

The Pony Express

News & Notes From Seattle Pony Baseball & Softball



Welcome to this month's edition of The Pony Express, the monthly newsletter from Seattle Pony Baseball & Softball. Each month we'll bring you news and notes from the league, and updates from each division.

Events Calendar

Lost the game schedule for your team? Fear not, our website features the full game schedule for each division!

[Click here to view](#)

Tip of the Month

It's a great idea to take your child to see a game played by older kids -- you and your player can really see how PONY baseball "grows the game" as the players grow. Use the schedule for the older divisions to see when and where you can take in a game!

Hot News

Practice T-Shirt Update - For those of you who ordered practice workout jerseys this season, we thank you for your continued patience. Our supplier has encountered some delays, but we are doing our best to get those shirts printed and distributed. We expect to have them distributed by early May.

From the Board

All-Star teams will be formed in the month of May for the Mustang and Bronco Divisions. See the division reports below for some details. Seattle Pony Baseball & Softball's full tournament team policy is available online, please click here to read: [SPBS Tournament Team Policy](#). Our All-Star teams for 9-year-old and older players all play under the name "Seattle Senators." The Senators teams play in weekend tournaments during the summer, mostly after the recreational season is over, but some teams kick off with a tournament over Memorial Day weekend. Read the tournament-team policy and watch this space in future newsletters for other summer baseball opportunities for players who are not selected to All-Star teams.

A couple of notes regarding security: We want to remind everyone that the parking lot at Washington Park is a high-theft area. We encourage you not to leave anything of potential interest within sight in an unattended vehicle. This includes all purses, backpacks and bags. Additionally, when children (players or fans) are using the restrooms at the park, use the buddy system. Safety is our priority.

Parking and Pets

Two brief courtesy reminders around games:

SPBS would like to remind all families that Seattle Parks & Recreation rules state that all pets must be leashed on Parks property. With all the crowds and activity around the games, we encourage you to leave pets at home altogether.

SPBS also asks that you use sanctioned parking lots whenever possible, at all fields, and when parking on area streets please be considerate of our neighbors. Of particular consideration is Miller field where there is ample parking to the west (off 19th, by the tennis courts) and also to the north (adjacent to the community center).

Softball Report

Softball is off to a great start. We've had UW players Taylor Smith and Alecia Blake work with our girls in practice and we are ready for league play to begin this weekend. We are fielding three teams this year 10U, 12U and 14U. Games run through early June and our season is capped with a season ending tournament the weekend of June 11-12th.

We are still looking to add one or two girls to each team's roster. Anyone interested should contact Bob

Duffy.
Bob Duffy, Softball Commissioner softball@spbpony.org.

Pinto Report

Pinto opened its season on April 18 and the Seattle weather cooperated!! Despite some team rosters being adversely impacted by late spring breaks, turnout of families and raucous fans was very impressive and clearly appreciated by the Pinto kids, all of whom were obviously thrilled to finally be playing ball. It's all about fun at the Pinto level and judging by the players' enthusiasm and the smiles on their coaches' faces, fun is exactly what everyone is having so far.

Harold Malkin, Pinto Commissioner pinto@spbpony.org

Mustang Report

Hello Mustang Families. The season is now in full swing! Stealing and bunting begin at the games starting Saturday, 4/25. We have begun our process of creating the all-star teams. Managers have been selected for both teams: Joe Nickerson for the 9's and Colin Gilligan for the 10's. See above for a link to the league's All-Star team policy. Stay tuned for next steps regarding the all-star teams. (Contact me should you have any questions.) Regular season games will continue through May with a final tournament in early June. The schedule for this event will be provided as soon as it is available. See you at the ball field.

Nash Perkins, Mustang Commissioner mustang@spbpony.org

Bronco Report

The Bronco division is running smoothly with seven competitive teams in the league. Now that the three weeks of spring breaks are behind us, the teams will play consistently through the final tournament in mid-June. In addition to our intra-league play, we hope you're looking forward to games against the SW Seattle PONY Baseball squads too. Remember that interested players, parents and fans can track the team standings at: www.seattleponybaseball.clubspaces.com

Managers for the 11 and 12 year old All Star teams have been selected: Paul Holland for the 11's, and Zak Rosencrantz for the 12's. Tryouts for invited players will be held in May 2nd and 3rd. Watch your email for further information. See above for a link to the league's All-Star team policy.

I'd like to offer a special thanks to our volunteer coaches, for their love of baseball and commitment to our young players. Now, let's play ball, have fun, and pray that the weather continues to cooperate.

As always, let me know if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Sue Dietrich, Bronco Commissioner bronco@spbpony.org

Pony Division

The Seattle PONY Baseball Pony Division comprises two teams in 2009: the Lumberjacks, who are mostly 14-year-olds and play Olympic-level competition, and the Redhawks, who are mostly 13-year-olds and Cascade-level competition. Each team has played about half a dozen games so far in April, on their way to playing about 30 games each this season. Lumberjacks and Redhawks play against teams from other PONY organizations in the region: North Seattle, Mountlake Terrace, Lake Samammish, Vashon and West Seattle just to name a few. Pony schedules are posted on the web site. Home games are at Montlake, Judkins, and Bobby Morris Playfields. Families with players in the younger divisions -- especially 12-year-olds who will be moving out of Bronco next year -- are encouraged to come out and support the Redhawks and Lumberjacks and see how the game is played at the next level!

Steve Smith, Pony Commissioner pony@spbpony.org

Contact SPBS

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