



Hello 4-H Softball Fans!

It's that time again to start thinking about your club team for the annual **4-H Softball League**. Please designate a coach for your club—this could be a past coach, or someone new if a past coach is not willing. Each club is allowed one Junior team roster and one Senior team roster.

Players will have to sign-up for softball through 4honline.com.

All youth need to be registered in the 4honline.com softball “event” by April 17. To register: log-on to your 4honline.com account and select “2017 Softball Registration” under the events tab. Let your general leader or club softball coach know that you have signed-up. If you only have a few interested members, the Softball Commission will assign them to play with another club. Please encourage teams that are small to participate!

Cost for this year's program will be \$15.00 per team. In addition to the \$15.00, there is a \$5.00 per player charge. (If your club has three or fewer players on the roster, the fee is \$5.00 per team plus \$5.00 per player charge.) To explain the extra \$5.00: a \$1.00 accident insurance fee is charged for each player because the softball program is considered league play (making it a higher risk than other projects). \$1.00 covers the cost of the official umpires at each game. The final \$3.00 is for team t-shirts. Each player will get a t-shirt with a color that represents their team! Please wear them to your games like a uniform.

\$5.00 payment is due to your coach by April 17. Payment and registration deadlines will be strictly enforced. No teams will be accepted at the coaches' meeting. Clubs will be billed after the coaches' meeting.

The coaches' meeting will be held on May 3 (NEW DATE!) at 7:00pm at the Government Center. The coach or a representative for your team must be present at this meeting. Coaches MUST have attended a Youth Protection Workshop. If they have not, the team roster will not be accepted, and the team will be disqualified. The new 4-H Softball Guidelines Book will be handed out and reviewed at this meeting. Other issues will be brought up and discussed by the Softball Commission and coaches. Coaches: please know where your home field will be by the coaches' meeting. Team t-shirt colors will also be chosen at this meeting.

The 4-H Co-ed Softball Mini Camp will be held on March 12 from 1:00-3:00pm, location TBA. Youth will learn and enhance their softball skills with stations working on batting, fielding, pitching, throwing, catching, and other game skills. The event is FREE but registration is required. 4-H Co-ed Softball Mini Camp is an event for any 4-H member who is interested in or signed-up for the 2017 4-H softball season. No prior experience needed. RSVP for this event by March 3 at 5:00pm by contacting Chelsea Dertz at (262)741-4960 or chelsea.dertz@ces.uwex.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact any Softball Commission member or myself. I can't wait to get this season started—batter up!

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