

## Dear Reedville Baseball Parents:

You will notice some items have changed this year on the registration. The Board of Directors chose to make these changes after much deliberation. Some of these changes will be welcome; others will be more difficult. Please understand these changes are aimed at making Reedville Baseball the best Junior Baseball Organization in Oregon.

1. Registration fees have increased for 2010. At the end of this season, Reedville Baseball conducted a cost analysis for players at each level. The analysis found that the cost of older players (Juniors and Seniors) was being greatly subsidized by younger player registrations (Midgets, Rookies and Pee-Wees). The Board chose to close this gap by increasing registration costs for Juniors and Seniors, making them more self-sufficient (although not completely).

In addition, we chose to raise registrations across all levels, but with a purpose. For years, Reedville has required a team basket be created by each team for the annual Bingo Night Fundraiser. While the baskets used to be tremendously popular, their value has waned over the past few years and the resistance to creating them has increased. By increasing all registrations \$5.00 this year, we eliminate the need for team baskets.

2. Recreational baseball no longer exists beyond age 8. Beginning with Midgets, all players are now considered "competitive." Kids will try out for teams at the beginning of each season and be placed in the appropriate skill level—Federal, American, National and City (formerly International). Federal, American and National will compete within Junior Baseball of Oregon's (JBO) Washington County District, playing invitational tournaments and competing within the JBO Post-Season System. City League teams will compete within Reedville Baseball against one another (6 teams last season) and may participate in National Level Invitational Tournaments throughout Oregon. At the end of the season, all City League Teams will compete for their own championship through Reedville Baseball. All games will have umpires and will be treated as official league games.

3. Any child participating in tryouts will NOT RECEIVE A REFUND AFTER PARTICIPATING IN TRYOUTS. Due to a growing trend known as "league shopping," Reedville Baseball will no longer offer any refund to any child who participates in tryouts and chooses to play in another league as a result of placement. The cost of tryouts, the inconvenience of replacing a child who has been placed on a team but chooses to leave and our aversion to parents shopping their children for higher competitive levels has led to this decision.

While we know change is always difficult, we believe these changes will better position Reedville Baseball for the future while continuing to provide your children with the best opportunity available to learn baseball and compete at a high level.

As you prepare to sign your child up for baseball in 2010, the Board of Directors for Reedville Baseball wanted to take the opportunity to point out some of our great success over the past 5 years:

1. In 2009, Reedville Baseball included 575 players and over 44 teams ranging in age from 4-14.
2. Over the past five years, Reedville Baseball has placed 25 competitive level teams in the State JBO tournament at their respective levels (only 12 teams qualify each year). The next closest competitive program in Washington County (our counterparts, the HBBA in West Hillsboro) has placed only 8 over the same time period.
3. From March to July, (a 14 week period) Reedville Baseball hosts 22-24 competitive level baseball tournaments for kids age 8-14. This is more than double any other JBO organization in Oregon.
4. Reedville Baseball administers one of the largest Fall Baseball programs in Oregon, (including 38 teams from Keizer, Oregon to St. Helens) fielding 11 competitive teams from Reedville alone (the next closest organization fielded 3).
5. 95% of the work done on behalf of Reedville Baseball, including coaching, concessions, fields' construction and maintenance, fundraising, sponsorships, uniforms, equipment etc. is completed by volunteers.

Reedville has achieved all of this because your commitment to this organization. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2010.

Sincerely,

Joe Keizur

President

Reedville Baseball Inc.