

COUNTY EXECUTIVE **BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN** PRESENTS



NASSAU NEWS

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE FOR THE AGING

60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard • Uniondale, New York 11553 • 516-227-8900

JILL D. NEVIN
COMMISSIONER

Special Edition

DEBBIE PUGLIESE
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

New York Senior Softball Association

For the Love of the Game

On May 9th, Nassau County Legislator Steven Rhoads threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Cantiague Park to open the season for the highly competitive guys, and two gals of the New York Senior Softball Association. With players in uniform and ASA umpires behind the plate, the league, team managers and players are looking forward to an exciting 2022 season!



With a minimum age of 68, the members of the New York Senior Softball Association was formally incorporated with the State of New York on October 25, 2016.

Members of varying ages and abilities take the field Monday and Wednesday mornings from May through September at Wantagh and Cantiague Parks respectively. You'll even catch them playing double headers! The league is comprised of a Commissioner, Executive Board members and eight teams, each with a manager, assistant manager, and roster of fourteen players.

If you're interested in joining the league next season, application and waiver forms are due at the end of January and can be found here:

<http://www.newyorkseniorsoftball.com/2021-player-application-waiver-release.shtml>



Bernie Rosen, Legislator Rhoads, Deputy Commissioner of Parks Frank Alagia, Department of Humans Services Commissioner Jill Nevin, Deputy Commissioner Debbie Pugliese, and New York Senior Softball Association Julius Balstieri

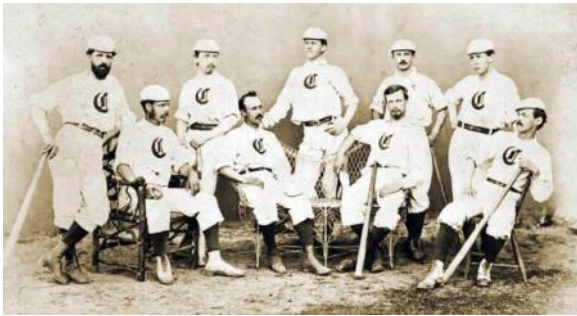


The league makes accommodations for players with features such as courtesy runners after reaching base, separate scoring and strike plates, extra defensive players in the outfield and infield. Rules are designed to enhance the safety and allow athletes to complete even if they're limited by injury or other health issues.

America's Favorite Pastime

Baseball is an American family tradition and is often referred to as America's National Pastime. Baseball has played an active role in the shaping of the nation.

Did you know that the first professional baseball team was the Cincinnati Base Ball Club? They were also known as the Cincinnati Red Stockings. They played their first professional game on May 4, 1869.



The original Red Stockings of 1868, became a professional team the following year. Photo courtesy of: <https://www.wvxu.org/sports/2019-02-22/the-1869-red-stockings-the-team-that-made-baseball-famous>



During World War I, 227 major leaguers served in the military. Among them are Hall of Famers, Christy Mathewson, Branch Rickey, George Sisler and Ty Cobb, who all served in the Chemical Warfare Service.



More than 500 major leaguers, including 37 future Hall of Famers, served in the armed forces during World War II. Now known as the "Green Light Letter", then President Franklin Delano Roosevelt encouraged play to continue to bolster morale during difficult times.



The All American Girls League launched in 1943. Photo courtesy of: <https://baseballhall.org/discover/inside-pitch/aagpbl-launched-with-great-fanfare-in-1943>

It was also during this time that women got into the action with the founding of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.



In the 1960's, Jackie Robinson became a symbol of equality during the Civil Rights movement.

He served in the U.S Army from 1942-1944, and was signed to the minor league Montreal Royals in 1946. He was called up to the major league the following year.

Robinson was named rookie of the year in 1947, league MVP in 1949 and won a World Series with the Dodgers in 1955.

Jackie Robinson was inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962.

Media Day

The Bristol Assisted Living hosted a Media Day and All-Star Game on July 20th at Cantiague Park in Hicksville.



Office for the Aging Deputy Commissioner Debbie Pugliese, Department of Human Services Commissioner Jill Nevin, members of the Senior Softball League, Legislator Rose Walker, Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jen DeSena, The Bristol Assisted Living's Julie Wexler, Department of Parks and Recreation Commissioner Darcy Belyea.

Participants for the Media Day All-Star Game were aged 79 and up. 34 players were split into two teams of 17 each for the special day.



Nassau County Legislator Rose Walker was on hand to throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

The temperature topped 90 degrees, so only 2 innings were played due to safety concerns. Each team member was given the opportunity to take the field despite the shortened game.



After the game, The Bristol Assisted Living provided boxed lunches, fruit, chips, and beverages.

A Great Time Was Had By All!



World Series

The Post Season wrapped up on Wednesday, September 21st.

Yankees

ANGELS



VS



The Yankees Win!



Thank you to NYSSA Board Members:



Jules Balistreri

Jack Battaglia

Charlie Schafer

Harvey Brittman

Jack Bassey

Al Cappelli

Frank Cecere

Alan Finchley

Joe O'Shea

Sam Quaglierini

Bob Gottlieb

Peter Dill