

## Inland Sports Softball CIF-SS Playoff Preview:

By: Derryl Trujillo  
Inland Sports Senior Writer

Monday morning CIF-SS officials released the seven divisional brackets for playoff action to start tomorrow with Wildcard games. First round action begins Thursday with the finals May 17 & 18 at Deanna Manning Stadium in Irvine. I'll breakdown the divisions, playoff calendar, and offer up a reminder about pregame batting practice.

Before we jump into playoff previews let's congratulate our area's league champions:

Ambassador>Aquinas  
Arrowhead>United Christian Academy  
Big VIII>Norco  
Citrus Belt>Redlands  
Desert Valley>Yucca Valley & Banning  
Ivy>Paloma Valley, Valley View, and Riverside Poly  
Majestic>The Grove  
Mountain Pass>Beaumont  
Mountain Valley>Miller  
San Andreas>Rialto  
Southwestern>Great Oak  
Southeastern>Santa Rosa Academy  
South Valley>Nuvview Bridge  
Sunbelt>Notre Dame  
Sunkist>Grand Terrace  
Victory>Bloomington Christian

And review our ranked teams in their respective playoff classifications:

Div 1>>1. Norco, 2. Great Oak, 3. Santiago/Corona, 5. Grand Terrace

Div 2>>6. Roosevelt & 7. Corona/Centennial

Div 3>>2. Ramona & 7. Patriot

Div 4>>1. Aquinas

Div 6>>2. Notre Dame/Riverside, 5. Woodcrest Christian, 7. Bloomington Christian

Receiving Votes: San Gorgonio

Div 7>>1. Western Christian, 6. Santa Rosa Academy, 8. San Jacinto Valley Academy, 10. San Bernardino

**First Rd Matchups (Thursday):** If a division has wildcard games they will be listed below the main draw and played Tuesday afternoon at 315pm.

**Div 1>>**

Norco (Opening round bye)

Vista Murrieta @ Riverside Poly  
Huntington Beach @ Grand Terrace  
Yucaipa @ Corona/Santiago  
Redlands East Valley @ Santa Margarita  
King @ Great Oak

**Div 2>>**

Beaumont @ El Modena  
Roosevelt @ Redlands  
California @ Valley View  
**Wild Card A:** Temecula Valley @ Don Lugo

**Div 3>>**

Oak Hills @ Patriot  
Rancho Cucamonga @ Paloma Valley  
Troy @ Ramona

**Div 4>>**

Aquinas v Winner Wildcard "A"  
Winner Wildcard "B" @ Rialto  
Winner Wildcard "G" @ Banning  
Jurupa Hills @ Artesia  
Winner Wildcard "I" @ Miller  
**Wildcard "A":** Palm Springs @ Arlington  
**Wildcard "D":** Kaiser @ West Valley  
**Wildcard "G":** Rancho Verde @ Summit  
**Wildcard "I":** Hillcrest @ Heritage

**Div 5>>**

Vista del Lago @ Yucca Valley  
San Jacinto @ Calvary Chapel/Santa Ana  
**Wildcard "A":** Long Beach Poly @ Ontario Christian

**Div 6>>**

Wildcard "B" Winner @ Nuview Bridge  
Garey @ Public Safety Academy  
Big Bear @ Woodcrest Christian  
Wildcard "D" Winner @ United Christian Academy  
Rubidoux @ Calvary Chapel/Downey  
Winner Wildcard "G" @ The Grove  
Sherman Indian @ Bloomington Christian  
Winner Wildcard "H" @ Notre Dame/Riverside  
**Wildcard "B":** Excelsior Charter @ San Geronio

**Div 7>>**

Western Christian @ Bethel Christian/Riverside  
San Bernardino @ Academy/Careers & Explanation  
CSDR @ Webb  
St. Pious/Matthias @ San Jacinto Valley Academy  
La Verne Lutheran @ Santa Rosa Academy  
Cal Lutheran @ Mayfield  
Victor Valley Christian @ Redlands Adventist Academy

**Playoff Calendar:**

1st Rd>>Thursday, May 2, 2019

2nd Rd>>Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Quarterfinals>>Thursday, May 9, 2019

Semifinals>>Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Finals>>Held at Deanna Manning Stadium in Irvine either Friday, May 17 or Saturday, May 18.  
These times will be assigned on Wednesday morning.

**Note:** If a game time, date, or site needs to be changed please email [socaltrekkie@gmail.com](mailto:socaltrekkie@gmail.com) as soon as the appropriate CIF-SS approvals are obtained.

**Batting Practice Reminder:**

Please read pages 17 & 18 which address pregame batting practice and the potential consequences of violating this rule. We see it every year and it's my hope we don't this postseason. The bulletin can be viewed at

<https://cifss.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/2019-Softball-Playoff-Bulletin.pdf>

Norco earns the #1 seed in Division 1 and a bye to next Tuesday's second round where they'll host the winner of Vista Murrieta @ Riverside Poly. When reached via text message Cougars coach Rick Robinson said "Everywhere you look in Division 1 there's a tough matchup. With the bye we get a few extra days to get healthy & prepare for the winner between Poly and Vista Murrieta. We haven't been playing our best softball coming in but the break gives us a shot to get refocused and ready to go." There are several all-area matchups in this bracket also including Yucaipa @ Corona/Santiago & King @ Great Oak. Notably absent was Murrieta Mesa who struggled in Southwestern League play after defeating Orange Lutheran earlier in tournament play.

Very rarely does a league champion have to travel in their opening round game but that's the situation Beaumont faces as they drew El Modena in Division 2, champion of the North Hills League. Roosevelt travels to Redlands in another all area matchup from Division 2 which pits the Citrus Belt League champions against a much improved Mustangs side from one year ago which finished 3rd in Big VIII League action. California ,a 3rd place entry from the Del Rio

League visits Ivy League co-champion Valley View. Notably absent was Corona/Centennial who found themselves on the outside looking in despite high poll rankings all year.

In Division 3 a potential all area matchup of Ramona & Paloma Valley is quite possible next week. Coach Laura Shinar from Ramona remarked by phone "We're just taking this one game at a time. Whoever makes it to this week is a worthy opponent and we know that on any given day anything can happen.

In Division 4 Aquinas has the #1 seed and will play the winner of Arlington & Palm Springs on Thursday.

In Division 6 #2 Notre Dame will play the winner of a wildcard game between Hesperia and Adelanto on Thursday at 315pm. #5 Woodcrest Christian opens with Big Bear at home while #7 Bloomington Christian hosts Sherman Indian.

Western Christian earned a #1 seed in Division 7 and opens at Bethel Christian/Riverside. Santa Rosa Academy hosts La Verne Lutheran.