

June 9, 2009

We are looking forward to having your team to our annual Mid Summer Classic tournament on June 13-14. For 2009, the tournament will feature 3 age groups and 22 of the top teams from throughout the East Coast. We are excited about having teams from PA, MD, NJ, VA, and WV represented this year!

- Now updated on our website:
 - Pool Play Schedule (<http://pa-softball.com/2009/schedule.html#classic>)
 - Championship brackets
 - Tournament Rules (<http://pa-softball.com/rules.pdf>)
 - Park Directions (<http://pa-softball.com/directions.html>)
- **Format:** Pool play will begin Saturday the 13th with fields starting at 9am. While I've gone over the brackets several times, all teams should be scheduled for at least 3 pool play games – if not let me know. Championship play will begin first thing Sunday morning. Teams losing their first game are schedule to play either a consolation game or in a consolation bracket (when possible). This ensures all teams have at least 2 Sunday games. If a consolation game is not scheduled due to uneven #'s in a bracket or byes, please see the site director.
- **Inclement Weather:** In case of inclement weather, we will have our automated phone system call your team contact number(s). If no numbers are present, you need to let us know what number(s) you'd like us to contact. We will also attempt to keep the rain hotline (717.300.1300) updated. Please appoint only one person per team to access this number. Generally a decision is made around 5:00-5:30 am and a recording is usually available by 6 am. We will call teams as soon as a decision is made. An email will also be sent to the contact person where possible and/or updates will be made on the website in case of reschedules.
- **Team Cancellation:** If at any time you find your team will not be able to participate, please let us know ASAP to be considered for future tournaments. If/when a team cancels, all teams scheduled to play them will be notified if a replacement team cannot be found. Should this happen, we may consolidate the bracket and have teams with forfeited games play each other. In this case, teams will be notified of changes by email. We will eliminate forfeits when given sufficient notice. Changes will be noted in bold on brackets.
- **Directions** and addresses for all the parks can be found on our website, <http://pa-softball.com/directions.html>. Currently no major construction along major corridors is known. This is the first we've used a couple parks, so you may not find them online yet. We have however attached directions and addresses to all parks being used.
- **Concessions/Trash:** Concessions will be available at all parks for the tournament. The concessions at tournaments are one of if not the biggest fundraiser of the year for many of the local youth leagues hosting us on their fields. Currently coolers are allowed at all parks...please don't be the one that ruins it for everyone else (also, alcohol is strictly prohibited at ALL parks). Any items found during the tournament will be kept at the park concession stand. Check at the concession stand for lost items or following the tournament, email me regarding any unfound equipment and we will try to locate it for you.
- **Pool play brackets** are enclosed and are also posted online. Any changes to the brackets will be emailed to the contact person and also posted on the website. If any changes are made within 48 hours of the tournament and affect your Saturday morning start time you will be notified by phone. Any other changes will be made by email and posted online. To see if you have the most up to date brackets, check the "Last Modified" mark on the bottom left of the page to make sure it matches your copy. If there are changes to a bracket due to rain or a team dropping at the last minute, updated brackets will be made available at check in. **Changes to the original schedule will be marked in bold.**

- **Championship brackets/seeds:** Unless a different number is given at least 72 hours PRIOR to the tournament, the number(s) listed above as your team contact # will be called with seeding information by our automated phone system with seeding information. This number will be called and if not available a message will be left. Brackets will also be posted online and coaches will be emailed brackets once pool play games are completed and championship brackets have been finalized. Coaches should check the pool play results posted at the game site before leaving each day. Once seedings are released, all seeds become final. **Score slips are kept by the umpire. Each team should sign to verify the score and winning team. Please check your scores before leaving to ensure they get reported properly. Once seeded, all scores are final.**
- **Hersheypark** is a major attraction in the area with over 60 rides, shows, a zoo and Chocolate World. Once again the park has given us a great discount group ticket price of \$35.00/person for adults (regular \$51.95) when pre-purchased using the online order form. More info is available on our website or by calling 717.300.1300.
- **Team Pictures** will be taken of most teams at the tournament. Samples for ordering will be available on Sunday and Monday.
- **Tournament Awards:**
All age groups - PONY Championship banner, MVP medals every game
14&U-1st-2nd team trophies and individuals; Consolation bracket plaque and medals
16&U-1st-2nd team trophies and individuals; Consolation bracket plaque and medals
18&U-1st-2nd team trophies and individuals; Consolation bracket plaque and medals
- **PONY Nationals Berths:**
14U (1), 16U (1), 18U (1)

If you have any questions, feel free to email me: director@pa-softball.com or call (717) 300.1300. I'm looking forward to a great tournament and look forward to seeing you on the 13th!

Yours in Softball,
Greg Barrick