



Coach,

Lee County Parks and Recreation cordially invites you and your team to play in the Gene Cusic Collegiate Softball Classic in the "City of Palms" Fort Myers, Florida. If you have not decided where to play your spring break softball games next year, Lee County Parks and Recreation would like for you to consider the "Cusic."

Since 1990, we have welcomed College and University softball teams to southwest Florida. The "Cusic" will host teams from **February 23 through March 24**. Our prices are the lowest in the state at \$70 per game and there is not a registration fee. In addition, we provide all of the game balls and provide each team with one two-hour practice free of charge. For the fans that come and support your team, there is never a fee for parking or admission to the games. The "Cusic" softball games are played at the Lee County Sports Complex and North Collier Regional Park.

Lee County Sports Complex is composed of five baseball fields, four softball fields, and Hammond Stadium. It is the current spring training home of the Minnesota Twins. It is also the home to two Twins' minor league affiliates, housing both the Ft. Myers Mighty Mussels of the Single-A Florida State League and the Rookie level Gulf Coast League Twins. The main stadium was renamed Bill Hammond Stadium late in the 1994 spring season in honor of the Deputy County Commissioner who was instrumental in getting the complex built for the Twins.



North Collier Regional Park is a prime location for adults and children to gather and enjoy beautiful Southwest Florida. It was opened in November 2006. The park has eight soccer fields, five softball fields, a RecPlex Fitness Complex, and an interactive playground. It is also the home of Sun-N-Fun Lagoon Water Park.



It is requested that all teams stay in approved lodging reserved through Lee County Sports Organizing Committee to ensure a great hotel experience. Lee County Sports Organizing Committee offers a hotel hotline to make reservations easy. They work with all types of accommodations from economy style motels and inns to full service hotels, suites or even beachfront condos. You can (239) 541-1800 or at <https://rb.gy/z898e> to reserve your rooms. They will work with your team's budget, preferences and game sites to find the best hotel fit for you.

Please consider coming down next spring and enjoy the beautiful weather, beaches, and shops southwest Florida has to offer. Register now at <http://www.leegov.com/parks/athletics/cusic/registration>. The registration and payment deadline is **November 10, 2023**.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Your Cusic Softball Staff,

Ludie Adorno  
Schecyl Santiago

239-229-0068  
239-788-4894

[AdornoL@leegov.com](mailto:AdornoL@leegov.com)  
[Ssantiago-lugo@leegov.com](mailto:Ssantiago-lugo@leegov.com)

## Dear Coach,

Thank you for registering your team for Lee County Parks and Recreation's 34th Annual Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic. We hope you enjoy the classic, as well as your stay in Lee County. We take pleasure in hosting this event and strive to make it better each and every year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

In the information below you will find the following:

- Important Dates and Information
- Tournament Rules
- Additional Information and Frequently Asked Questions

### **Important Dates and Information:**

- **Payments are due on November 27, 2023 (\$70 Per Game)**
  - ***Game balls provided by Lee County Parks & Recreation***
  - In case of cancellations, no refunds will be issued after January 1, 2023
  - Please make checks payable to: Lee County B.O.C.C
  - Please call Ludie Adorno (239-229-0068) or Schecyl Santiago-Lugo (239)-788-4894 if you would like to pay with a credit or debit card.
- **Game Request Form is due on November 10, 2023**
  - Please complete the "Softball: Game(s) Request Form" found on our website. below is the link:  
<https://forms.gle/eWfaSPGGHNEeAncE6>
  - The current team list can be found on our website. Below is the link to our website: <http://www.leegov.com/parks/athletics/cusic>
  - We will make every effort to accommodate you game requests
  - There is no guarantee you will not play the same team twice or the teams you have selected.
  - We will begin working on the schedule once all game request forms have been received.
- **Arrival Information Form is due on November 10, 2023**
  - Please complete the "Softball: Arrival Form" found on our website. Here's the link:  
<https://forms.gle/PEgCFXpZ9mSDtgac6>
- **Practice Request Form is due on November 27, 2023**
  - Please complete the "Softball: Practice Request Form" found on our website. Here's the link:  
<https://forms.gle/wU8Kcsr1CFpFU39Z9>
  - We will make every effort to accommodate your practice selection preference
  - The first practice is complimentary and each additional practice scheduled is \$50
  - There is no guarantee you will get the practice date/time you have selected
  - Each practice will be two hours in duration.
- **Copy of College/ University's Insurance is due by November 27, 2023**
  - Please email this form to Ludie Adorno ([AdornoLI@leegov.com](mailto:AdornoLI@leegov.com)) or Schecyl Santiago-Lugo ([SSantiago-Lugo@leegov.com](mailto:SSantiago-Lugo@leegov.com))



# Softball Tournament Rules

1. Home and away games will be pre-determined before the tournament.
2. There is no time limit on games.
3. The eight-run rule will go into effect after the fifth inning.
  - A. In order to be considered an official game, five innings must be completed. Please hustle on and off the field during the game.
  - B. The run ahead rule will consist of eight runs after five at bats for the team that is behind in the score.
4. No infield practice will be permitted before the games. Players may use the outfield and areas outside of the base paths for their warmups.
5. NCAA rules will apply to field action, uniforms and equipment.
6. The international tiebreaker rule will go into effect in the eighth inning. If there is a tie score after the seventh inning each team will be allowed to attempt to break the tie by placing the last batter on second base.
7. Any questions regarding opponent's uniforms must be brought to the umpire's attention prior to the start of the game.
8. Any protests will be directed to the supervisor on site on rule misinterpretation only and must be brought to the attention of the home plate umpire prior to the next pitch. The protest committee will include the site director, one umpire and one coach who was not directly involved in the incident.
9. All team personnel and players must stay within the confines of the dugout during routine play. The coaches must stay in their coaches' boxes and players in their batter's boxes and the on deck circle while their team is up to bat.
10. The rainout number is 239-533-7495.
11. No schedule changes will be permitted unless authorized by **Ludie Adorno**
12. The game balls provided for the tournament are Worth NC 12 (yellow).
13. Coolers for ice and water will be available on first come first serve basis.
14. We will try our best to reschedule any games canceled due to rainouts. Your opponent may change based on availability.
15. Hitting softballs into the fence at any facility is prohibited.
16. Threats towards umpires, coaches, and personnel will follow the NCAA rules for unsportsmanlike conduct. The appropriate forms will be filed, and your college/university will be notified.
17. Bat testing is required by the NCAA. Please arrive to the ballfields early before your first game for bat check.



## Additional Information

- **Facility Names and Addresses**

- **Lee County Sports Complex**

- 14100 Six Mile Cypress Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33912

- **North Collier Regional Park**

- 15000 Livingston Road, Naples, FL 34109

- **Lee County Hotel Information:**

- Please contact Allison Gruber with the Lee County Sports Organizing Committee at 239-541-1800 or [leecountysports@aol.com](mailto:leecountysports@aol.com)

- Hotel Link

<https://www.leegov.com/parks/Documents/Gene%20Cusic%20Hotel%20Links.pdf>

- **Car Rental Information**

- Please visit our website at

<http://www.leegov.com/parks/athletics/cusic> for information on car rentals

- Please make sure your players retrieve foul balls to the umpire.
- No refunds will be given for cancellations due to weather.
- We do not provide athletic trainers. If you are interested in hiring a certified athletic trainer for your games and/or practices, please contact Mike Evans ([MikeDE@leeschools.net](mailto:MikeDE@leeschools.net)).



## Frequently asked Questions

**Q: What documents are required to be filled out by coaches?**

A: Three forms must be submitted by coaches (Arrival Form, Game Request Form, Softball Practice form) Please complete these forms by the deadline so we can start planning for event.

**Q: Where can I find required forms or more information about the tournament?**

A: You can click on the link for more information <https://www.leegov.com/parks/athletics/cusic>

**Q: Will bats be tested before every game?**

A: Bats will be tested with bat tester once during the tournament, bats that pass will receive official Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic (GCCC) Sticker and sticker must always stay on bat. Umpires will inspect bats before each game and if they find something wrong with bat, official GCCC sticker will be removed from bat and bat cannot be used during the duration of the tournament.

**Q: Do we need to bring our own bat list?**

A: We recommend being proactive and have a copy of bat list ready with bats highlighted on bat list and total of bats listed so we can make this process smoother, however we understand situations may arise and we will have extra bat list just in case you need it.

**Q: Do we need to provide our own bat stickers for bat testing?**

A: No, we will provide official tournament sticker.

**Q: Do we need to bring our own bat Tester?**

A: No, we have bat tester on-site, please highlight team bats on bat list and have total of bats listed so we can make this process smoother.

**Q: Will tournament organizer provide Game Balls?**

A: Yes, we will provide two new game ball each morning. (1) new ball for each game scheduled.

**Q: Will practice balls be provided during scheduled team practices?**

A: No, you will need to provide your own practice balls during scheduled team practices.

**Q: Will water coolers be provided in each dugout during the tournament?**

A: Yes, we will provide water coolers in each dug-out.

**Q: Will an Athletic Trainer be on-site?**

A: No, we will not have a trainer on-site. If you need a trainer, we will provide local athletics trainers that can assist your team, but you will have to coordinate with them. We will have a cooler full of ice for injury purposes. If you are interested in hiring a certified athletic trainer for your games and/or practices, please contact Mike Evans at [MikeDE@leeschools.net](mailto:MikeDE@leeschools.net) or (239) 839-9000

**Q: Is an AED available on-site?**

A: Yes, we have an AED on-site?

**Q: Do you have extra coolers available for each team?**

A: We have a few extra coolers available that you can rent out and return on your last day of tournament, however, this will be on a first come first serve basis. Please ask if we have extra coolers available when you arrive.



**Q: Are concessions available?**

A: Yes, concessions are available.

**Q: Do you designate Warm-up areas for team?**

A: We do not designate warm-up areas for team, but it is recommended if available warm up behind portable fence on your designated field.

**Q: Will Home/Away Games be pre-determined?**

A: Yes, home and away games will be pre-determined as fairly as possible.

**Q: Why are there so many changes to schedule?**

A: We send out individual team schedules to each team mid-January. However, individual team schedules sent out are subject to change as conflicts come up on a day to day basis. We will keep open communication with you if there are changes to your schedule and we will notify all teams when finalized schedule has been posted.

**Q: Why am I scheduled to play a team I requested not to play?**

A: At times, we try our best to accommodate all your request but at times it is not possible and we will contact you to give you a heads up.

**Q: If I need an invoice in order to make payment for the event who can I reach out to?**

A: Please email Ludie Adorno at [ladorno@leegov.com](mailto:ladorno@leegov.com) or Schecyl Santiago at [ssantiago-lugo@leegov.com](mailto:ssantiago-lugo@leegov.com)

**Q: Are there any fees to watch games or parking fees?**

A: No, there are no entry fees for spectators and no fees for parking.

**Q: Do you rent chairs at the facilities to watch games?**

A: No, we do not rent chairs to watch games, bleachers are available on-site for spectators.

**Q: Is there a fee for parking or an entry fee to watch games?**

A: Parking is free, and we do not charge an entry fee to watch games.

