



POP's Softball Newsletter



July 2009

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POP's Softball Newsletter

Editor-in-Chief
Andy Eisner

POP's Softball

Commissioner
Keith Pastuch
Directors

Letter from the Editor

This is the second year of the POP's Softball Newsletter. I hope you enjoy them. This is the official newsletter of the POP's Softball league and provides -

- Information on the latest POP's developments
- Notice of special events
- Important reminders
- Links to schedules, scores, standings
- Interesting information

If you wish to be taken off our mailing list, click on the "Unsubscribe" link in the left hand column. Comments, suggestions, and other feedback can be sent by clicking on the "Feedback" link in the left hand column. We also realize this Newsletter will not get to everyone, so if you have a player who *wishes to be added* to our subscription list, email me at Newsletter.POPs@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Andy Eisner, Director, POP's Softball & Editor-in-Chief, POP's Softball Newsletter



by... Keith "Commish"
Pastuch

Scholarships



Each year POP's gives out scholarships to students graduating from the three high schools whose fields we play on – Bellmore JFK, Calhoun, and Oceanside. Scholarships are given either to standout athletes or as community service awards. Additional scholarships are given to families as a memorial, to kids whose parents help make POP's successful, to families in need (such as to the family of one of our players who passed away this year), or to sponsor events (such as a golf outing that provides scholarships to high school baseball players in memory of Ronnie Gies, a fireman who gave his life on 9-11).

Why do we give scholarships? School boards can

Rick Botwinick
Wayne Burte
Keith Davidoff
Andy Eisner
Lee Heiman
Rick Holle
Bob Lashinsky
Larry Prosky
Neil Sklar
Tim Sorrentino
Tony Spataro
Juan Tocabens
Dave Yatkowitz

Director of
Photography
Karen Sorrentino

choose to give field permits to anyone they wish. We have consistently been given permits to play on fields at these 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.

Where does the money come from? The money used to fund these scholarships is the balance of POPs funds from the previous year. This year, we awarded over \$3,000 in scholarships.

Who got scholarships in 2009? This year, we presented the awards at a ceremony at Oceanside HS. Awards were given to the following graduating seniors and families – congratulations to all recipients.

Student	School
Daniel Kneuer	Bellmore JFK
Danielle Insardi	Bellmore JFK
Harry Yatkowitz	Bellmore JFK
Emily Eisenberg	Bellmore JFK
Lexi Stone	Bellmore JFK
John Tocabens	Oceanside
Gillian Davidoff	Oceanside
Ross Botwinick	Oceanside
Andrew Longo, Jr	Oceanside
Victoria Kearns	Calhoun
Sophia Ann Ferrante	Calhoun
In Memory of Dave Kerns	n/a
In Memory of Harry Espino	n/a
Ronnie Gies Memorial	n/a

POPSOFTBALL.COM



The POPs website (www.popssoftball.com) has been redesigned 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.

Rules Highlights

We all know that POPs has certain rules that differ from traditional (young man's) baseball/softball. These special rules have been put in place for safety reasons – remember, the principle philosophies of POPs are to compete, have fun, and not get hurt.

POPs Director Tim Sorentino has put together an official POPs Rule Book. This book is posted on the POPs website (http://www.popsoftball.com/PDF_Files/POPSOFTBALL%20RULE%20BOOK%20web.pdf).



For 2009, several rules have been modified and a few new rules have been added. Below are highlights of some of these changes:

- 1-1 Count. All at-bats will begin with a one ball, one strike count. This rule was implemented to reduce game times and make games at certain fields manageable.
- Home run limit. Each team will be limited to 3 over-the-fence home runs per game. Balls hit over a fence after the limit will count as a single and runners will advance one base.

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

Player Conduct

This is an area that the league addressed last winter due to an increasing number of incidents during last season. The following are the rules regarding (1) basic on-field behavior and (2) the banning of alcohol at all POPs games.



1. Players are to be respectful of the umpire and the opposing team's players. A player acting inappropriately will be given one warning. Further inappropriate behavior will result in the player being ejected from the game. In addition, the player will receive a one game suspension for the first ejection, a three game suspension for the second ejection, and will be expelled from the league for the balance of the season if he gets ejected three times during the season.
2. It is absolutely forbidden for any POPs player to drink, or even possess, any alcoholic beverage at any POPs game on any field - before, during or after POPs games. Doing so will place our field permits in jeopardy. Therefore, violating this rule will result in the player(s) being expelled from the league – at least for the balance of the season, and possibly longer.

Rain, Rain Go Away



June was one of the coolest and wettest on record. It was the worst month weather-wise in the 11-year history of POPs. At least a trace of rain was reported on Long Island on 25 out of the 30 days of June! Click on this link for facts on the weather we experienced in June - http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issue_dby=OKX&product=PNS

The weather has been inclement during almost every week since the season began. It has been extremely difficult to reschedule the rained-out games. A big thank you goes to POPs Director of scheduling Neil Sklar for not only making the initial schedules, but also for working hard to reschedule the rained-out games.

We realize the inconvenience the bad weather has caused for everyone, and we hope the second half of the season will be "brighter"!

Did you know...

On September 7, 1974, in a game against the White Sox, California Angels pitcher Nolan Ryan became the first player to break the 100 mph barrier when one of his pitches was officially clocked at 100.8 miles per hour.

On the Lighter Side...



- **Q.** What takes longer, running from first to second, or from second to third? **A.** Second to third, because you have to go through a shortstop.
- **Q.** Why did the coach draft a choir member? **A.** Because he had 'perfect pitch'.