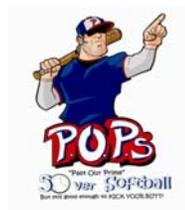


POPS Softball Newsletter



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POPS Softball Newsletter

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Letter From the Editor

This is our pre-playoff newsletter. Where does the time go? The 2012 season has flown by. There has been so much rain and so many rained out games during the 2012 season. I'd like to toss out a HUGE thank you to Howie Gallub, our Director of Scheduling, who has the near impossible job of staying on top of all games (played and rained out) and constantly adjusting the schedules of both the 40 & Over and 50 & Over leagues to try to get as many games in as possible. So when you see Howie around the fields during the playoffs, take the opportunity to thank him for doing an amazing job.

In this newsletter you can read about a bunch of POPS items, including our 1st annual charity night, and familiarize yourself with a couple of important rules prior to the playoffs beginning.

And please remember to enjoy the 2012 playoffs - get some exercise, compete, and above all, have fun!

Thank you.

Andy Eisner, Director of Fun & Publicity, Editor-in-Chief
POPS Softball Newsletter



by...
**Keith "Commish"
Pastuch**



We just can't get enough softball.

The playoffs haven't yet begun and I am already being bombarded with questions about "Fall Ball" and the new "POPS Father Son League." Yes, we will be expanding Fall Ball this year. New teams are forming from within POPS and from outside. The [application for Fall Ball](#) is currently on the POPS website.

Karen Sorentino

POPS Website Links

[POPS Homepage](#)

[Schedules](#)

[Standings](#)

If you plan to form a new team, start doing so now. Any POPS member will be assured entry to play (up until August 24th) before we accept outsiders. We only have room for 16 teams and we had 12 last year - so if you want to sign up as an individual, download the application and get it to me. We are going to make Fall Ball more of a formal league this year, with the champions getting the same awards as the regular season champions, and all managers of Fall Ball will be invited to the POPS dinner for the following year. We will have 2 divisions - an A & B. Games will be Mondays - Wednesdays under the lights at Oceanside High School.

NEW for this year will be the "POPS Father Son League." Games will be played on Thursdays in the fall so as not to conflict with Fall Ball. This first year, the league will be somewhat informal - just for fun. The concept is to have POPS players mix with their sons, stepsons, son-in-laws, and nephews. A new player age 40 & over can be brought in as long as he comes with any relative mentioned above. Any player under age 40 must have a player age 40 & over to balance out the teams. In order to be eligible to play, all players must be at least 20 years old. We are also allowing any existing POPS player from the regular season (doesn't need a son, etc.) to join in to even out the teams (balance out over and under 40). We already have a few teams committed, and only have room for 4 teams. The applications for the league are now on the POPS website.

Lastly, with the playoffs starting July 23, please be cognizant that we already have had over 12 managers and players thrown out of games this year. The ASA Umpires have been asked to maintain civility at all games. If a player or manager is out of line verbally with an umpire or players from the other team, they will be thrown out of that playoff game and then be suspended for the next playoff game. There will be a "No Tolerance" rule in effect. Behave yourselves; you are 40-60 something years old. Remember there are kids and wives attending these games. Be respectful to all. You will only be hurting your team - and your dignity! - when you are thrown out.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you on the fields during the 2012 playoffs.

Commish

POPSOFTBALL.COM



The POPS website (www.popssoftball.com) is full of useful information on our league. You will find rules, schedules, standings, approved bat lists, rainout information, etc. Please visit the site often for the latest information.

The site is maintained by POPS director Juan Tocabens.



Scholarships

POPS presents scholarships each year to select graduating high school seniors who will be attending college in the fall. The scholarship recipients are children of players in the POPS league, and were chosen based on a combination of academic achievement, athletic participation, and involvement in community service.

On June 18, at the Merrick Public Library, 11 individual scholarships were presented by POPS Commissioner Pastuch, who cited achievements of each recipient to the crowd parents, players and members of the POPS Board of Directors. The recipients boast impressive resumes, including things such as participation in high school sports, charitable activities, raising money for charitable organizations, helping local kids, membership in high school clubs, and various talents. In addition, two Booster Club awards were previously presented to outstanding scholar-athletes from schools whose fields we play games on.

[Click here](#) to read an article about our scholarship night published in the LI Herald.

Why do we give scholarships? School boards can choose to give field permits to anyone they wish. We have consistently been given permits to play on fields at certain schools due to the relationships we have developed with the various schools and their Superintendents over the years. We provide these scholarships as a token of our appreciation and to give back to our communities.

Who got scholarships in 2012? This year, awards were given to the following graduating seniors and families - congratulations to all recipients.

Student	Team	High School	Scholarship
Jacob Pomerantz	Pomerantz	Oceanside	Ronnie Gies Memorial
Ricki Parks	Carra	Oceanside	Patriots Award
Caroline Eisner	Sklar	Oceanside	Scott Crohn Memorial
Matt Kaplan	Sklar	Oceanside	Ed Corbett Memorial
Rose Ferrante	Zimmerman	W. Hempstead	O'Side Dept. of Comm. Services Award
Billy Clark	Dowd	Herricks	O'Side Dept. of Comm. Services Award
Keara Kelly	Callahan	Wantagh	Peggy Carlock Award
Casey Frankel	Sklar	Lynbrook	David Kerner Memorial
Devin Fergus	Arnone	Freeport	General
Carly Vitolo	Realmutto	MacArthur	General
Jessica Dato	Malley	Mepham	General
Robbie Rosen	-	Calhoun	Booster Club
Heather Huckower	-	Bellmore JFK	Booster Club

Charity Night - A Huge Success!



The First Annual POPS Charity Softball Night was held on June 29, at our Oceanside High School field - and it was a huge success. This wonderful event, the brainchild of long-time POPS player Mike Callahan, resulted in the collection of over \$3,800 which will be donated by POPS for the December holidays to needy families in our local communities.

The event attracted more than 75 POPS players who participated in 3 softball games on a hot, steamy night. Many family and friends of the players filled the stands in support. Each POPS player was asked to donate \$20 per game they played in. In addition, money was raised that night from other sources, with all proceeds being donated. A concession stand was set up by Camille Eisner (a past POPS scholarship winner) and staffed by the rest of the Eisner Family. Hundreds were raised selling cold drinks (a very welcome thing on that 90 degree night!) and some light snacks. Also, 2 sports memorabilia items were donated and raffled off (a hockey stick signed by Rod Gilbert, and a baseball signed by Dave Winfield). Lastly, a 50/50 raffle was held.

The atmosphere was congenial, as handshakes and hugs were exchanged among the participants. The games played were competitive but at the same time relaxed, as everyone knew the good deed they were doing.

This is another example of what makes POPS a unique and highly successful league - we are like a big extended family who care about each other and the communities we live in. I think all would agree that it was a truly great experience and something to look forward to for next year.

What to Watch For...



There are lots more POPS happenings to watch for during this 2012 season. Here are some upcoming things to watch for - details will be provided in future newsletters.

- All Star Game. This annual event, originally to be held mid-season in 2012, is moved to the end of the year due to the number of rained-out games that need to be made up.
- Father-Son League. POPS will be organizing a Father-Son league to be played one night per week in the fall. It will not interfere with Fall Ball and will be played a different night. Details to follow.
- L.I. 50+ Tournament. One of POPS own, Allan Finchley, will be running a 50 and Over tournament on Long Island in July. If you are interested in playing contact Allan at: alan@newyorkseniorsoftball.com.
- Facebook. POPS is going social!
- POPS Business Network. A network of goods and services by and for POPS players. Deal with people you trust and keep your business in the family.

Rules Highlights - Playoffs



With the playoffs fast approaching, POPS wants to remind everyone about 2 rules - the penalties for fielding less than a full team of roster players for playoff games, and the rules regarding sliding/diving. Hopefully none of this will be a surprise to anyone when the playoffs begin. Check out the complete official [POPS Rule Book](#) which is posted on the [POPS website](#).

[Sliding/Diving to a Base](#)

- I've copied the following directly from the POPS Rule Book because it is written very clearly. "Sliding and diving to a base is not permitted. A base runner who slides or dives to a base will be ruled "out". If a player trips or falls down, he cannot touch the base with his hand(s). He must get up on both feet and step on the base. NOTE: The umpire will determine if a player has slid or has fallen. This is the umpire's judgement call and cannot be protested."

Forfeit and Substitute Player Rules for the Playoffs

Note that the following rules apply to 40 & Over League games. For 50 & Over League games, simply add 1 to the number of required team roster players.

1) Forfeit

If a team has only 7 players from their team roster, they forfeit the game.

2) Nine Players

a) If a team has 9 players from their team roster and brings 1 player from their division level or below:

- That player must play 1st, 2nd or catcher (and make fielding plays) and bat 10th.
- The team will start the second inning with one out, and fourth inning with 2 outs. If the regular roster player shows up, he must go into the game. There is no penalty from that point forward.

b) If a team has 9 players from their team roster and borrows 1 player from the opposing team:

- That player must catch (and make fielding plays).
- The team will start the second and fourth innings with 2 outs. If the regular roster player shows up, he must go into the game. There is no penalty from that point forward.

In case of an injury, and a borrowed player is needed, he must catch (and make fielding plays). The borrowed-player penalty will go into effect from that point forward.

3) Eight Players

a) If a team has 8 players from their team roster and brings 2 players from their division level or below:

- Those players must play 1st, 2nd or catcher (and make fielding plays) and bat 9th and 10th.
- The team will start the second inning with one out, and the fourth and sixth innings with 2 outs. If the regular roster players show-up, they must go into the game. The penalties are adjusted from that point forward.

b) If a team has 8 players from their team roster and borrows 2 players from the opposing team:

- One of those players must play catcher (and make fielding plays), and the other must play 1st or 2nd (and make fielding plays).
- The team will start the second, fourth and sixth innings with 2 outs. If the regular roster players show-up, they must go into the game. The penalties are adjusted from that point forward.

In case of an injury, and a borrowed player is needed, they must catch and make plays at

home. The borrowed-player penalty will go into effect from that point forward.

Any questions on the rules should be directed to POPS Director of Rules, Keith Davidoff (keithdavidoff@aol.com).



Ground-Rule Triple

Say what?

There are two ways this can happen and you almost never see either at major league level. One, is if a player deliberately touches the ball with his hat or mask (ie, tries to catch it, for instance), or, two, if a player deliberately throws his glove at, and touches, a fair ball. Since neither of these corresponds to unique characteristics of the field it isn't really a ground rule triple but rather a three-base award.