

Parents Players and Coaches,

The 2010 West Linn Senior baseball season is fast approaching and registration will close January 31st. Each year West Linn competes very successfully at all levels of play in the Oregon Junior Baseball program. Last year we had 5 teams of 13/14 year-old players (7th/8th grade) among the Federal, American, and National levels. West Linn teams consistently place very high in league play, tournaments during the season, and at the end-of-year county and state championship tournaments and we are looking forward to the same levels of success this year. Here are some helpful details to help get your mind off of Winter and on to thinking about baseball this Spring.

Registration

Jan 31st: Last day to register – players and interested coaches should sign up through the WLBA website. Any youth whose birth date is on or after August 1, 1995 is eligible for participation in Junior Baseball for the 2010 season. Players in the 8th grade can play as long as they are still fifteen (15) years old by August 1, 2010.

Tryouts/Teams selection: Conducted by West Linn High School coaching staff at the West Linn High School batting cage and fields.

Mar 12: 6:00-8:30 pm Federal team tryout. Arrive/sign-in at batting cages by 5:15 pm. Federal team is the top 12 players selected from tryout. Players interested in playing Federal should attend.

Mar 13: 1:30 to 4:00 pm Tryouts for all players (except those selected to Federal). Arrive/Sign-in at batting cages by 12:45 pm

Mar 14: 8:00 pm All teams determined/posted to website.

Season:

April: Practice begins after spring break (usually 2-3 practices per week plus batting cage time at high school batting cages)

May-June: Season (2 games each week on weekdays) and Tournaments (3-6 weekends depending on team/coach desires)

July: County and State Championships (last date of State tournament/end of season is July 25th)

What's different in Senior Ball?

Fields are bigger. 80' base paths and 55' pitching distance for American and National; 90'/60'6" for Federal (regulation high school field).

Bats are bigger: up to 2-3/4" barrel. Games are longer: 7 innings. Cleats can be metal spikes. Leadoffs allowed.

Game and Practice locations:

Home games/practices:

Federal – Rosemont

American – Oppenlander

National – Athey Creek

Away games are played at various sites around Clackamas County. Tournament locations depend on which tournaments teams decide to sign up for.

Coaching:

In past years we have had the benefit of WLHS high school coaches and players manage or assist at the Federal, American and National levels. Additionally the league provides a team clinic with the WLHS coaching staff in April. We expect to continued participation from these resources this year as some have already signed up. We also expect to utilize the skills of those who have coached in Cal Ripken and are moving up with their players – we have much invested in you over

several years of play and coaching clinics and want to continue to utilize those skills – so, please register on the Registration link at the WLBA website.

Fundraising:

Last year we eliminated fundraising through having Senior ball players contribute to umpiring at the Cal Ripken level. Because of rainouts and other logistical challenges we will go back to team fundraising to offset any incremental costs associated uniforms and tournaments beyond what the registration fees allow for. The league will provide fundraising programs for each team. Team sponsorships are also an opportunity for anyone interested. These funds will also be used to support help from current or former WLHS players/coaches involvement in the Senior ball program.

Area Boundaries:

The Clackamas County Junior Baseball Association has worked with West Linn and Wilsonville baseball regarding area boundaries that were of concern to some that intend to continue playing in the West Linn youth programs and attend West Linn High School. As a result, the boundary has been clarified such that both programs can have players attending or residing in Athey Creek Middle School boundaries participate in their programs without a waiver.

Signup at <http://westlinnbaseball.org/> and click the Registration tab.

Please send any questions to: seniorbaseball@westlinnbaseball.org