

2026 MID-COLUMBIA CO-ED SENIOR SOFTBALL TEAM FORMATION PROCESS

Returning Players – Any player that paid registration in the previous year.

New Players – Any player that did not pay registration in the previous year.

(TIME OF DECLARATION)

All Teams must be declared no later than April 5, 2026

Coaches must email their team rosters to the Board President. In the event the Board President is a coach, their roster should be emailed to the Board Vice President on or before the date mentioned above.

Team Formation

1. General Rules

- a. Teams can be made up of Returning and New players.
- b. All teams must have a minimum of 12 players with 3 female players.
- c. There is no maximum number of players a team can carry.
- d. All teams must be registered prior to the pre-season lottery draft date April 18th, 2026.**

2. Returning Players

- a. Returning players are allowed to stay on their existing team.
- b. Returning Player can move to a newly formed team.
- c. Returning Players can choose to enter the draft.
- d. Returning Players must be part of the team's roster at the time of ***declaration date, April 5th*** or will be placed in the Lottery draft.

3. New Players

- a. New players can play on any team (Existing or New) without entering the draft.
- b. New Players must be part of the team's roster at time of registration or will be placed in the Lottery Draft.

4. New Teams

- a. New teams formed with Returning Players are allowed have a maximum of 7 Returning Players (3 of those 7 players must be female), and no more 2 players from any existing team. Remaining players to meet the minimum (12 players) must be New Players or come from the Lottery Draft.
- b. New Teams formed with only New Players must have a minimum of 12 players (3 of those players must be female). If a New Player team has less than the minimum (12 players) the remaining will come from the Lottery Draft.

Lottery Draft

1. Pre-Season

- a. The Board will set the date for the Lottery Draft, ***April 18th***.
- b. All registered coaches will attend this meeting and will draw for their Lottery Draft selection.
- c. The Draft will be done by placing all registered players in a raffle container and drawing each player assigning them to a coach in the lottery selection order.
- d. ***Female*** players will be drawn first, and then ***Male*** players will be drawn next until all registered players are assigned to a team.
- e. Couples will be picked as an individual in a round Lottery draft, and count as the next pick in the subsequent round, i.e.: husband is picked in round 2, wife is automatically picked in round 3. This applies to all teams.

2. During Season

- a. Players who wish to join the league after the season has begun can register and will be placed on a waiting/substitute list.
- b. Teams will then be contacted to see if they are interested in adding a player.
- c. If only one team is interested the player will be added to that team.
- d. If there are multiple teams interested those teams will participate in the **post draft lottery**. All teams will be assigned a number and placed in the raffle container. The new player will be assigned to the team that draws them.
- e. Player registration fee will be pro-rated based on the date they are placed on a team.
- f. If no teams are interested in adding an additional player, that player will remain on the waiting/substitute list.
- g. Players wishing to join the league in season must be approved by the board.

3. Exceptions

Close relatives/immediate family: Players who are close relatives or are the immediate family of a registered player in the league may forgo the Lottery Draft if he or she chooses and join the team that the registered player is on.