



# Park Ridge Baseball/Softball

P.O. Box 1044  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
[www.prbaseball.com](http://www.prbaseball.com)

*WHERE BASEBALL IS THE BEST GAME IN TOWN!*

January 2012

*A newsletter for coaches, parents and players*

## 2012 Season Registration at South Park

Saturday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> (9-2 pm) • Thursday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup> (6-9 pm) • Saturday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> (9-2 pm)

### Important Dates

- Tryouts *March 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>*
- Opening Practice *April 14<sup>th</sup>*
- Opening Night *May 4<sup>th</sup>*
- Picture Day *May 12<sup>th</sup>*
- All-Star Gala *July 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>*

### *From the Commissioner's Desk . . .*



Hello and welcome to our 61st year. Over the past few months, our board has considered numerous recommendations from managers, coaches and parents on how to improve the program. I am proud to say that every item has been reviewed

and several have been adopted for the 2012 season. The primary rule changes include limited stealing, a tournament style playoff format and speed-up rules intended to keep games moving in the Junior Girls division, the ability to play 2 seasons in Little Sluggers.

We have renovated the infields at Lincoln and Northwest Park and both the infield and the outfield at Hinkley field #3. We also rebuilt several Wildcat infields and plan to relocate the Little Sluggers Field at Washington School.

We were able hold fees at last year's level by tapping into our reserves - as the cost of baseballs and uniforms has risen dramatically. We will post our financial statement on our website when the audit is complete.

Our board believes in full and complete transparency.

Please remember our sponsors. Some of these companies have been supporting our program for decades. They help reduce your costs, please utilize their products and services whenever you can.

I would also like to also thank all of our volunteers. Remember that all of our managers, coaches, and directors are volunteers. None of us receive pay for countless hours of service. In these tough economics times, it is a tribute to all of these individuals that continue to volunteer their time and expertise to provide a quality program that builds character. Believe it or not, your children are making friends for life when the play on a team with kids they have never met before. You, as parents, sometimes will groan about getting your kids all over town to attend practice, and having to sometimes sit through some boring games; but when it is all over, you will remember these times as the "best" and they will be missed.

Have a great season!

*Garry*

### Details on 2012 Fees

<b>Future Stars T-Ball</b>	\$65 per player
<b>Little Sluggers and above</b>	\$85 for one child \$75 for the second \$65 for each additional child
<b>Colt Boys (Ages 15 to 17)</b>	\$115 per player
<b>Nonresidents</b>	+\$25 per player



## PRBS Merchandise

At any of the registration dates be sure to stop by the merchandise table to purchase a shirt to show your pride in Park Ridge Baseball/Softball. We have quality logoed t-shirts, sweatshirts and hats. We will also have discontinued products available at a great discount. Someday they may even be collector's items - not really. All proceeds go directly to the program. See you at registration.

## PARTICIPATION IN CONCURRENT BASEBALL / SOFTBALL PROGRAMS IS PROHIBITED!

Park Ridge Baseball/Softball (PRBS) Rule G21 states, in part, "...No player can participate in any concurrent baseball/softball program, except for school programs."

The primary reasons for this rule include the **health** of your child and **fairness** to all participants in our program.

Since baseball/softball is a team sport, PRBS believes that it is not fair to other team members, when a player misses games and/or practices or who is otherwise unavailable for full participation, due to playing in a concurrent baseball/softball program.

If you have questions regarding this rule/policy, please contact Garry Abezethian or Tom Farinella.

## [www.prbaseball.com](http://www.prbaseball.com)

We are on-line. Want to see the latest information . . . safety updates, schedule, standings, rules, rainouts? We have significant enhancements coming in 2012. Visit us at [www.prbaseball.com](http://www.prbaseball.com).

## WANTED: Scoreboard Operators

If you are at least 11 years old and can count, you can earn money as a scoreboard operator. Sign up at registration.



The Park Ridge Pistols Travel Fastpitch program provides an opportunity for those girls 10-18 that are interested in playing softball on a competitive travel team. The Pistols are dedicated to providing excellent training, coaching and facilities that will take our players to the next level.

If you would like to be part of the Pistol experience, tryouts for the 2013 teams will be held in late August 2012.

For more information, please email [pistols@prbaseball.com](mailto:pistols@prbaseball.com).

## WARRIORS Program

PRBS is proud to offer boys 10-14 the opportunity to compete in travel baseball through the Warrior Program. 2012 marks the Warriors 10 year anniversary of being the Park Ridge Park District's only fully affiliated team. For more information, please email [warriors@prbaseball.com](mailto:warriors@prbaseball.com)

## Future Stars

Future Stars T-Ball is for players 5 & 6 year olds as of August 31, 2012. Last year the Future Stars



T-Ball league had 18 teams of boys and girls learning how to play baseball in this educational and fun program.

Each team is formed by the league president and is comprised of 5 and 6 year old boys and girls. Each player will receive a major league replica jersey and hat as well as a pair of matching socks. (Baseball pants are provided by the league, but must be returned at the end of the season).

Practices start in May with games on Saturday on afternoons beginning in late May. The games are scheduled so as to not conflict with soccer. Each team will practice once per week and will play 8 to 10 games.

Managers have the opportunity to select the children to be on their team so please consider being a manager! Individual requests are not accepted.

If you are interested in managing a team, contact Jim Lange at registration.

## Little Sluggers

The Little Sluggers league is intended for all 6-year-old boys and girls. Players should be able to make a reasonable attempt at catching and throwing a ball from about 30-40 feet. On offense the player is thrown 3 pitches from their manager/coach during an at-bat, but if the ball is not put into play, a tee will be used for 1 swing. The league is designed to help 7-year-old boys who need a little extra time to develop their skills and boost their confidence at the plate and in the field. Thus, the league serves as a bridge between Future Stars T-Ball (ages 5 & 6) and Wildcat boys and Wildkit girls (ages 7 & 8). Admittance to this league is at the request of the parents.



## Wildcat Division

The Wildcat division is for boys ages 7 and 8 as of August 31, 2012. During this upcoming season, we will be exploring the possibility of separating the age groups into two separate leagues. We will be considering the effect on each age group, the viability of separate leagues and the rules that would be necessary for each group. To that end, for this season, we are allowing any 7 year old boy to play in our Little Sluggers League (coach pitch). In the past, a player could only play one season in LS. Now they can play at 6 and 7.

## WILDKIT Girls

The Wildkit division is for girls ages 7 and 8 as of August 31, 2012. The season begins with the Coach pitching and transitions to player pitch at the season's midpoint. We will provide clinics (fielding and pitching) for the girls to ensure

they are successful. This league is instructional with no team standings.

## Junior Girls (9&10)

**Playoff Champion**  
**Lumisource Nationals**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
DiFranco Orthodontics Reds	14	1
State Farm – Ann Witek Phillies	13	2
Lumisource Nationals	8	8
Gemini Interior Cubs	7	9

## Pre-Teen Girls (11&12)

**Playoff Champion**  
**Wee Care Dentistry Giants**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
McConnell Investments		
Diamondbacks	9	6
Holihan Insurance Indians	9	6
Riley HVAC Rays	8	7
Wee Care Giants	8	7

## Pony Girls (13 & 15)

**Playoff Champion**  
**Sisto Oral Surgery Braves**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
Sisto Oral Surgery Braves	9	4
Shanti Yoga Center Rays	9	5
Savvy Salon & Spa Nationals	6	7
Do or Dye Salon Mets	2	12

## AA-9 Division

**Playoff Champion**  
**PR Community Bank Giants**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
Park Ridge Barbers Dodgers	15	1
Sullivan & Johnson CPA's Cardinals	12	4
All On The Road Catering Reds	12	4
PR Community Bank Giants	10	7

## AA-10 Division

**Playoff Champion**  
**Jeff Vukovich Insurance Royals**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
Sebastian Real Estate Red Sox	11	5
Elliot's Edison Park White Sox	11	5
Peterson Orthodontics Tigers	10	5
Jeff Vukovich Insurance Royals	9	7

## Junior American League

(Boys 11&12)

**Playoff Champion**  
**Touhy Touhy Buehler & Williams White Sox**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
Marty's Team Rays	14	4
TTBW White Sox	11	7
LaPelusa Home Improvement A's	10	7
Amici Ristorante Blue Jays	9	9

## Junior National League

(Boys 11&12)

**Playoff Champion**  
**Clauss ADR Cardinals**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
Clauss ADR Cardinals	14	4
Lisa's Italian Ice Brewers	12	5
VFW Post 3579 Braves	11	7
Elk's Lodge of Des Plaines Mets	11	7

## Pony Boys

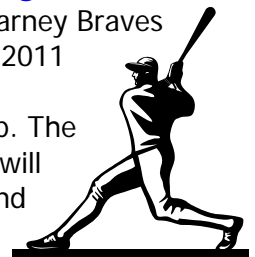
**Playoff Champion**

**PR Paint & Glass Cardinals**

PLAYOFF TEAMS	W	L
PR Paint & Glass Cardinals	13	5
Habetler Bowl Nationals	13	5
Moran Financial Planning Cubs	12	6
Colors by Norb Astros	10	8

## Colt Boys (Boys 15-18)

The Smith Barney Braves captured the 2011 Colt League Championship. The 2012 season will begin June 2nd and should conclude no later than July 15th. Games are played on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons. The games do not conflict with high school summer teams. Be sure to register early, last season there was a waiting list.



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## How to Become a Manager or Coach

A manager has the overall responsibility of the team. Their duties include scheduling and organizing practices, communicating team events to parents, provide a safe environment for all players during practices and games, and teach the fundamentals of the game. The most important duty is to provide a positive experience for each player. If you are interested in becoming a manager please send an email to [manage@prbaseball.com](mailto:manage@prbaseball.com).



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## WANTED! UMPIRES

Umpires are needed for the 2012 baseball and softball season. To be an umpire you must be at least 13 years of age on or before 9/1/2012. Adults are welcome. Go to [www.prbaseball.com](http://www.prbaseball.com) after February 1st for times and locations.



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## NO CONFLICTS WITH SOCCER

Park Ridge Baseball Softball has a cooperative agreement with Park Ridge Soccer that allows players 12 & under to play both sports with limited conflicts. On the boys side, Baseball will avoid Saturdays and play games on Sundays. The opposite is true

on the girls side. For the co-ed leagues (ages 5 & 6), soccer will play on Saturday mornings, and baseball on Saturday afternoons.

In the event of a conflict, games should take precedence over practices, and if 2 games or 2 practices conflict, the player should alternate their participation. i.e. for the first conflict, miss baseball, for the next conflict, miss soccer.

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## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



The largest youth program in Park Ridge welcomes your support. We've grown to more than 2100+ boys and girls in our program. This past year, your contribution helped install new dugouts at most fields, renovations at Hinckley and Lincoln fields, irrigation for high use fields, new equipment boxes, and training sessions for the kids and coaches.

Your contribution of \$200 for one team, (\$175 for each additional team) helps us keep fees low, allowing more of our youth to play baseball, yielding participation that is often significantly higher (sometimes twice) than our neighboring communities.

Just contact Jim Gillespie at his office at 312-419-3636 or email us at [sponsor@prbaseball.com](mailto:sponsor@prbaseball.com).

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## Board of Directors

**Garry Abezetican** – Commissioner

**Marty Abezetican** – Awards

**Fred Angelini** – Colt President, Umpires, Park District Liaison

**Thad Bednarz** – Pony President

**Jim Campbell** – Treasurer

**Joe Cerniglia** – Tryouts

**Michael Cristiano** – Wildcat President, Archives

**David Depkon** – Junior Girls President, Newsletter Editor

**Tom Farinella** – Vice President and AA President

**Jim Gillespie** – Secretary, Sponsorships

**Mike Grabowski** – UReserve, Opening Night Ceremonies

**Ted Haufle** – Wildkit Girls President and Draft Coordinator

**Chris Hickey** – Picture Day

**Dave Hoffman** – Pistols Travel Program President

**Peter Kapetan** – Junior National President

**Jim Lange** – Future Stars President, Buddy Ball Coordinator

**Glen Lombardi** – PR Community Center Scheduling, Clinics

**Mike Marrese** – Equipment Room Manager

**Bob Nowaczyk** – Merchandising, Equipment Committee

**Frank Pagone** – Junior American President

**Ron Roth** – Pre-Teen Girls President

**Adrian Sakowicz** – Little Sluggers President

**Jerry Scafa** – Boys Summer Sizzler Tournament Chairman

**Larry Seiwert** – Pony Girls President, Volunteers, Legal

**Steve Vogg** – Warrior Travel Program President

**Brad Wisniewski** – Girls Summer Sizzler Tournament, Legal