

SAAA SPRING 2025 COACHES MEETING

Date: August 11, 2025
Time: 6:00 PM
Facilitator: SAAA Board

Board Members

Jay Bokros | Gary Chambers | Taylor Alford | Daniel Hull

Kellie Stevenson | Ron Hynson | Doug Shoemaker | Jessie Tanner

SAAA's Expectations

- SAAA is a Rec program FIRST AND ONLY.
 - Quick Facts:
 - 661 players;
 - 60 teams through the park (43 Baseball and 17 Softball).
 - Goal: "Each player shall feel that he or she is a meaningful part of the team."
 - Teamwork, Respect, Community Development.
- Lead by example, be a role model.
- Positive Atmosphere:
 - Refrain from making, supporting, "liking", or otherwise encouraging negative or accusatory statements made by parents, teams, spectators, or others either in person, through group chats, or on social media.
 - **Facebook, GroupMe, etc.**
 - **Spouses and Team Parents are a reflection of the Coach.**
- Age Appropriate play—Overly aggressive play will be subject to discipline.

Winning should not be at the cost of losing sight of our goal. A great season is not based on the wins, but how many kids return the next season with a love for the game.

BASIC INFORMATION

General Information

- Head Coaches should have been signed up for Remind. Make sure to download the app and to turn notifications on. Remind no longer sends text messages. If not, contact Jay Bokros or Taylor Alford for information to be added to the messaging group.
- Background checks are required for all coaches, assistant coaches, and anyone assisting with players other than their own child.

<https://app.verifiedvolunteers.com/promoorder/54277970-6950-412b-b98d-ba36cbd2fc18>

Rules

- League rules are posted in the "About Us" section on the website. Know the rules for PRACTICE and not just for games.

Game Schedules

- **Makeup for Baseball Schedule.**

Dates	Make Up Starting at 1:00 PM (can be as early as 11:00 depending on the number of games).
9/13-9/19	Sunday, September 21st
9/20 - 9/26	Sunday, September 28th
9/27 - 10/3	Sunday, October 5th
10/4 - 10/17	Sunday, October 19th
10/18 - 10/24	Sunday, October 26th
10/25 - 10/31	Sunday, November 2nd
11/1 - 11/7	Earliest date available; if possible due to EOST

This does not apply to interleague games. Those are scheduled with the assistance of the outside park and some will not be made up.

CONCESSION DUTY

Concessions: Taylor Alford, and Kellie Stevenson.

- All teams will be scheduled for a concession slot. Schedule will be posted on the website – www.SenoiaAthletics.com
- Concession volunteers:
 - **Must be over 15 years of age to be in the concession stand.**
 - Only 2 volunteers are needed per team.
- If games are rained out, the shift may be assigned to the date of the makeup.
- Punishment for missing scheduled (or rescheduled in case of game cancellation) is as follows:
 - **The team will be assessed a forfeit for their next game.**
 - **The Head Coach will be suspended from coaching the next game.**
 - **The coach will be prohibited from coaching in any post-season activities including – end of season tournaments and All-Stars.**
- Concessions are important for the following reasons:
 - Equipment.
 - Lower costs.
 - Activities/Clinics/Allstars.

FIELD MAINTENANCE DUTIES (NEW REQUIREMENT)

Field Maintenance: Doug Shoemaker

- **INFO TO COME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

IN SEASON PRACTICE

Practice Expectations During Season.

- Games take precedence over practices.
- If the fields are lined, do not practice on the field.
 - Practice times will remain when possible.
 - Teams should use the multipurpose field to continue to practice during the season.
- Batting Cages will be used for teams with games first and then for practices.
- Equal treatment and fair opportunity. Each player should be evaluated regardless of prior history.

GAME DAY REQUIREMENTS

Pregame:

- Home Team (if a Senoia team) is responsible for checking proper base and pitching distances. However, the Away Team, if a Senoia team, should assist to ensure a speedy transition.
- Coaches should plan to arrive with sufficient time to check the field. If needed, you can attempt to drag the field or reapply chalk. However, this should not be done to cause further delay of the game.
- Ensure the proper lines are on the field. If any are missing, please be prepared to line the field.
- Begin warmup on the Multipurpose field, if the field is not available.
- Be ready to begin at the scheduled start time.
- **RECOMMENDATION:** teams should be at the fields at least 30 minutes before the game for warmup, teams should be ready to take the field 10 minutes before the start of the game.

Preparing for the Start of Game:

- Game Balls
 - 4U: Home Team will get Tee Balls from the concession stand if needed for the game. Home team coach should come get the tee balls.
 - 6U and up Baseball: Umpire will bring balls for baseball.
 - Softball: Coaches can come to concession stand for softballs. Get one new and used game ball, if possible.
- Required staff (6U and Up for Baseball and Softball):
 - Required Staff:
 - Scoreboard operator (upstairs). Must be a person over the age of 16 years old.
 - Official scorebook (can be upstairs or near field). A coach may also serve as the official scorebook (Game Changer).
 - Gamechanger is the official scorebook for SAAA. SAAA is no longer providing scorebooks. **Must keep accurate pitch count in baseball 10U-14U**
 - Home Team responsibility
 - **RECOMMENDATION:** the visiting team should also keep a scorebook in case of a dispute. **Must keep accurate pitch count in baseball 10U-14U**

Field Prep for Games

ALL Senoia teams are responsible for ensuring the distances of the bases and mound. Once the game starts, no modifications should be made to the field conditions.

- All Fields-Baseball and Softball
 - The county is only going to do the following: Batters Boxes, Foul Lines, and On Deck Circles
 - Teams are required to do the following: Place Pitching Mound, Fair Ball Arc, if needed, Pitching Circle, and Coaches Pitching Line, if needed.
- Field #1—Temporary Fence
 - Senoia v. Senoia Games:
 - 12U Home Team is responsible for putting up the fence at the start of the game and moving the mound and bases.
 - 12U Away team is responsible for taking the fence down.
 - If the opponent is not another Senoia team, then the home team will need to take the fence down as well.
 - 14U/18U team is responsible for moving bases and mound to 14U/18U distances.
 - Fence should be taken down when: (1) the following game is a 14U or 18U game; or (2) there are no games the following day.
- Fields #2 and 4
 - Home team is responsible for all field setup if team is from outside Senoia.
 - Senoia v. Senoia:
 - Home team will move the mound and bases to correct position.
 - Visiting team will line field (fair ball arc and pitching circle).
 - The reason is to allow a fair opportunity for both teams to warm up with limited interference.
- Field #3
 - Home Team shall set base and pitching distances.
 - Visiting team, if Senoia, will ensure proper field markings. If it is an outside opponent, the Home Team will be responsible.
 - Baseball teams with games on Field #3 are to remove the pitching mound to the grassy area in foul territory or outside of the fence at the conclusion of the last game played on field #3 each day.

RECOMMENDATION: Create a small field crew from parents so you have a plan prior to the start of the game.

During Game:

- Head Coaches are responsible for the conduct of coaches, players and spectators:
 - Coaches seen encouraging poor behavior will be sanctioned.
- Umpires are in charge of the game. They will oversee all action on the field and for matters immediately outside of the field that affect the play of the game.
- Board members have limited ability to intervene. Situations for when board member can intervene:
 - Safety (field and player safety).

- Assist with the removal of a coach, player, or spectator after ejection or impose a sanction.
- Respond to the disruption of play by coach, player, or spectator in a backup role of umpire or at the request of an umpire.
- Administration of general park rules for unique situations.
- Responding to Unsportsmanlike Coaching/Spectating Activities:
 - Step 1: Respectfully, ask the coach to stop, or, if unable or uncomfortable, request a conference with the umpire to address the issue.
 - Step 2: Send a representative to request the board member on duty to observe. If a board member is unavailable, please try to record the interaction which you believe is improper for the board to review.
 - Step 3: the Board will review the issue as soon as practicable to determine whether any action is needed.

Post Game:

- Exit Dugout quickly. Dugouts should be cleaned of trash.
- Head coach or designee, should sign the score card.
- Softball coaches report your scores to the Softball Coordinator.
- 24-hour rule is in effect.
 - Exception: ejections must be reported within 6 hours of the end of the game.
- Assist with the tarping the field (both Senoia teams).
- If last game of the day, please return all bases to the container which is located near Field 4's backstop. **Combination to lock is 2014.**

POINTS OF EMPHASIS FROM THE BOARD FOR UPCOMING SEASON

- **Communications**
 - Plate meetings.
 - Overly aggressive tone and demeanor; intentionally misstating rules, changing of rules. Coaches should familiarize themselves with the rules. Do not take the plate meeting for granted.
 - Discuss any special circumstances/concessions regarding players at the plate meeting.
 - Game interactions
 - Commentary regarding coaches:
 - "Bush league", "Cheaters", "Dirty".
 - Commentary regarding Umpires.
 - "Can't see"; "doesn't know the rules;" etc.
 - Commentary regarding player's ability.
 - "Can't throw a strike;" "too big to run"; "can't catch" etc.
 - Music during games and afterwards
 - Communications with coaches and board members.
 - Communication with other coaches and board members should be respectful and productive.
 - Common issues: "attacking integrity of coaches or board members"; accusations based on speculation/conjecture.
 - Social Media/Outside Communications
 - Overly negative communications on social media.
 - Threats relating to business and outside matters.

- **Conduct of Assistant Coaches**

- Head Coach is responsible for the conduct of assistant coaches and spectators.
 - Head Coach must take steps to control and not incite spectators.
- Head coach should be main executive of the team and source of any complaints should be presented through the head coach if it is a team issue.
- The head coach can remove any assistant coach at any time.
- If unable to resolve, please let the board member know.

- **Mandatory Play Rules**

- Mandatory play rules apply throughout the season and end of season tournament.
 - **6 outs on defense/must have at least one at bat.**
 - **No discouragement of players.**
- Coaches should have a plan to ensure all players have the mandatory time to play.
- Penalty for violating Mandatory Play Rules
 - Mandatory Play rules are for the parents benefit and not the opposing team.
 - ***Violation: Forfeiture of the game applies to head-to-head seeding but not to the result of the game.***
 - How reported: Coach of opposing team can report the issue immediately after the game. Parents may report the issue to the league at any time.
 - Umpires are not required to keep up with the mandatory play rules.
 - Exceptions mandatory play:
 - Time limit; late arriving player; injury; disciplinary.
 - For the disciplinary action to be applied, the statement must be made during the plate meeting or at the time the disciplinary action is being taken.
 - Disciplinary exception during the game should be counted as an out when the batter comes up in the lineup.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE EXPLAINED

- **Coach Disciplinary Procedures**

- Ejections from game: Bylaws state a 3-game suspension. Implied in the bylaws is that it is subject to the Board Review. Board Review is to determine whether the 3-Game suspension is warranted, whether additional punishment is warranted, or if there is a more reasonable outcome that could be used to deter future bad conduct.
- Procedure:
 - Step 1: Report of Ejection from Umpire and both team coaches. Immediately after the game. This applies to games with interleague partners.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The board, with limited exception, should never hear about a coach's ejection from a game from outside sources. Immediately upon the ejection, the head coach should email the board as to the ejection. A full report should be completed the day of the incident.
 - Step 2: The board will review the materials submitted and issue an initial determination as to whether the three games will be imposed.
 - If the initial determination is that the ejection will stand and the board will impose the 3-game suspension or there is a belief that further disciplinary action is warranted, then the coach can request a hearing with the board.
 - If the initial determination is to reduce the suspension to a written reprimand, to hold the suspension in abeyance, or to not impose any discipline other than the ejection, then no hearing will be required as there is no further action being taken

against the coach.

- Step 3: If additional information is needed because a hearing is necessary, the board will request information from witnesses and other coaches.
- Umpire Involvement:
 - As part of the report, the board will ask the UIC to provide an opinion as to whether a coach should be disciplined for three games or if the umpire agrees with a reduction. The UIC can take information from umpires' prior interactions with the coach, the coach's demeanor during past games, the game at issue, and the effect the conduct had on an umpire's ability to call games.
 - The UIC's recommendation is not controlling but will be afforded considerable weight in the board's determination.
- Factors that will factor in the board's decision:
 - The conduct which led to the ejection.
 - Whether the ejection was based on prolonged conduct.
 - The manner in which the coach responded to the ejection.
 - Whether the coach left immediately after the ejection.
 - Whether the coach had any warning prior to the ejection.
 - The coach's and team's prior conduct during games.
 - The coach's and team's history as it relates to unsportsmanlike conduct in games towards opponents or umpires.
 - Whether the coach can be rehabilitated with a lesser punishment.
- **Important Note:** Whether the umpire's call was correct is immaterial. The board will consider whether the umpire abused his or her authority through his attitude, demeanor and response which contributed to the coach's response that caused the ejection.
- **Important note:** An umpire's decision to instruct a coach to remain in a dugout is not considered an ejection. However, 2 or more instances of an umpire restricting a coach to a dugout during a season may result in suspension or removal for repeated unsportsmanlike conduct. Repeated violations by members of the coaching staff may result in the head coach being suspended.
- Disciplinary Matters which will not result in a hearing.
 - Written reprimands, counseling, loss of practice slot/time.
- Conduct detrimental to SAAA's business and operations.
 - Conduct which adversely affects SAAA's operation can result in disciplinary action as it violates SAAA's expectation that its coaches will represent SAAA in a good light.
 - Things the board considers detrimental:
 - Planned disturbances to the scheduling of games.
 - Refusal to play opponents scheduled.
 - Personal attacks on the league, coach, or parent.
 - Defamatory gossip.
 - Actions which affect interleague relationships.

Violation of rules, apart from penalty imposed by rule, may result in further disciplinary action by the Board, including, but not limited to, the following:

- - Forfeiture of game.
 - Restrictions on the use of player(s).
 - Suspension of player, parent, and/or coach.
 - Suspension on the use of pool player.
 - Removal of player or coach.
 - Ineligibility for coaching future seasons.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Disciplinary action can arise from any conduct which is detrimental to the

conduct of SAAA's business and activities.

A coach's conduct during the course of the season is considered when evaluating whether the coach and/or team will be allowed to serve as a coach in the following season. Even if there is no disciplinary action taken against you for conduct, repetitive instances of questionable conduct can result in a determination that a coach may not be suitable to represent SAAA. Understand, no coach is guaranteed to coach season to season. Serving as a coach is a privilege and subject to the board's discretion.

SAFETY.

- **Concussions:** players suspected of suffering a concussion must be removed from the game immediately and are barred from participating until they are medically cleared.
 - **Common signs:** difficulties with thinking, memory, or attention., dizziness, fatigue, headaches, irritability, blurry vision, vomiting, ringing in the ears.
- **Pitching:** SAAA has moved to using the MLB Pitch Smart Guidelines for games. Coaches should also monitor not just the amount of pitching done in the game, but also keep in mind time throwing in practice, throwing batting practice, other positions played, and the distance or intensity of the throwing drills.
- **Heat exhaustion** and dehydration: similar to concussion, but add thirst, heavy sweating, elevated body temperature.
- AED machine is in the concession stand.

WEATHER POLICY.

- The weather policy is posted on the website.
- SAAA tries to make a determination as soon as practicable under the circumstances and accounting for changing circumstances.
- You have the right to cancel practice on your own accord. SAAA will not reschedule practices if rained out.
- Fields are closed if Coweta County is under a thunderstorm warning/watch, a tornado warning/watch, lighting is seen from the fields/ temperatures are below 40 degrees or above 104 degrees (heat index/feels like), Coweta BOE closes school for expected weather .
- Standing water may cause fields to remain closed despite no inclement weather.

FIELD CLOSURES INFORMATION:

Field closures generally will be communicated by 4:15 on weekdays, 8:00 am on Saturdays, and 12:00 pm on Sundays. If it starts to rain during a game, we need at least the coaching staff on both teams to cover fields (required).

Coaches are expected to check for text messages 15 minutes prior to the start of any practice or activity for last minute field closures which may have occurred due to changing weather conditions.

Failure to leave the fields when the fields are closed or use restricted will result in the forfeiture of the next game and the head coach being suspended for at least one game. A second offense, the team will not be allowed to participate in a game and the game will not be rescheduled and the head coach will be suspended and subject to removal.

TARPING INSTRUCTIONS

Field cover deployment:

1. ~~Take tarp cover off the roll and put it inside the culvert.~~
2. Roll out tarp starting as close to the fence where it is stored. Unfold tarp and pull to 1st base fence (3 folds fields 2-4, 4 folds on field 1).
3. Pull tarp to the 3rd base fence. Use stakes/sandbags (at every handle location using the eyelets) on one side. Pull tarp taut on the other side and put stakes/sandbags in the same locations as the other side.
4. Put stakes/sandbags on the other 2 sides.
5. Roll the empty culvert on to the tarp to help hold it down if wind picks up.

Tarp removal:

1. Remove stakes and put them in storage location.
2. Use handles on the first base side and pull (as quickly as possible. It will get heavy with water on it) all the way to the left field fence.
3. Grab tarp (no handles here) that should be in the shallow left field.
4. Pull to the left field fence until handles are visible in the shallow left field.
5. Use handles in shallow left field to pull tarp back toward first base fence. This is to flip the tarp over and get all the water off.
6. Pull tarp until the edge in left field is lined up with the dead grass where the tarp is stored.
7. Pull the first base edge to the left field side (fold in half).
8. Pull folded side (no handles, that is on infield around the second/third base line) to the edge with handles in left field.
9. Go back and grab the folded edge in shallow left (make sure to get all layers) and fold to edge in left field.
10. Move the culvert into place in center and start rolling the tarp up all the way to the third base fence (should be roughly on the same location as the dead grass spot).
11. Need to make sure to keep the roll straight, this will ensure deployment the next time is smooth.
12. Cover the roll with the tarp cover inside the culvert.
13. Use the straps to strap the cover to the culvert.

End of Season Tournament Dates
Specific Age Divisions Will Be Announced By October 3rd.
Tentative dates: Nov 7th through Nov 16th.

DATES

Event	Dates
Opening Day	Softball, September 13th Baseball, September 13th
Out of School	October 10th - 13th no games planned
Picture Day	October 1st (Wednesday) and October 2nd (Thursday)
Registration Open	November 1st
Trunk or Treat	Sunday, October 26th