

Sleepy Hollow Sports Complex hosts 2022 Florida Senior Games Softball Qualifier

21 Teams Played on Six Fields to qualify for the 2023 National Senior Games

LEESBURG - It was quite a mix of softball players at the 2022 Florida Senior Games, presented by Humana, Softball Qualifier, September 24, on six of the fields at the Sleepy Hollow Sports Complex, in Leesburg.

There were men's and women's teams, there were teams that traveled to national competitions and teams who came out to play for the fun of it, and finally, there were teams looking to qualify for the 2023 National Senior Games.



The Women's 50+ Kryptonite team, won its two games in convincing fashion to win the gold medal on Saturday. Kryptonite won the 2022 National Senior Games gold medal in the 50+ age group in May. Following its win in Leesburg, Kryptonite is traveling to the Senior Softball Association (SSA) World Series in Las Vegas, Nevada, this weekend.

Kryptonite scored 42 runs in its two games including a 17-0 win over the silver medal-winning Bags team.

On the other side of the competition level, the Trail Blazers and Dream Catchers were playing games that included bringing out a tee for a swing, if the batter swung and missed at three pitches. It's an opportunity, created by the Softball Sport Director Avis Vaught, of The Villages, to get senior female athletes out and playing softball.

One of those athletes taking advantage of this opportunity at the 2022 Florida Senior Games Softball Qualifier was Ann Pirozzi, now living in The Villages. She needed something to do herself after she and her husband moved to The Villages, from Fort Myers, so he could play more golf.

Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, Pirozzi never played organized sports, but was out and about with other kids.

"We played stickball and other stuff in the dirt or the streets," she said. "Nothing like fields like this."

She proudly proclaimed to have a couple of hits and RBI during the two games. "I did ok," she said. "But I could have done better."

While the softball teams qualified for the 2023 National Senior Games Softball Tournament, to be held May 3-8, 2023 at the Lou Berliner Sports Complex, in Columbus, Ohio. All other sports will be contested July 7-18, 2023, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Florida Senior Games athletes can now register for the 2022 Florida Senior Games, presented by Humana, at www.floridaseniorgames.com at each individual sports page. The 31st Annual Florida Senior Games will be held December 3-11, 2022, in Florida's Sports Coast/Pasco County.

Florida Senior Games, presented by Humana, Softball Qualifier Tournament

September 24, 2022

Sleepy Hollow Sports Complex, Leesburg, Florida

Men 50+

Hollis Appraisals 18, Stone Crest Renegades 6

Hollis Appraisals 19, Stone Crest Renegades 5

GOLD: Hollis Appraisals

Women 50+

Lady Vipers 15, Sunshine Diamonds 5

Bags 15, Sunshine Diamonds 1

Kryponite 25, Lady Vipers 7

Kryponite 17, Bags 0

Bags 16, Lady Vipers 9

Competitive

GOLD: Kryptonite; SILVER: Bags; BRONZE: Lady Vipers

Recreational

GOLD: Sunshine Diamonds

Women 55+

Sluggers 16, Sunny Beaches 15

Fossils 10, The Players 9

Sunny Beaches 15, The Players 8

Sluggers 17, Fossils 0

Sunny Beaches 14, Fossils 11

Sluggers 14, The Players 2

Competitive

GOLD: Sluggers; SILVER: Sunny Beaches; BRONZE: The Players

Recreational
GOLD: Fossils

Women 60+

The Players 13, Golden Diamonds 1
The Players 14, Sluggers 6
Golden Diamonds 9, Cappers 4
The Players 16, Cappers 0
Sluggers 15, Golden Diamonds 2

Competitive

GOLD: The Players; SILVER: Golden Diamonds

Recreational

GOLD: Sluggers; SILVER: Cappers

Women 65+

Silver Diamonds 5, The Players 2
Sunny Beaches 10, Silver Diamonds 8
Sunny Beaches 12, The Players 2

Competitive

GOLD: Sunny Beaches; SILVER: The Players

Recreational

GOLD: Silver Diamonds

Women's 70+

Golden Gals 70+ 10, Golden Gals 75+ 6
Sunshine Diamonds 70+ 15, Golden Gals 75+ 2
Sunshine Diamonds 70+ 6, Golden Gals 70 + 5

GOLD 70+ (Competitive): Golden Gals 70+

GOLD 70+ (Recreational): Sunshine Diamonds

GOLD 75+: Golden Gals

Sunshine State Games (Recreational, both teams received gold medals)

Trail Blazers 7, Dream Catchers 3
Trail Blazers 12, Dream Catchers 5