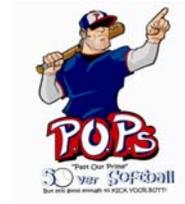


POPS Softball Newsletter



October 2011

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POPS Softball Newsletter

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Letter From the Editor

I was talking to a player when I umpired home plate on the next-to-last night of the Fall Ball season (between innings, of course!). This player commented to me "It's too bad it's ending for the year. The weather has been good. I wish it could go on all year." It seems that the more POPS expands and improves, the more we all appreciate what we have - a great league with great guys and the opportunity to play competitive, and fun, softball.

While umpiring this fall, I heard some very funny and creative comments from players who felt an incorrect call was made against their team. Thankfully, the vast majority of these comments were made with a half-smile, in a tongue-in-cheek manner. Here's a combination of some I heard and some that I found online: Wanna borrow my glasses? What game have you been watching? About time you evened out the calls. Do you have something against us? How much is the other team paying you? If you had one more eye, you'd be a cyclops! Stevie Wonder could have gotten that call right! Flip the plate over and read the directions! It's a good thing you didn't have three choices!

Have a great winter - looking forward to seeing you all in the spring for another great season of POPS!

Thanks.

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



by...
Keith "Commish" Pastuch

Year-End Comments

Yet another year is complete and POPS is even better than ever! It was great to hear from so many of you how much you

[POPS Homepage](#)
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are really enjoying POPS.

Already I am being swamped with requests from new teams and new players to join POPS for next year. Next year I anticipate more changes for our league. I've spoken to many of you and have heard some teams are considering splitting up to form two teams, some players are looking to switch teams or leagues, and some have asked how to play in more than one league - it's starting to get crazy, but that's POPS. If any of you are considering bringing in a new team for 2012, contact me ASAP. There are quite a few teams from outside POPS who will be applying to join our league. We always try to accommodate our existing players before bringing in new. The Board has a lot of work ahead of it this winter. I foresee some definite changes for next year as we strive to improve every year. The new POPS Father - Son League will start next fall, in conjunction with Fall Ball. Realignment of Divisions and new fields will all be on the agenda for 2012.

Believe it or not I have a life BEYOND POPS! Personally, my son Sean and I recently started a new facility in Long Beach called Thrive Rehabilitation with a Cross Fit gym attached. The facility is a 3,000 sq. ft. building that is divided into two distinct areas - a complete rehabilitation clinic with Chiropractors, Physical Therapists, Massage Therapists and Nutritionists and "Cross Fit - King of the Beach" on the other side. The reason I'm sharing this with you is because I've worked it out with my son to provide courtesy classes before we start the 2012 season, so that we "over 40's - and up" can get ready for the season and hopefully avoid the many injuries we suffer each year!

POPS continues to grow every year, and is really becoming a full time job. I could not do this job without the help of our Board of Directors. I want to thank the Board and the Managers for their hard work in making POPS the most successful adult softball league on the Island.

Looking forward to seeing you next year...

Commish

Congratulations to the Winners!



Congratulations to all of the winning teams of the
2011 POPS softball season!

Champion

POPS League

Summer Season	
Team Intrabartola	40 & Over - American
Team Realmuto	40 & Over - National
Team Rothwell	40 & Over - Central
Team Pastuch	50 & Over - American
Team Coy	50 & Over - National
Fall Season	
Team Intrabartola	American
Team Kronenberg/Pomerantz	National

Our 2011 playoffs were filled with many exciting, well played games. Teams exhibited great competition and sportsmanship. This was the first year, in the history of POPS, that there were new division winners in each league. Parity is here. A fitting end to another successful season of POPS softball.



Plates with the Greats (aka End of Year Dinner)

Our fifth annual End of Year Dinner was another smashing success. The Oceanside Jewish Center provided great food and we provided great company. Championship awards, including the coveted Pastuch Diamonds, were handed out.

The dinner was attended by over 175 people, including players, spouses and friends, and a great time was had by all. The 50-50 raffle raised over \$1,000, \$500 of which went to the raffle winner with the balance to be used to offset managers' fees for 2012.

We had special guests in attendance, including two representatives from the ASA Umpire's Association including Rich Petito the assigner of umpires. Kat Muessig from Nassau County and State Senator Chuck Fuschillo was there early to present our Commish an award for all the good POPS does in the community.

Please remember: The dinner is not just for the players whose teams won - it's for ALL players in POPS and their spouses. Everyone is welcome to attend next year.



got

2011 All Star Games

This year's POPS All Star games were much more competitive, as the league involved and ensured there were fair teams in both games. A special thanks to POPS Director Bob Lashinsky and all other Directors for making it happen.

There were great games in both the 40 & Over and 50 & Over divisions. The All Star shirts looked good and everyone had a great time.

And thanks to POPS Director Bill Bogatz who was master of ceremonies and did a spectacular job yet again.



Fall Ball - Another Successful Season

Our 4th season of POPS Fall Ball was a tremendous success. We had 13 teams this season, split into 2 divisions. Some teams were complete summer league teams, while others were a mix of players from various teams. The fall season is a great way to play with and against new players - a good chance to meet more POPS guys.

As we've done for the past few years, Fall Ball games were umpired by 2 POPS players. Based on the feedback we've received, this once again worked very well. Some actual comments: "They know our rules better than the ASA umpires." "Having 2 umpires for the games was a big help." "They did a great job." "Andy wore some interesting outfits."

A special thanks to Tony and Kat Spataro for running and ensuring a smooth running season and personally keeping the field playable.

Considerations for 2012



Although 2011 was another successful season for POPS, there is always room for improvement and new ideas. The Board of Directors will meet several times over the winter to discuss new ideas as well as issues that arose during the 2011 season, and will communicate decisions prior to the start of the 2012 season.

Some things that will be discussed include leagues expansion (new teams being formed, new teams joining from outside POPS), adjusting the division makeups, possible new fields, and a POPS Father/Son League for fall of 2012.

(Note: If any player has a problem/issue/suggestion, please tell your manager or any director who will bring it up at the next Board meeting. Or contact the Commish...Keith Pastuch at: commish@popsoftball.com. We value your input and will address any concerns you may have.)

Fun Zone

Baseball Quotes



When you're in a slump, it's almost as if you look out at the field and its one big glove. (Vance Law)

During my 18 years I came to bat almost 10,000 times. I struck out about 1,700 times and walked maybe 1,800 times. You figure a ballplayer will average about 500 at bats a season. That means I played seven years without ever hitting the ball. (Mickey Mantle)

I was such a dangerous hitter I even got intentional walks in batting practice. (Casey Stengel)

Strange Rule



MLB rule 5.10 states:

If an accident to a runner is such as to prevent him from proceeding to a base to which he is entitled, as on a home run hit out of the playing field, or an award of one or more bases, a substitute runner shall be permitted to complete the play.

Did You Know...



Mickey Mantle hit a 643 foot home run in Detroit Brigg's Stadium in 1960, for the longest home run ever recorded.

Cy Young holds the record for most games won (511) and most games lost (316) in his career.