

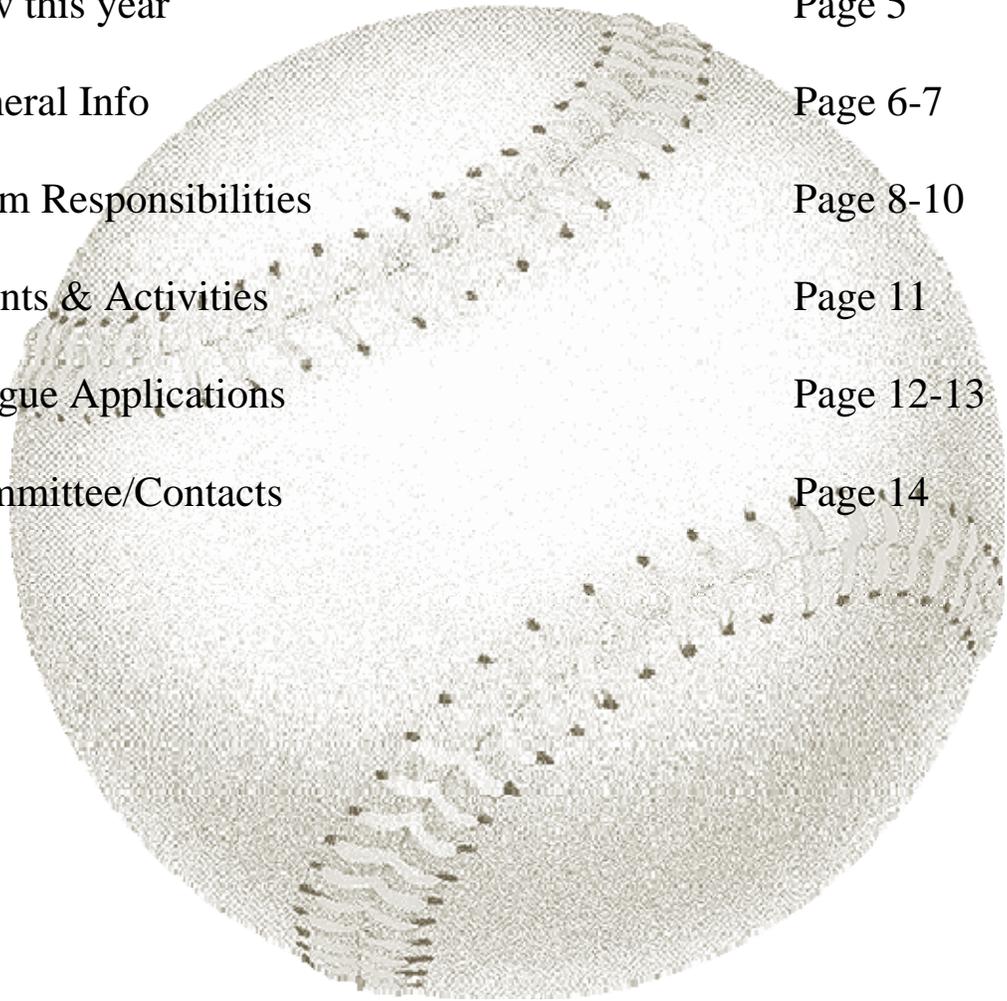
# **CCU Softball 2015**

## **League Information Guide**

**CCU Sports & the Chinese Christian Union of San Francisco**  
[www.CCUSports.com](http://www.CCUSports.com)

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# Mission Statement

## Our Mission

The Chinese Christian Union Sports League (CCU Sports) is dedicated to sharing the Gospel and providing an avenue for Christian evangelism and fellowship through the means of playing organized sports. CCU Sports targets men, women, boys, and girls from Chinese Christian communities in the San Francisco area, although it is open to all.

## Our Purpose

This unified sports league has many goals. Its foremost goal is to spread the Gospel to everyone. Through the support of the participants from churches and organizations, the league strives to provide a quality fellowship experience for all, Christians and non-Christians. These goals will be achieved if we put Jesus Christ first in our individual lives. In the process of achieving these primary goals, effective outreach, unity, spiritual growth, and developing Christian examples will also occur. The CCU Softball League, as part of CCU Sports and the Chinese Christian Union of San Francisco, serves many needs. In addition to our spiritual goals, we strive to provide safe, encouraging, and quality sports programs for all to enjoy. Society today tells us that fierce competition is a way of life and that winning is everything. However, the CCU Sports League's participants and leaders challenge all individuals to be bold and to stand for God's Love and Christian integrity. "They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable" (1 Corinthians 9:25). Look at the eternal life God has in store for you. CCU Sports hopes to promote what God wants for you. CCU Sports promises to expend all available resources in furthering our benevolent goals. The coordinators, leaders, and participants do not intend to earn profit through the workings of this league. The league will not share its income or earnings with any individuals associated with the league. In the event that this league is dissolved, all assets and funds remaining after its operating or outstanding expenses have been paid will be passed on to similar leagues or organizations devoted to similar Christian evangelism and fellowship purposes.

## Our History

The Chinese Christian Union of San Francisco (CCU), our parent organization, adopted its first constitution in 1916. During its long history, the CCU has continued to support needs and ministries serving the Chinese community in San Francisco. CCU was instrumental in establishing the Chinese Hospital, and the YMCA and YWCA in Chinatown. The CCU is ministering in many areas: the Women's Association, the Christian Cemetery Service, Chinese Hospital, Year Round Christian Worship, Youth Programs, and organized sports including basketball, softball, and volleyball programs. In 1997 the Chinese Christian Union Sports League, also known as CCU Sports, was created to supervise the existing Basketball, Softball, and Volleyball programs.

# Dates

CCU Softball League 2015: May 31<sup>st</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>



Application Deadline (early bird)	Monday, April 20 <sup>th</sup>
Application Deadline (regular)	Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>
All Shirt Orders Deadline	Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>
Spiritual Leaders Meeting (required):	Thursday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>
Umpping Clinic	Saturday, May 16 <sup>th</sup>
CCU Sports Kickoff	Saturday, May 30 <sup>th</sup>
Waivers Due	Saturday, May 30 <sup>th</sup>
Play commences	Sunday, May 31 <sup>st</sup>
Final Changes for Rosters	Saturday, June 13 <sup>th</sup>
BYE week – no league play	Sunday, July 5 <sup>th</sup>
Evaluations Due (online):	Sunday, August 16 <sup>th</sup>
Play ends:	Sunday, August 30 <sup>th</sup>
League BBQ & Awards:	Sunday, August 30 <sup>th</sup>
Evaluations Due (hardcopies):	Sunday, August 30 <sup>th</sup>
Spiritual Leaders Meeting (required):	Thursday, Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup>

# New this year

**Spiritual leaders' meetings:** to emphasize the incredible importance for a joint partnership between teams and CCU Softball, the fine for missing these two important meetings has been increased to \$100 for each miss meeting. Without a clear understanding of the spiritual goals between CCU Softball and each team's spiritual leader(s), we would just be running a sports league which is not what CCU Softball is about. Please calendar the two dates to ensure attendance.

## Divisions

Once again this year, we are planning to have 4 divisions. Last year, we could not get enough teams for the four planned divisions so there was some mismatch of teams at the mid-level (coed and rec teams were combined into one mid-level division). We hope this year to fill all four divisions to balance play as much as possible. In the event we are unable to, two (or more) of the below divisions would be combined as needed. Below are the divisions we are offering this summer, and the recommendations and requirements for each. Youth is defined as anyone that is high school age and below.

- **Open Division (Advance):** This division contains players who are college age and older players who are at an advance skill level and interested in a high level of competition. Most players at this level would have had experience in 5+ years of either CCU Softball, city leagues/tournament play and/or high school baseball. There is NO co-ed requirement for this division.
- **Coed Division (Intermediate):** This division contains players who are high school age and older players who are at an intermediate skill level and interested in a moderate level of competition. There IS a co-ed requirement at this level: 2 female players are required to be in the lineup at all time for the game to be played. In the event a team fits the description/requirements of both a coed and an open division team, the committee will place that team based on the number of returning players from past years and the team's performance over those years.
- **Recreational Division (Beginners):** This division contains players who are high school age and older players and who have played 3+ years of CCU Softball and are at beginning skill level. This division may also apply to a team with a large number of players who are 40+ in age that are NOT interested in playing at a moderate/high level of competitive play and whose play and attitude reflects that. There IS a co-ed/youth requirement at this level: some combination of female players plus youth totaling 3 in the starting lineup at all time for the game to be played.
- **Youth Division:** This division contains players who are **primarily high school age or younger players** with little to zero experience in organized ball mixed into teams with adults who are spiritual leaders for the youths. The lineup throughout the game need to maintain **EITHER** a minimum of **FIVE** players who are high school age or younger **OR** up to TWO college aged players with **two or fewer years** in CCU play **PLUS** high school or younger players for a total of **FIVE** (female players college age or older do not count towards this requirement IF they have 5 or more years of CCU softball experience OR played organized softball at the high school level).

Can have FIVE high school or younger players OR

Can have FOUR high school or younger players plus ONE college player with 2 or less years in CCU play OR

Can have THREE high school or younger players plus TWO college player with 2 or less years in CCU play

The softer training ball used last year will continue to be used exclusively for this division once again.

## General Info

CCU Softball is a different league than many other softball leagues. Our goal is to emphasize that Christian Fellowship is the main reason our league exists. Please read everything so that you understand what the requirements are and the reason behind them.

Games will be scheduled for play on **Sunday afternoons. Game times are 2:00pm and 3:30pm** (there will not be regularly scheduled 5:00pm games this season except for emergencies). Depending on field availability, some Saturday games may be scheduled. Fields are Gellert Park and Westlake Park in Daly City and Mission Blue in Brisbane with other fields to be added if needed. All league meetings are at Cumberland Church in Daly City (101 Vista Grande Avenue, Daly City) at 7:30PM.

**Fees:** The registration fee will remain at \$650 early bird this year (\$700 regular). This will offset the costs of renting the fields and equipment. The early bird payment deadline will be enforced.

**Leadership Support Letter: Along with the other CCU Sports, we are mandated to ask for a letter of support from your pastor for the team's spiritual leader(s).** Applications without this letter will be considered incomplete. The purpose of this is to ensure there is an agreement between the team spiritual leader, the pastor and CCU Softball of the important role that the team spiritual leader will be playing throughout the season. The team spiritual leader will ensure that all league requirements will be met.

**Bye-request:** Each team is allowed **ONE bye request** for church related activities (family retreats/camps, etc.) for games through **August 2nd**. Due to the number of teams, fields and weeks available for the summer season, in order to get all the games in, only one bye request will be honored. Those teams requesting a bye will more than likely have to play doubleheaders in order to get their regular season games in. If your team does not request a bye, that does not guarantee no doubleheaders either. That depends whether other teams within your division make a bye request as well. This year, the league is not playing the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. Please poll your team members and church leaders ahead of time so that there is no scheduling conflicts that will result in a forfeit and a fine for failure to play a scheduled game.

**T-shirts:** Each team will get 15 free T-shirts and extras will be charged at \$12 a shirt. There will be a picture of the T-shirt available on the website. Once ready, the team leader will receive an email announcement. If you make any roster changes after April 27<sup>th</sup>, those participants will not have a T-shirt because the orders for t-shirts will have been made. Please get them in on time so you can be guaranteed a T-shirt. We will not make extra orders like we have in the past. They will be available for pickup at the CCU Sports Kickoff.

**End of season BBQ/closing activities:** The league is asking for \$3 for anyone eating at the BBQ with kids under 6 eating free.

## Fellowship

Each team is responsible for fellowship. The home team of each game will lead fellowship time. Before the season starts a theme is developed for the upcoming season. Each week different example devotions are followed or modified depending upon the style of each devotional leader. Fellowship can be done in different forms. Some have used worship, skits, speakers, small groups, and games to enhance the fellowship. We will also have sign-ins before fellowship start.

Fellowship is where people can share what they know or what opinions they have about who God is and what God has done for them. It is a gathering of more than two and is used to witness about Jesus. In many ways, fellowship can provide us with making new friends and fellow brothers and sisters.

When leading fellowship, make sure that it is planned out ahead of time and prepared so it won't seem like it was a last minute job. Usually fellowship after sports would last 15 minutes at least. This year, each team's spiritual leader will be accountable to the league to ensure that a thoughtful/prepared fellowship time is prepared. During fellowship, take an opportunity to meet new people, share discussions with others, and, most importantly, share the good news of God with all.

## Equipment

The league will supply for each regular season game, the following:

- Double bases at first base. This is to help runners from colliding into first base. See "Rules and Regulations" for specific rules regarding this base.
- Balls. The League will supply softballs. Three balls will be used this year. A regular ball for men 14 years and above will be used in the **Open, Intermediate and Recreation** divisions. The optional use of the smaller ball remains in effect this season whenever a female player comes up to bat in all divisions **except for the Youth division**. A softer training regular sized ball will be used by **everyone** in the **Youth** division. Youth playing in the **Open, Intermediate and Recreation** divisions will hit with the regular ball.
- First aid kits. First aid kits will be at all fields. If they need to be replenished, please let any CCU Softball committee member know.
- Binders for the ump's. Score sheets, fellowship sign-ins and rules and regulations will be included in the binders.

Each team will need to supply:

- Bats. Because of cost and safety reasons, **only** single wall bats, single wall bats with composite handles, and women fast pitch single wall bats will be allowed. No composite bats, EST bats, baseball or multiwall bats.
- Gloves.
- Catcher's Helmet. This is for the safety of those who play behind the plate. We want to ensure the catcher that he or she does not get hit in the face with a ball or bat. Most catchers' helmets can be made with a batting helmet and a facemask for the helmet (this is the cheapest combination, and it usually runs around \$30 total).
- Plastic cleats. For safety reasons, no metal cleats allowed. Cleats are optional equipment.
- Helmets. This is a safety rule for those 13 years of age and under. Players 13 years old and younger must bat and run bases wearing a batting helmet in ALL divisions. Helmets may be worn by older players on both defense and offense for personal safety as well.

# Team Responsibilities

## Character and Gracious Play

Your team and fans will be expected to exhibit proper attitude and sportsman-like conduct consistent with the CCU Sports League mission and purpose. We are seen within our churches, league, and even from outside. We want to display good character and gracious play to others.

## Team Sponsorship

**A team must be sponsored by a church or organization.** We suggest you list a **team name** on the registration form in addition to listing your church/organization name.

## Team Rosters

The maximum number of players per team is 20. Please only list those players who will play at some point during the season. We are charged by each individual player by our insurance carrier. Rosters must be finalized by June 13<sup>th</sup>. For Insurance purposes, all players that are participating must have their signed Release and Waiver forms filed with the league through our new electronic registration process (details TBA) prior to 1<sup>st</sup> game of participation. These Waiver and Release forms include permission to use images of the participants in any CCU Sports multimedia productions.

**Copies of emergency information must be carried with each team so as to facilitate medical help if needed.**

A player can only play on one team and one division only. Players may not cross from lower division to an upper division or upper to lower division. Players may not cross over from one team to another team even if they are in the same division. No adding players after the deadline (June 13<sup>th</sup>).

## Officiating

Your team must fulfill all umpiring and scorekeeping responsibilities. Please make sure that all umpires do know the rules and know how to position on the field. There will be an Umping Clinic, which will be explained at the general meeting. Each team is responsible to send a number of representatives. If you do not send enough representatives, this will result in an automatic fine. Officiating crews (at least 3 umpires per field) will need to be on time or the team will be fined. (FYI -You should be there 10 minutes before game starts so you don't incur a fine for being late.) **NO EXCEPTIONS! The league takes officiating responsibilities very seriously. The league asks all teams to cooperate fully so the league can control costs and uphold a high quality of play.**

## Playoffs

Playoffs will occur after each division completes the regular season. The number of teams in the playoffs will depend on the number of teams that are participating in each division. Times of playoffs will be announced after each division finishes the season.

## League Meetings

There are at least two meetings and an umpiring clinic. All meetings and umpiring clinic are mandatory. Additional meetings for spiritual leaders may be scheduled during the season. Failure to attend these meetings will result in a fine.

1) Spiritual Leaders Meeting: **the spiritual leader(s)** from each team need to attend this meeting. Please have your spiritual leader plan ahead NOW and calendar May 7<sup>th</sup> on his/her calendar. A substitute besides the spiritual leader for this meeting is not accepted. Besides the usual distribution of information, schedules, and other league information, we will go over the most important aspect of this league: sharing the Gospel and Christian fellowship.

2) The Umpiring Clinic: At least two representatives from each team must attend. This clinic helps us understand the rules and regulations of our league as well as field positioning.

3) End of Season Spiritual Leaders Meeting: as with the first spiritual leaders meeting, this meeting must be attended by the spiritual leader from each team. All fines will be collected. Please submit evaluations.

**These meetings are important so the lines of communication can occur.**

## Application, Rules, and Regulations

There is limited space so please submit early. CCU Churches have priority then it will be first come first serve. Due to fairness, all rules will be strictly enforced. Rules are made for the safety of everyone participating. At all times, the league strives to provide and promote a collaborative and Godly environment. Therefore, we ask that all teams adhere to the rules.

## Fines & Disciplinary Actions

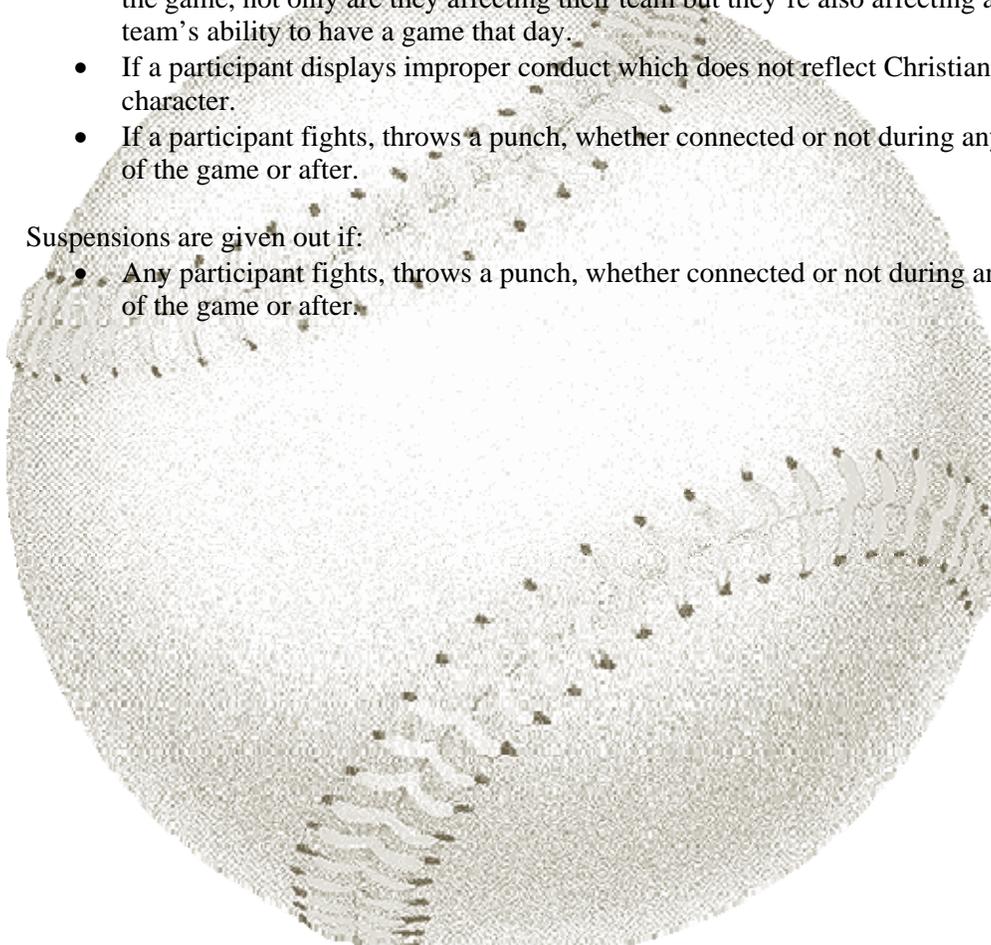
The first infraction is a \$25 fine and first warning. The second is a \$50 fine and last warning. The third is a \$100 fine and may result in disqualification from the league and a one-year probationary period. **As mentioned earlier, missed spiritual leaders meeting will result in a \$100 fine for each occurrence.** If you have a legitimate excuse, we will try to be accommodating (for the spiritual leaders' meetings, attendance is MANDATORY). However, we want teams to take this ministry seriously for the good of all.

Fines are instituted if your team:

- Does not attend the two spiritual leaders meetings. The designated spiritual leader(s) for each team MUST attend this meeting. If a team has more than one spiritual leader for a team, ALL spiritual leaders for that team must attend.
- Does not attend the Umping Clinic (2 representatives)
- Does not show up for a scheduled Umping date or shows up late (3 Umpires needed per field).
- Do not show up for a scheduled game or fulfill the necessary co-ed requirement (if applicable) and/or have less than 9 players on the field at the official start time which results in a forfeit. When a team is unable to field a team for the start of the game, not only are they affecting their team but they're also affecting another team's ability to have a game that day.
- If a participant displays improper conduct which does not reflect Christian character.
- If a participant fights, throws a punch, whether connected or not during any part of the game or after.

Suspensions are given out if:

- Any participant fights, throws a punch, whether connected or not during any part of the game or after.



# Main Events and Activities

Family, friends, and congregation members are invited to all games and League BBQ and Awards. There also will be joint events with the other CCU sports leagues, which are open to all. These fellowship events are important for sharing the Gospel and celebrating as a Christian community. We encourage you and your team to attend. **Please make every effort to come.**

## Shirts

Fifteen T-shirts for each team will be free. Each additional T-shirt will be \$12 per shirt. At this time we do not know what the availability for sweatshirts or other items will be but we will issue an announcement if we do sell sweatshirts or other items.

## CCU Sports Kickoff

CCU Sports Kickoff is another event, which includes all CCU Sports Leagues. This is a great event where you can meet other participants, have fun, and fellowship with others. There are games, singing, prizes, and a guest speaker speaking on this year's theme.

## All-Star Fellowship Day

All-Star Fellowship Day will not be held this year.

## Awards

Players will vote for Most Inspirational Player Awards and Team Fellowship Awards presented at the League BBQ. We need your help by submitting your nominees for various awards so we can purchase and have awards ready by the League BBQ. ***No trophies will be awarded for division champions.***

## End of the Year BBQ

End of the Year BBQ is softball's day to celebrate until we see each other next year. There is fun, food, awards given and a guest speaker. This is the most popular event of the year. There will be a fee of \$3 per ticket and kids under 6 eat free. All softball participants and friends will be charged the same.

# League Application

Please make sure you read all information on this information guide and the application before submitting the printed hardcopy with payment.

Team Information section: Information on your team is greatly appreciated. Please fill this out for identification reasons - which team you are and what church you are from. Please fill this out completely.

Team Spiritual Leader/Head Coach section: This information helps the league contact the right people from your team if an issue arises. Please fill this out completely. The team spiritual leader must attend the church that the team represents.

Team Rosters Section: Please enter the names of people that are playing on your team. The age of each of your individual players are important as we pay an insurance charge for each player according to their age. You can add people on the roster until the middle of June. Email addresses will only be used to alert participants to league events and activities (i.e. Shirts, CCU Kickoff and End of the year BBQ).

## Online registration and waiver/media release forms

**This year's application for a team in the summer league will be done via Google forms.**

After a team has been approved for CCU Softball summer play, the team spiritual leader will be referred to an electronic registration website that we are testing out for this season. At this website, the team spiritual leader will set up the team. Then, team members will go and register online as part of that team. At the same time, each team member will fill out their personal liability release/waiver form and CCU Sports media release form online (this is still ON HOLD).

### **CCU Sports Personal Liability Release and Waiver Form:**

Please fill this out completely so we can have record of all who are playing. We need these forms for liability reasons. We are asking that each participant fills one out for CCU Sports online. The team spiritual leader or head coach should also keep one on hand for emergency purposes.

### **CCU Sports Media Release Form:**

Pictures are taken throughout the year and may be used for the CCU Softball website or on CCU Softball's Facebook page. We need your authorization so we can use the pictures. Please fill this form out completely. Again, we are asking that each participant fills out one for CCU Sports online.

## Leadership Support Letters

**Team spiritual leaders need to have letters from their pastors in order to lead the team. This is a CCU Sports mandate and needs to be completed before the start of the season. The team leader must attend the church that the team represents.**

## Fees

**\$650:** league fee (early bird, April 20<sup>th</sup>)

**\$700:** league fee (regular, April 27<sup>th</sup>)

Fees may come from either a personal or church check. Please make checks payable to: **Chinese Christian Union of SF.**

Fees pay for insurance costs, fields rental, supplies (e.g. balls, equipment, etc.), administrative expenses (e.g., postage, photocopying, etc.), awards, and most of the refreshments and food at the league BBQ.

## Due Date

**To qualify for the early bird rate, check/application/pastoral support letter must be mailed with a postmark no later than April 20<sup>th</sup>. Regular rate applies for checks mailed with a postmark between April 21<sup>st</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>. Hand deliveries of checks/applications/pastoral support letters are accepted up until 8pm on the night it is due provided you make arrangement ahead of time.**

## Checklist

Make sure you have downloaded from the CCU Website:

- 2015 CCU Softball League Information Guide
- 2015 CCU Softball League Rules & Regulations
- 2015 CCU Softball pastoral support letter team leader

Please read over all material carefully. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

A complete application must have:

- 2015 CCU Softball team roster of players emailed to the below email address
- 2015 CCU Softball pastoral support letter team leader signed from the pastor
- Registration fee.

Send fees and signed pastoral support letter to:

2015 CCU Softball League  
C/o Dominic Lau  
3820 Anza Street  
San Francisco, CA 94121

**Questions?** E-mail [CCUsoftball316@gmail.com](mailto:CCUsoftball316@gmail.com)

# Committee

Commissioner / Scheduling / Equipment	Dominic Lau	Cumberland
Devotion & Fellowship	ALL	
Fields/Venue	Stephen Kwong	FCSBC
Rules & Regulations / Umpping Clinic	John Tam	SA-SOMA
	Stephen Kwong	FCSBC
Events / T-shirts	Jason Quintal	CBF
Registration / Waivers / Admin	Matt Chin	FCBC
	John Tam	SA-SOMA
T-shirts / Awards	Wesley Wong	FCSBC
Communications / Media	Jessica Sue	CTBC
	Peony Cheung	CBF

# Contacts

We do have a website you can visit. One is the CCU Sports website [www.CCUSports.com](http://www.CCUSports.com) which includes information, instructions, rules & regulations, scores, and standings.

You can contact any committee member. A directory will be issued to team leaders. Please make sure that when you e-mail, specify which committee you wish to e-mail on the subject line.

