

NASSAU COUNTY SOFTBALL



2026 HANDBOOK

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Introduction

Dear Coach:

The “Section VIII Softball Handbook” is a resource for coaches. It contains information that you may need to access pertaining to the 2026 softball season including procedures, rules, regulations and important dates. Please read it thoroughly and feel free to call me if you have any questions.

"Teamwork is really a form of trust. It's what happens when you surrender the mistaken idea that you can go it alone and realize that you won't achieve your individual goals without the support of your players."

On behalf of the Softball Committee:

Good Luck this season!

Sincerely,

Rachel Barry

Rachel Barry
RBARRY@emufsd.us

Committee and Coaches Association

2026 COMMITTEE

Rachel Barry- Section VIII Coordinator
RBARRY@emufsd.us

Larry Steimer- NC Softball Officials Chairperson
Rick Norris- NC Softball Rules Interpreter

Nassau County Executive Board 2026 Season

President - Eric Sutz, Port Washington, (Term Ends July 1st 2027)

Vice President - Jonathon Welsh, Hewlett (Term Ends July 1st 2029)

Secretary - Chris VanKovics, West Hempstead, (Term Ends July 1st 2028)

Fundraising - Anthony Turco, Carey, (Term Ends July 1st 2028)

Treasurer - Claire Travis, Island Trees, (Term Ends July 1st 2028)

Social Media - Kristen Sandberg, Wheatley (Term Ends July 2028)

Officials Liaison - Alex Abanavas , Clarke, (Term Ends July 1st 2028)

Senior Game - Kim Kessel, Glen Cove, (Term Ends July 1st 2028)

Assistants:

Denise Tretola, Roslyn

Danielle Fazzolare, Plainedge

Record Keeper - Carlo Quagliata, Oceanside, (Term Ends July 1st 2028)

At Large Board Members:

Carmine Verde, Long Beach

Tom Llewellyn, Baldwin

Dave Anderson, Syosset

Chris Ceruti – Past Coordinator

2026 Conference Coordinators

C o n f	Coach	School
1	Christina Castellani	Massapequa
2	Alex Abanavas	Clarke
3	Claire (Travis) Hill	Island Trees
4	Kristyn Sandberg	Wheatley
5	Alexa Corben	Jericho
6	Denise Tretola	Roslyn

Overview/Timeline

2025-2026 Overview

Class AAA, AA, A, B

All 57 Schools will be seeded based solely on ability from 1 (highest) - 57

Seven Conferences

Conference 1-4 will consist of 9 teams and will play 2x, home and away for a total of 16 league games

Conference 5-6 will consist of 10 and 11 teams and will play everyone 1x and some opponents 2x, for a total of 18 league games

Post Season:

Each team will be placed in the appropriate classification bracket.

Straight seeding for playoffs.

Teams will be seeded based upon conference finish.

No team shall displace a team from a higher conference.

Class AAA - Top 8 teams qualify.

Class AA - Top 12 teams qualify.

Class A - Top 8 teams qualify.

Class B - Top 4 teams qualify.

Conf 1 & 2 - All Teams Qualify

Conf 3 - 50% - 8 Games out of 16 to qualify

Conf 4 - 63% - 10 Games out of 16 to qualify

Conf 5 - 83% - 15 Games out of 18 to qualify

Conf 6 - 89% - 16 Games out of 18 to qualify

Note: if the playoff bracket is not filled with teams who qualify with % then remaining slots are filled in order from conference 3 as the starting point.

****Note: if more teams qualify then playoff bracket we will have a play in game between the last qualifying teams****

Playoff tiebreakers for identical records within conference play follows:

- 1- Head to Head
- 2- Common opponent in descending order in conference
- 3- Run differential between the two tied teams, with a maximum of 12 runs per game played during league play.
4. Coin Toss

Conference Champions

- 1- Head to Head
- 2- Common opponent in descending order in conference
- 3- Run differential between the two tied teams, with a maximum of 12 runs per game played during league play.
4. Least Runs Given Up in League Play
5. Coin Toss - If Three Teams are Tied, We will use a 6 sided dice and assign two numbers to each team. The number that comes up is the winner. The two remaining teams will then be assigned 3 numbers for the 2nd and final toss.

Conference 1			Conference 2			Conference 3	
Team #			Team #			Team #	
1	Massapequa		1	Bellmore JFK		1	Levittown Division
2	Oceanside		2	Bethpage		2	Long Beach
3	Syosset		3	Mineola		3	Port Washington
4	MacArthur		4	Carey		4	Herricks
5	Mepham		5	Farmingdale		5	Garden City
6	Seaford		6	Clarke		6	Locust Valley
7	Glen Cove		7	East Meadow		7	Carle Place
8	Calhoun		8	Plainview JFK		8	Island Trees
9	Wantagh		9	Plainedge		9	Hicksville
Conference 4			Conference 5			Conference 6	
Team #			Team #			Team #	
1	Wheatley		1	Valley Stream Central		1	Great Neck North
2	Valley Stream North		2	Lynbrook		2	Great Neck South
3	Baldwin		3	Jericho		3	Westbury
4	New Hyde Park		4	Freeport		4	Roslyn
5	South Side		5	East Rockaway		5	Uniondale
6	North Shore		6	Oyster Bay		6	Malverne
7	Floral Park		7	Lawrence		7	Friends Academy
8	Manhasset		8	West Hempstead		8	Roosevelt
9	Hewlett		9	Valley Stream South		9	Sewanhaka
			10	Elmont		10	Cold Spring Harbor
						11	Hempstead

Timeline:

DATES FOR REGULAR SEASON PLAY:

Day one, March 9, 2026

Scrimmage/NL Start, March 16, 2026

League Play Game one: March 25, 2026

Last Game Scheduled May 9, 2026

Rain Dates May 10,11

End of Season Meeting for playoffs May 9th (on zoom) *if League schedule complete

End of Season Meeting for awards May 11th(in person) at EMHS

***COACHES DIRECTORY**

Nassau County Softball 2026 Coaches Directory
-available for Coaches and Administrators only

Rule changes/updates/reminders and Section VIII/NYSPHAA Policies

For: Section VIII and NYSPHAA

- Softball Regulations
- Waivers
- NYS rules/waivers
- NYS Weather
- Additional NYSPHSAA Policies

ALL FOUND IN FOLDER:

JV Softball

JV SOFTBALL GAME PLAY

2026 JV Softball

Two-Hour Time Limit and Five Runs Per Inning

Here are some guidelines to make this program work smoothly:

1. The time limit starts at the end of the pregame conference, not at the scheduled start time. For example, if the game is scheduled for 4 o'clock but the pregame conference does not end until 4:10 then no new inning can start after 6:10.
2. When the conference breaks up, the officials will let the coaches know the start time. 3. Once an inning starts it is played to completion, both the top and the bottom of the inning, with one exception when the home team is ahead, the bottom of the inning does not have to be played.
4. The new inning starts time wise when the last out is recorded in the previous inning, not when the team takes the field or when the warm ups are completed. 5. When it is getting close to the time limit the officials will let the coaches know how much time is remaining. A good rule of thumb is the officials will let the coaches know somewhere around the ten-minute mark.
6. It is unsporting for a team to stall to end the game early.
7. If both teams want to not start a new inning at shortly before the time limit, it will be allowed.
8. Calling a game for dark, rain, fire, panic or other peril etc. still remains, as rule book referenced.
9. Innings 1 - 6 allow no more than 3 outs or a maximum of 5 runs scored per 1/2 inning. Unlimited runs in the 7th inning. With advance notice, inning 5 or 6 may follow the unlimited runs procedure if getting close to the time limit. Once the fifth run scores in inning 1-6 the inning is over. If 4 runs have already scored and the player hits a three run homerun, only one run counts.

NEW**** 10. REMOVE THE 5 RUNS PER INNING-----if you are playing an opponent for the second time and the game was competitive the first round, the coaches and notify the official that there are not restrictions with runs per inning. *2 hour time limit will stay!

Turf fields

NO METAL CLEATS HERE!!!
South Side
Seaford
Farmingdale (MS)
Port Washington
East Rockaway
Hewlett
Roslyn
Hicksville
Wantagh
VSN
VSS
CSH
Plainedge
Manhasset
Freeport
Garden City
Oceanside

Regular Season Schedule

Nassau County SB Schedule 2026-TENTATIVE

Teams By Classification within the conference lay out:

Conference 1 - 9 Teams/16 League Games

School	Classification
Massapequa	AAA
Oceanside	AAA
Syosset	AAA
MacArthur	AA
Mepham	AA
Seaford	A
Glen Cove	AA
Calhoun	AA
Wantagh	A

Conference 2 - 9 Teams/16 League Games

School	Classification
Bellmore Kennedy	AA
Bethpage	AA
Mineola	A
Carey	AA
Farmingdale	AAA
Clarke	AA
East Meadow	AAA
Plainview JFK	AAA
Plainedge	A

Conference 3 - 9 Teams/16 League Games

School	Classification
Division	AA
Long Beach	AA
Port Washington	AAA
Herricks	AAA
Garden City	AA
Locust Valley	A
Carle Place	B
Island Trees	A
Hicksville	AAA

Conference 4 - 9 Teams/16 League Games

School	Classification
Wheatley	A
VSN	A
Baldwin	AAA
NHP	AA
South Side	AA
North Shore	A
Floral Park	A
Manhasset	AA
Hewlett	AA

Conference 5 - 10 Teams 18 League Games

School	Classification
VSC	AAA
Lynbrook	A
Jericho	AA
Freeport	AAA
East Rockaway	B
Oyster Bay	B
Lawrence	A
West Hempstead	A
VSS	A
Elmont	AA

Conference 6 - 11 Teams 18 League Games

School	Classification
GNN	AA
GNS	AA
Westbury	AAA
Roslyn	AA
Uniondale	AAA
Malverne	A
Friends Academy	B
Roosevelt	AA
Sewanhaka	AA
Cold Spring Harbor	B
Hempstead	AAA

Post Season Schedule

DATES FOR POST SEASON PLAY:

SUNDAY	MAY	10	BRACKETS ON ZOOM		
MONDAY	MAY	11	MEETING AT EMHS		
TUESDAY	MAY	12	PLAY IN GAME		
WEDNESDAY	MAY	13	QUARTER FINAL GAME 1	@ HIGHER SEED	5:00 PM
THURSDAY	MAY	14	QUARTER FINAL GAME 2	@ LOWER SEED	5:00 PM
FRIDAY	MAY	15	RAIN DATE		
SATURDAY	MAY	16	QUARTER FINAL GAME 3	@ HIGHER SEED	10:00 AM
SUNDAY	MAY	17	RAIN DATE		
MONDAY	MAY	18	OPEN		
TUESDAY	MAY	19	SEMI FINAL GAME 1	@ HIGHER SEED	5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	MAY	20	SEMI FINAL GAME 2	@ LOWER SEED	5:00 PM
THURSDAY	MAY	21	RAIN DATE		
FRIDAY	MAY	22	SEMI FINAL GAME 3	@ HIGHER SEED	5:00 PM
SATURDAY	MAY	23	RAIN DATE		
SUNDAY	MAY	24	OPEN		
MONDAY	MAY	25	COUNTY FINALS A, B GAME 1	@ FSC	10:00am/12:30 pm
TUESDAY	MAY	26	COUNTY FINALS A, B GAME 2	@ FSC	4:30pm/7:00pm
WEDNESDAY	MAY	27	RAIN DATE		
THURSDAY	MAY	28	COUNTY FINALS A,B GAME 3	@ FSC	4:30pm/7:00pm
FRIDAY	MAY	29	RAIN DATE		
SATURDAY	MAY	30			
SUNDAY	MAY	31	COUNTY FINALS AAA, AA GAME 1	@ FSC	10:00am/12:30

					pm
MONDAY	JUNE	1	COUNTY FINALS AAA, AA GAME 2	@ FSC	4:30pm/7:00pm
TUESDAY	JUNE	2	RAIN DATE		
WEDNESDAY	JUNE	3	COUNTY FINALS AAA, AA GAME 3	@ FSC	4:30pm/7:00pm
THURSDAY	JUNE	4	RAIN DATE		
FRIDAY	JUNE	5	LONG ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP A,B	AT SEC 11	TBD
SATURDAY	JUNE	6	LONG ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP AAA,AA	AT SEC 11	TBD
SUNDAY	JUNE	7			
MONDAY	JUNE	8			
TUESDAY	JUNE	9			
WEDNESDAY	JUNE	10			
THURSDAY	JUNE	11	NYS PRACTICE DAY	BINGHAMTON	
FRIDAY	JUNE	12	NYS SEMI FINAL	BINGHAMTON	
SATURDAY	JUNE	13	NYS FINALS	BINGHAMTON	

NYS PHAA Championship

- More details provided to those that qualify from the coordinator to the schools coach and athletic director
- Link to the folder with Regional and NYS Championship details: