

Inland Sports Softball Weekly Preview: Week of 4/8/19

Back to school means back into league play for area softball teams. We'll recap the Michelle Carew Tournament, break down some league races, and reveal the postseason calendar in this week's preview. In addition the CIF-SS coaches polls will be updated. There are now three weeks left in the regular season.

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Ambassador League>

Aquinas holds a two game lead over Western Christian, Ontario Christian, and Woodcrest Christian. It'll be a big 48 hours in determining playoff seeding behind the Falcons as Woodcrest Christian plays Western Christian and Ontario Christian (rain makeup) in a road back to back Tuesday & Wednesday. Tuesday's matchup between the Royals and Lancers finishes that series. Meanwhile Woodcrest Christian & Ontario Christian have their final meeting April 23rd. The Knights and Falcons finish their series next Tuesday in Ontario.

Aquinas 16-0, 8-0
Western Christian 14-5, 7-2
Woodcrest Christian 9-3, 6-2
Ontario Christian 9-7, 5-2
Arrowhead Christian 5-9, 2-6
Desert Christian Academy 3-8, 2-6
Linfield Christian 5-8, 2-7
Loma Linda Academy 2-8, 0-7

Big VIII League>

Norco is two games clear of Santiago, Centennial, and Roosevelt to start the week and second round. It's a road week for the Cougars who will visit King on Tuesday at 315pm & Santiago for a 4pm first pitch on Thursday. Centennial & Santiago also square off on Tuesday afternoon.

Norco 23-0, 5-0
Santiago 12-5-1, 3-2
Centennial 12-4, 3-2
Roosevelt 15-5, 3-2
King 10-6, 1-4
Corona 6-10, 0-5

Citrus Belt League>

Yucaipa starts the week a game in front of both Redlands and Redlands East Valley. Tomorrow the Terriers and Wildcats meet at REV for a 315pm first pitch. Winner will be in second a game out after first round play.

Yucaipa 9-9, 4-0
Redlands 12-10, 3-1
REV 12-8, 3-1
Carter 3-10, 1-3
Citrus Valley 7-11, 1-3
Cajon 7-10, 0-4

Ivy League>

To start the week Riverside Poly holds a one game lead over Paloma Valley. Those two meet in Menifee tomorrow afternoon for a 315pm first pitch to start 2nd round action. Valley View holds the league's final automatic playoff berth and they'll play Poly on Thursday in Riverside.

Poly 12-5, 5-0
Paloma Valley 7-7, 4-1
Valley View 10-4, 3-2
Temescal Canyon 9-11, 2-3
Canyon Springs 2-13, 1-4
North 6-9, 0-5

Mountain Pass League>

Beaumont holds the league lead a game in front of Hemet West Valley. San Jacinto and Hemet are tied for the final playoff spot. This week's notable matchup is Wednesday's showdown between Hemet West Valley & Hemet.

Beaumont 12-7, 4-0
West Valley 8-6, 3-1
San Jacinto 12-7, 2-2
Hemet 7-11, 2-2
Tahquitz 3-9, 1-3
Citrus Hill 4-12, 0-4

River Valley League>

Ramona and Patriot maintain their first place tie starting the week and look to be on a collision course to play for the RVL title in two weeks. After two losses to Patriot last week Hillcrest finds themselves in a tie with Jurupa Valley for the league's final automatic playoff berth. The Trojans and Jaguars also meet twice on that final week.

Patriot 14-5, 8-1
Ramona 12-2, 7-1
Jurupa Valley 10-9, 5-4

Hillcrest 7-9, 5-4
Norte Vista 1-12, 1-8
La Sierra 1-14, 0-8

San Andreas League>

Rialto leads the league with Jurupa Hills just a game back. Those two meet on Friday afternoon in Rialto.

Rialto 11-8, 5-0
Jurupa Hills 5-12, 3-1
San Gorgonio 10-3, 2-1
Eisenhower 9-7, 1-3
Arroyo Valley 5-8-1, 0-2
Rim of the World 1-11, 0-4

Southwestern League>

Great Oak holds a two game lead starting the week over Vista Murrieta. Murrieta Valley holds the final playoff spot over Murrieta Mesa by two games. For the Rams they'll start their stretch run with a three game series against Chaparral (one a rain makeup) away Monday & Friday and home Wednesday. League leader Great Oak has two with Murrieta Valley (Wednesday at home, Friday in Murrieta) and needs to make sure they don't stumble with a three game week coming up. That'll be Monday v Murrieta Mesa at Home with Wednesday (away) & Friday (home) games v Vista Murrieta. The Broncos have three against Temecula Valley (one a rain makeup) this week.

Great Oak 15-2-2, 9-0
Vista Murrieta 12-6, 6-2
Murrieta Valley 9-8, 4-5
Murrieta Mesa 8-11, 2-5
Temecula Valley 6-8, 2-6
Chaparral 8-13, 1-6

Sunbelt League>

Notre Dame leads the Sunbelt League by a game starting this week. Arlington and Heritage are two games behind in the win column and play head to head in Menifee tomorrow afternoon. The Titans play Rancho Verde in Moreno Valley on Thursday afternoon. In round one that was a 9-8 victory for Notre Dame.

Notre Dame 18-4, 9-0
Arlington 12-3, 7-1

Heritage 10-6, 7-2
Orange Vista 6-9, 4-5
Rancho Verde 7-7, 3-5
Elsinore 7-9, 2-6
Lakeside 3-14, 1-7
Perris 2-16, 1-8

Sunkist League>

Grand Terrace leads the league by a game in the loss column over Kaiser and Summit. The Titans and Skyhawks meet twice this week (Tuesday in Colton 315pm & Thursday in Fontana 315pm) with title implications in these meetings.

Grand Terrace 16-3-1, 3-0
Summit 12-6, 3-1
Kaiser 11-7, 3-1
Colton 6-9, 1-3
Fontana 6-9, 1-3
Bloomington 3-8, 0-3

Postseason Calendar Announced:

Last week CIF-SS officials released the softball playoff bulletin which means we now have a calendar on that road to championship weekend.

Tuesday 4/30: Wildcard round (if necessary)
Thursday 5/2: 1st round
Tuesday 5/7: 2nd round
Thursday 5/9: Quarterfinals
Tuesday 5/14: Semifinals

First pitch for all playoff games is 315pm unless another time is mutually agreed upon by the schools and cleared by CIF-SS officials. If there are any changes in time, date, or site once postseason begins please email them to me at socaltrekkie@gmail.com or DM me on Twitter @TrujilloDerryl.

The entire bulletin can be viewed at
<https://cifss.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/2019-Softball-Playoff-Bulletin.pdf>

As a reminder the only acceptable forms of pregame batting practice will be tee work, pepper, or side soft toss once postseason play begins. This violation occurs every year and I implore coaches if you are reading this to closely read page 20 which covers the rule involved.

Michelle Carew Tournament Recap:

Norco won last week's Michelle Carew Tournament in comeback fashion over Orange Lutheran putting up seven unanswered runs against the Lancers en route to doing so. Yucaipa (L 13-2 v Gahr) and Grand Terrace (L 4-2 v Orange Lutheran) also reached Gold Division bracket play before falling in first round games. The Titans won a head to head matchup over Yucaipa 11-0 in consolation action. Santiago & Great Oak reached Silver Bracket division action and got paired against each other with the Wolfpack prevailing 9-0. The Sharks defeated Mountain View (AZ) in their finale. Murrieta Mesa won a consolation title in the Bronze division defeating Downey, Rio Mesa, and Mater Dei Chula Vista in bracket play.

CIF-SS Coaches Poll Update:

Division 1: #1 Norco, #3 Grand Terrace, #4 Great Oak, #5 Santiago/Corona

Division 2: #3 Centennial/Corona, #9 Roosevelt

Division 3: #2 Ramona, #7 Patriot

Division 4: #1 Aquinas, #6 Arlington

Division 6: #2 Woodcrest Christian, #3 Notre Dame/Riverside, #10 Bloomington

Division 7: #1 Western Christian, #7 Santa Rosa Academy