

PEQUOT LAKES DIAMOND CLUB ASSOCIATION

PATRIOT TRAVEL BALL



This letter is to familiarize you with the Pequot Lakes Diamond Club Association. If after reading this you still have questions, please call a member of the Association Board of Directors.

1. In order of priority, the Pequot Lakes Diamond Club Association shall promote the following goals: ...

A) to help youth in the program to develop with positive attitudes about self esteem, sportsmanship and team play. ...

B) to promote having fun while learning to play competitive Ball. ...

C) to field competitive teams that are able to win at a level in which they are placed.

2. Pequot Lakes Diamond Club program is not intended to serve the needs of all youth interested in baseball. The purpose is to give the player with a more advanced skill level at this time the opportunity to gain more experience than the Community Ed. or the school program can offer them. Tryouts are held each year so it is important that all players strive to improve their skills so they have the best chance to make the team each year.

3. All coaches are unpaid volunteers who give of their time and talents unselfishly. If you have complaints please address them to the Association Board of Directors. All coaches and officers are trying to do what is right for The Diamond Club's program and we invite any parent or fan to come to the Association meetings and become involved.

4. Lots of players try out but only a limited number can make the final team. The Association will furnish, when possible, entry fees for tournaments, jerseys and hats for games, and baseballs and some other assorted equipment. The parent must furnish all transportation, motel rooms and any other expense for out of town tournaments. The player and parent must make a serious commitment to The Diamond Club program for the player to succeed.

5. When a player is accepted on a Pequot Lakes Diamond Club team, an Insurance waiver must be signed by the parent a fee (which varies from level to level) paid, payable to the baseball association and handed in to the Coach before the player will be allowed to practice. This money is used to help cover uniforms and equipment costs.

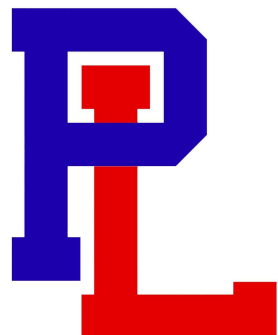
INFORMATION SENT HOME BY COACH:

1. PRACTICE SCHEDULE
2. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE
3. INFORMATION REGARDING REGISTRATION
4. TRYOUT POLICY
5. NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON TEAMS
6. PHILOSOPHY OF PLAYING TIME FOR THAT GRADE LEVEL

MEETINGS WITH COACHES:

THE HEAD COACH AND/OR PLDC ASSOCIATION WILL MEET WITH ALL COACHES TO DISCUSS PHILOSOPHY, FACILITIES, PERSONAL, AND EQUIPMENT ETC. EVERY YEAR. HE WILL MEET WITH THE COACHES IN THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

1. 9U
2. 10U
3. 11U
4. 12U
5. 13U
6. 14U
7. 15U



8. 17U / Jr. Legion
9. 19U / Legion

RATIONAL FOR MOVING PLAYERS UP A LEVEL OF COMPETITION:

1. THE PLAYER WILL GET TO PLAY WITH A GROUP OF PLAYERS HIS OWN ABILITY THEREBY INCREASING HIS OWN ABILITY DUE TO THE INCREASED COMPETITION.
2. THIS PLAYER WILL NOT THEN "DOMINATE" AT THE PREVIOUS LEVEL, WHICH ALLOWS THE OTHER PLAYERS TO MORE FULLY DEVELOP THEIR OWN SKILLS.
3. FILL A POSITION NEED: PITCHER, CATCHER, ETC.
4. THIS MOVE MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ASSOCIATION AND AGREED UPON BY THE COACHES INVOLVED.

PHILOSOPHY OF PLAYING TIME AND MAKE-UP OF TEAMS:

9U – 1 TEAM WITH 12-15 PLAYERS ON THE TEAM. THERE WILL BE CUTS AT THIS LEVEL SO THAT ROSTER SIZES WILL MEET THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS. AN EFFORT WILL BE MADE SO THAT EVERYONE GETS A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN TOURNEY PLAY. NOT ALL PLAYERS WILL PLAY EQUAL AMOUNTS OF TIME. THIS SIMPLE EXCEPTION ALLOWS THAT NOT EVERYONE MAY BE CAPABLE OF OR WILLING TO PLAY CERTAIN POSITIONS. IF MORE THAN 25 PLAYERS TRY OUT FOR THE TEAM A POSSIBLE "B" TEAM MAY BE FORMED FROM THE PLAYERS THAT WERE ORIGINALLY CUT. THIS TEAM WILL PLAY IN A FEW SUMMER INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS.

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17U / Jr. Legion & 19U / Legion - 1 TEAM WITH 12-15 PLAYERS ON THE TEAM. THERE WILL BE CUTS AT THIS LEVEL SO THAT ROSTER SIZES WILL MEET THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.....Teams to be run by the Legion / VFW Baseball Director.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:

1. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE BY THE COACHES TO PLAY EVERY PLAYER THE FIRST DAY OF A TWO DAY TOURNEY DUE TO THE FACT THAT PARENTS WHO TRAVEL TO WATCH THEIR SON PLAY ARE ENSURED THAT THEIR SON WILL PLAY IF THEY AS PARENTS CANNOT ATTEND THE 2ND DAY.

2. IN A ONE DAY TOURNEY, THE PLAYING TIME SHOULD BE OBSERVED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ENTIRE TOURNEY. THIS MAY RESULT IN AN INSTANCE WHERE A PLAYER MAY NOT PLAY OR SEE LIMITED PLAYING TIME IN A PARTICULAR GAME BUT THEN THAT PLAYER'S PLAYING SHOULD BE LOOKED AT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WHOLE TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE.

3. MAKE-UP OF TEAMS WILL BE BASED ON:

- A. ABILITY
- B. POSITION NEEDS
- C. ATTITUDE AND WORK ETHIC
- D. PRACTICE ATTENDANCE
- E. BEHAVIOR

THIS NEEDS TO BE HANDLED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE COACHES WILL NOT ALWAYS HAVE ACCESS TO ALL THE INFORMATION INVOLVED. COACHES SHOULD CONTACT THE PARENTS BEFORE ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION IN THESE AREAS OCCUR.

CONCERNS:

1. LACK OF COACHES AT EACH LEVEL WILL SOMETIMES DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF TEAMS AT EACH LEVEL, EVEN IF THE PLAYER NUMBERS MAY BE SUFFICIENT.

2. PRACTICE TIMES WILL SOMEWHAT BE HAPHAZARD DUE TO THE LACK OF FIELD SPACE AND COOPERATION AND AVOIDANCE OF ANY IN-HOUSE PRACTICES OR GAMES.

3. THERE IS A LACK OF "B" TOURNAMENTS IN THE AREA. THEREFORE THE NUMBER OF TOURNAMENTS A PLAYER PARTICIPATES IN WILL NOT ALWAYS BE EQUAL. ALSO, PARENTS AND PLAYERS NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT "B" TEAMS WILL SOMETIMES PARTICIPATE WITH THE RESULTS NOT ALWAYS POSITIVE IN TERMS OF THE SCORES OF THE GAMES, BUT THE PLAYERS ARE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO PLAY AND IMPROVE.

