

## North American Fastpitch Association Midwest Nationals Returns to the Rockford Region *Fastpitch teams to spend an estimated \$610,000*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 10, 2023

**What:** The North American Fastpitch Association (NAFA) returns to the Rockford region to host the **2023 Midwest NAFA Nationals** on **Wednesday, July 12 – Sunday, July 16** at **Sportscore One, Harlem Community Center and the Janesville Youth Sports Complex**. Approximately **120 teams** made up of female players ranging in age from 8 to 18 will compete. There are over **1800 players, coaches and spectators** traveling to the region. This tournament generates **\$610,000** in **estimated economic impact**. Rockford has hosted this tournament for 15 years. This event will be the largest NAFA Midwest Nationals to occur.

**When:** **Wednesday July 12 - Sunday 16**  
Parade of Players will be Wednesday 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Mercyhealth Sportscore Two. Games are starting Thursday at 8 a.m. at Mercyhealth Sportscore One and will be held on Friday and Saturday. Sunday will be the Championship game. A full schedule is available at [www.nafasoftball.com/midwestnationals](http://www.nafasoftball.com/midwestnationals)

**Where:** **Mercyhealth Sportscore Two**  
8800 E Riverside Blvd, Loves Park, IL 61111 (Wednesday, Parade of Players)  
**Mercyhealth Sportscore One**  
1288 Elmwood Road, Rockford, Illinois (Games starting on Thursday)

“The Rockford region is proud to host NAFA Midwest Nationals, a tournament that brings in athletes from across the country,” said Lindsay Arellano, RACVB vice president of sales and service. “Tournaments like these generate significant economic impact for the region by filling our local hotels, restaurants, and venues. We couldn’t make tournaments like this happen without our partners.”

“We are always thrilled to welcome back a tournament that continues to grow and always brings players from across the United States to Rockford. We are happy to be one of the host locations for the most competitive form of softball,” said Derek Papich, manager, Sportscore Complexes.

**Why:** NAFA is an international organization that helps all levels of fastpitch teams. The organization’s mission has always been to provide a set of rules to help the game and promote the sport. More information can be found at [www.nafasoftball.com](http://www.nafasoftball.com)

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**RACVB exists** to drive quality of life and economic growth for the citizens of Rockford and Winnebago County through tourism marketing and destination development. [gorockford.com](http://gorockford.com)

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