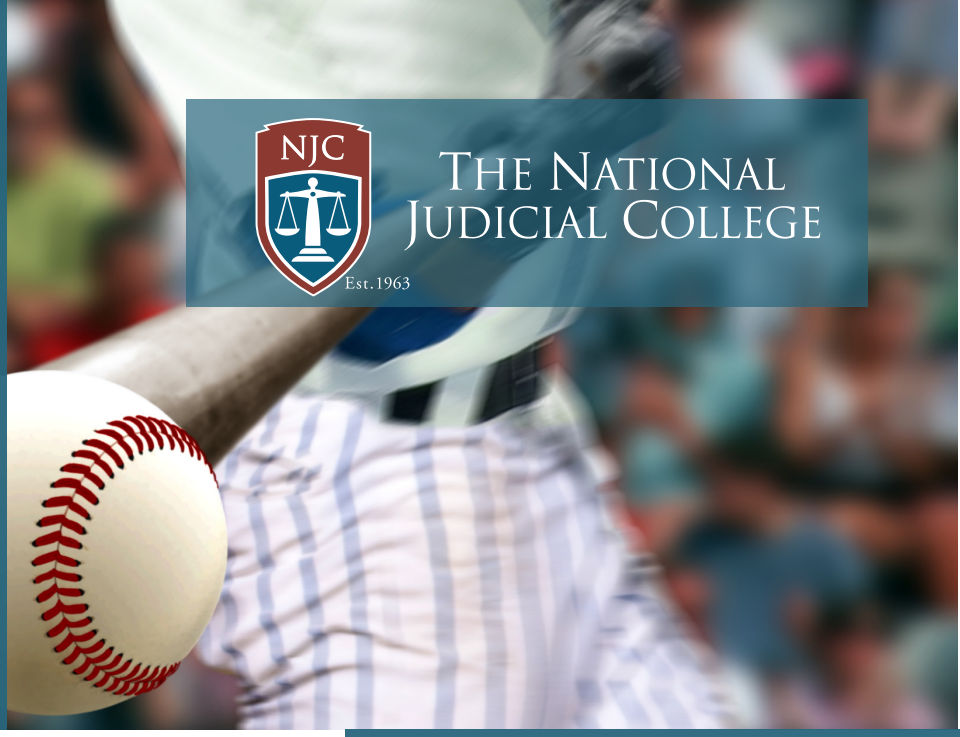
Spring Training for Judges: Decision-Making, Leadership, and Team Dynamics

March 1 - 4, 2027
Sanibel Island, FL

Tuition: $1,979
Conf. fee: $549



THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE
Est. 1963

Join us in Florida for spring training for a course that examines judging through the lens of professional baseball.

Just as baseball teams use spring training to sharpen skills, recalibrate strategy, and build team cohesion, this four-day course offers judges a similar opportunity to reflect, refresh, and refine their craft. Held on Sanibel Island during the excitement of the Florida Grapefruit League, this course is designed to enhance judges' skills and competencies through interactive, engaging sessions. Participants will explore parallels between baseball and judicial performance, focusing on effective decision-making, leadership development, and team dynamics. The course will also cover the importance of "staying in shape" and remaining independent amidst criticism and threats.

Fifteen Major League Baseball teams are in action as part of the Grapefruit League. The course will include an outing to a game. Learn more about Spring Training in Florida -- www.floridagrapefruitleague.com/

"This course enhanced my skills to become a better judge and a better leader. I was inspired and motivated by presenters and attendees to pursue excellence and dedication to ensuring the best possible public service. Thank you, NJC, for once again exceeding my wildest expectations to make programming fun, engaging, and thought-provoking. I have taken skills and knowledge back to my court to share with other judges who are also inspired by your programming."

– 2026 Participant

More info:

www.judges.org/courses/spring-training-for-judges

Objectives

- Apply new decision-making skills that work effectively in the fast pace and high stakes of real-world judicial challenges.
- Describe how the courts have shaped the business of baseball and how baseball-related litigation has broadly affected American Jurisprudence;
- Demonstrate leadership strategies that build resilient court cultures and strengthen team dynamics; and
- List the benefits of coaching to enhance judicial performance.

Established in 1963, the NJC is a nonprofit organization and the only educational institution in the U.S. that teaches judges of all types from across the 50 states, Indian Country and abroad.

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