



The Sports Page



Spring 2010

Spring 2010: The Year We Make Contact

It's been way, way too long, guys, and it's time to start playing ball again! This is how the Spring 2010 seasons will go. The Gwinnett County seasons are scheduled to begin on Monday, 3/22/10. You and I both know how starting dates have slipped by a week or two in the last couple of years, but there's a new Guy in charge now and he's saying that the 3/22 date is firm every time I ask him. We'll see, but plan on 3/22 anyway. The Spring 2010 MegaSchedule is online already. There are no game times or field assignments, yet, but it's there just waiting for schedules.

Dirty Dozen

We've been enrolled in our usual Monday, No Homer league at Bethesda and Opening Day is scheduled for 3/22. There aren't any holes in the schedule for holidays, so we'll get ten straight Mondays, barring rain.

The Cowboys

We've been enrolled in the Tuesday, No Homer league at Bethesda and Opening Day is scheduled for 3/23. We had to play up at George Pierce in Fall 2009, because the Tuesday league at Bethesda didn't come anywhere close to filling up. As long as leagues keep filling up, we're planning on keeping **The Cowboys** on Tuesdays at Bethesda. There aren't any holes in the schedule for holidays on Tuesdays, either, so we'll get ten straight weeks, again, barring rain.

Jets

We've been enrolled in the Wednesday, Equalizer league at George Pierce and Opening Day is scheduled for 3/24. The **Jets** had played several seasons on Fridays at Bethesda, but had to jump to Wednesdays at Pierce when the league did not fill up for Fall 2009. I don't think anybody was really wild about those Fridays and we kind of enjoyed playing in the Pierce league on Wednesdays, so we're leaving the **Jets** there. We should be able to play ten straight Wednesdays if Pierce stays dry.

Motörhead

We've been enrolled in the same Thursday, No Homer league at Bethesda that we've been playing in and Opening Day is scheduled for 3/25. We'll play ten straight Thursdays, unless the skies open up.

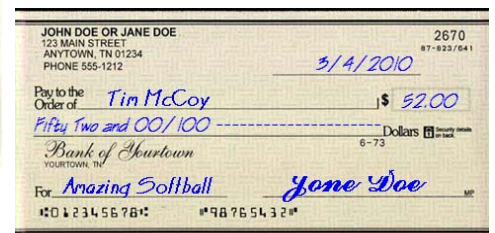
Bux

League Fees

League fees are \$52 per person per team for Spring 2010. It looks like this:



- OR -



You know the drill, guys. You need to pay on Opening Day or before. Gwinnett County has already been paid, so it's not the government you're hurting if you pay late. It's your teammate.

What's New

New Rules

Things are changing a bit starting in Spring 2010. So far, what you see below are things I've heard from umpires or the Guy. It's credible information, but it's not official yet. Tim and I are going to a coaches meeting on Wednesday, 3/17/10, where the Guy is going to go over things.

Ejections

In the past, if you get thrown out of a game, you're gone for that game and the one after it. That rule has changed. If you get chunked this year, you're gone for that game and the **next three games!** Since we're playing on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and both Bethesda and Pierce, you probably have the same questions I had. This is how it works.

If you get run from a game, say, on a Monday, you have to leave that game and the next three Monday games you play. If you also play on, say, Tuesdays, you're okay to keep playing your Tuesday games. Can you go pick up on another Field on Monday, while under suspension? I don't know. This is what I've heard so far. I'll get the definitive explanations when I go to the Coaches meeting.

Illegal Bats

If a player accidentally carries an illegal bat to the plate, he's getting ejected as described above. If he intentionally uses an illegal bat, he's not only ejected; he's **banned for life.**

There are millions and millions of bats out there these days and it's not up to me or anybody else to know whether you're swinging a legal one. If you get a new bat, or you're ever unsure about a bat, ask the umpire before the game or before your first at bat, whether or not you're legal. This is the quickest and easiest way to be sure and there's no guess work on whether my bat list or your bat list agrees with the umpire. Just ask.

Cussing

There is no cussing. Not only is there no cussing, but they're making this rule even more important. Apparently, Gwinnett County and the Gwinnett Umpires Association have decided that, in their infinite wisdom, squeaky clean language *on a ball field for crying out loud*, will solve all the problems with the sport.

I know what you're thinking and I agree with you, but you've been warned. You've read the ejection procedure above. For cussing, they probably also send somebody to your house to pull up all your shrubs and kick your dog. No cussing.

Pitch Height

The pitch height is changing this year. ASA has changed their pitch height from six to twelve feet from the ground to six to ten. So, the upper limit will now be at ten feet like in USSSA. The lower limit remains at six feet from the ground as opposed to USSSAs requirement of three feet from the pitcher's release point, which, really, is more or less the same.

Fields

The fields at Bethesda and George Pierce are being improved, according to the Guy. They are making the fields softer and improving drainage. Since it's been raining every other day over the last six months, this is most certainly a good idea. We'll see how it works out, though.

Other Stuff

As far as I know now, everything else stays the same. I know the pitch count stays at 4-3-0 and I know that we're not required to use yellow balls. I haven't heard of any other changes.

Rain Information			
Dirty Dozen	The Cowboys	Jets	Motörhead
Bethesda	Bethesda	Geo. Pierce	Bethesda
(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882

“When in doubt, come on out.”

Monday 3/22/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 DZ ??? 8 vs. (Opening Day)

Tuesday 3/23/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 CB ??? 8 vs. (Opening Day)

Wednesday 3/24/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010
 JM ??? 1 vs. (Opening Day)

Thursday 3/25/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 MH ??? 8 vs. (Opening Day)

Monday 3/29/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 DZ ??? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 3/30/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 CB ??? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 3/31/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010
 JM ??? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 4/1/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 MH ??? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 4/5/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 DZ ??? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 4/6/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 CB ??? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 4/7/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010
 JM ??? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 4/8/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 MH ??? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 4/12/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 DZ ??? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 4/13/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 CB ??? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 4/14/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010
 JM ??? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 4/15/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 MH ??? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 4/19/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 DZ ??? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 4/20/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010
 CB ??? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 4/21/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010

JM ?::? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 4/22/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

MH ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 4/26/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

DZ ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 4/27/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

CB ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 4/28/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010

JM ?::? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 4/29/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

MH ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 5/3/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

DZ ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 5/4/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

CB ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 5/5/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010

JM ?::? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 5/6/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

MH ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 5/10/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

DZ ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 5/11/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

CB ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 5/12/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010

JM ?::? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 5/13/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

MH ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 5/17/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

DZ ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 5/18/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

CB ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 5/19/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010

JM ?::? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 5/20/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

MH ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Monday 5/24/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

DZ ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Tuesday 5/25/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

CB ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Wednesday 5/26/10 at George Pierce Park - Spring 2010

JM ?::? 1 vs. TBD

Thursday 5/27/10 at Bethesda Community Park - Spring 2010

MH ?::? 8 vs. TBD

Monday DZ	5/31/10	at Memorial Day - Between Seasons 2010 Off Day - No Games
Tuesday CB	6/1/10	at Memorial Day - Between Seasons 2010 Off Day - No Games
Wednesday JM	6/2/10	at Memorial Day - Between Seasons 2010 Off Day - No Games
Thursday MH	6/3/10	at Memorial Day - Between Seasons 2010 Off Day - No Games

Standings & Scouting Reports – Fall 2009

Bold Italics = Our team. **Normal Brown Italics** = Our next opponent, **PST** = Post Season Tournament. **TBD** = To Be Determined. Asterisks after an opponent's name represent how many times we play that opponent if we play them more than once. A team in "< >" is a team we do not play during the season. The far right column shows our overall record against that opponent.

Monday - Bethesda Men's - No Homers, No Steals		overall record
No PST		
Get Dirty **	9-1	8-8
Dirty Dozen	6-4	n/a
Wild Wing Cubbies **	6-4	1-2
The Dead Lois's **	5-5	15-6
Brew Crew **	3-7	2-1
Ricoh **	1-9	2-0

The **Dirty Dozen** finished Fall 2009 at 6-4, backing into a Second Place finish when we waffled the **Brew Crew** the last game of the season and the **Cubbies** lost to **Get Dirty** a couple of hours later.

A 6-4 isn't what we expected playing in the weakest division our four teams faced in Fall 2009, but after taking Second in the Summer season with a 9-1, we probably deserved to pull a Second with just a 6-4.

Congratulations, **Dirty Dozen!**

Click to see how you do against them: [Next Opponent](#)

Tuesday - George Pierce Men's - Equalizer, No Steals		overall record
No PST		
D's Agents	9-1	0-1
American Gladiators	8-2	0-1
Ray's Pizza	7-3	0-1
Cocktail Cove	6-4	1-0
The Cowboys	5-5	n/a
OP	5-5	0-1
Jokers	5-5	1-0
Congential Hercules	5-5	1-0
Team Ram Rod	4-6	0-1
< Hitmen >	3-7	0-0
Big Test icles	2-8	1-0
Rebels	0-10	1-0

The Cowboys slid into a 5-5 finish and, appropriately enough, landed in a four way tie for fifth place.

We were in a pretty tough division, the second toughest of our four teams. We beat a couple of the teams above us, but lost to one of the ones below us, too. We might have finished higher if not for all the rainouts and forfeits that broke the stride we were starting to enjoy in the early and mid season.

Tough season, **Cowboys**. See ya in the Spring!

Click to see how you do against them: [Next Opponent](#)

Wednesday - George Pierce Men's - Equalizer, No Steals		overall record
No PST		
Toyota MoGA	10-0	0-1
Jets	9-1	n/a
Hendrick - Duluth	4-6	1-0
Hendrick - Gwinnett **	3-7	2-0
Meggitt **	3-7	2-0
Smokin Flames	3-7	1-0
Bad Hops **	2-8	2-0
Road Master	2-8	1-0

The **Jets** had a good and bad Fall 2009. On the one hand we went 9-1, but only played four actual games.

We started off 3-1, having played the toughest teams in the division, then faced the five weakest teams in the division, but those five teams forfeited the last six games of Fall 2009. The only team who beat us went 10-0 and played only five actual games.

The **Jets** were a really good team and it's a shame we didn't get a chance to play those last six games. I can't wait to see this team in action in Spring 2010!

Congratulations, **Jets!**

Click to see how you do against them: [Next Opponent](#)

Thursday - Bethesda Men's - No Homers, No Steals		overall record
No PST		
Dillon's **	7-3	0-5
Finish Line	7-3	0-2
Sweetwater	6-4	1-3
The Outkasts	6-4	0-1
ECS Wolves **	5-5	1-1
Team Punishment	4-6	0-2
Blade Runners **	3-7	1-1
Motörhead	2-8	n/a

Motörhead had a rough Fall 2009. We were in what was easily the toughest team any of our four teams faced.

We played everybody really hard the first half of the season, but trailed off as the tough losses piled up. We were 1-8 before winning a forfeit the last game of the season to go 2-9 against a team we actually expected to beat anyway.

A rough season against a bunch of good teams can either kill a team's spirit or make it stronger. We'll see what happens in Spring 2010. Personally, knowing the guys on **Motörhead**, I see us being stronger next year...

Click to see how you do against them: [Next Opponent](#)

The DL



Shhhh... So far, so good...

Birthdays & Fall 2009 Batting Titlists

January Birthdays

Scott Dale	1/3
Quentin Cowans	1/6
Jenni Humphreys	1/12
Gregg Brooke	1/13
Nate Berryman	1/15
Rocky McCoy	1/17
Elden Kasmier	1/18
Tom Frier	1/19
Jana Paulk	1/20
Brian McCoy	1/21
Lee Olson	1/22
Carolyn LaRue	1/23
Sabrina Mergenthaler	1/25
Chris Allen	1/29
Randy Croto	1/29
Karen Locke	1/29
Jonathan Brivette	1/30



Dean Binder0.741

Larry Civelli 0.667



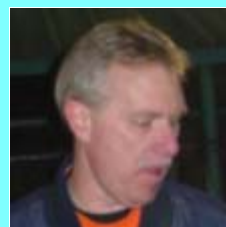
Above team average:

L.Frazier..... 0.600

R.Crider 0.559

Jonathan Brivette0.682

Mike Ball 0.679



Above team average:

None

February Birthdays

Julie Desmelik	2/2
Mandy Maguire	2/14
Alton Richardson	2/16
Joe Fiscella	2/26
Jan Chappell	2/27
Nathan Lee	2/28
Jared Self	2/28



DJ Thomas0.857

Andy Matz..... 0.786



Above team average:

T.McCoy..... 0.769

G.Montano..... 0.733

J.Silverio..... 0.727

March Birthdays

Gordon Williams	3/2
Lon Humphries	3/3
Earl Thompson	3/5
Dave Yekell	3/6
Ann Hamner	3/14
David Selman	3/14
Michele Byrnes	3/18
Dee Dee Lawson	3/18
Patrick Ellis	3/20
Freddy Allen	3/23
Dave Kyle	3/25
Ashlee Miller	3/25
Trey Taylor	3/27
Chris Williams	3/30



Calvin Shakir.....0.640

Tim McCoy 0.583



Above team average:

Ja.Brown 0.542

L.Frazier..... 0.500

Horsing Around - 2009

Dirty Dozen – 12/7/09

Thanks... I think.



Motörhead – 12/10/09

Last out of 2009



Mixed Nuts – 7/26/09

...but it's only July!



The Cowboys – 12/22/09

Oh, no. Not again...



Jets – 11/4/09

November, 4th? Wait. What?



Attached is the first page of the ASA webpage concerning Illegal Softball bats. Make sure your bat has the proper stamp. If you're not sure, check the ASA website.

ASA Bat Testing & Certification Program

The official bat in ASA Championship Play must meet all of the requirements of Rule 3, Section 1 and:

1. must bear **either** the ASA approved 2000 certification mark **or the ASA 2004 certification mark** as shown below, and must not be listed on an ASA non approved list, **or**



2. must be included on a list of approved bat models published by the ASA National Office; or
3. must, in the sole opinion and discretion of the umpire, have been manufactured prior to 2000 and if tested, would comply with the ASA bat performance standards then in effect.

Beginning January 1, 2004, all bats in ASA Championship Play must pass the ASA 2004 bat standard. All bats having the 2004 certification mark will be allowed in ASA Championship Play. Bats that have the 2000 certification mark will not be allowed in ASA Championship Play unless they are listed on an approved bat list on the ASA website. For convenience, the ASA website has a listing of bats that do not pass the ASA 2004 bat standard.

2004 and Beyond Approved Bats (Updated: 12/5/2008)

For a list of bats that have been tested and found to comply with the ASA bat performance standards, and therefore are authorized to bear the **ASA 2004 certification mark** and/or are authorized for use in ASA Championship Play beginning January 1, 2004, please click on the manufacturer below. Manufacturers continue to submit additional bat models for testing, and the ASA will update this list as test results become available.

2004 and Beyond Non Approved Bats

Please click on the following PDF for a list of bats that do not meet the ASA's current bat standard:

[Click here for ASA's Non Approved Bats](#)

(current listing, no changes as of August 29, 2008)

[Click here for ASA's Non Approved Bats with pictures](#)

(current listing, no changes as of August 29, 2008)

[Click here for ASA's TWO Page Non Approved Bats with pictures](#)

(current listing, no changes as of August 29, 2008)

[Click here for ASA's Non Approved Bats with Certification Marks \(2000 and 2004\)](#)

(current listing, no changes as of March 31, 2008)

[Click here for ASA's Non Approved Bats with 2004 Certification Marks](#)

(current listing, no changes as of March 31, 2008)

The ASA periodically and randomly tests samples of bat models bearing the ASA approved certification mark to verify compliance with the ASA bat performance standards. Below are links for press releases announcing results of compliance testing as well as FAQ's regarding bat models withdrawn from ASA Championship play until further notice. The "ASA Banned Bats" link below contains the most up-to-date listing of bat models withdrawn from ASA Championship play. Models placed on that list will be allowed for use in ASA Championship play if they bear the ASA recertification mark (shown in the link below).

[Altered/Doctored Bats](#)

[Grandfathered Bats No Longer Authorized Beginning in 2008](#)

[ASA Court Order Press Release](#)

[ASA Court Order Judgement](#)