



## Welcome to Boardman Community Baseball

As "Opening Day" approaches, plans are well under way to make this an exciting and memorable season for you and your children. This newsletter contains important information and dates regarding the upcoming season. **PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE SECTION PERTAINING TO YOUR CHILD.**

Boardman Community Baseball is pleased to offer the following programs:

### Boys Programs - Ages 5 to 18:

- **5 and 6 year-old boys** play Mushball: Basic skills taught, coach pitch, tee used if needed, emphasis on learning and having fun.
- **7 and 8-year-old boys** play Rookie: Basic skills taught, coach pitch, emphasis on learning and teamwork. Reduced Injury Factor (RIF) ball used.
- **Some 8, 9 and 10 year-old boys** play Minor League: Players pitch.
- **Some 10, 11, and 12-year-old boys** play Major League: Players assigned according to draft.
- **13 and 14-year-old boys** play Tri-T Pony League.
- **15 through 18- year-old boys** play Tri-T Colt League.

**Any questions regarding Boys Programs, please contact the league office at 758-2123 or Vice President of Boys, John Ryan at 330-758-3113.**

### Girls Programs - Ages 5 to 18:

- **5, 6 and 7 year old girls** play Mushball: Basic skills taught, Coach pitch, tee used if needed, emphasis on learning and having fun.
- **8, 9 and 10-year-old girls** play Minor League: Basic skills taught, players pitch.
- **11 and 12- year-old girls** play Major League. Players assigned by draft.
- **13-18 year-old girls** play Tri-T fastpitch (Pony and Palomino Divisions).

**Any questions regarding Girls Programs, please contact the league office at 758-2123 or Vice President of Girls, Rick Fryda at 330-788-3460.**

### League Age Determination:

The baseball age is the age of your child as of **April 30, 2009** for **BOYS** and **DECEMBER 31, 2008** for **GIRLS**. Due to Little League Regulations and insurance issues BCB will strictly observe the age rules. All players must reside in the **BOARDMAN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT.**

## Late and Final Registration:

Boys ages 11-14 and girls ages 11 thru 12, can still register and tryout until Friday, March 13, 2009. Boys ages 15-18 can register up to the announced tryout date. All other players can still register on a space available basis depending on division and number of teams. Registration packets are available in the mailbox attached to the complex gate at 410 McClurg Road **or online at [www.boardmanbaseball.com](http://www.boardmanbaseball.com)**. For more information please call 758-2123. **A \$10 LATE REGISTRATION FEE WILL BE ASSESSED FOR REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED OR RETURNED AFTER MARCH 1, 2009.**

## Payment Plans:

**OPTIONAL PAYMENT PLANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY. CALL RICK SCHAFFER AT 330-788-6112 FOR DETAILS. WE DO NOT TURN AWAY ANY CHILD BASED ON THEIR ABILITY TO PAY.**

## Website and Online Registration:

You may register online at [www.boardmanbaseball.com](http://www.boardmanbaseball.com). This year, our website will list schedules, scores, rainout dates and much more. Thanks to Jeff Wilson for their help with the website.

## Dates For Your Calendar

Jan.-Mar.	Coaches/Players Clinics. See page 3 for info.
March 7	Boys Tryouts (8-12-year-olds) <b>SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE- EXT.</b> <i>see times on page 2</i>
March 7	Girls Tryouts (8-12-year-olds) <b>SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE-EXT.</b> <i>see times on page 3</i>
March 13	Boys & Girls Make-up Tryouts (8-12-year-olds) <b>SLUGGERS</b> , <i>see times on page 2 and 3</i>
March 13	Pony Boys Tryouts <b>SLUGGERS.</b>
March 15	Major Boys Player Draft
March 15	Major Girls Player Draft
March 15	Pony A & B Players Division Draft
April 23,25	Team Mom Meetings
April 20	Pony Boys Opening Day
April 28,29	Picture Days
May 4	Opening Day Major & Minor Boys & Girls
May 9	Opening Day Mushball, Rookie Boys & Girls
May 29-31	BCB NSA Girls Tournament
June 7	Opening Day & Picture Day Challenger Division
June 5-7	Triple Crown Boys Travel Tournament
July 3-5	Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament
TBA	BCB Golf Outing

## BCB Policies:

**ALL 11 AND 12-YEAR-OLD BOYS AND 11 AND 12-YEAR-OLD GIRLS WHO ARE NOT ALREADY ON A MAJOR TEAM MUST REGISTER PRIOR TO TRYOUTS ON MARCH 7 or 13, 2009**

Those who do not will be on a waiting list to play in Boardman Community Baseball this season. It is highly suggested that ALL Non-Major players in this age group participate in tryouts. Those who elect not to participate in tryouts will be drafted to a Major league team. Those boys and girls who cannot attend the March 7 tryouts must contact their player agent to be excused and arrange to take part in a make-up tryout on Friday, March 13. **PLEASE COME EQUIPPED WITH A GLOVE TO TRYOUTS, IF POSSIBLE. NO BATS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE GYM.**

## Major Boys & Girls Draft:

Due to the fact that our community has a population in excess of 20,000, Little League requires us to divide into two Leagues Boardman East and Boardman West.

The draft used gives players the opportunity to be drafted based on their ability not based on where they live in Boardman. East Managers & West Managers will be able to draft players from either side of Boardman. Once the player is on the final roster of a Major team, it is at that point that they are considered an "East" or "West" player.

Girl's managers will observe ALL girls trying out. Boy's managers will observe ALL boys trying out. Following tryouts the managers will draft players to their respective team. All newly drafted players should receive a phone call from the manager within 48 hours of the March 15, 2009 draft date.

## Boys 5 thru 12:

All 5 and 6-old boys will be assigned directly to a Mushball team. Seven & eight-year-old boys will be assigned directly to a Rookie team. Coaches will pitch at the Rookie level. Eight-year-old boys who tryout for a Minor team, and selected, will be assigned by a draft to a Minor team. All 9 & 10 year-old boys will be assigned directly to a Minor league team by a draft. **Tryouts for some 8, 9 & 10 year olds are being held to better evaluate a player's ability. This will allow us to evenly form teams during the Minor Draft.** All 11 & 12 year old boys who did not play on a Little League Major team in 2008 **SHOULD** participate in tryouts. All who will play as a 7-year-old or younger this year, **DO NOT** report for tryouts.

Boy's tryouts will be held on **SATURDAY, MARCH 7** and **FRIDAY, MARCH 13** at **SLUGGERS** as follows:  
**Saturday, March 7 at SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE.EXT.**  
**11-12-year-old boys - Saturday, March 7 – 12noon-1: 30pm.**  
**8-9-year-old boys - Saturday, March 7 – 1:30-3:00pm.**  
**10 year-old boys-Saturday, March 7- 3:00-4:30pm**

**Friday, March 13 - 6:00 p.m. - Sluggers**  
**8 thru 12-year-old boys - Make-up tryout**

Please plan to be at the Sluggers AT LEAST 15 minutes before your scheduled time. The player draft will be held on Sunday, March 15th. This draft is for managers and ONE established coach only. All drafted players should receive a phone call from managers within 48 hours of the draft; please do not call league officials or player agents before that time. If you have not received a call by March 22, call your player agent.

## Boys Player Agents:

Mushball Division (5-6 yr olds): **JASON TRIVERI 629-6360**  
Rookie Division (7-8 yr olds): **BOB CAVALIER 726-6988**  
Minor Division (8-10 yr olds): **JOHN MILLER 758-8103**  
Major Division (10-12 yr olds): **VIC DiVENCENZO 629-8442**  
Pony Division (13-14 yr olds): **TONY CAVALIER 788-6558**  
Colt Division (15-18 yr olds): **DAVE PERHAM 629-9432**  
Vice Pres. Boys: **JOHN RYAN 758-3113**

## Boys 13 thru 18:

### Pony League:

This year in the Pony league, players will NOT be allowed to play in other leagues (i.e. Babe Ruth) while playing in the Pony League. Fourteen year olds can play in the class "b" league. Colt League will continue to allow play in other leagues; however managers are not required to give these players any special consideration.

There will be at least 5 teams in the Pony Division, all participating in the Tri-T League for 2009. There will be an A and a B Division with the number of teams in each division to be determined. The Divisions will be based on players' ability. **EXTENSIVE TRYOUTS EVALUATING THROWING, HITTING AND RUNNING WILL OCCUR MARCH 13, 2009 STARTING AT 7:00 P.M. AT SLUGGERS INDOOR BASEBALL FACILITY ON SOUTH AVENUE EXTENSION FOR ALL REGISTERED PLAYERS NOT ALREADY ASSIGNED TO A TEAM.** Fourteen-year-old boys on a B Division team in 2008 may tryout again to be considered for an A Division team.

Managers will pick their teams at the March 15th draft. Each team will consist of 13-15 players. Non-drafted and Non-assigned players will go into a player pool for possible future participation. Pony season will begin April 20, 2009. For more information, call Pony Player Agent Tony Cavalier at 788-6558.

### Colt League:

BCB's Colt League program continues to grow with play at the Fields of Dreams. BCB continues to offer the Colt League program to boys ages 15-18, at the standards our league and community have become accustomed to. *This year the Tri-T Colt League is allowing each team to have an UNLIMITED number of recent high school 18 year olds on each roster.*

We are accepting applications for qualified managers and registrations for players. Our goal is to have a program that teaches the finer points of baseball, is highly structured, disciplined, and allows an opportunity for all team members to participate. **(THE DEADLINE FOR MANAGER APPLICATIONS AND PLAYER REGISTRATION IS MARCH 15, 2009).** If you are interested in managing, please contact BCB as soon as possible by calling the BCB office at 758-2123. The future of our program lies in finding qualified managers and receiving player applications indicating our players' interest in this division. For more information, call the Vice President of Boys John Ryan at 758-3113 or Colt Player Agent Dave Perham at 629-9432.

## Girls 5 thru 14 Fast-Pitch:

All 5, 6 and 7 year-old girls will be assigned directly to a Mushball team. Coach pitch. **All 8, 9 and 10 year-old girls play Minor league. Player pitch. Tryouts for 8, 9 and 10 year olds are being held to better evaluate a player's ability. This will allow us to evenly form Teams during the Minor draft.** All 11 and 12-year-old girls who did not play on a Little League Major team in 2008 should participate in tryouts. All who will play as a 7-year-old or younger this year, do not report for tryouts.

Girl's tryouts will be held on **SATURDAY, MARCH 7** at **SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE.-EXT.** as follows:  
**11-12-year-old girls - Saturday, March 7 – 8:30-9:30am**  
**9-10-year-old girls - Saturday, March 17 – 10:00-11:30am**

**Friday, March 13 - 6:00 p.m. – Sluggers**  
**9 THRU 12 YEAR OLD GIRLS- Make-up Tryouts.**

Please plan to be at the Sluggers AT LEAST 15 minutes before your scheduled time. The player draft will be held on Sunday, March 15. This draft is for managers and ONE established coach only. All drafted players should receive a phone call from managers within 48 hours of the draft; please do not call league officials or player agents before that time. If you have not received a call by March 22, call your player agent.

Tri-T tryouts will be announced and held at a location to be determined. A notice will be mailed to each player regarding tryouts. Any questions, contact Tri-T Player Agent Dave Matz at 783-0418.

### Girls Player Agents:

Mushball Division (5-7 yr olds):	<b>CHRIS MENOSKY 629-2217</b>
Minor Division (8-10 yr olds):	<b>MIKE TRELL 965-6361</b>
Major Division (11-12 yr olds):	<b>ROB ANDREWS 629-2952</b>
Tri-T Division (13-18 yr olds):	<b>DAVE MATZ 783-0418</b>
Vice Pres. Girls:	<b>RICK FRYDA 788-3460</b>

## Requests:

We will not be able to honor requests by parents for their sons or daughters to be placed on a particular team or with particular players or manager.

Little League Baseball recommends that all players at the Minor, Rookie and Mushball divisions go back to a pool after each season to be placed on a new team the next year. The goal is that players will make new friends and have new opportunities.

## Challenger Division:

We are excited to announce the 20th season of our Challenger Division; a program designed for physically & mentally challenged youth, age 6 thru 18. If you know anyone who would like to take part either as a player, coach or volunteer, please contact Jim Colaluca at 881-7546. The Challenger season will start May 31. Picture day will be June 7. If you are interested in being a Buddy for a Challenger Player contact Jim Colaluca at 881-7546 or the BCB office at 758-2123

## Managers, Coaches and Parents and Players Clinics:

At Boardman Community Baseball, due to our on-going effort to help train our managers, coaches, parents and players in the fundamentals of baseball, we will be offering clinics this pre-season.

We are currently holding Player training at the All-Star Training Center. Please see the BCB Web-site at [www.boardmanbaseball.com](http://www.boardmanbaseball.com) for more information. Training continues into March.

We will be holding Coaching and Parent training in March at the All-Star Training Center. Please check the BCB Web-site for dates and times. Topics to be covered will be: Baseball Fundamentals, Hitting, Fielding, Pitching and Practice Organization.

**PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE CLINICS. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BETTER YOUR SKILLS AS A COACH AND TEACHER OF BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL.**

## Volunteers:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have volunteered their services in the past and who are continuing to do so this year. Boardman Community Baseball is an adult, volunteer work project, constructed, supervised and assisted by parents who desire to make its benefits extend to their children. **BOARDMAN COMMUNITY BASEBALL COULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT YOUR HELP.**

## Team Moms:

A great way to participate is to volunteer as a "TEAM MOM". If you would be interested in helping this way, please let your manager know, or if you would like more information, call Valerie Jones at 758-1480 or [vljrns@aol.com](mailto:vljrns@aol.com). The Team Moms meetings will be held on Thursday April 23 and Saturday, April 25, 2009. Times will be announced to team managers.

## Complex Field Days:

During the next two months, we will be preparing the fields for play. If you can spend some time helping us, contact Greg Krieger at 565-3114 or check the "Work Party Hot Line" at 758-2123. Each Team will have a mandatory work day where they will need to have 2 representatives present to work. Please plan to participate when your manager asks for volunteers.

## Umpiring:

Anyone interested in umpiring at the Major or Minor level for both boys & girls should contact Sean Holmes at 330-233-5270 for Boys Major and Minor and Dave Matz, Girls Major and Minor at 783-0418. All of our umpires are volunteers and with the number of games we play at the Major and Minor level it takes many individuals to assure coverage for each game.

**Again this season we are forming our own umpiring crew to work our Major and Minor Division games.** This will allow us to free up our managers from umpiring. Umpires would be paid for services rendered. Please contact Sean or Dave if you are interested in becoming a registered umpire for BCB.

## LITTLE LEAGUE PITCH COUNT REGULATION (NEW FOR 2007):

Little League Baseball has changed its decades-old pitching rules, making the actual number of pitches delivered the deciding factor in determining eligibility in the baseball division. Little League is the first national youth baseball organization to institute a pitch count. For the past two years, Little League has conducted a Pitch Count Pilot Program to determine the feasibility of implementing a regulation limiting the number of pitches a Little Leaguer can throw in a day, and the rest required before pitching again. Nearly 500 Leagues participated in the Pilot Program in 2006. Regulations for tournament play are similar, but with some modifications. To see the complete regulation go to [www.littleleague.org/media/pitch\\_count\\_publication.pdf](http://www.littleleague.org/media/pitch_count_publication.pdf). More information will be made available for the Minor and Major Divisions as the season nears. **AFTER ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEASON IN 2008 SOME CHANGES MAY OCCUR FOR THE 2009 SEASON FROM FOR BOTH REGULAR SEASON AND TOURNAMENT PLAY. PLEASE CHECK THE LITTLE LEAGUE WEB-SITE OR A LITTLE LEAGUE RULE BOOK.**

## TEAM SPONSORS & SIGNS:

A great way to support Boardman Community baseball is to sponsor a team, especially if your child is on the team. Support can also come in the form of an Outfield or Scoreboard sign. **Please contact Dean Ball for Team Sponsors at 757-2075 and Dave Perham for Fence or Scoreboard Signs at 629-9432.**

## Fund Raising:

In our continuing effort to raise funds to support our baseball programs and our complex, Boardman Community Baseball needs your help to make our fundraiser a success. Our goal is to raise \$35,000 dollars via our fundraiser.

Our success depends on the children and parent's efforts. There will be prizes for the top individual and team sellers. Contact Rick Schafer at 788-6112, Terese Richey at 629-2388 or Laura Stamp at 629-8445 if you are interested in helping. Thank you, in advance, for your help and support of this important league fundraiser. **LAST YEARS FUNDRAISER HELPED TO FINISH THE DUGOUTS ON THE MINOR FIELDS, TOTAL COST WAS \$50,000.**

## Yearbook:

We will publish a yearbook for the 2008 season. Each child will receive a yearbook as part of their registration fee. Additional books will be available for sale in the office. **PLEASE CALL COURTNIE SEPE AT 758-3204 OR THE OFFICE AT 758-2123 IF YOU CAN HELP. WE WANT TO CONTINUE THIS TRADITION.** We thank Courtnie and Amy Wilson for their hard work in publishing a great yearbook.

## BCB Golf Outing:

The Seventeenth Annual BCB Golf Outing is being planned and will be held at a date and site to be determined. If you are interested in playing in the outing, being a corporate sponsor, a hole sponsor, or need more information, please call Chad Miller Chairman at 729-9915 or Tim Kaple at 758-2394.

## Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament:

The Sixth Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament will be held July 3-5, 2009. The tournament raises funds for the Chuck Schafer Scholarship and Boardman Community Baseball. Age divisions will include 9-10 year olds, 11 year olds, 11-12 year olds and 13-14 year olds. A discount will be offered to Boardman Community Baseball teams entered into the tournament. For more information, contact Greg Krieger at 565-3114.

## Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship:

The Chuck Schafer Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2008-2009 academic year. Scholarships will be available to graduating students. Criteria includes: (1) senior status, (2) accumulative GPA of 3.0, (3) participated in BCB for 5 years in the baseball or softball program, (4) complete application and essay. Scholarship applications will be available at Boardman High School and Cardinal Mooney High School and Ursuline High School. Application deadline is April 15, 2009. For more information, contact Rick Schafer at 788-6112.

## Tournaments:

The following Tournaments will be held at the Fields of Dreams during the 2009 Season. Volunteers will be needed for all of the events. Please call Tim Kaple if you can help.

- April 24-26 Lady Spartan Fastpitch NSA Tournament
- May 29-31 BCB Fields of Dreams Classic NSA Tournament
- June 5-7 Triple Crown Boys Travel Tournament
- July 3-5 Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament
- July 10-12 Lady Spartan Fastpitch Tournament
- July 16-19 13 yr old PONY Regional & COLT Sectional Tournament
- July 24-26 PONY Boys Regional Tournament