

WELCOME TO WESA! Here is some information to get you started on a fun and successful season of softball:

- Staying Informed:** All WESA members are encouraged to visit WESA's website regularly at WESA.net. This site contains valuable information such as descriptions of the divisions of play, registration, frequently asked questions, field locations, WESA Commission contact information, special events, games schedules, and WESA's Rules of Play.



- Equipment:** You will need a pair of non-metal cleats, an appropriate-sized ball glove, and a softball. WESA will provide all players with a team jersey at the annual Jersey Pick-Up Party. WESA purchases most of its equipment from [ProStock Athletic Supply](#) at #109 – 8327 Eastlake Drive in Burnaby. Many members have also had good luck at [The Sports Exchange](#) at 2141 Burrard Street in Vancouver. You can, of course, purchase your equipment from any sports retailer as well. See the Equipment Guide at WESA.net for some tips on buying equipment.



- Rookie Camp:** The WESA Commission strongly recommends all Rookies attend WESA's annual Rookie Camps. The purpose of Rookie Camps are to help you begin to learn (or become reacquainted with) the game by participating in skills training sessions (e.g. catching, throwing, batting) and then using those skills to play in a short scrimmage game. You will also have the opportunity to meet other Rookies, Coaches, and Commission Members. Further information regarding the Rookie Camps will be provided to you at Registration Night. Alternatively, you can email WESA's Membership Commissioner at Membership@WESA.net for more information.

- The WESA Pageant:** This is WESA's signature and biggest FUNdraising event of the Season! Each team enters a contestant to vie for the coveted Miss / Mr. / Mx WESA Pageant title, and Rookies are encouraged to represent their team in this incredible team bonding experience! For more information, please speak with your coach or contact WESA's Special Events Commissioner at SpecialEvents@WESA.net.



- WESA Sponsors:** Sponsorship donations pay for the largest portion of WESA's annual operating costs and are instrumental in keeping your registration fees as low as possible. As such, the Commission encourages all Members to actively support and patronize our sponsors (a [full list of sponsors](#) can be found at WESA.net). Please let our

Sponsors know that you are a WESA member, and that you appreciate their business!

WESA WILL ALWAYS NEED YOU!

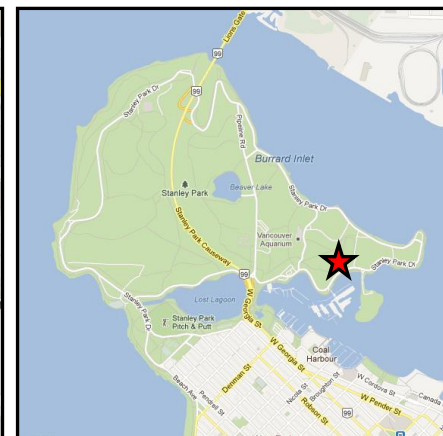
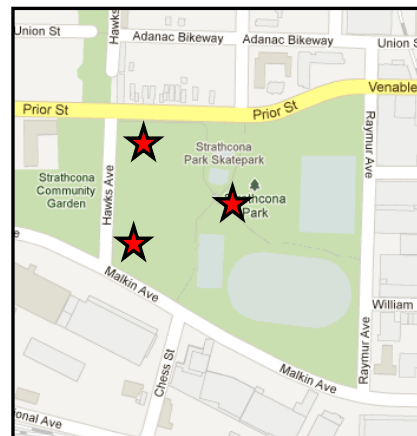
WESA is organized and run 100% by VOLUNTEERS! We are always looking for additional volunteers to help out with various events during the season including:

- Scorekeepers
- WESA's Annual Picnic in the Park
- Pacific Cup International Tournament
- Special Events & WESA Pageant
- Pride Parade Entry
- Year-end Awards Celebration Party

If you love helping out, join us in the fun and please email us at Commission@WESA.net.

WHERE & WHEN

WESA plays all its games at **Strathcona Park**, just off the Georgia Viaduct at Prior Street and Hawks Avenue in East Vancouver; and at **Brockton Oval**, just past the Aquarium, in Stanley Park. The red stars on the maps below show the diamonds/fields that WESA uses:



The majority of games are played on **Sundays** at Strathcona Park with occasional **weekday evening** games at both Strathcona Park and Brockton Oval in Stanley Park.

The season's play schedule will be released to all registered members (as well as being posted on WESA.net) once the draft is complete and teams are confirmed. If you have a smart device, you can also download the season's play schedule from WESA.net too. We'll provide you with instructions for this by email.

- At **Strathcona Park**, parking is FREE all day. There is a small community store who sponsors WESA a block away which sells food and beverages.
- At **Brockton Oval**, there is pay parking in effect in all areas of Stanley Park (i.e. \$3.60/hour or up to \$13.25/daily).
- Washroom facilities are available at both locations.
- ***We are responsible for keeping the parks clean! Please pick up after yourself and your team by using the available receptacles or better yet, we encourage you to take your rubbish out of the park with you!***
- **PLEASE NOTE:** The Vancouver Park Board's field use permit states that "...no alcoholic beverages are to be dispensed, sold or consumed on the park at any time." This is a zero-tolerance policy. Violation may result in WESA's permit privileges being revoked.



Social Media & News: If you are on Facebook, consider joining the WESA group page, which is ideal for sharing stories, posting softball related events and notices, and sharing general interest and fun information about softball, our League, and our Members.

Have important governance or operational questions? Please email us directly at Commission@WESA.net anytime. We are always happy to hear from you!

Rookie Planning Checklist:

Pre-Season and PRIOR to Welcome Registration Party:

- ❑ checking out WESA's website at WESA.net including:
 - ❑ [Information on divisions of play](#)
 - ❑ [Commission contact info](#)
 - ❑ [Registration FAQs](#)
 - ❑ [Sponsors](#)
 - ❑ [Special Events calendar](#)

- ❑ mark your calendar with upcoming Special Events including:
 - ❑ WESA Welcome Registration Party
 - ❑ WESA Rookie Camps
 - ❑ WESA Annual Poker Tourney Fundraiser
 - ❑ WESA Draft Day & Party
 - ❑ WESA Jersey Pick-up Party
 - ❑ WESA Opening Day & Party
 - ❑ WESA Pageant Fundraiser
 - ❑ WESA Picnic in the Park
 - ❑ WESA Cup Tournament Awards Party
 - ❑ WESA Awards Celebration Banquet
 - ❑ And more...

Pre-Season and AFTER Welcome Registration Party

- ❑ buy non-metal cleats, an appropriate-sized glove, and a softball.
- ❑ review the location of playing fields (including how you will travel to and from the fields).
- ❑ join WESA's Facebook group (if you are on Facebook).
- ❑ make sure you are receiving emails from the WESA Commission. Our **newsflash** emails are sent out regularly throughout the season with important information.



After Draft Day

- ❑ get to know your team (*your Coach will make the first contact and organize practices; part of the fun in WESA comes from socializing and bonding with your teammates on and off the field*).
- ❑ start talking with your Coach and teammates about the WESA Pageant, you could be the next Miss / Mr. / Mx WESA!
- ❑ think about how you might want to help WESA out as a volunteer.



WESA ROOKIE GUIDE

#471 - 1027 Davie Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 4L2

WESA.net **Commission@WESA.net**

Member League since 2008 of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA)