

2018 SPA Player Survey Results

How long have you been playing SENIOR Softball?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Less than 1 year	33	2.9%
1 year to less than 3 years	61	5.4%
3 years to less than 5 years	112	9.9%
5 years to less than 10 years	272	24.2%
10 years or more	638	56.8%
No Responses	6	<1%
Total	1122	100%

What position do you normally play?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Pitcher	161	14.3%
Outfield	397	35.3%
Infield	502	44.7%
Catcher	57	5.0%
No Responses	5	<1%
Total	1122	100%

In what age division did you last compete?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
35 and over	11	<1%
40 and over	9	<1%
45 and over	3	<1%
50 and over	201	17.9%
55 and over	148	13.1%
60 and over	187	16.6%
65 and over	179	15.9%
70 and over	233	20.7%
75 and over	98	8.7%
80 and over	49	4.3%
No Responses	4	<1%
Total	1122	100%

In the 75+ and older divisions would you be in favor of shortening the game to 50 minutes or 6 innings, whichever comes first? (Limited to 75 and older responders)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes, Pool Play Only	12	1.0%
Yes, In all play	7	<1%
No	128	11.4%
No Responses	975	86.8%
Total	1122	100%
35 Comment(s)		

How was the last team that you participated with classified?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Men - Major Plus	60	5.3%
Men - Major	244	21.7%
Men - AAA	545	48.5%
Men - AA	117	10.4%
Women - All	150	13.3%
No Responses	6	<1%
Total	1122	100%

In SPA's Women's programs do you believe that teams should be rated/classified based upon the overall strength and performance of the team? (Limited to Women's Program Responders)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	86	7.6%
No	20	1.7%
Neutral	27	2.4%
No Responses	989	88.1%
Total	1122	100%
36 Comment(s)		

If grouped by classification, which designations do you feel would be most appropriate for women's teams? (Check all that apply) (Limited to Women's Program Responders)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
AA	57	44.5%
AAA	101	78.9%
Major	86	67.1%
Major Plus	26	20.3%
Other	6	4.6%
Total	128	100%
18 Comment(s)		

Which outfield fence distance would you prefer for play in your age division?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
200 feet	18	1.6%
225 feet	25	2.2%
250 feet	54	4.8%
275 feet	156	13.9%
300 feet	647	57.6%
325 feet	114	10.1%
Other	16	1.4%
No Responses	92	8.1%
Total	1122	100%
75 Comment(s)		

Which tournament format would you prefer (when Round Robin is not an option due to numbers of teams)?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
4 game minimum (2 pool + double elimination)	304	27.0%
5 game minimum (3 pool + double elimination)	410	36.5%
5 game minimum (2 pool + double elimination with 3 game	304	27.0%
Other	12	1.0%
No Responses	92	8.1%
Total	1122	100%
62 Comment(s)		

In SPA play with which ball/strike count should the batter come to the plate?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
0 balls and 0 strikes	631	56.2%
1 ball and 1 strike	380	33.8%
3 balls and 2 strikes (1 pitch)	15	1.3%
Other	6	<1%
No Responses	90	8.0%
Total	1122	100%
107 Comment(s)		

Would you be in favor of a proposal to do away with the strike zone mat?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	69	6.1%
No	894	79.6%
Neutral	70	6.2%
No Responses	89	7.9%
Total	1122	100%
92 Comment(s)		

Would you be in favor of a proposal to do away with the "open inning"?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	80	7.1%
No	882	78.6%
Neutral	69	6.1%
No Responses	91	8.1%
Total	1122	100%

65 Comment(s)

In how many age divisions (rosters) should a player be allowed to participate at the same time?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
1	160	14.2%
2	663	59.0%
3	185	16.4%
No Responses	114	10.1%
Total	1122	100%

106 Comment(s)

For SPA tournament play during the normal season, what type of championship award packages to you prefer?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Tournament Apparel (ie tee-shirts, jackets, etc.)	460	40.9%
Trophy or Plaque Awards	79	7.0%
Equipment Awards (ie bags, batting gloves, etc.)	314	27.9%
Inexpensive Rings or Jewelry	134	11.9%
Other	34	3.0%
No Responses	101	9.0%
Total	1122	100%

96 Comment(s)

How important is it to you that the SPA World Championship tournaments be located at vacation resort types of locations?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Very Important	118	11.4%
Somewhat Important	333	32.2%
Neutral	335	32.4%
Not very Important	156	15.1%
Not Important at all	103	9.9%
Total	1033	100%

89 Comment(s)

In what state or geographic area would you most like to have the SPA World Championship tournament located?

893 Response(s)

What time frame do you feel would be best for your age division World Championship tournament?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
1st half of July	17	1.5%
2nd half of July	63	5.6%
1st half of August	56	4.9%
2nd half of August	140	12.4%
1st half of September	347	30.9%
2nd half of September	347	30.9%
Other	46	4.0%
No Responses	106	9.4%
Total	1122	100%
63 Comment(s)		

Would you be interested in participating in an SPA Player Advisory Board Committee designed to have input to SPA programs and rules?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	269	23.9%
No	746	66.4%
No Responses	107	9.5%
Total	1122	100%

Throughout all sports today quality referees, umpires, and officials are becoming increasingly difficult to find. Do you have any recommendations for developing the SPA Umpire Staff?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes (Please explain your recommendations in the comments)	181	16.1%
No (Please indicate in the comments below if you would be)	730	65.0%
No Responses	211	18.8%
Total	1122	100%
295 Comment(s)		

What changes and/or additions would you like to see on the SPA web site?

369 Response(s)

What single SPA rule or policy would you most like to see changed? Please explain.

460 Response(s)

Have you been made aware of the benefits of the SPA team insurance program?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes, my team manager informed me.	121	10.7%
Yes, the SPA Office informed me via mail flyers, conversations,	88	7.8%
Yes, via the SPA web site, or other internet locations.	227	20.2%
No, I didn't know there was an insurance program.	548	48.8%
Other	14	1.2%
No Responses	124	11.0%
Total	1122	100%

How likely are you to continue playing with SPA?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Very likely	626	55.7%
Somewhat likely	238	21.2%
Neutral	111	9.8%
Somewhat unlikely	32	2.8%
Very unlikely	14	1.2%
No Responses	101	9.0%
Total	1122	100%

How would you rate your overall level of satisfaction with SPA?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Highly satisfied	329	29.3%
Somewhat satisfied	454	40.4%
Neutral	139	12.3%
Somewhat dissatisfied	90	8.0%
Highly dissatisfied	13	1.1%
No Responses	97	8.6%
Total	1122	100%
147 Comment(s)		

How do we rate in comparison to other senior softball organizations?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Much higher	69	6.1%
Somewhat higher	270	24.0%
Same	413	36.8%
Somewhat lower	216	19.2%
Much lower	30	2.6%
Other	21	1.8%
No Responses	103	9.1%
Total	1122	100%

Please select the State in which you normally reside.

State/Province
(US/Canada)

1023

Do you have any suggestions for improvement of the SPA?

393 Response(s)