and Tar Heel League participation in each age division) at the end of the regular spring season for our All-Stars teams. Our All-Stars teams play in the Tar Heel League All-Stars District Tournament in hopes of advancing to the Tar Heel League State Tournament.

Players are selected based on two main criteria: 1) performance during the spring season and 2) performance during tryouts. A poor performance during tryouts may not preclude a player from making the team, just like a terrific performance at tryouts may not ensure them a spot on the team. We use BOTH criteria when making selections.

How do I become a sponsor?

Our registration fees do not cover all the expenses to run our program. Therefore, we need the help and support of our community and local businesses with donations and sponsorships! Please read about our sponsorship opportunities on our home page: <https://gcaasports.teamsnapsites.com/softball/>

Scroll to the bottom to make donations and learn more about various contribution levels. Donations from \$1 to \$10,000 can be made at any time and are greatly appreciated.

We can also take donations of gently used equipment to pass along to players in need.

How do I stay informed?

Check out our website and stay updated by following us on our GCAA Rec Softball Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/gcaasoftball>.

Also, make sure you download the TeamSnap app on your phone to communicate with your coach and team during the season.

You may also email us with any questions at: softball@gcaasports.com.