

Monthly Newsletter

THE GCLSL GAZETTE

November 2024



Welcome!

The President's Perspective

Hello GCLSL Members! The executive committee is excited to bring you our very first league newsletter! We'll be sharing these monthly updates to keep you informed about all things GCLSL – both on and off the field.

Though the season may be over, the league is still in full swing as the executive and captains are already gearing up for next season. Here are some of our top priorities:

- Increase communication and transparency
- Create more ways for members to get involved on committees
- Keep our community connected and having fun throughout the offseason
- Continue to grow and strengthen our league

This newsletter is a space for us to stay connected and celebrate each other. We're not just sharing league news – we're sharing your news! Did you know that Hayley Bennett has become a published author? Huge congratulations to her! [Reclaim Your Spark Book Purchase](#)

Our league thrives because of the generosity of our amazing volunteers who dedicate their time and energy. Did you know we have 8 committees working behind the scenes to keep the league running smoothly? If you'd like to lend a hand by joining a committee or supporting an event, please register here: <https://gclsl.ca/sub-committees>

We want to keep the GCLSL spirit alive all year round! Our league plays such an important role in our community, so why should the fun stop during the winter? Keep an eye out for upcoming social events – we can't wait to see you there!

As the colder weather sets in, I hope you're all soaking up the last of the sunshine. More than once this October, I've thought it would be a perfect day for a game. I already miss the crack of the bat, the feel of the ball in the glove, and the camaraderie of the dugout. I'm looking forward to our next social gathering and the chance to connect with all of you.

Take care, and let's keep the GCLSL spirit strong!

Lisa Prentiss

League Updates

Executive Meeting Update

The Executive Committee convened on October 22nd to discuss plans and initiatives for the 2025 season of the GCLSL. Key topics included clarifying the roles of executives and captains, setting league dates, outlining the communications plan for 2025, and reviewing the year-end survey results.

2024 League Survey Results

The GCLSL year-end survey received 44 out of a possible 104 responses. The results were overwhelmingly positive, with 97.7% of respondents rating their experience as good or fantastic, and 91% expressing an intent to return for the 2025 season. The main reasons for not returning included age, physical ability, and one mention of bullying, which the Executive Committee is committed to addressing by strictly enforcing the league's Code of Conduct.

95% of players rated captains' communication as good or fantastic, while 84% gave similar ratings for communication from the executive team. Additionally, 83% of players reported feeling supported and included throughout the season.

Several key areas were identified for improvement, including avoiding games on Holiday Mondays, balancing 6:15 PM and 8:00 PM game times, and enhancing field conditions. There was also a call for a 60+ league, better inclusion of younger players, and clearer guidelines for handling disciplinary actions and rainouts. A few players also suggested offering more banquet options and improving transparency in executive decision-making.

Next Steps

The executive team is carefully reviewing all feedback and will take action to address issues related to behavior, scheduling, player inclusivity, and communication. Plans are underway to implement improvements and ensure a better experience for everyone in the upcoming season.



Upcoming Events

Executive Meeting - **November 19**
League Registration - **January 20 - 25**
Pre-Draft Meeting - **March 3**
League Draft - **March 21**
Meet the Team Night - **April 17**
Season Starts - **May 5**
Spring Tournament - **May 30 - June 1**
Fall Tournament - **September 5 - 7**
Playoffs - **September 9 - 26**
AGM - **October 1**
Banquet - **October 4**



Player Spotlights

Congratulations to Jodi Sullivan, the recipient of the 2024 Lynne Heaslip Award!

Jodi has been a positive and inspiring presence in the league, always known for her fantastic attitude and unwavering support. She's been a mentor to many, offering guidance and encouragement with a generous spirit. Whether cheering from the sidelines or lending a helping hand, Jodi embodies the true spirit of the league, and we're proud to honor her with this award.

GCLSL Tips and Resources

As the GCLSL is a fastpitch league, all bats must comply with Softball Canada regulations.

In accordance with Softball Canada rules, the following bats are approved for league play:

- Any bat listed on the WBSC Softball Approved Bat List with a valid ISF 2005 certification stamp or WBSC certification (as shown below).
- Any bat listed on the USA Softball Approved Bat List with an ASA 2000 or 2004 certification stamp, or the USA Softball 2019 certification stamp (as shown below).

Additionally, the bat must meet the compression standards set by the certifying organization and may be tested to ensure it falls within the acceptable range. The bat must also pass a visual inspection according to the Softball Canada rulebook.

For more details, including acceptable certification stamps, please visit the official Softball Canada website at <https://softball.ca/programs/umpires/approved-bats>.



Community Corner

We're excited to shape this newsletter into a dynamic, collaborative space—and we need your insights to make it truly valuable! If you have updates, stories, achievements, or announcements relevant to our community, we'd love for you to share them!

Your input helps us highlight the diverse perspectives, achievements, and ongoing initiatives that strengthen our community. Please send in your ideas and updates to **softball@gclsl.com**.

Thank you for reading!



[Facebook.com/GCLSL](https://www.facebook.com/GCLSL)



[@GCLSLBALL](https://www.instagram.com/GCLSLBALL)



www.gclsl.ca



softball@gclsl.com
