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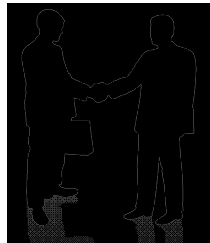
Around The Horn

News for the Middle Atlantic Region

Change of Command in Two States

This year was an election year and as a result, two states now have new State Commissioners.

Jack Seddon has been elected to serve as the new Southern New Jersey State Commissioner. Seddon replaces Tom Mitchell who has served in that post for many years. Jack has been involved with Babe Ruth Baseball for many years, most recently serving as an Assistant Regional Commissioner.



Seddon resides at:
1220 Helen Drive
Millville, NJ 08332
and he can be contacted at
Jackseddon062comcast.net

The other new State Commissioner is Anthony Tucci. Tony will take over the Pennsylvania Cal Ripken reins from former commissioner Ricky Tamaccio.

Tucci resides at:
241 Washington St.
Birdsboro, PA 19508

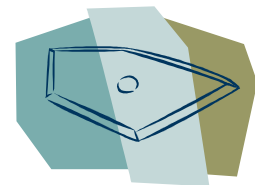
and he can be contacted at:
paripken@ptd.net

We wish both men the best of luck in the coming season.♦

Step Up To the Plate

The tournament trail is an integral part of the Babe Ruth Baseball experience for kids. Everyone seems to want the chance to play in tournaments and there are now twelve being played.

But while everyone wants to have their kids play in a tournament, very few leagues are willing to step up to the plate and host one.



There are only two tournaments which have been sold for next year, the 9-year-old and the 12/70.

If your league can host a tournament please contact Regional Commissioner Ray Lotierzo and let him know. ♦

Volunteer Spotlight

Each November Southern NJ District 1 Commissioner John Vilella hosts a dinner for all of his league presidents to thank them for their hard work during the season.

John chairs a committee which selects a President of the Year and Volunteer of the Year for the district. This year the President of the Year was Jim Petersohn from Hamilton Little Lads BRL. Volunteer of the Year honors went to Barbara Hartel of the Hopewell BRL.

In addition, John made a special presentation to Jack Lippincott. Jack is retiring from the league after being a volunteer for 42 years. According to Lippincott though, "42 years is not a long time when you enjoy what you are doing."

Lippincott summed up his experiences with these words of wisdom to those in attendance: "You don't realize what you mean to the kids until you give up your spikes. One young man came up to me and said 'you know, you were a big influence on my life.' That's what it's all about. Whatever you do, just remember that you might not hear these things but they are there."♦

Baseball Quote

"Baseball is something more than a game to an American boy; it is his training field for life work...."

--Judge Kinnesaw Mountain Landis

Babe Ruth Data Center

The new Data Center at headquarters gave many people headaches in 2009 with all kinds of problems. But despite those issues, it gave everyone a "taste" of what it will be able to do when the product is finished.



In the months to come headquarters staff will be working hard to get the Data Center up and running to handle 2010 charters and to train their personnel to handle questions about problems that leagues may have. State and District Commissioners will be more informed on how everything works as well, so they will be much better prepared to help you in 2010.

The whole purpose of the Data Center is to make your job as league president or secretary easier AND you will see that happening starting in 2010. Thanks for hanging in there as Headquarters grows the system.

Baseball Slang Quiz

The sport of baseball has a language all its own. Do you know what the answers to these questions are?

1. In the first inning of the game, who might be on the receiving end of a little "chin music"?
2. Top of the second, you hear the announce talking about "the hot corner". On the baseball diamond what area is known as the hot corner?
3. It's the bottom of the fifth, a real pitcher's duel. How would you describe the "55 ft. curve ball" the set up man just threw?
4. After the seventh inning stretch, your best friend returns to his seat and tells you the home team is "hitting the interstate". Is that a good thing or a bad thing?
5. You overhear someone talking about a "frozen rope". To what is he referring?

2010 TOURNAMENTS

Regional Tournaments

10 year-old

Site: **TBD**

Dates: July 29 – Aug. 3

12-year-old / 60 ft.

Site: **TBD**

Dates: July 28 – Aug. 2

12-year-old / 70 ft.

Site: Queensbury, NY

Dates: July 30 – Aug. 4

13-year-old

Site: **TBD**

Dates: Aug. 4 – Aug. 9

14-year-old

Site: **TBD**

Dates: Aug. 6 – Aug. 11

13-15 year old

Site: **TBD**

Dates: Aug .5 – Aug. 10

16-18 year old

Site: **TBD**

Dates: July 22 – July 27

Invitational Tournaments

8-year-old

Site: **TBD**

Start Date: Aug. 6

9-year-old

Site: Edison, NJ

Start Date: Aug. 6

11-year-old / 60 ft.

Site: **TBD**

Start Date: Aug. 6

11-year-old / 70 ft.

Site: **TBD**

Start Date: Aug. 6

16-year-old

Site: **TBD**

Start Date: July 17



World Series

Cal Ripken 10 and under

Site: Ocala, FL

Dates: August 13-20

Cal Ripken Div. Major/ 60'

Site: Wilson County, NC

Dates: August 12-19

Cal Ripken Div. Major/70'

Site: Aberdeen, MD

Dates: August 14-21

13-year-old

Site: Levelland, TX

Dates: August 19-26

14-year-old

Site: Loudoun Co., VA

Dates: August 21-28

13-15 year old

Site: Monticello, AR

Dates: August 20-27

16-18 year old

Site: Newark, OH

Dates: August 4-12

SOFTBALL 12U

Site: Alachua, FL

Dates: August 7-14

SOFTBALL 16U

Site: Varina, VA

Dates: August 5-12

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. **THE BATTER** – Chin music is a term for a pitch thrown high and inside, near the batter’s chin. This pitch is also called “high heat” and a “purpose pitch”, the purpose of which is to back the batter off the plate.
2. **THIRD BASE** – A third baseman must have quick reflexes because the ball gets to him so quickly.
3. **A PITCHED BALL IN THE DIRT** – The rubber (the slab) on the pitcher’s mound is 60 feet, 6 inches from home plate. So a 55 foot curve would end up in the dirt before reaching home plate.
4. **A BAD THING** – If a player (or team) is “hitting the interstate” he’s hitting less than a .200 average (.195 = I-95, .170 = I=70) which won’t keep you in the game for long. A batting average of .300 is the goal of every hitter.
5. **A STINGING LINE DRIVE** – A frozen rope is a hard hit ball, off the ground and traveling in a straight line, just like a frozen rope. By the way...a hard hit ball on the ground would be a “worm burner”.