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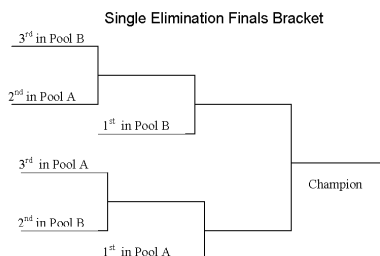
Around The Horn

News for the Middle Atlantic Region

Pool Play Format Changes for 2010

At the fall regional meeting the state commissioners in attendance voted to expand the regional pool play format so that the top three teams in each division would advance to the single elimination round. This is being done in response to complaints that when applying the tie breakers rules in the old format, teams were being sent home with winning records.

This change adds a quarter-finals round and two more games to the regional tournament schedule.



The state commissioners also agreed that the World Series format would be used to determine the home teams in the single elimination round. That means that the higher seeded team in each game will be the home team. In the final game if both teams are of equal seed a coin toss will be done to determine the home team.♦

Condolences to the Dell Angelo family

Pennsylvania Cal Ripken State Commissioner Tony Tucci passed along this message: "It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Deputy State Commissioner Marcello Dell Angelo." Dell Angelo passed away on Jan. 27, 2010 at his residence. He was 84.

Marty's generous spirit and selfless nature led him to his involvement in several organizations and charities. He held positions as president, manager, coach and umpire for the Methacton Baseball Assoc., and was the director of the Babe Ruth Tournament.

Marty was revered and respected by many who recognized him as a pillar of the community. His legacy will live forever in the many lives he has touched.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Marcello's family. ♦

February Game Plan

January 31, 2010 has passed and now is the time for leagues to charter and secure their required accident and liability insurance. Make sure that your coverage doesn't lapse so that your league is insured for all of your activities.

February is also the time for leagues to be getting ready for the coming season by preparing their budgets and organizing any fundraising programs that need to be done.

Since it is the off-season, now is also a good time to have a meeting or workshop with parents and potential coaches to get everyone "on the same page" for the upcoming season. ♦

Baseball Quote

"I want to be in the lineup every day. Playing anywhere is better than playing the bench."

-- Albert Pujols

Giving Kids a Fair Chance

As leagues start holding registrations and preparing to hold tryouts remember that the most important thing is to give ALL kids a fair chance.

If you have coaches who want to "stack" teams with the best players so that they can win the league or win tournaments -- this is not the type of coach you want to have.

If you have a coach who will only play his "best players" for full games and let "the others" play an inning or have one time at bat, substituting them all in the same single position in the lineup -- this is not the type of coach you want.



If your league is all about only signing up the good players so that your league can win tournaments -- then you are in this organization for the wrong reasons.

Babe Ruth Baseball is all about giving EVERY KID who registers a fair chance to play the game. Make sure your tryouts are fair and your league is run fairly all throughout the season. ♦

Umpire's Quiz

Are these statements True or False?

1. The infield fly rule would apply with runners at first and second with no outs; pop up to the infield.
2. The batting orders are officially established the moment the umpire-in-chief tenders copies of the line-up cards to the opposing managers.
3. Two outs, runner on first. The pitcher, while on the rubber, legally throws to first base and throws ball into stands. The umpire awards runner third base.
4. The pitcher balks attempting to pick a runner off first and throws the ball into right field. The runner advances to third base but misses second. The defense throws the ball to second and appeals to the umpire who disallows the appeal. The umpire was correct in disallowing the appeal because of the pitcher's balking.
5. All defensive players must be stationed in fair territory except for the catcher when the umpire starts play.

2010 TOURNAMENTS

Regional Tournaments

10 year-old

Site: N. Tonawanda, WNY
Dates: July 29 – Aug. 3

12-year-old / 60 ft.

Site: Springfield, PA
Dates: July 28 – Aug. 2

12-year-old / 70 ft.

Site: Queensbury, NY
Dates: July 30 – Aug. 4

13-year-old

Site: TBD
Dates: Aug. 4 – Aug. 9

14-year-old

Site: Charles County, MD
Dates: Aug. 6 – Aug. 11

13-15 year old

Site: TBD
Dates: Aug .5 – Aug. 10

16-18 year old

Site: TBD
Dates: July 22 – July 27

Invitational Tournaments

8-year-old

Site: TBD
Start Date: Aug. 6

9-year-old

Site: Edison, NJ
Start Date: Aug. 6

11-year-old / 60 ft.

Site: Severn, MD
Start Date: Aug. 6

11-year-old / 70 ft.

Site: Gibbsboro-Voorhees, NJ
Start Date: Aug. 6

16-year-old

Site: TBD
Start Date: July 17

World Series

Cal Ripken 10 and under

Site: Ocala, FL
Dates: August 13-20

Cal Ripken Div. Major/ 60'

Site: Wilson County, NC
Dates: August 12-19

Cal Ripken Div. Major/70'

Site: Aberdeen, MD
Dates: August 14-21

13-year-old

Site: Levelland, TX
Dates: August 19-26

14-year-old

Site: Loudoun Co., VA
Dates: August 21-28

13-15 year old

Site: Monticello, AR
Dates: August 20-27

16-18 year old

Site: Newark, OH
Dates: August 4-12

SOFTBALL 12U

Site: Alachua, FL
Dates: August 7-14

SOFTBALL 16U

Site: Varina, VA
Dates: August 5-12



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. **True** – Rule 2.00 INFIELD FLY
2. **True** – Rule 4.01c
3. **False** – Rule 7.05h
4. **False** – Rule 8.05 (Approved Ruling)
5. **True** – Rule 4.03

