

COUNTY EXECUTIVE **BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN** PRESENTS



# NASSAU NEWS

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

## OFFICE FOR THE AGING

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**JILL D. NEVIN**  
COMMISSIONER

**DEBBIE PUGLIESE**  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

### Special Edition

#### New York Senior Softball Association 2023 Season

On May 8th, Nassau County Department of Parks, Recreation and Museums, Deputy Commissioner Dave Franklin, threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Cantiague Park. This opened the season for 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 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 Oct. 25, 2016.

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.



Office for the Aging Deputy Commissioner Debbie Pugliese, Julie Wexler from The Bristal, Jules Balisteri NYSSA, Department of Human Service Commissioner Jill Nevin and Parks, Recreation and Museums, Deputy Commissioner Dave Franklin



Members of varying ages and abilities take the field Monday and Wednesday mornings from May through September at Wantagh and Cantiague Parks respectively. them playing

The league is comprised of nine 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>

#### Thank you to NYSSA 2023 Board Members:

Jules Balistreri  
Charlie Schafer  
Jack Bassey  
Frank Cecere  
Joe O'Shea  
Bob Gottlieb  
Gene Hennigan

Jack Battaglia  
Harvey Brittan  
Al Cappelli  
Alan Finchley  
Sam Quagliarini  
Mike Scotto

## Baseball in Nassau County

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.

All across the US the crack of bats and cheers of baseball fans echo through the air as the country embraces its love for America's favorite pastime. With a rich baseball tradition, Nassau County has become a hub for enthusiasts and players alike.

Local teams, college and high school teams, Little League organizations and P.A.L. programs, continue to captivate the community with their talent and dedication. The county's top-notch baseball facilities, like Eisenhower Park and Mitchel Athletic Complex, serve as venues where dreams are realized on the diamond.



The youth baseball scene is thriving, with Little League programs. Aspiring players are nurtured through skill development and teamwork, fostering a culture of sportsmanship.

This past summer Nassau County was put into the spotlight with the Massapequa International 12 and Under Girls Team winning the Little League Softball World Series. It is the first time a team from New York won.



The team celebrated with a parade in Massapequa.

Annual baseball tournaments and events, such as the High School Nassau County Baseball Championship, bring the community together to celebrate the sport, creating an electric atmosphere that resonates across the county.



Nassau County's collegiate baseball teams, including those from Nassau Community College, Molloy University, SUNY Old Westbury, LIU C.W. Post, Hofstra University and Adelphi University, add to the excitement. Their games draw crowds of avid fans, showcasing the talent and passion for the sport at the collegiate level.

In 2015 the League of **Yes** was created to provide individuals with special needs the opportunity to play baseball. The League of Yes' mission is to establish and sustain baseball programs for people (of all ages) with disabilities. The objective is to provide an opportunity for those individuals to experience the joy and benefits that come from playing. The fields at Eisenhower Park are used for the league. For more information visit <https://www.leagueofyes.org/>



The Aviators of Nassau County wheelchair softball team was founded by Anthony Fitzgerald in 2003. Its purpose is to create, promote and expand opportunities for people with physical impairments. The organization has become involved in sports and

recreational activities around Nassau County, with the purpose of improving the health and general quality of life of the disabled community. For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/aviatorwheels/>

In Nassau County, baseball is more than just a game; it's a part of the community's identity, instilling values of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. The love for baseball remains steadfast, a testament to the enduring legacy of America's pastime.

## Media Day

The Bristol Assisted Living hosted a Media Day July 12th at Cantiague Park in Hicksville. Participants for the Media Day were aged 79 and up. 34 players were split into two teams for the special day. After the game, The Bristol Assisted Living provided boxed lunches, fruit, chips, and beverages.



Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman was on hand to throw out the ceremonial first pitch.



## All Star Game



All Star Game was on September 28, 2023 at Burns Park. The Grey Team defeated The Blue Team 14 to 9. It was a great game with terrific food after. Photo by John Castellaneta.

2023 Season

Congratulation to the Brewers for finishing the season in first place!

