

OTOW SOFTBALL CLUB

JANURARY 2026 – NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year and welcome to the start of the 2026 Winter Season. In this newsletter you will find updates on club activities, new teams rosters, and winter schedules. Please also take a few moments to review the Code of Conduct and become familiar with the new rule changes that were voted on and passed at our December Club Meeting.

We are excited to begin a new season and continue to have the opportunity to work on the clubs behalf to improve and strengthen our softball community. We want to wish the best of luck to all our teams this season, both on and off the field of play.

PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT

Vice President– Bill McELROY

SECRETARY– BARRY GIRSCH

PRESIDENT– TONY BLUETER

**MEMBER AT LARGE – MIKE
MANAS**

TREASURER – GARLAND FRERS

Board of Directors





WINTER SEASON JAN 5 – MAY 13

- **FIRST GAME – MONDAY, 1/5**
- **TEAM PHOTO DAY – WEDNESDAY, 1/14**
- **WINTER CHILI DAY – COMING SOON**
- **WINTER DINNER & DANCE – THURSDAY, 2/12**
- **SPRING TOURNAMENT – WEDNESDAY, 4/1**
- **LAST GAME – WEDNESDAY, 5/13**
- **RAYMOND JAMES GOLF OUTING – MONDAY, 5/4**
- **SPRING BBQ LUNCHEON – TBA**
- **SUMMER MEETING & DRAFT – FRIDAY, MAY 15**

Questions about Game Schedules, Standings, or Club Rules? Log onto our official website at www.otowsoftball.org.



**WINTER BALL – THURSDAY, FEB 12
DINNER & DANCE
AT CHANDLER HILLS LODGE**

Looking for a fun way to celebrate the upcoming Valentine's Day Holiday or just want to enjoy some live music and a delicious catered mid-winter meal with friends. Join us for this special Pasta Faire catered dinner featuring our own Andy Cheyne and his Highway 94 band. Tickets for this event are on sale now at \$30 per couple or \$15 for a single club member. Please check your email for the RSVP form and confirm your reservation by the 1/30/2026. We look forward to seeing you there!



Attention All Non-Resident Members



All Non-Resident club members including Weybourne and Indigio communities are required to secure a gateway pass to continue in good standing within any OTOW club membership. We are now required to verify club members living in these communities have acquired a gateway pass. If you are living in one of these communities please be advised we will need to verify your compliance with this OTOW policy. Thank you for your cooperation in advance.



**DON'T MISS BATTING
PRACTICE EVERY SUNDAY AT
THE SOFTBALL FIELD
8:00 – 11:00AM**



Winter 2026 Teams

FUNKYTOWN LARRY BURKE – MANGER

**IRA ANSLOW
ALAN BURRIS
ANDY CHEYNE
TOM DUNCAN
STEVE GREGG
KEVIN JENSEN
MIKE MANAS
CHRIS MORETTO
MARK REYNOLDS
TERRY ST. JOHN
DOUG TRONDSO**

POOR MANAGEMENT DAVE ARNOTT – MANGER

**BRIAN CURRAN
TONY BLUETER
GARLAND FRERS
KENNY HEDRICK
ROBBY IRACI
LARRY KRUEGER
BILL LEON
JOE MARQUIS
JOHN PANNACCHIONE
TIM PARKER
ED STINNARD**

SONS OF PITCHES RICK CASEY - MANAGER

**JOSE APONTE
ED BRAY
MIKE HAMLIN
RUSS HAMM
BILL MCELROY
DALE MICHEL
JIMMY RUSSO
TIM SAMELS
STEVE TATE
BILL TRIPP
BRAD YOUNGBERG**

QUANTUM LEAP ED CASTROGIOVANNI – MANAGER

**PETE FAUCETTA
TOM GIANNASCA
KEVIN LLEWELLYN
PAUL MILHAN
RICK MUNSEL
KENNY REEVES
JOHN ROUSSEAUJIM
KEN RYAN
MIKE SAUMIER
JIM STECKER
JEFF THOMAS**

BASE CHASERS WAYNE KISER – MANAGER

**RON BARCELONA
RICK DOYLE
PHIL FRANKLIN
BILL KASPER
BARRY LEE
SAM MESTRE
JOHN MICHAELS
GEORGE RUSSO
TOM SHERIDAN
BOB WADE
JERRY WEAGE**

HEADING HOME RICH GUDVANGEN – MANAGER

**GARY BRATT
RICH GOMEZ
ROY HILLIER
MIKE HOENIE
DON HUSTON
RICH KARAM
RALPH MAZZIO
PETE QUINONES
STEVE TEMPERT
MARK UBERSTINE
DAVE VAUGHT**

**QUESTIONS ABOUT GAME SCHEDULES,
STANDINGS, OR CLUB RULES? LOG
ONTO OUR OFFICIAL WEBSITE AT
WWW.OTOWSOFTBALL.ORG.**



TEAM PHOTO DAY

Winter team photos will be taken before scheduled games. Get ready to smile on Wednesday, January 14.

OPEN MEETINGS WITH BOARD

The OTOW Softball Club will begin hosting open drop-in meetings for club members to come share suggestions, ask questions, and express any concerns you may have at Sid's Cafe on selected Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 - 3:00pm. **January Winter Season Dates include 1/14, 1/28.** We hope to see you there!

Inter-League Pick-up Game Friday, 1/9/2026

Looking to get another game in this upcoming week? Then please join us for the first Friday inter-league game at the OTOW softball field. We are hoping to hold two games at 9:00 AM and at 10:30 AM. We will be using the American League limited flight softball for these games. Following the games please plan to join us for a hot dog or chilidog at the softball pavilion. Please bring your own beverage for this event. We hope to see you at the games.



New Winter Rules

Approved by 12/19 Club Vote

- 1. Home runs over the fence** – give credit to the batter if over the 5 runs to an inning (Maximum a team can score is 6 runs for inning). Approved by 12/19 Club Vote.
- 2. Any batter using a “Rabbitt” substitute runner** can only advance to first base. The runner may not advance to another base on the hit, even on a bad or passed throw to first. Only exception is on a ground rule double.
- 3. OTOW Softball Rule Substitute Runner 5.4** – in conflict with SSUSA rule 8.5 (4). OTOW 5.4 to Overrule SSUSA rule 8.5 (4) by Club Vote 12/19.
 - 5.4 If a player enters the game as a substitute runner and is left on base when it's his turn to bat, that player loses his turn at bat and will be called out. The substitute runner will remain on base.
- 4. Flip/Flop Rule** – Mandatory when Home Team trails by 6 or more runs going into the Top of the 7th inning of a game. The Home Team will bat first to catch up or surpass the Visting Teams score. In the event the Home Team ties or takes the lead the Visitors Team will have the opportunity to bat in the bottom half of the inning. If the Home Team fails to tie or take a lead the game ends.

THESE RULE CHANGES WILL TAKE EFFECT WITH THE FIRST GAME ON MONDAY 1/5/2026.



New Winter Rules The Line

- 1. Any Player wishing to stand on the line must be able to run for themselves to first base to stand on the line. A substitute runner may be requested from first base.**
- 2. Players completing NPO must play in at least 2 games (via the line) on different days before being placed on a club team. However, they will not have priority over other club members standing on the line after they have completed their 2 mandatory games and will need to participate in the card draw to determine if they will be selected to play.**
 - Players coming out of NPO or Bullpen will only be placed on a team the second & last Wednesday of each month.**
- 3. Any paid club member in good standing is eligible to be on the line (injured recovery, missing numerous games, etc.) when they are available. However, they will not have priority over other club members standing on the line and will need to participate in the card draw to determine if they will be selected to play.**

THESE RULE CHANGES WILL TAKE EFFECT WITH THE FIRST GAME ON MONDAY 1/5/2026.



2026 WINTER SCHEDULE OTOW SOFTBALL CLUB

MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
5-Jan		Home		7-Jan		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Funkytown	Poor Management	Visitor	Base Chasers	Sons of Pitches	Home
10:15	Sons of Pitches	Heading Home	Heading Home	Heading Home	Poor Management	Funkytown	Home
11:30	Base Chasers	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Funkytown	Funkytown	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
19-Jan		Home		21-Jan		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Poor Management	Sons of Pitches	Visitor	Quantum Leap	Base Chasers	Home
10:15	Funkytown	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Poor Management	Funkytown	Funkytown	Home
11:30	Heading Home	Quantum Leap	Heading Home	Heading Home	Sons of Pitches	Sons of Pitches	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
2-Feb		Home		4-Feb		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Funkytown	Sons of Pitches	Visitor	Quantum Leap	Heading Home	Home
10:15	Poor Management	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Sons of Pitches	Poor Management	Poor Management	Home
11:30	Heading Home	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Funkytown	Funkytown	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
16-Feb		Home		18-Feb		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Sons of Pitches	Quantum Leap	Visitor	Base Chasers	Heading Home	Home
10:15	Poor Management	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Sons of Pitches	Funkytown	Funkytown	Home
11:30	Funkytown	Heading Home	Quantum Leap	Poor Management	Poor Management	Poor Management	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
2-Mar		Home		4-Mar		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Poor Management	Heading Home	Visitor	Quantum Leap	Sons of Pitches	Home
10:15	Funkytown	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Base Chasers	Poor Management	Poor Management	Home
11:30	Sons of Pitches	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Heading Home	Funkytown	Funkytown	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
16-Mar		Home		18-Mar		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Base Chasers	Quantum Leap	Visitor	Quantum Leap	Funkytown	Home
10:15	Funkytown	Poor Management	Poor Management	Base Chasers	Sons of Pitches	Sons of Pitches	Home
11:30	Sons of Pitches	Heading Home	Heading Home	Heading Home	Poor Management	Poor Management	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
30-Mar		Home		1-Apr		Home	
9:00	Visitor	Heading Home	Quantum Leap	Tournament	TBD	TBD	Home
10:15	Poor Management	Sons of Pitches	Sons of Pitches	Tournament	TBD	TBD	Home
11:30	Funkytown	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Tournament	TBD	TBD	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
13-Apr		Home		15-Apr		Home	
8:30	Visitor	Heading Home	Funkytown	Visitor	Heading Home	Base Chasers	Home
9:45	Quantum Leap	Sons of Pitches	Sons of Pitches	Funkytown	Sons of Pitches	Sons of Pitches	Home
11:00	Base Chasers	Poor Management	Poor Management	Poor Management	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
27-Apr		Home		29-Apr		Home	
8:30	Visitor	Base Chasers	Sons of Pitches	Visitor	Funkytown	Heading Home	Home
9:45	Heading Home	Poor Management	Poor Management	Sons of Pitches	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Home
11:00	Quantum Leap	Funkytown	Poor Management	Poor Management	Base Chasers	Base Chasers	Home
MONDAY				WEDNESDAY			
11-May		Home		13-May		Home	
8:30	Visitor	Funkytown	Poor Management	Visitor	Sons of Pitches	Base Chasers	Home
9:45	Sons of Pitches	Heading Home	Heading Home	Funkytown	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	Home
11:00	Base Chasers	Quantum Leap	Poor Management	Poor Management	Heading Home	Heading Home	Home

HAVING A HARD TIME REDING THIS SCHEDULE? THEN PLEASE LOG ONTO THE OTOW SOFTBALL CLUB WEBSITE AT WWW.OTOWSOFTBALL.ORG AND DOWNLOAD A CLEAN COPY FOR THE REFRIGERATOR. NOW LET'S PLAY BALL!