



# The Bullpen



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## 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.**

BCB is pleased to offer the following programs:

### Boys Programs - Ages 5 to 18:

- **4 and 5-year-old boys play MUSHBALL:** (Coed) Basic skills taught, coach pitch, tee used if needed, emphasis on learning and having fun.
  - **6 and 7-year-old boys play ROOKIE:** Basic skills taught, coach pitch, emphasis on learning and teamwork. RIF ball.
  - **8 and 9-year-old boys play MINOR A:** Basic skills taught, coach/kid pitch emphasis on learning and teamwork.
  - **Some 9, 10 and Some 11-year-old boys play MINOR AA:** players pitch and assigned according to draft and skill level.
  - **Some 10, 11, and 12-year-old boys play MAJORS:** players assigned according to draft and skill level.
  - **NEW • INTERMEDIATE DIVISION 11-13 YR OLDS 50FT MOUND/70FT BASES. DISTRICT LEAGUE. BOYS CAN PLAY BOTH MAJOR, PONY OR 50/70 ONLY. SEE PG. 4**
  - **13 and 14-year-old boys play TRI-T PONY/LL Jr Lg.**
  - **15 through 18-year-old boys play TRI-T COLT.**
- Any questions regarding boys programs, please contact the league office at 758-2123 or Vice President of Boys, JOHN WALSH at 330-507-5510.**

### Girls Programs - Ages 5 to 14:

- **4 and 5-year-old girls play MUSHBALL:** (Coed) Basic skills taught, coach pitch, tee used if needed, emphasis on learning and having fun.
  - **6, 7 and 8-year-old girls play ROOKIE:** Basic skills taught, coach pitch, tee used if needed, RFI ball used.
  - **Some 8, 9 and 10-year-old girls play MINOR:** Basic skills taught, players pitch and assigned by draft and skill level.
  - **Some 10,11 and 12-year-old girls play MAJORS.** Players assigned by draft. Play in surrounding Communities.
  - **13-14-year-old girls play TRI-T PONY/LL Jr. Lg.** Play in surrounding community league & at Fields of Dreams.
- Any questions regarding girls programs, please contact the league office at 758-2123 or Vice President of Girls, BRIAN SALUGA at 330-559-9027.**

### League Age Determination:

The BCB age is the age of your child as of **4/30/16** or **08/31/16** for **BOYS** and **DECEMBER 31, 2015** for **GIRLS**. Due to LL rules and insurance issues BCB will strictly observe the age rules. All players must reside in the **BOARDMAN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR ATTEND A SCHOOL IN BOARDMAN.**

## Late and Final Registration:

Boys ages 11-14 and girls ages 11-12, can still register and tryout until Friday, March 5, 2016. Boys ages 15-18 can register up to May 15, 2016. All other players can still register on a space available basis depending on division and number of teams. Registration is available **online at [www.boardmanbaseball.com](http://www.boardmanbaseball.com)**. For more information please call 330-758-2123. **A \$25 LATE REGISTRATION FEE WILL BE ASSESSED FOR REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED AFTER FEBRUARY 21, 2016.**

## Dates For Your 2016 Calendar

March 5	Boys Tryouts (8-12-year-olds) <b>SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE- EXT.</b> <i>see times on page 2</i>
March 5	Girls Tryouts (8-12-year-olds) <b>SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE-EXT.</b> <i>see times on page 3</i>
March 11	Boys & Girls Make-up Tryouts (9-12-year-olds) <b>SLUGGERS</b> <i>see times on page 2 and 3</i>
March 11	PONY/LL Jr. League Boys Tryouts <b>SLUGGERS.</b>
TBA	Major Boys Player Draft
TBA	Major Girls Player Draft
TBA	PONY A & B Players Division Draft
April 16	Team Mom Meeting
Late April	PONY Boys Opening Day
April 22-24	Triple Crown Early Bird Tournament
April 26,27	Picture Days
April 30	Opening Day Major & Minor AA Boys & Minor Girls
May 2	Opening Day Mushball, Rookie Minor A Boys & Girls
May 27-29	BCB ASA Girls/Boys Classic LL Rules Tournaments
June 5	BCB Golf Outing- Mill Creek 1:30pm Shotgun
June 10-12	Triple Crown Boys Travel Tournament
June 22	Major/Minor AA Boys/Girls Playoffs begin
July 1-3	Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament
July 5-13	Little League District-2 Tournament
July 11-16	8U/9U BCB Tournament



## Payment Plans:

**OPTIONAL PAYMENT PLANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY. CALL RICK SCHAFER AT 330-507-3598 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 his help with the new Blue Sombrero website.

## 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 5 or 11, 2016.**

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 5 tryouts must contact their player agent to be excused and arrange to take part in a make-up tryout on Friday, March 11. **PLEASE COME EQUIPPED WITH A GLOVE AND BAT TO TRYOUTS, IF POSSIBLE. BATS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

## Major Boys & Girls Draft:

**BCB OPERATES UNDER ONE LITTLE LEAGUE CHARTER-BCB LITTLE LEAGUE. THE DRAFT SYSTEM FOR THE 2016 SEASON WILL BE A RE-DRAFT OF THE MAJOR/MINOR AA BOYS AND MAJOR/MINOR GIRLS DIVISIONS. THERE WILL BE 7-8 TEAMS IN ONE DIVISION FOR THE BOYS AND 3-5 TEAMS FOR THE GIRLS MAJOR DIVISION.** 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 drafted players should receive a phone call from the manager within 48 hours of the draft date.

## Boys 4 thru 12:

All 4 and 5-old boys will be assigned directly to a Mushball team. Six thru nine year-old boys will be assigned directly to a Rookie or Minor A team. Coaches will pitch at both levels. Minor A team's players pitch last half of the season. Some 9 & 10 year-old boys will be assigned directly to a Minor AA league team by a draft. **Tryouts for ALL 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 AA Draft. All 11 & 12 year old boys who PLAYED on a Little League Major Team in 2015 MUST participate in tryouts. ONLY 8YR OLDS TRYING OUT FOR A MINOR AA TEAM SHOULD TRYOUT. ALL 9 THRU 12-YEAR-OLDS MUST TRYOUT.**

Boy's tryouts will be held on **SATURDAY, MARCH 5** and **FRIDAY, MARCH 11** at **SLUGGERS** as follows:

**Saturday, March 5 at SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE.EXT.**  
12-year-old boys - Saturday, March 5 ----- 10:30AM  
ALL 11 yr. olds----- Sat. March 5-12PM  
10 yr. old Major Tryout----- Sat. March 5-12PM  
10 yr. old boys Minor AA tryout ----- Sat. March 5-2:00PM  
9 yr. old & 8yr. old Minor AA tryout---- Sat. March 5-4:00PM

**Friday, March 11 - SLUGGERS- BOYS**  
10 yr old Major tryout & 11 and 12 yr olds----- 5:30PM  
8yr old Minor AA tryout & 9 and 10 yr olds----- 7:00PM

**FRIDAY MARCH 11- SLUGGERS**  
PONY AGE BOYS 13-14 YR OLDS----- 8:30PM

Please plan to be at the Sluggers AT LEAST 15 minutes before your scheduled time. The Major/PONY player draft will be held mid-March. 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. Call a player agent if you do not get a call by March 20, 2016.

## Boys Player Agents:

Mushball Division (4-5 yr olds):	<b>TOM SULLIVAN -</b>	<b>719-3222</b>
Rookie Division (6-7 yr olds):	<b>MATT WARD -</b>	<b>301-2672</b>
Minor A Division (8-9 yr olds):	<b>DOM TRIVERI -</b>	<b>718-2605</b>
Minor AA Division (9-11yr olds)	<b>TONY STILLIANA -</b>	<b>397-1359</b>
Major Division (10-12 yr olds):	<b>JASON TRIVERI -</b>	<b>502-4003</b>
Pony Division (13-14 yr olds):	<b>CURT KOCH -</b>	<b>506-0527</b>
Colt Division (15-18 yr olds):	<b>CURT KOCH -</b>	<b>506-0527</b>
Vice Pres. Boys:	<b>JOHN WALSH -</b>	<b>507-5510</b>

## Boys 13 thru 18:

### PONY LEAGUE/LL JUNIOR LEAGUE:

This year in the PONY/LL JR. Leagues, players will be allowed to play in other Leagues (i.e. Class B 14U) while playing in the PONY/LL JR. Leagues. COLT League will also allow play in other leagues. **Managers are not required to give these players any special consideration.**

There will be at least 3-4 teams in the PONY/LL JR. Leagues, all participating in the Tri-T/LL Jr. Leagues for 2016. 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. **TRYOUTS EVALUATING THROWING, HITTING AND RUNNING WILL OCCUR MARCH 11, 2016 STARTING AT 8:30 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 2015 may try out again to be considered for an A Division team.

Managers will pick their teams at the Mid March 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/LL JR. season will begin in late April. For more information, call Pony Player Agent Curt Koch at 330-506-0527.

### 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.

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 IS MARCH 15, 2016 AND PLAYER REGISTRATION IS MAY 15, 2016).** 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 Walsh at 507-5510 or Colt Player Agent Curt Koch at 506-0527.

## Girls 5 thru 14 Fast-Pitch:

All 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 year-old girls will be assigned directly to a Mushball or Rookie team, Coach pitch. **Some 8 and all 9 and 10 year-old girls** play Minor league. Player pitch. **Tryouts for SOME 8's, ALL 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 & 12 year old girls who PLAYED on a LL Major Team in 2015 MUST participate in tryouts.** . All who will play as a 7-year-old or younger this year, do not report for tryouts. **ONLY 8 YR. OLDS TRYING OUT FOR A MINOR TEAM SHOULD TRYOUT.**

Girl's tryouts will be held on **SATURDAY, MARCH 5** at **SLUGGERS-SOUTH AVE.-EXT.** as follows:

**10yr Major tryout and 11-12-year-old girls –Sat. March 5– 8:30AM**

**8yr old Minor tryout and 9-10-year-old girls –Sat. March 5 – 9:30AM**

**Friday, March 11 – SLUGGERS-GIRLS**

**10yr old Major tryout, 11 and 12 year old girls- 5:30PM**  
**8yr old Minor tryout, 9 and 10-year-old girls --- 7:00PM**

Please plan to be at the Sluggers AT LEAST 15 minutes before your scheduled time. The player draft will be held on Mid March. 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 20, 2016 call your player agent. **TRI-T PONY** tryouts will be announced if needed. A notice will be mailed to each player regarding tryouts if held. Any questions, contact Tri-T Player Agent.

### Girls Player Agents:

Mushball Division (4-5 yr olds): **TOM SULLIVAN - 719-3222**

Rookie Division (6-8 yr olds) **TRACY KINDERDINE -**  
**234-855-2264**

Minor Division (8-10 yr olds): **STEVE SMITH - 216-308-6038**

Major Division (11-12 yr olds): **MIKE TRELL - 509-1615**

Tri-T Division (13-14 yr olds): **DAVE MATZ - 519-5389**

Vice Pres. Girls: **BRIAN SALUGA - 565-7584**

## 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 Major 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.

**SAFETY AND SKILLS ISSUE REQUESTS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE LEAGUE. PLEASE CONTACT THE PLAYER AGENT FOR YOUR DAUGHTER OR SON'S AGE GROUP OR THE VP OF GIRLS OR BOYS TO DISCUSS.**

## Challenger Division:

We are excited to announce the 27th season of our Challenger Division; a program designed for physically & mentally

challenged youth, age 6 thru 22. If you know anyone who would like to take part either as a player, coach or volunteer, please contact Jim Colaluca at 330-651-4006. The Challenger season will start in June 5, 2016. Picture day will be announced. If you are interested in being a Buddy for a Challenger Player contact Jim Colaluca at 651-4006 or the BCB office at 758-2123

## FIELDS OF DREAMS 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIV.:

The 2016 Season marks BCB's home, the Fields of Dreams, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. With the merger of Boardman LL and Boardman Youth Baseball in 1993 it was apparent that Boardman Park could no longer accommodate the Baseball and Softball needs of Boardman's youth. As Chuck Schafer's plans for a community baseball facility, The Fields of Dreams, developed so did the support of community leaders, businesses, League officials' volunteers, families and Service organizations. In 1996 Chuck's dream became a reality and the FOD 43 acre, 20-field complex opened. We are planning a Golf Outing June 5, 2016 to raise funds for the fields. Contact the League office at 330-758-2123 if you are interested in helping with the planning. We look forward to celebrating with our players and volunteers.

## Volunteers:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have volunteered their services. 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 330-501-2933 or [vlrjns@aol.com](mailto:vlrjns@aol.com). The Team Moms meeting will be held on **Saturday, April 16, 2016, 10AM AT THE FIELDS OF DREAMS ADMIN. BLDG.**

## 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 330-565-3114 or check the "Work Party Hot Line" at 330-758-2123. Each Team will have a mandatory workday 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/ Minor, PONY/COLT level for both Boys & Girls should contact Dave Matz at 330-519-5389. All of our umpires are offered training and with the number of games we play at the Major/Minor, PONY/COLT level it takes many individuals to assure coverage for each game.

**Again this season we are forming our own umpiring crews to work our Major/Minor BOYS AND GIRLS DIVISIONS.** Umpires would be paid for services rendered. Please contact Dave if you are interested in becoming a registered umpire for BCB.

### UMPIRE CLINICS:

**BCB AND DISTRICT 2 UIC CHET COOPER WILL CONDUCT UMPIRE CLINICS THIS SPRING. AN UMPIRE CLINIC WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 16, 2016 FROM 8:30AM-11:00AM AT THE WATTS CENTER AT YSU. CALL CHET AT 330-518-3977 FOR MORE INFORMATION.**



## INTERMEDIATE 50/70 DIVISION INFORMATION:

In 2013 Little League International introduced the Intermediate 50/70 Division after a pilot program in 2012. BCB will participate in a District 2 League with other LL communities to be determined. BCB anticipates 1 team from our League. The age group is 11-13 yr olds with 70-foot bases and 50 foot pitching distance. LL Junior Lg. rules will apply. There will be a separate draft for this League. Players can play both Majors/PONY and Intermediate or Intermediate alone, but will be on two different rosters. The focus will be on learning additional aspects of the game (i.e. leadoffs, pickoffs etc.), increased competition and more reps for our players. Bats are 2 5/8 or less. 13 yr olds will follow PONY pitching rules while 11-12 yr olds will follow LL pitching rules. There will be additional BCB Pitching Rules incorporated within our league to assure pitchers are not overused. There will be District 2, State, Regional and World Series Tournaments. Players can only play on one All-Star Team. BCB will restrict 13's to the Intermediate team, 12's to the Major team and 11's to the 11 yr.old All-Star team. There will be a 12 game schedule. There is additional \$50 fee for this Division with no late fee if you want to register after your other division registration. For more information call **JASON TRIVERI- 502-4003**.

## 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 (629-2368) OR Rick Schafer (507-3598) for Team Sponsors and Sean Kreps for Fence or Scoreboard Signs at 565-7691.**

## 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 \$30,000 dollars via our fundraiser. BCB is a private self-supporting operation that receives no financial support from the Township, County, State or Federal agencies. The main source of income to support our facility and operations is the hosting of Tournaments and the Annual Fundraiser that we ask each player (up to two per family) to participate in. Again this year we have included the Fundraiser in the Registration fee. The cost of the Fundraiser is \$50/player. We will supply each player with \$60 worth of DISCOUNT CARDS for Community business discounts. After players sell all of their cards, it will actually serve as a \$10 discount on the cost of your registration fee. We THANK YOU in advance for your support of the Fundraiser and we hope your player will sell the Discount Cards to take advantage of the \$10 discount.

## New LL Residency Rule:

In 2014 Little League changed the Residency Boundary rule regarding where a player lives and the LL League they can play in. Each Little League organization has a Boundary Map by which their players must reside to play in said League. Now if a student attends a school that is within the League's Boundary that player can play in said League regardless of their community residence. Proof of attendance is required from the school's Administration.

## Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament:

The 13th Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship Tournament will be held July 1-3, 2016. The Tournament raises funds for the Chuck Schafer Scholarship and Boardman Community Baseball. Age divisions will include 9U, 10U, 10-11U, 11-12U and 13-14 yr old divisions for Boys. Cost per team is \$250 for LL teams and \$275 for PONY teams. A discount will be offered to BCB teams entered into the Tournament. For more information contact Mike Trell at 330-509-1615.

## Chuck Schafer Memorial Scholarship:

The Chuck Schafer Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2015-2016 academic years. 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, Cardinal Mooney High School and Ursuline High School. Application deadline is May 1, 2016. For more information, contact Rick Schafer at 330-507-3598.

## Golf Outing:

A Fields of Dreams 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Golf Outing will be held on Sunday June 5 at Mill Creek Park South Course. The Outing will be a Scramble with a shotgun start at 1:30PM. Funds raised will benefit the Fields. Please mark your calendar and put your foursome together for a great day of golf to benefit the Fields. More information will follow. There will not be any LL games on this day so everyone can participate. SEE YOU AT THE CREEK!

## 2016 TOURNAMENTS:

In 2016 fifteen tournaments will be held at the Fields of Dreams. Volunteers will be needed for all of the events. Please call Tony Tarantino at 550-2593 if you can help with Gate, parking, Officer of the Day and other activities.

Dates include:

- APRIL 24-26 TRIPLE CROWN EARLY BIRD TOURNAMENT**
- MAY 22-24 BCB ASA GIRLS/BOYS LL RULES TOURN.**
- JUNE 12-14 TRIPLE CROWN BATTLE AT THE BORDER**
- JULY 1-3 CHUCK SCHAFFER SCHOLARSHIP TOURN.**
- JULY 5-13 LITTLE LEAGUE DISTRICT 2 TOURNAMENTS**
- JULY 13-18 BCB 8U/9U TOURNAMENT**
- JULY 15-29 LITTLE LEAGUE STATE TOURNAMENTS:  
LL-12U, LL-11U, JR. LEAGUE BOYS/GIRLS**

