

Carolina Senior Softball League (CSSL) – The “Saturday” League – Age 55 and above

The Carolina Senior Softball League is made up of teams within an approximate 100 mile radius of Charlotte. It was formed to provide tournament-like playing opportunities without the time and financial commitment demanded by traditional tournament ball. Depending on field availability and the number of teams expressing interest this year’s CSSL should be similar to 2011. If there are multiple Charlotte teams in the league the coaches of the teams will have the sole responsibility for their respective teams. The Charlotte teams will need to commit and pay in advance, just like the other teams.

Home-Home Series – Age Is Dependent on Competition, Usually 60+

These reciprocal events, often quite similar to those of the CSSL, are arranged with teams located further from Charlotte than the typical CSSL team. Typical opponents/sites include Sun City-Bluffton SC, Seneca SC, Hendersonville NC and Tri-Cities TN. Sometimes these events may involve a one-night stay and occasionally are played on weekdays (e.g. Seneca). Teams participating in these events have the most flexible rosters. However, if we have an established team of players in the proper age group I’ll generally call on them for these events.

Traveling Tournament Teams – Age 50 and above

These teams require the most time and financial commitment of all opportunities. Teams are formed by age group (50’s, 55’s, 60’s, 65’s, and 70’s). Typically there are several “Charlotte-based” teams.

Mecklenburg County and North Carolina Senior Games – Age 55 and above

As in past years Mecklenburg County would like to see participation in the Games. It’s an easy event to arrange if any of the established age-specific teams (CSSL or travel) wish to participate. If a “new” team must be formed solely for this event the task becomes more troublesome. Be aware that separate registration forms and fees for Mecklenburg County and North Carolina must be completed with firm deadlines.

Other Local Leagues – Not age specific

These are other alternatives, individually or as a team, and are often expensive, unless you have a sponsor, and competition can sometimes be 20-30 years our junior. Mecklenburg County, SportsLink and church leagues offer some alternatives. Several of you are already associated with teams playing in other leagues. I hope you’ll have time to fit Charlotte Senior Sports in your schedule.

See next page for a COMPARISON TABLE OF 2012 Opportunities

2012 Playing Opportunities

Playing Opportunity	Decision Deadline	Roster Flexibility	Playing Day	Age Requirements	Estimated Cost	Playing Frequency	Typical Format
Charlotte Senior Sports Weekly League	March 10 (spring league)	Players must be registered	Tuesday Night	45 and above	\$40/player (includes jersey and/or cap, game balls and umpires)	Spring – 15 weeks Summer – 15 weeks	One game per week
Carolina Senior Softball League (CSSL)	February 15	Need early team commitment but rosters are flexible	Saturdays	55 and above in age divisions (with a few 50's by exception)	Team registration of \$90. Event entry fee of \$65 per team.	8 Saturdays, scattered from March - October	3 game round robin
Home-Home Series	None	Rosters completely flexible.	Varies	Age divisions depending on competition	Host team responsible for costs. Donations accepted.	As arranged	2-4 games
Traveling Tourney Teams	March 1	Up-front commitment required as rosters must be submitted & ID cards obtained	Weekends (Friday-Sunday)	50 and above in <u>strict</u> age divisions	Expenses include tournament entry fee (~\$400/team) plus travel, meals, and lodging.	7 or 8 weekends (April to September)	5 games guaranteed. (3 round robin games followed by double-elimination tournament)
Mecklenburg County and NC Senior Games	April 1 – local games August 1 – state games	Players must be registered and roster is locked by August 1.	An occasional Saturday for practice and early Sept weekdays in Raleigh	55 and above in <u>strict</u> age divisions	Local SG fee (\$15 individual), state SG fees (\$24 individual and \$200 team), travel, meals, lodging	2-3 day event	2-3 game round robin followed by single elimination tournament
Other Local Leagues	Varies	Depends on league	Week nights	No age restrictions	League entry fee – varies	Spring – 10 weeks Fall – 10 weeks	One or two games per week