

May 12, 2009

Coach,

We are looking forward to having your team to our annual Memorial Day Madness tournament on May 23-25. For 2009, the tournament will feature 5 age groups and 123 of the top teams from throughout the East Coast and Canada. We are excited about having teams from PA, MD, NJ, NY, VA, DE, WV, and Ontario & Quebec, Canada represented this year!

- Now updated on our website:
 - Pool Play Schedule
 - Championship brackets
 - Tournament Rules
 - Park Directions
- **Format:** Pool play will begin Saturday the 23rd with most fields starting at 9am. Teams will finish playing pool play games on Sunday the 24th. Most teams will play 3 play games Saturday and 3 more Sunday, but because schedule changes are inevitable, some may have a slightly different schedule (4 one day, 2 another). While I've gone over the brackets several times, all teams should be scheduled for 6 pool play games – if not let me know. Championship play will begin first thing Monday morning. Teams losing their first game on Monday will either have a consolation game or be in a consolation bracket, so all teams will have at least 2 Monday games.
- **Inclement Weather:** **In case of inclement weather, we will have our automated phone system call your team contact number** should there be any changes. If you gave us a backup contact, they will also be notified. 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 if we need to push games back or cancel any games. An email will also be sent to the contact person when 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 to adjust the bracket. 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> There are various construction projects going on in the area, particularly in the Chambersburg/Shippensburg area – please allow plenty of time.
- **Parade Schedule:** Chambersburg typically has a parade on Monday around the Rt. 30 West area (Hamilton Heights/South Hamilton). Please leave a few extra minutes to get there. Historically it's been roughly 9am.

- **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.**
- **Consolation Game/Bracket:** By entering this tournament, you have agreed to the particular tournament format established for this event. **This event includes a consolation game/bracket for those who lose their first round of games on championship day.**
- **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. <http://www.pa-softball.com/hersheypark.pdf>
- **Tournament T-shirt** orders are being taken. Only team orders will be taken in advance. This is a good way to assure your sizes are available. T-shirt stands may not be set up at all parks, and not all sizes may be available at the tournament. Pre-orders must be in the Tuesday prior to the tournament. See the website for an order form. http://www.pa-softball.com/tournament_shirt.pdf
- **Team Pictures** will be taken of most teams at the tournament. Samples for ordering will be available on Sunday and Monday.
- **All Star Helmets** will once again be attending the tournament. They specialize in custom batting helmets, but they can also airbrush other items. Call Chris at 706-463-2276 for more info. They will be at most parks during the course of the weekend.
- **Tournament Awards:**
All age groups -PONY Championship banner, MVP medals every game, Tournament Champs T-shirts
10&U – 1st-4th Gold team trophies, 1st-4th Gold individuals, 1st-2nd Silver trophies & individuals
12&U – 1st-4th "Gold" team trophies and individuals, 1st-2nd Silver team and individuals, 1st-2nd Bronze trophies, 1st place individuals
14&U-1st-4th "Gold" team trophies and individuals, Elite 8 (Gold semi-finalists) team trophies, 1st-2nd Silver team and individuals, 1st-2nd Bronze trophies and 1st place individuals, 1st Place Platinum trophy and individuals
16&U – 1st-4th Gold team trophy, 1st-4th Gold individual trophies, 1st-2nd Silver team and individuals
18&U – 1st-4th Gold team trophy, 1st-4th "Gold" individual trophies, Elite 8 (Gold semi-finalists) team trophies, 1st-2nd Silver team and individuals
- **PONY Nationals Berths:**
10U (3), 12U (4), 14U (4), 16U (3), 18U (4) – All bids will be awarded to Gold bracket teams

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 23rd!

Yours in Softball,
Greg Barrick