

## 2021 USSSA SOFTBALL – JULY 11th

### *USSSA Coaches and Families:*

We are so excited to welcome you to our sugar-white sand beaches for fun in the sun on and off the fields during the 2021 USSSA Softball National Championship. Please review the following important details so you don't have to sweat the details when you cruise to the coast.

### **ACCOMMODATION FORM**

Please contact EVERYONE in your group and complete one [accommodation form \(link to PDF\)](#) per team. The form is mandatory, requiring completion before you can check in your team. By filling out this survey in advance, the coaches' check-in process will be more efficient.

### **PRE-ORDER PICK-UP**

Saturday, July 10 from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday, July 11 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Gulf Shores Cultural Center Gymnasium

19470 Oak Road West, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

*NOTE: Please only send one team mom representative to pick-up your pre-orders*

### **COACHES' CHECK-IN & MEETING**

Sunday, July 11

13U – 18U: 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

8U – 12U: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Gulf Shores Cultural Center Auditorium

19470 Oak Road West, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

*NOTE: Please only send one coach to check in your team*

### **PIN TRADING & OPENING CEREMONY**

8U – 12U: Sunday, July 11

*Pin Trading:* 5 p.m.

*Opening Ceremony:* 6 p.m.

*Parade:* 7 p.m.

Amphitheater at The Wharf

23101 Canal Road, Orange Beach, AL 36561

13U – 18U: Monday, July 12

*Pin Trading:* 5 p.m.

*Opening Ceremony:* 6 p.m.

*Parade:* 7 p.m.

Amphitheater at The Wharf

23101 Canal Road, Orange Beach, AL 36561

## PARADE DETAILS

- **At the conclusion of the Opening Ceremony, teams will exit based upon age group. The first age group will lead the start of the parade, and all other age groups will just “follow the leader.”**
- You are welcome to bring a team banner to hold during the parade, but it is not required, and we encourage you to wear your team jersey. We will give you beads to toss, but you can also bring trinkets to toss as well (NO CANDY or CONFETTI).
- **Your coach will be given a card when they check in, and this card is how the emcee will introduce your team. Please fill out the card with your TEAM NAME, AGE GROUP and CITY AND STATE. Assign someone to hand the card to the emcee, who will be located in front of Build-A-Bear on Main Street at The Wharf.**
- Please encourage your families to stand on both sides of Main Street.

## SKILLS COMPETITION

8U – 12U: Monday, July 12

5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m.

Gulf Shores Sportsplex

1925 Oak Road West, Gulf Shores, AL

13U – 18U: Sunday, July 11

5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m.

Gulf Shores Sportsplex

1925 Oak Road West, Gulf Shores, AL

## WORTH THE WAIT

Staffing shortages are affecting businesses across the country, including Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, but we promise – we’re worth the wait. Please be patient as our tourism-based businesses work to give you the best experience possible along Alabama’s beaches. For restaurants, consider our [on-the-go dining](#) options, calling ahead for large groups, catering or pick-up orders.

## BEACH EATS

**The Gulf:** If casual, waterfront, outdoor dining is your thing, you’ll want to add [The Gulf](#) to your list. Serving up fresh Gulf seafood, bodacious burgers and signature cocktails with a changing seasonal menu, this funky locale is the perfect spot for families overlooking the Gulf of Mexico.

**DeSoto’s Seafood Kitchen:** Shrimp, fish and oysters – oh my! If your team is looking for down home seafood and Southern sides, look no further than [DeSoto’s](#). Located in the heart of Gulf Shores near the beach, this local staple serves up the epitome of casual coastal cooking.

**Ginny Lane Bar & Grill:** Located in Orange Beach’s entertainment district, The Wharf, [Ginny Lane](#) is the perfect place for casual fine dining on the Intracoastal Waterway. Looking for baked oysters and seriously delicious steaks, seafood and salads? Ginny

Lane has you covered for lunch or dinner...with plenty to do for the family around The Wharf!

**Sea-n-Suds:** The beach is calling for Gulf-front dining at iconic restaurant [Sea-n-Suds](#). This scrumptious seaside eatery has been serving up raw oysters on the half shell, fried seafood, one the best salad bars on the island and award-winning gumbo since 1975 in Gulf Shores. Don't leave without trying the fried shrimp sandwich!

## TIME OUT

**Backcountry Trail:** Feel the fresh air as you walk, run, bike or wheel your way around the Backcountry Trail, a 28-mile paved system, which showcases the nine distinct ecosystems found in [Gulf State Park](#).

**The Wharf:** Shop at specialty retailers at Orange Beach's entertainment district – [The Wharf](#). The whole team can ride the Ferris wheel, watch a movie or go on a dolphin cruise.

**Tanger Outlets:** Shop until you drop at [Tanger Outlets](#), featuring 120 national retailers, including Nike, Gap, Coach and Under Armor.

**Waterville USA:** Need to cool off during the day? Head over to [Waterville USA](#) with your BOGO passes and relax in the lazy river while the team races each other down the 55-foot-tall Dune Racer.

**Reel Surprise Charters:** For on-the-water fun, [Reel Surprise Charters](#) offers personalized fishing charters and all types of trips. They specialize in four- to six-hour fishing excursions perfect for single anglers and budget-conscious families alike.

**Kiva Dunes Golf Club:** Plan for a tee time at [Kiva Dunes](#), the No. 1 public course in Alabama. This 18-hole course was designed by Jerry Pate and offers spectacular scenery as well as challenging holes for every golfer.

## LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

After enjoying the day on sand that's so soft and clean it even squeaks under your feet, remember to take your memories and leave only footprints behind. The cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach ask you to remove all personal items from the beach within one hour after sunset. This includes all beach chairs, tents, umbrellas, beach toys and, of course, trash. Anything left behind will be removed to protect our beaches, local wildlife (including nesting sea turtles) and visitors, who we want to enjoy our beaches for generations to come.

## FINAL THOUGHTS

Please share this email with other teams, families and participants. Gulf Shores | Orange Beach [Sports & Events](#), our [sponsors](#), and the cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach are excited to welcome you to our home – your home away from home. We wish you the best during your event!