

# 2012 Upward Baseball & Softball

## LEAGUES

Separate leagues for boys and girls are offered for K4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Players must be 4 years old by September 1, 2011 to be eligible to play. The following is a breakdown of this year's leagues:



- **T-Ball** (K4 – K5 League) Players are introduced to the basics of the game, skills and game play. For the first half of the season players will use a batting tee for games. By mid-season, players will be given opportunities to hit pitched balls as their progression allows.
- **Rookie** (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade League) Separate leagues for baseball & softball in a Coach Pitch format. Skill development and understanding of the game is emphasized.
- **Minor** (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade League) Separate leagues for baseball & softball in a pitching machine format. Skill development, individual position play and understanding of the game is emphasized.
- **Major** (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade League) Separate leagues for baseball & softball in a player pitch format. Skill development, individual position play and understanding of the game is emphasized.

## EVALUATION & SKILLS CAMP

Once again we will be conducting our *Pre-season Skills & Evaluation Camp*. Players 1st grade & above will have the opportunity to participate in a free skills development camp prior to the season. During the camp, players will have the opportunity to meet our league coaches & be instructed by some of our areas Middle & High School coaches on specific skills including throwing, fielding, base running and hitting. Our camp schedule is as follows:

**1st & 2nd Grade** - Saturday March 3 from 10am - 12pm.

Parent orientation for this league will be held from 10-10:30am in the Youth Activity Center.

**3rd through 6th Grade** - Saturday March 3 from 2pm - 4pm.

Parent orientation for these leagues will be held from 2 - 2:30pm in the Youth Activity Center. A special pitchers & catchers clinic will be held at this camp.

\*All **K4 & K5 League** players will begin with a Team meeting & orientation during the week of March 5th.



## PRACTICES

Our Baseball & Softball teams begin with three to four weeks of practice on a weekday (Monday, Tuesday or Thursday) & a Saturday practice prior to games starting. With busy family schedules, this set up is ideal and we continue to hear that it works great for volunteers, participants and families. Practices will begin the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> for all leagues. Parents are afforded the opportunity to request a practice night exclusion for your child. We do our best to honor every request, but please understand due to the size of our league we are not able to honor every request.

## **GAMES**

Opening Day will be Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup>. Most games will be held on Saturday with the exception of weeknight games during the weeks of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Coaches work within a given parameter for substituting players in and out of the game. The substitution system provides every child the opportunity to be in the starting lineup, requires no child to sit out back-to-back innings and allows every child to play at least half of the game.

## **PLAYERS KIT**

Every player will receive a full uniform which includes a jersey, pants (shorts in softball), socks, hat and a league t-shirt. In addition, each player will also receive a uniform tote bag, a Victory Sports car static and an end of the season award.

## **AWARDS CELEBRATION**

As a culmination of our season, every player, parent, coach and fan is invited to attend a special end of the season awards ceremony. This is a very exciting event centered on celebrating the accomplishments of every team, player and coach. Each player will receive an award for their outstanding performance during the season.

