PRESS RELEASE

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Heroes Athletic Association and Vintage Heroes Capture Division Titles in Fairfax Adult Softball's 2026 Spring Season

Veteran- and first responder-founded nonprofit's senior softball teams post title-winning seasons in Fairfax County

FAIRFAX COUNTY, Va. — Heroes Athletic Association (HAA), the 501(c)(3) nonprofit that connects Service Members, Veterans, law enforcement professionals, firefighters and their families to local communities through recreational sports, closed the Fairfax Adult Softball (FAS) 2026 spring season with two division championships. HAA's Division 1 Seniors squad and its Vintage Heroes team each finished in first place in their respective FAS spring divisions, marking one of the strongest seasons in the organization's history.

"This is a super organization that has great meaning to Fairfax County in regard to helping our Hero community transition out of uniform and into their new lives. Sports provide a great opportunity to integrate and be included. I am proud to be a coach with Heroes Athletic Association,": said Kevin Campbell, Seniors D1 coach. "Plus, winning helps bring confidence and pride to this team made up of First Responders and Veterans."

The HAA Division 1 Seniors team delivered the club's first-ever Division 1 regular-season title, finishing the spring with a 14-6 record and edging the defending Mud Dawgs on a tiebreaker. The title came down to the regular season's final night, when the Heroes swept a doubleheader from Team Rage, 12-8 and 26-10, to clinch the championship outright. HAA's Vintage Heroes squad likewise topped its division 2 field this spring, giving the organization two division titles from a single FAS season for the first time.

"Victory Together is more than a motto for our teams — it's what these titles represent," said Gino Yannotti, Chief Financial Officer of Heroes Athletic Association. "Winning both divisions this spring is a credit to their commitment, and to the Fairfax Adult Softball league for giving our Heroes a place to compete."

Since fielding its first team in 1997 and incorporating as a 501(c)(3) in 2011, HAA has grown to more than 4,000 members across chapters in Fairfax County, Va., St. Johns County, Fla., and Williamson County, Texas, with zero known suicide attempts among its membership. All HAA players wear #22 on their jerseys — the number tied to daily Hero suicides — to raise awareness in the communities where they compete. No Hero pays to play; the organization relies on sponsors to cover registration, equipment and uniforms.

"I am a proud member of the Heroes Athletic Association. The association's presence in the community serves to educate our county and integrate our Hero community," said Nolan Rubin, Vintage Heroes Coach. "Healthy Heroes are a great asset to our neighborhoods. HAA provides that opportunity for Heroes to play and win at no cost to the Hero."

Heroes Athletic Association exists because of their fabulous sponsors: Veterans United, Lindsay Cadillac, Mission 22, Mammoth Global Partners, Baird Automotive, Wreaths Across America, Anheuser Busch, Shirts and Logos, American Endowment Foundation, American Roll Off Roll On Carrier, and WB Engineering & Consultants.

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ABOUT HEROES' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION: ***HAA funds adult recreational athletic teams for the Hero and his or her family to engage socially in their local adult recreational sports leagues. Providing a venue to engage in the Hero's community off of the base, away from the precinct or firehouse, facilitates the successful transition for that Hero in a comfortable recreational activity. HAA has had zero suicides among its 4,000-plus members since beginning its mission.***