

The Sports Page

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Tundraball

The Winter 2001 Season is right around the corner! Okay, it starts in December, so it's around the corner and down the road a ways, but we need to plan now. Tim and I will be going to the Manager's Meeting in a couple of weeks, so we need to know who's interested.

The games will be one-pitch, meaning, essentially, that there's a full count when you step up to the plate. One ball walks you and one strike sends you back to the dugout, but if you hit a foul, you get one more shot. One-pitch makes for a shorter game, so the time limit drops from an hour to 45 minutes. The leagues start the first or second week in December and go into mid-February. It's cold sometimes, but the games go fast and only last 45 minutes and one-pitch can definitely be a hoot.

All games will be played at Bethesda on the day everybody agrees on at the Manager's Meeting. (It's been Mondays the last two years.) They also played at George Pierce on Thursdays last year. In 1999 and 2000, we've had both **The Jets** and **Dirty Dozen** in Tundraball Leagues. Last year we were also able to get **The Cowboys** in at Pierce, too.

It will cost between \$30 and \$35 per player, per team. Tim will be counting heads soon, so let him know whether or not you're playing Tundraball this year.

The Cowboys, Bethesda, 10/11/01, 6:30pm

The last time **The Cowboys** played **IDC** it was the first game of Fall 2001 and we waffled them 20-0 as we hit the ball like wild animals. Thursday night we were just coming off a surprise shellacking from **Warner Vagas**, who beat us 20-0 the previous week. We lost the coin toss, but were Home Team, so we took the field.

We held IDC to a zero, then got our turn. We got two singles, with one out, then **Jared** "Get down with your bad" **Self** launched a shot over the fence for a three-run tater and we led 3-0! Two straight fly-out's ended the inning. IDC's big guys burned us a couple of times in the second inning and tied the game, 3-3. We answered with a deuce and led 5-3 after two. Neither team scored in the third and things were looking very different than the last time we played IDC. They were getting confident, too.

IDC took the lead in the fourth, with another three spot, 6-5, and they started talking smack. We answered with a run, 6-6, as **John** "Bowling" **Beal** drove in a two-out run with a single. We made an out at the plate in the middle of the inning and IDC get even more confident and the chirping got louder. We just got mad.

We shoved a donut down their throats in the top of the fifth inning, then we found our sticks. We put a couple of singles aboard in the fifth, with one out, then a fly-out made it two down, but a run scored and we led 7-6. Then we got hot. Two more singles loaded the bases, then **Dean** "the Dream" **Binder** gave us two, two-out runs on a double, ripped into the outfield and we had some breathing room at 9-6! **Ivan** "Golden" **Ruyle** was next and singled for two more, 11-6, but that's all we got.

All that talk ceased abruptly.

We gave 'em another pastry in the sixth and we got two more, 13-6, highlighted by **Jared** "J-Rod" **Self**'s fence shot for a triple. IDC had one more chance in the top of the seventh and they hit the ball. They quickly put three runs on the board, 13-9, before they had an out and they had men on first and third. The next guy hit a roller between the first and second basemen. **Ivan** "the Terrible" **Ruyle**, playing second, cut off the grounder and threw to **Rocky** "Mountain Way" **McCoy** at first base, who ran down and tagged the runner, who'd been on first base, for a double-play! A run scored, 13-10, but the play essentially broke their backs. They argued "interference" and the umpires huddled for a moment, but the play stood as the umps made the right call. They didn't score any more and we won the game, 13-10.

Time limit	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
IDC	0	3	0	3	0	0	4	10
The Cowboys	3	2	0	1	5	2	x	13

We didn't hit enough in the first few innings against a questionable defense and our defense was as rough as theirs. We really should have beat 'em much more easily, but it's a mark of a good team when we can win a game even though we aren't running on all cylinders. Good job, guys!

Tim "& Space" **McCoy** was 4-4, **Ivan Ruyle** "& Regulations" was 3-3 with two RBI and **John** "Blood Mo" **Beal** was 2-2 with a walk and a rib. **Norman** "1066" **Mapp** was 3-4 with one RBI and **Mark** "Alien" **Nations** was 2-3 with a rib.

Next Game Times

DZ = Dirty Dozen

JT = The Jets

CB = The Cowboys at Bethesda

CBT = The Cowboys Tour

Friday **10/12/01** at Lucky Shoals Park - Fall 2001

JT 7:00 - 5 vs. From Enterprises

Saturday **10/13/01** at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2001

DZ 3:00 - 10 vs. Buck Fifty

Monday **10/15/01** at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2001

DZ 7:30 - 10 vs. Salsa

Thursday **10/18/01** at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2001

CB 7:30 - 9 vs. Redline

Friday **10/19/01** at Lucky Shoals Park - Fall 2001

JT 8:00 - 5 vs. Bad News Bankers

Saturday **10/20/01** at Gainesville Civic Center -

CBT 6:30 - vs. ISA Banquet

Monday **10/22/01** at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2001

DZ 6:30 - 10 vs. Relentless

Thursday **10/25/01** at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2001

CB 8:30 - 9 vs. Mizuno

The entire Fall 2001 Schedule can be found at: <http://userwww.service.emory.edu/~dmcco01/Softball>

Standings & Scouting Reports – Fall 2001

Bold Italics = Our team, **Normal Brown Italics** = Our next opponent, **Red Teams** have clinched First Place. (0) = the number of runs the leader beat the next highest team by, for tie breaking purposes. **PST** = Post Season Tournament. **TBD** = To Be Determined. An "x" before a team name indicates a team that has clinched a berth in the PST. A "+" after a name indicates a team we play, or have played, more than once during the current season. A "-" indicates a team that we do not play during the current season. The far right column shows our overall record against that opponent.

Begins on 8/27/01

Monday – Bethesda Men's-No Homers		
No PST for Fall Season		
Dirty Dozen	4-0	n/a
Relentless	4-0	-
Outlaws +1	3-1	1-0
Mayer Electric +15	2-2	-
Buck Fifty	1-3	3-1
Salsa	1-3	-
Reds +15	1-3	1-0
Chameleons +1	0-4	22-12

The **Dirty Dozen** plays **Buck Fifty** next as a rain makeup this Saturday, 10/13/01. Those guys beat us for the first time ever, 6-5, (6-5!!!) but we went 9-1 in the Summer season and won First Place despite that one. We owe those guys. They think they can do it again. They can't. Bring the big sticks, because we plan to score way more than that five we got last time we played them.

We play **Salsa** the following Monday in our regularly scheduled game. We don't know much about them, so bring those big sticks!

Begins on 8/30/01

Thursday - Bethesda Men's-Equalizer		
No PST for Fall Season		
Mizuno -4	5-0	0-1
Redline -12	4-1	0-1
Warner Vagas -20	2-3	0-1
The Cowboys	3-3	n/a
IDC +23	1-5	2-0
Outback Tan +12	1-4	1-0

The Cowboys play **Redline** next. They beat us 17-5 the second game of the season, but we really didn't hit or field well. They are a good team, but so are we and we should beat them. We'll have to hit the ball, though, and we can't get burned five or six times. They can hit, too.

Began on 9/7/01

Friday - Lucky Shoals Coed-No Homers		
No PST for Fall Season		
The Jets	4-1	n/a
From Enterprises +3	4-1	12-5
Bad News Bankers +13	3-2	29-7
With Ourselves -7	2-3	9-2
Stone Mountain Park +10	1-4	1-0
Toyo Techs +14	1-4	1-0

The Jets play **From Enterprises** next. They beat us in the Spring PST, then we smacked 'em twice in the Summer and Fall. We beat them 13-10 a few weeks ago and we have to beat them again this Friday to regain sole possession of First Place again. **From** beat the **Bad News Bankers** Friday night. We play the **Bankers** the week after the **From** game, so it's in our hands and the next two weeks are the key.

After **From** and **Bad News**, we play **Stone Mountain** and **Toyo**, then **With Ourselves** again to end the season. I'm betting that **With Ourselves** would like nothing better than to spoil our bid for First that last game. Let's win out and not have to think about tie breakers.

Began on 1/27/01

Saturday/Sunday Various Parks – Men's-DE	
ISA-E State: 7/21-22/01	
ISA-E World: 8/31-9/2/01	
The Cowboys Tour	
A.L. Grading (Potts)	2-0
Aces	8-2
AGCO Rebels	1-0
Alpha Rugs	1-0
American Tree Bulldogs	1-0
Ball Hawgs	1-0
BC Dragons	1-0
Blue Ballers	0-2
Bulls	1-0
Canton Trophy Palace	0-1
Centex	1-0
Complete Lift Services	1-1
Devil Dogs	1-2
Devil Rays	1-0
Diversified	1-0
Duke's Creek Cabins	0-1
Faith Baptist	1-0
Fully Loaded	1-0
GA Outlaws	0-1
Georgia Storm	1-0
Hutta Hitters	0-1
Intimidators	0-2
Jokers	1-0
Just Rookies	1-3
Knights	1-0
Leven's Baptist Church	1-2
Lightning	0-2
Metro Merchants	0-1
Mixups	2-0
Mizuno	0-1
Mudcats	1-0
No Limit	1-0
On Deck	1-0
RAW (Rent-A-Wreck)	1-0
RC's	3-1
Regulators	1-0
Scorpions	1-0
Screamin' Demons	0-1
Shockers	0-2
Smashers	1-0
Sport Stop / Hale Storm	0-1
Stars Softball	0-1
Steamrollers	1-0
Stick Mojo	0-2
Team NAZ	1-0
Tennessee Ten	0-1
Titans	0-1
Tuxedo Coffee & Vending	3-1
Under/Over	0-1
Underdogs	0-1
Unknown Express	1-0
USA Productions	1-1
Venom	0-1
Vineyard's Heating & Air	0-1
Vista RMS	0-1
Woodstock A's	4-2
Wrecking Crew	0-1
Xtreme	1-0

The teams in **Green** we last played in ISA, while the teams in **Red** we last played in USSSA. The other column is our record against that team in 2001.

The Cowboys Tour continues on 10/27/01.

Events and Announcements

Laurie "Doctor" Zienko notches another one on 10/17/01.
Mark "Alien" Nations marks another one on 10/24/01.
Cindy "Lou Who" Lyles blows out the candles on 10/24/01.
Marty "Hardy" Lewandowski rolls over his odometer one 10/24/01.
Bobby "Jack-o-Lantern" Wright has a B-day on 10/31/01.
"Black" Cat Butler has a birthday on 10/31/01.
Sherri "House of Horrors" Allen has another one on 10/31/01.

I just got an email from **Andrea (Fred) Friederick-Dodds**, who played several seasons with the **Mixed Nuts** at Briscoe Park and subs for **The Jets** here and there. Fred's new baby, a boy, was born on 9/22/01 at 3:58am. His name is **Colden DeHaven Dodds** and he weighed in at 8lbs., 1oz.

Fred said, "Everyone is doing fine. I'm trying to adjust to the night time activities again - yikes. Put me down to sub; I'm ready to play." That's the ol' Fred!

I think we'll really, really be in need of young outfielders in about sixteen years. See what you can do, Fred.

If you know of something that should be mentioned in the TSP as an Event, give me a holler. If you have a birthday, wedding announcement, birth of a baby, the day the UFO abducted you or some such, concerning a McCoy Softball player, past or present, just let me know so I can mention it. An email is best.

The DL

Russell Ray went to the hospital a few times last week and they found that his problem (Settle down; we know he has several the doctors can't fix.) was a bad gall bladder. He went under the knife Saturday morning, 10/6/01, and expects to be back in the lineup on Saturday, 10/13, in a Dirty Dozen rain makeup.

Bobby Wright is still in a cast. No ETA on when he'll be back hitting line drives again. Hang in there, #6!

Trivia Challenge

Old Q: Which McCoy Softball team had the longest streak of consecutive First Place seasons? Answer for Coed and Men's. What's the longest current streak? This is Leagues, only. PST's do not count.

New A: **The Jets** won first place all four seasons on 1999, four more in 2000 and one more in the Spring of 2001, for a total of **nine straight First Place finishes**. The **Dirty Dozen** has the best ever Men's record with three straight: Summer, Fall and Winter 2000.

New Q: As of September 30th 2001, who has played the most McCoy Softball league games that never played a McCoy Softball game at the Softball Country Club? Name the top man & top women. How many games?

Extra credit: Can you name the top 5 men & top 5 women?

Super duper bonus question: Who was the 1st person to join a McCoy Softball team after the Softball Country Club went out of business?

*This question and answer were sent to The Sports Page by **Tim McCoy**.*

If you have a trivia question, reply to this email and you might see it in Trivia Challenge. If you think of a stumper, I'll research it and come up with the answer, unless you already have the answer.

Rain Info

Bethesda and Lucky Shoals (DZ, CB & JT) (770) 822-8882

How to get us

If you need to ask about league fees or if you must miss a game, call Tim a few days before the game at (770) 978-3799 and leave a message if he's not around.

If you need Game Times or stats information call Rocky at (770) 465-0274 or just reply to The Sports Page via email.

As always...

Cool McCoy Softball stuff can be found at: <http://userwww.service.emory.edu/~dmcco01/Softball>