


LANCASTER / DEPEW *PONYTAILS* NEWSLETTER

Phone 683-0879, Fax 683-1377

E-Mail: ldponytails@yahoo.com

Web Site: lancasterdepewponytails.com

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The Presidents Pen

Well, if this picture isn't an indication of how the season went, I don't know what is. The small miracle is that we got it all in except for one game at one age level. Well, there's always next year to hope for good weather once again. While you wait for that time to come your Board of Directors will be very hard at work in the off-season. 3 new members have joined the Board of 20 total members and many projects are in the works.

Within the last year we made a few changes to not only help our children grow in their abilities, but with their safety in mind as well. We re-instituted pitching back into the Ponytail level, which I believe it went better than expected. It took some getting used to, but by the end I think everyone was starting to come around with the change. We changed the rain-out policy to extend the rain make up day out further to give people more time to plan for it. Nothing's perfect and it's always difficult, but I think it was better and more accommodating than in the past. The dugouts and protective fencing were finally finished and we hope that everyone felt more comfortable knowing that their girls were a little bit safer because of them. Speaking of safety, we also made it mandatory for pitchers to wear the pitchers masks in the Ponytail level and purchased throat guards for all the catcher's masks.

This year there are many more things planned as well. We just had our Annual Fall Clean-Up of the batting cage facility.. We will be looking at our League Manual and Heat Guidelines to see if there are any significant

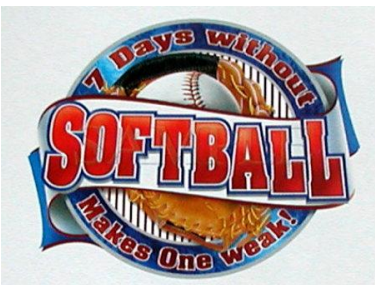
changes that need to be made. We have voted to reduce the Pee Wee Registration fee to \$40 down from \$60 mainly because they do not require umpires and their games are much shorter, but most of all, that is where the rest of our league begins to grow from and that is the area we must concentrate on building up. We are still not going to require any Tournament Travel players to play House ball except for the players on the 10U 1st year developmental squad. However, any Tournament



Travel player can still play House ball voluntarily if they choose to do so. Bob Zaidel (Clinic Coordinator) is working on forming clinics to help girls who are interested in pitching, to prepare themselves. This is something that may partially take place even before registration in January.

As I said earlier, we have always been about the safety of our players and believe in being proactive when it comes to the safety of our girls and we put that at the forefront of what we do here. With that in mind, as a Board, we have voted unanimously on purchasing 1 pitchers mask for each team in the entire league, including Heat pitchers and making it mandatory that the masks be worn by any girl pitching in this league to help in the prevention of injuries occurring. I know this may seem like a bold move, but we feel that it is a necessary one and we believe that this is the direction that all leagues will eventually head in the future. There are many other things on the horizon too numerous to mention but rest assured, our volunteers are here to do everything we can to make you and your daughter's experience with the Lancaster Depew Ponytails the best you can get. We are a top notch organization and will continue to strive to be the best for you now and for many years to come. Please keep a look out for upcoming events and clinics on our web site at www.lancasterdepewponytails.com and check out the "Calendar of Events" tool bar for information.

Thank you all for your time,
John Raab
President



Important Dates for 2011

Registration Jan. 8th, 15th and 29th

Draft Night Feb. 17th

Mandatory Managers/Coaches Orientation - Feb. 22nd

Batting Cage Assignments begin for teams - March

HEAT Spring Fundraiser - Apr. 16th

Opening Day - May 7th

Friday Night Bash - June 24th

ASA Qualifier Tournament Series:

Coca-Cola Classic 12U & 14U June 3rd-5th

Coca-Cola Classic 16U & 18U June 10th-12th

Coca-Cola Classic 10U July 8th-10th

2011 Board Members

***New at this position**

President	John Raab	Concession Stand Coordinator	Joy Stepian
Vice-President	David Rouse	Fundraising	Rosanne Raab
Treasurer	Open	Umpire Coordinator	Open
Secretary	Joy Stepian	Equipment Coordinator	Frank Moll
Facilities Coordinator	Mark Blersch	Publicity Coordinator	John Faltisko
Building Maintenance	David Rouse	At Large	Prudy Murray
Tournament Coordinator	<i>Paul Sciortino*</i>	At Large	Janice Rouse
Clinic Coordinator	Bob Zaidel	At Large	Sue Mrozek
Pee Wee Coordinator	Joel Patterson	At Large	Brian Martz
Ponytail Coordinator	David Gadd	At Large	<i>Angelo Bordieri*</i>
Junior Coordinator	Dan Guarasci	At Large	<i>Greg Sojka*</i>
Middle School Coordinator	Rosanne Raab	At Large	<i>Jeff Young*</i>
High School Coordinator	<i>David Gadd*</i>		

Ponytail's Website - Did you know you can get information about your team by logging in to the Ponytail's website? Click on Secure Logon at lancasterdepewponytails.com. With Secure Logon, you can see who's on your team and you'll have access to your team's game and practice schedule along with your scheduled concession stand time. You can also update your profile with addresses and phone numbers and change your password. Keeping your e-mail address up to date will allow the league to contact you about upcoming events including clinics, tryouts for the travel teams and next year's registration. If you don't know your Logon ID and Password, click on Forgot User ID and follow the directions.

2010 Results

Ponytail Division

Regular Season Champion:	#1 - Frank's Grille	Ed & Francine Gaczewski
Regular Season Runner-Up:	#3 - Watson Bennett Attorneys At Law	PJ Odrobina
Playoff Champion:	#8 - Alden State Bank	Paul Scully
Playoff Runner-Up:	#3 - Watson Bennett Attorneys At Law	PJ Odrobina

Junior Division

Regular Season Champion:	#1 - Frosty's of Lancaster Ice Cream	Prudy Murray
Regular Season Runner-Up:	#3 - Ace Paving Co.	Frank Moll
Playoff Champion:	#1 - Frosty's of Lancaster Ice Cream	Prudy Murray
Playoff Runner-Up:	#2 - Dr. Berardi Family Dental Care	Domenic Berardi

Middle School Division

Regular Season Champion:	#6 - Lancaster Hook & Ladder	Kyle Bicknell
Regular Season Runner-Up:	#2 - Laux Sporting Goods	Darren Andrews
Playoff Champion:	#6 - Lancaster Hook & Ladder	Kyle Bicknell
Playoff Runner-Up:	#2 - Laux Sporting Goods	Darren Andrews

Safety First - The league is committed to safety as the highest priority. We have always had a rule requiring face guards for all batting helmets. We have provided throat guards for all catchers' masks. It is mandatory for all pitchers to wear a face mask for ponytails division. Each team is equipped with a first aid kit plus ice packs. All diamonds now have dugouts with fencing to protect the players on the bench. The league uses a RIF ball for Pee Wee, Ponytail and Junior divisions. We continually replace worn out equipment such as helmets, chest protectors and shin guards.

Frank Moll

Equipment Coordinator



Attention Parents:

Do you have a comment or suggestion for the Board?

The L/D Ponytails are very willing to listen to comments and/or suggestions from parents. All letters must be signed in order to receive a response.

Please send letters to:

Lancaster/Depew Ponytails Softball

P.O. Box 207

Lancaster NY 14086.

Letters should never be sent to the manager's, coach's or board member's home.

Community Service Opportunity: Are you, or do you know, a high-school softball player that needs to do some community service for their college resume or confirmation class? Consider helping out at one of our clinics, teaching young girls the fundamentals of softball. We will be starting clinics shortly and look to have willing young ladies of the softball community come to show their skills to the up and coming stars of the Lancaster / Depew Ponytail softball league. Call the league office at 683-0879 or send an e-mail to ldponytails@yahoo.com.



Walk of Fame: Would you like to be a part of The Lancaster/Depew Ponytails history? Commemorative bricks may be engraved with the name of a person, family, or team and include special dates, sayings or events that you wish. Bricks will be engraved in the Spring and Fall of each year. Check the website for details.



Tournament & Travel

Lancaster/Depew Heat, Our Heat Tournament & Travel teams have been chosen for the 2011 season. For the upcoming year, we will have two 10U teams, three 12U and three 14U teams, and one 16U team. The teams have already begun practicing for the 2011 season, and that will continue through the winter with batting cage and gym workouts. Most of our teams will also participate in an indoor league against their WNY competition at Sahlen's Sports Park, in Elma, as they continue to sharpen their skills for the busy spring and summer season. In the table below, you can see how last year's teams finished in league play. There are also some post-season and tournament highlights worth noting:

Dave Gadd's 10U Developmental Team

Reached Metro Playoffs Championship Game
Lancaster/Depew Coca-Cola Classic
Tournament - 2nd Place Silver Division
Championship

Paul Sortisio/Bob Zaidel's 14U Team

District 5 Dazzlers Tournament - 2nd Place
Dawg Days Tournament (Ohio) - 5th Place

Al Dirschberger's 10U Team

Metro Playoffs National Division League
Championship
West Seneca Tournament Champions
ASA Eastern National Championships -
??? Place

John Raab's 14U Team

Orchard Park Tournament Champions
Penfield (Rochester) Tournament - 2nd Place

Paul Cumbo's 16U Team

Reached NFL Playoffs Championship Game
Orchard Park Tournament Champions

Dan Prenoveau's 12U Team

Reached NFL Playoffs Championship Game
ASA Eastern National Championships - 12th
Place out of 40 Teams

Mark Blersch's 16U Team

Clarence Tournament - Reached Quarter-
Finals as #1 Seed

As you can see, we achieved much success last year, and with the hard work and dedication of our coaches and players, as well as the great support the parents, we look forward to an even greater year in 2011.

Paul Sciortino

Tournament & Travel Coordinator

2010 *HEAT* Regular Season Results

Team	League	Manager	Asst. Coach	Regular Season Finish
10U Black	Metro 10U	Al Dirschberger	Joel Patterson	1 st Metro 10U National - 1 st Place
10U White	Metro 10U	David Gadd	Larry Blas	Metro 10U American - 3 rd Place
12U Black	NFL 12U Gold	Dan Prenoveau	Mike Patterson	NFL 12U Gold - 5 th Place
12U White	Metro 12U South	Larry Mentel	Todd Madison	Metro 12U South - 4 th Place
14U Black	Metro 16U	John Raab	Rosanne Raab	Metro 16U - 4 th Place
14U White	Metro 14U South	Bob Zaidel	Paul Sortisio	Metro 14U South - 1 st Place
16U Black	Tournament Only	Dan Steck	Mark Blersch	Tournament Only
16U White	NFL 16U Gold	Paul Cumbo	Kevin Drayer	NFL 16U Gold - 1 st Place

2011 *HEAT* Teams

Team	League	Manager	Asst. Coach	
10U White		Paul Wydro	Jeff Young	
10U Black		David Gadd	Brian Martz	Larry Blas Mike Kozak
12U Red		Prudy Murray	Dave Malkowski	John Walker
12U White		Al Dirschberger	Joel Patterson	Chris Kaplan
12U Black		Todd Madison	Mark Paradowski	Ed Mrozek
14U Red		Chuck Donofrio		
14U White		Dan Prenoveau	Mike Patterson	Ken Surdej
14U Black		Paul Sortisio	Mike D'Auria	Brian Strausbaugh
16U Black		John Raab	Roseanne Raab	Dave Novak



Thank you to all for the area businesses who have supported our league for the 2010 season. It is their support that helps make youth softball a reality for young girls in our area. Please patronize our sponsors.

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Laux Sporting Goods
Ferry Hydraulics
Intense Milk
SJB Services
Frank's Grille
Wardynski Sausage Company
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Grasso's Pizza 685-2800
Wendy's Restaurants
Alden State Bank
Danny's Restaurant South
Watson Bennett Attorneys At Law
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Ace Paving Co.

Ace Sealing Co.
Petschke Plumbing, Heating and Air
Conditioning
Niagara Chocolates
East Coast Images
Dr. Berardi Family Dental Care
Bryant Electric
Frosty's of Lancaster Ice Cream
DLK Trophies & Engraving
Grass Roots Landscaping
Ripa's Restaurant
Lancaster Hook & Ladder
Dairy Queen
Coca Cola Bottling of Buffalo
Daemen College
Adpro