

February 11, 2012

**To:** Neenah Post 33 2010 American Legion Baseball Families

**From:** Neenah Post 33 ALB/Neenah Baseball, Inc.

**Re: 2012 Neenah Post 33 American Legion Baseball Season Information**

**Registrants and Families:**

NBI volunteers have been busy planning the 2012 Neenah Post 33 ALB baseball season. We hope the pre-season information contained in this memo and the attached preliminary schedule will be helpful to you. **Please carefully review this information and retain it for future reference.**

**Teams:** Neenah Post 33 will field two teams this season: Senior and Junior Legion. It has not yet been determined whether the Junior team will compete in the Regional Tournament as a 16U or 17U team.

**Coaches:** Kyle Kannenberg has been appointed as head coach of the Senior team. Will Fowler has been appointed head coach of the Junior team.

Kyle Kannenberg: 920-379-5483; sncbaseball50@yahoo.com  
Will Fowler: 920-284-8115; william.p.fowler@uwsp.edu

**Fees:** The 2012 athlete registration fee is \$275.00. For those who paid the commitment deposit with their application, the balance will be due by June 1, 2012. Players will not be allowed to participate in games until the registration fee is paid in full.

**Eligibility:** Athletes can “play up” by age at any time, may “play down” during league play, but cannot play down during Regional and State Tournaments. The age-eligibility rules from the National ALB organization are as follows:

Senior Legion - January 1, 1993: players born on or after this date are eligible to play at this level for the 2012 season

17 and under - January 1, 1995: players born on or after this date are eligible to play at this level for the 2012 season

16 and under - August 1, 1995: players born on or after this date are eligible to play at this level for the 2012 season

**Proof of Age:** Please be prepared to provide proof of age at--or prior to--regional and state tournaments. This might be as simple as a driver’s license or state photo ID card but more likely will be a “*certified copy*” of a birth certificate, or for Varsity tournaments an original birth certificate. Specific requirements will be spelled out as this information becomes available.

**Player Commitment:** Players/parents are advised to note the attached game schedules, which include weekend games throughout the entire season. It should be noted that the Legion program demands a full commitment from its players. Players will be asked at the first practice to submit a list to the head coach of any/all dates during the summer they expect to be unavailable. The determination of which events are acceptable reasons to miss a game or practice ultimately rests with the head coach of each team, however, under no circumstances will missing games due to Country USA, Summerfest or other similar events be considered excused absences. Acceptance onto a team is dependent upon making this commitment. Our teams will have the best potential for success at regional and state tournaments if all of our ballplayers can participate. Please try to schedule family vacations around those dates.

**Try-Outs/Player Evaluations:** Based on the number and ages of the registrants it is not anticipated that there will be formal tryouts for team placement this season.

**Sportsmanship and Conduct:** It is imperative that parents take the lead in exhibiting good conduct from the stands toward the umpires, opposing coaches, and players. Umpires should be respected. Attempting to call balls, strikes, balks, close plays at bases, and such from the stands is futile and can be embarrassing. Loudly criticizing umpires can be counter-productive to our/your athlete's efforts on the field as well as negative for our organization longer term (consider the umpire's reaction to the comments from the stands). Officiating is difficult work and perfection cannot be expected. Please also encourage your athlete to practice good sportsmanship.

**Drug, Alcohol, Substance Policy:** Neenah Baseball, Inc. will be enacting a Drug, Alcohol, and Substance Abuse Policy for the upcoming season. Neenah Post 33 ALB athletes will be expected to read and sign the policy before participating in the 2012 season.

**Parent Volunteers:** Our organization cannot function without volunteers. Parents are expected to work in the concession stand when assigned. Parents will also be assigned to prepare fields before games (lining, raking and dragging, if necessary). Please be on time or early for your shift. Please arrange for someone to work in your place if you cannot make your commitment.

**Transportation to Games:** In the interest of safety, it is highly recommended that parents provide transportation for players to and from away games, particularly night games and games that are out of the immediate Fox Valley area. **Coaches will not provide rides for players to and from games.**

**Questions:** Contact Jeff Rustick  
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