



POPS Softball Newsletter



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POPS Softball Newsletter

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Letter From the Editor

Another regular season of POPS has concluded as we swing into the playoffs. Congratulations to all the teams making it into the playoffs. Oh, wait. That's everyone. Which is another great thing about POPS - we all get to play a full season and then gear up again for the playoffs.

We played the 2013 season during the rainiest June in history. 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.

Read on about our 2nd annual charity night, the upcoming Fall Ball and Father and Son seasons, the All Star game, and the End of Year Dinner. Importantly, I threw in a reminder of a couple of important rules to keep in mind during the playoffs.

The heat wave finally broke and hopefully the rain will let up. So please remember to enjoy the 2013 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 just began and I am already being bombarded

Danielle Daly

POPS Website Links

[POPS Homepage](#)
[Playoff Schedules](#)

[Standings](#)

with questions about "Fall Ball" and the "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.

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 before August 24th to ensure playing. Fall Ball will be more of a formal league this year, with the champions getting POPS Windbreakers instead of Tee shirts as a championship award. We will have 2 divisions - an A & B. Games will be Mondays - Wednesdays under the lights at Oceanside High School.

The 2nd season of "POPS Father Son League" will be played on Thursdays in the fall so as not to conflict with POPS Fall Ball. The league will still 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 6 teams. The [applications](#) for the league are now on the POPS website.

I've been approached by some of you discussing using social media, like Facebook. We currently have around 75 members who joined our Facebook page. Our Facebook address is: **POPS 40 & Over Softball, Inc.** If we get over 150 players joining and liking the page, we will consider using it as a tool to communicate. In the meantime continue to use our website: popsoftball.com for all notices and communications.

Keep a look out in the next POPS Newsletter for:

1) "**The POPS Business Network**". POPS Softball will use this as a tool to help promote the various POPS players business. If you are interested in more information, Contact me at: commish@popsoftball.com

2) I've heard your requests and we will explore a "**POPS 60 & Over League**" for 2014. Stay tuned. More will follow in the next POPS newsletter.

Lastly, with the playoffs already under way please be cognizant that 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 2013 playoffs.

Commish

[POPSOFTBALL.COM](http://www.popssoftball.com)



The POPS website (www.popssoftball.com) is back up and running and 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 12, at the Merrick Public Library, 22 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.

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 2013? This year, awards were given to the following graduating seniors and families - congratulations to all recipients.

Student	Team	High School	Scholarship/Award
Samantha Longo	Longo	Oceanside	Ed Corbett Memorial
Matthew Callahan	Callahan	Holy Trinity	Jim Gubelli Memorial
Jordon Liebman	H. Cohen	Bellmore JFK	POPS Academic
Nicole Dilorio	Epstein	Wantagh	POPS Managers
Clay Snider	H. Cohen	Oceanside	Dave Kerner Memorial

Jake Sherman	H. Cohen	Bellmore	POPS JFK Boosters
Adam Shutzman	H. Cohen	Bellmore	POPS Academic
Samantha Gordon	Pastuch	Sacred Heart	POPS Director
Kristin Gallub	Gallub	Oceanside	POPS Outstanding Student/Athlete
Danielle D'Angelo	Gallub	Oceanside	Scott Krohn Memorial
Brianna Scotto	Gallub	West Babylon	POPS Scholar/Athlete
Amanda Kalan	Kalan	Our Lady of Mercy	POPS Managers
Adam Tocabens	Sklar	Oceanside	Peggy Carlock
Robert Domanico	Gallub	Oceanside	Oceanside Buildings & Grounds
Rachel Domanico	Gallub	Oceanside	Oceanside Dept. of Community Activities
Justin Buckley	-	Oceanside	Greg Buckley Memorial
Stephanie Staiano	Arm	East Meadow	POPS Softball
Patrick Reutter	Simicich	St. Anthony	POPS Community Svc.
Jessica Doremus	Rothwell	Plainview-Bethpage	POPS Spirit
Tori Tedeschi	Ferrante	Island Trees	Ronnie Gies Memorial
Michael Stack	Bogatz	Wantagh	POPS Athletic
Amanda Carroll	-	Calhoun	POPS Calhoun Boosters

Charity Night - A Huge Success!



The second annual POPS Charity Softball Night was held on June 28, at our Oceanside High School field - and it was another success. This wonderful event, the brainchild of long-time POPS player Mike Callahan, resulted in the collection of over \$2,200 which will be donated by POPS for the December holidays to

needy families in our local communities. Last year's proceeds was donated to needy families and those severely impacted by superstorm Sandy - including many POPS players.

This year's event had a lower turnout than the 2012 event, but was still enjoyed by all of those in attendance. One game was played. Many family and friends of the players filled the stands in support. Each player was asked to donate something (around \$25). In addition, money was raised that night from other sources, with all proceeds being donated. A concession stand was set up by the Eisner family selling items donated by POPS players - brownies (by Mike Callahan), cookies (by Mark Roberts) and beverages (by Rick Holle). Also, 2 sports memorabilia items were donated (by POPS player Tony Ferrante) and raffled off (a Dave Winfield autographed baseball, and a Tony Saragusa autographed football).

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 each year.

What to Watch For...



There are lots more POPS happenings to watch for during this 2013 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 2013, is moved to the end of the year due to the number of rained-out games that need to be made up.
- Fall Ball. The Fall Ball season is right around the corner. Details to follow, but the application for the 2013 Fall Ball season is now on the POPS website.
- 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, but the application for the 2013 Father-Son season is now on the POPS website.
- POPS End of Year Dinner. The annual End of Year Dinner will be held once again at the Oceanside Jewish Center on August 29. Mark your calendars for this not-to-miss event.

Rules Highlights - Playoffs



With the playoffs beginning, 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 come as a surprise to anyone - these rules were reviewed with all Managers at the recent meeting. 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).



Explaining Softball

At one point during a game, the coach said to one of his young players, "Do you understand what cooperation is? What a team is?" The boy nodded in the affirmative. "Do you understand that what matters is whether we win together as a team?" The boy nodded yes. "So," the coach continued, "when a strike is called, or you're out at first, you don't argue or

curse or attack the umpire. Do you understand all that?" Again the boy nodded. "Good," said the coach, "now go over there and explain it to your father."
