www.berkleydadsclub.org

WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW 2016

As of 2009, the Berkley Dads' Club will be cooperating with the City of Berkley and the Parks & Recreation Department in their "Going Green" Campaign. This means that any recyclable container you bring to the field must leave with you. **SEEDS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY FIELD!!**

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The Berkley Dads' Club held its first meeting in November of 1948. Since that time it has been dedicated to serving youth sports/baseball in our Community. With the cooperation of the City of Berkley Parks & Recreation Department, we strive to provide our Residents with the best program in the area. We hope the following information will help your season run smoothly, and provide your child with a rewarding baseball experience.

1. General Membership Meetings

General Membership Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM. . August through May. These are held at the Community Center. Notices are mailed out to the Berkley Dads' Club Board of Directors Members (U.S. mail or electronically) approximately one week prior to the meeting.

If there are meetings in June and July , they are usually devoted to the Annual Dads' Club Classic Tournament.

Every parent or guardian of a Dads' Club player is a member if this Organization, and is welcome to attend these meetings.

Remember, this is YOUR Club.

Monthly minutes and the Dads' Club Bylaws are available for download on the "Administration" page of the old website, and on the "Documents" page of the new Registration website.

2. Board of Directors Nominations

At the September meeting, nominations will be taken for the next season's Board of Directors. This is when you have the opportunity to nominate yourself or someone else to serve on the Board. This is the only time that nominations can be made. It is critical to the successful operation of Berkley Dads' Club to get innovative, energetic, responsible people to help run the organization.

The elections for the Board of Directors takes place at the October meeting, and all members are welcome and encouraged to attend and cast their ballots.

3. Player Eligibility

Residents of the City of Berkley and the Berkley School District are eligible to play in all Divisions. Schools of Choice students attending Berkley Schools are also eligible. Residents of any community are welcome to play in the Senior Division.

The eligibility date is April 30 of that season.

4. Sign-up

Online registration starts in January, and in-person signups are held on the first Saturday in February ("Winter Fest") at the Ice Arena. Watch the website, marquees, local newspapers for information on these times and dates. Forms are available on the website, at the Community Center and at the signup nights.

Players in all Divisions are allowed to register by mail.

New players must provide proof of date of birth when they register. Those interested in managing a team and/or becoming an umpire and have not yet done so can notify the Board of Directors during this time.
Registrations given to a manager or other Board of Directors Member will not be accepted.
At any point during the registration process, a Division may become full. If that occurs, players may be relegated to the Wait List.
Late registrant placement is at the discretion of the Division Director. Consideration is given to the number of players already on the teams in that Division, as well as their ages, and talent level of the added player.
Once the season begins, rosters are frozen and new players cannot be added.

5. Payments & Fees

Connie Mack (If Available) or Senior Varsity players (17-19)
$125.00 is due immediately after making the team. They play their games in other communities and at our Community Field #1.This team does not participate in the Fundraiser. If players or parents would like to participate in the Fundraiser, they can contact our Treasurer Jim McKelvey to secure the needed amount of tickets. Be aware that this Division starts a little later than the other Divisions, so there is not as much time to acquire, sell the tickets, and get the money and stubs back to the Club.

T-Ball, Minor, Major, Junior & Senior Divisions: Payment is due at the time you sign up. A Late fee of $25.00 will be added if you sign up after March 1.

BERKLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT	1	2	3	4	5
Contract Fee	$70.00	$105.00	$140.00	$175.00	$210.00
Fundraiser Fee	$50.00	$100.00	$150.00	$150.00	$150.00
	$120.00	**$205.00**	**$290.00**	**$325.00**	**$360.00**
Add Late Fee (After March 1)	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00
	$145.00	**$230.00**	**$315.00**	**$350.00**	**$385.00**
Contract Fee - T-Ball	$60.00	$90.00	$120.00	$150.00	$180.00
Fundraiser Fee	$50.00	$100.00	$150.00	$150.00	$150.00
	$110.00	**$190.00**	**$270.00**	**$300.00**	**$330.00**
Add Late Fee (After March 1)	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00
	$135.00	**$215.00**	**$295.00**	**$325.00**	**$355.00**
NON- SCHOOL DISTRICT	1	2	3	4	5
Contract Fee	$80.00	$120.00	$160.00	$200.00	$240.00
Fundraiser Fee	$50.00	$100.00	$150.00	$150.00	$150.00
	$130.00	**$220.00**	**$310.00**	**$350.00**	**$390.00**
Add Late Fee (After March 1)	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00
	$155.00	**$245.00**	**$335.00**	**$375.00**	**$415.00**
Contract Fee - T-Ball	$70.00	$105.00	$140.00	$175.00	$210.00
Fundraiser Fee	$50.00	$100.00	$150.00	$150.00	$150.00
	$120.00	**$205.00**	**$290.00**	**$325.00**	**$360.00**
Add Late Fee (After March 1)	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00	$25.00
	$145.00	**$230.00**	**$315.00**	**$350.00**	**$385.00**

NOTE: In the event that it has become a definite financial hardship to pay the fees for your child to play, please contact any Division Director or coachbob90@comcast.net to discuss your options.

6. Fundraiser Raffle

The Fundraiser Raffle is licensed by the State of Michigan, and is the Club's 2nd largest source of revenue after the player registration fees. The drawing for this is held on Opening Day. (See below under "Opening Day Festivities")
It gives you the opportunity win valuable cash prizes for yourself, or you can sell your tickets and recoup your money.
You also have the opportunity to sell extra tickets for added prizes. The prize list is as follows:

Sell 1 Extra Book of Ten Tickets -	Your Choice of 1 Item - Select From #1 or #2
Sell 2 Extra Books of Ten Tickets -	Your Choice of 2 Items - Select From #1, 2, or 3
Sell 3 Extra Books of Ten Tickets -	Your Choice of Any 2 Items
Sell 4 Extra Books of Ten Tickets -	Your Choice of Any 3 Items
Sell 5 Extra Books of Ten Tickets -	One of Each Item

#1 - Player's Personal Bat/Equipment Bag
#2 - 1 Pair of Batter's Gloves
#3 - Aluminum Baseball Bat
#4 - Berkley Dads' Club Logo Jacket
#5 - Fielder's Glove
Make your selections and return a completed order form to your Team Manager along with your filled out Ticket Stubs and your Ticket Money. Prizes will not be ordered for you unless this form (including the sizes) is completely filled in, and all the Tickets are paid for. Order forms for prizes can be downloaded from the website or from your Team Manager.

7. Divisions, Registration & Team Assignments

Divisions are set up as follows:

Division	Primary Ages	
T-Ball	5 & 6	Director Assigned /Player Request
Minor (Coach Pitch)	7 & 8	Director Assigned/Player Request with parity in mind
Major	9 &10	Allocation Draft
Junior	11, 12 & 13	Allocation Draft
Senior	14, 15 & 16	Allocation Draft
Connie Mack	17, 18 &19	Tryout (When Available)

Ages are determined by a birth date of April 30th of that season.
At the conclusion of regular registration, the Board of Directors reviews the number of players signed up in each Division, then determines the number of teams and the roster limit of each team. The teams are then formed through assignment or a player draft. Teams are reformed each year, and the draft attempts to fairly allocate players in a Division.
Requests for players to play for a certain manager, or with other particular players are honored when possible in the T-Ball & Minor Divisions **ONLY.**
The other Divisions do not do this. If you have a request, you may note it on your sign up form and it will be made known to the managers at the draft. It will be up to them to draft your child and/or his friends. If it is obvious that this would give any team a distinct advantage, the Division Direct may disallow the request. We try to maintain parity here as much as possible.

Recognizing these guidelines stated above, please:

1. Do not ask for, or accept promises that your child will play with a certain team or another player.
2. Realize that from year-to-year every team's (Minor, Major & Senior) rosters will change.

8. Practices & the Season

Team practices will begin in April. Your team will be assigned one weekday evening time slot, and one weekend time slot until your season starts. After the season starts, your Team Manager will determine practice days and times.

The Senior Division and Connie Mack (or Summer Varsity) seasons start when the High School season is over. The High School players are allowed to practice with their Dads' Club teams during their active school season, but may not participate in other league's / organization's games.

T-Ball, Minor, Major, & Junior seasons normally begin the Monday after Berkley Days.

All seasons end roughly the 3rd week in July. The Senior, Junior and Major Divisions culminate with a Championship Series, and all teams make the playoffs.

The T-Ball and Minor Division (Coach Pitch) are non competitive and primarily instructional, so scores and standings are not recorded by these Divisions. They will have an "end of the season" picnic

9. Players That Elect Not To Play

If a player indicates he/she is, or may be quitting before the season begins, please ask them or their parent/guardian to inform the Dads' Club in writing. It is in both the manager's and the family's best interest to notify us if a player is going to quit. Players quitting before their season begins will receive their registration fee back minus $20 and the fees paid if they signed up online. That player's team will not have the player replaced (if one is available) until the Berkley Dads' Club is notified in writing. Once the season begins there is no refund. There is no refund of the Fundraiser Fees.

Any managers who does not notify the Division Director that a player has quit, or has just stopped attending practices and games will subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors. We do not want any players on the Wait List to be denied an opportunity to play.

10. At The Fields

Please realize these fields are used for other Divisions (BHS Baseball & Softball, American Legion, Connie Mack & other Parks & Rec.) practices *and* games. We all share with the Parks & Recreation Department in their upkeep and maintenance. We are all responsible for the safety of everyone at these fields. We also are responsible for the condition of the fields we use and the property they are on. In the last few years, the Dads' Club has taken on a much larger role in this. We feel that we have the largest vested interest.

There some rules regarding this that you as parents (and coaches) should know.

1. Teams may NOT practice on fields that have been prepped for a game.
2. Teams may NOT hit baseballs against any fences.
3. Bat swinging is never allowed outside the fences of any of the fields.
4. Players may not warm up between the fields (2 & 3) and the neighbors' backyard fences before or during games.
5. Respect our neighbors – leave their dogs alone!
6. Respect our neighbors – keep the noise to a reasonable level.
7. City Ordinance states that dogs are not allowed at Community Fields 2 & 3. Please respect that and don't bring your dogs to the games.

11. Club Issued Equipment

Your child's team will be issued jerseys, hast, and socks. This is the only uniform allowed in Dads' Club games. No part of the uniform may be altered or deleted. These uniforms must be worn properly with the jerseys tucked in at all times. Substitute hats and socks may be worn, but only if they are visibly identical to the team hat and socks. No added logos, emblems or writing. No alterations or additions to any team uniform or hat may be made.

Before each game, please insure that your child's uniform fits properly and is in good condition. If the jersey does not fit or at any time during the course of the season it becomes damaged, please ask your Team Manager to bring it back to the Equipment Room and it will be replaced.

Please remember the uniform is an outward reflection of our Club, and poor-fitting or damaged uniforms decrease our creditability. It also helps to enforce the "team" concept, as well as teaching young ballplayers how to follow the rules of the game.

The Berkley Dads' Club Equipment Room houses all your equipment. If you realize that any equipment used by your child's team is defective or needs repair, please notify your team manger. Your child's safety is of primary importance.

12. Personal Equipment

In recent years, the amount of personal equipment that players bring to Dads' Club games has been increasing.
Note: Batting helmets must bear the embossed **"Approved by the NOCSAE for All Youth Baseball"** stamp on them.
Bats must bear an approval for "Youth League Baseball" or "Little League Approved" printed on them by the manufacturer.
Colors of personal helmets or catcher's gear will not be questioned.
It is also important that you know the bat size limitations for the age group (Division) that your child plays in. Illegal bats will be removed from the game. More infractions by the same player or team may result in forfeiture of games and/or suspensions.

BAT SIZES

1) **Senior Division**– NFHS BBCOR bat rules apply. Bat length is not to exceed 34 inches, and barrel diameter shall not exceed 2 3/4 inches.
    a. A drop 3 limit shall be placed on bats with a diameter greater than 2 ¼ inches.
2) **Junior Division**– Bat length is not to exceed 32 inches, and barrel diameter shall not exceed 2 3/4 inches.
    a. A drop 10 limit shall be placed on bats with a diameter greater than 2 ¼ inches.
3) **Major Division**– Bat length is not to exceed 31 inches, and barrel diameter shall not exceed 2 1/4 inches.
4) **Minor Division**- Bat length is not to exceed 28 inches, and barrel diameter shall not exceed 2 1/4 inches
5) **T-Ball Division** - Bat length is not to exceed 26 inches, and barrel diameter shall not exceed 2 1/4 inches.

Wood, aluminum, graphite, and composite bats are allowed in all Divisions. Bats that have visible markings other than those of the manufacturer will not be permitted.
Remember:. If you have concerns, please contact your Manager or Division Director.
As of 2012, BBCOR standard bats are not required.

13. Rules

The Berkley Dads' Club follows the **National Federation of State High School Associations Rules** unless specifically directed otherwise in the Berkley Dads' Club rules. It is every member's responsibility to know and understand the rules for their respective Division. On a Division-by-Division basis, the Board of Directors reviews these rules prior to each season.
At the August meeting members have the opportunity to make rule suggestions for the Board of Directors to evaluate in the off-season. If you have suggestions for the Rules Committee, please contact any Board of Directors Member. The rules for the current season are available for download on both websites.
NOTE: Even if they all agree, the managers cannot change the rules during the course of the season.

14. *Sponsors*

Approximately 80% of Berkley Dads' Club's operating expenses are covered by registration. Sponsors cover a good portion of the remaining expenses, so it is vital to Berkley Dads' Club's survival to continue maintaining good relations with our sponsors. Sponsors receive advertising on our fields, on our website and on the older players' jerseys and hats. as well as in the Annual Tournament booklet. Sponsor signs are also placed around the fields during the Annual Berkley Dads' Club Classic Tournament.
If you or your company is interested in becoming a Sponsor, please notify any Board of Directors Member.

15. Scholarships & Awards

DAVE BARBER SCOLARSHIP AWARD - The Dads' Club awards one college scholarship of $1000.00 to a 16-year-old Senior Division player each year. This is a Sportsmanship Award and the Senior Division Team Managers nominate and select the winner.
For more information, go to *http://www.berkleydadsclub.org/html/about_dave.html*

WILLIAM BRENNEN AWARD - This award is provided for and funded by the family of William Brennen. It carries a $500 Scholarship for a legitimate baseball training camp.

16. Injuries

At the equipment pick-up your Team Manager will receive a first aid kit. If a player is hurt during the course of a game or practice, we ask him to treat the injury accordingly. If the player seeks additional treatment from a doctor or hospital, please fill out our insurance form (available your Division Director). The Dads' Club is covered with gap insurance - whatever is not covered by the player's insurance will be covered by this insurance. Our carrier requires us to submit these forms to track injuries and, if necessary, process payments.

17. Division Directors

The Board of Directors will appoint Directors for each Division. Their primary responsibilities are to coordinate the forming of teams, providing teams with managers, rescheduling of rainout games and overseeing of that Division as a whole.

If you have a problem with your child's manager that you cannot resolve, please contact your Director and he or she will try to help.

18. Umpires

Berkley Dads' Club recruits and trains local youth and other individuals to serve as umpires - often these are current or past Berkley Dads' Club players. If you know someone who is interested in being an umpire, either an adult or a player, please have him or her contact a Board of Directors member. It is a great way to earn some extra spending money. Also please remember much like our younger players, young umpires are new and will make some mistakes. Please display sportsmanship in the way you deal with them (or any field official.). Try to help them learn without embarrassing or intimidating them. Young, inexperienced umpires grow up to be fully qualified, experienced umpires.

And remember – your child is watching you and he will learn from you.

19. Ethics & Conduct

Berkley Dads' Club has an established code of ethics for players, managers and coaches. It is the responsibility of every Berkley Dads' Club member to abide by the Division rules and ethics. Complaints regarding ethics violations a Manager or Coach should be made in writing to your Division Director.

Remember that we are all here to serve and respect the citizens of Berkley and to provide them with an enjoyable baseball experience.

Success is not judged only on wins and losses - it is also judged on your child's overall baseball experience and how many players want to sign up to play again next season.

20. Opening Day Festivities

1. PARADE: The Opening Day Parade will include all teams except the Senior Division. This is traditionally on the first Saturday in June. Teams will assemble at the High School Courtyard at 10:15 and the parade will start at 10:30
2. RAFFLE DRAWING: Winning tickets for the Annual Fundraiser raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the parade. This phase of the festivities will usually begin around 11:00 A.M. You need not be present to win, but please make sure all you ticket stubs are turned in before this. A list of winners will available on the website.
3. PICTURES: Team pictures will be taken on Opening Day for every Division and Tournament Team. Your Team Manager will be provided you with the exact time and picture packets before the start of the season. Please make sure your wears his complete team uniform, (but no spikes) to the parade and for the team pictures.
4. GAMES: Each team will be scheduled to play a game that day.
5. COOKOUT: A hot dog and a pop will be available to all players attending the Opening Day Festivities.
6. PRIZES: Many exciting prizes will be given to players during the course of the Fundraiser Raffle Drawing. All attending players will be issued a ticket as they enter Community Field #1 at the end of the parade route. These prizes typically include a new bicycle, Detroit Tigers Tickets, gift certificates, baseball equipment, and anything else we can manage to have donated. If you know a source for prizes, or can donate one yourself, please inform the Opening Day Director, Mike Dooley, or any Board of Directors Member.

21. All-Star Day

All Star Day is held in mid-June for the Major & Junior Divisions each year. Please check the website calendar for the specific date.

The Division rules contain specific detail regarding the playing of these games.

22. Trophies and Awards

1. Trophies will be awarded in Major, Junior & Senior Divisions.
2. Teams that finish in first their division at the end of the Regular Season
3. Teams that win the Playoff Championship Series in their Division
4. Teams that finish second in the Playoff Championship Series in their Division.
5. Trophies or medals denoting participation will be given to the T-Ball and Coach Pitch Division Players.

23. Equipment and Uniform Turn-In

At the end of the season the Major, Junior & Senior Division players are to return the jerseys. The players can keep the hat and socks.

Have your child bring an n extra shirt to any game that may potentially be the last of the season. Your Team Manager will collect them at the conclusion of that game.

If we run into a problem collecting you child's jersey after the season, you will be billed $25.00 , or worst-case scenario, your child may not be allowed to play the following season.

24. Fall League

Concept: The Fall Division was instituted to be a more relaxed type of playing experience. The purpose is to give players the opportunity to play with players in neighboring communities.

It is hoped that managers will give players a chance to play other positions, and especially give more pitchers a chance to work on their games. This is a good opportunity for non-pitchers to get a chance to try it out.

1. Boys and girls from any community may play in any division.
2. Ages will coincide with summer rules.
3. Senior Division will be 13, 14 & 15 yr. olds
4. Junior Division will be 11 & 12 yr. olds
5. Major Division will be 8, 9, & 10 yr. olds
6. No player under the age of 8 or over the age of 15 will be eligible. no exceptions.
7. No playoffs or trophies
8. 10 games per team, 2 games per week.
9. Registrations begin at the end of the regular season.
10. Dads' Club Summer Division players will get priority for being pulled from the wait list, followed by Berkley School District residents, then former Fall Division players.
11. Season starts the first week in September, the first Tuesday after Labor Day.

Single games that normally would start at 6:00 pm and have no games behind them may begin at 6:30 or 7:00 to allow out of town participants a bit more time to make it to the start of the game.

Some rules differ from the regular season, so separate Fall rules will be posted on the website.

The website offers comprehensive parent information regarding this Division, so please check there before calling about it.

25. Berkley Days

1. The Dads Club is an active member of the Berkley Days Association. We organize and play in the annual **Sgt. Rick Penn Memorial Softball Game**. This game pits the Berkley City Council against the Berkley Dads' Club and the Berkley Moms' Club. It is always held on the Wednesday preceding Berkley Days. We'll be at Community Field #3 at 7:00 P.M. WBRK sometimes records this game for broadcasting. Concessions are sometimes available as well. So come out and join us for a good time!
2. The Dads' Club also organizes the collection of the public carnival trash throughout the event. Managers will be asked to volunteer their team for one time period. If your child's manager volunteers your team for trash duty, please insure your cooperation. It's a good time to teach your child a little responsibility to his/her community, and it only takes about 15 minutes. If you are asked to help as a chaperone, please try to do so.
3.

26. Tournament Teams

Tournament Teams are formed on a yearly basis for various age groups. Individual fees will vary depending on the Team Manager and how many tournaments the team enters. When and if tryouts are scheduled, they will be posted on the website and eligible players will be notified. Since this is a highly competitive endeavor, and the Dads' Club partially funds it, t mandates tryouts.

All but 2 players on each team must be an active player on a Dads' Club Summer House Division team roster.

The Dads' Club will contribute to each Tournament Team that participates in 2 or more events during a season. This does not include the Annual Berkley Summer Classic. The Team must assume any other incurred expenses.

27. Summer Classic Tournament

The Berkley Dads' Club Annual Summer Classic is held near the 3rd or last weekend in June. Watch the website for the dates. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this event, please contact our Marketing Director, Joshua Pollard. Other questions not answered on the website may be directed to the Tournament Director, Steve Goedker.

28. Scoreboards

The scoreboard at Community Field #1 needs operators for each game.

SCOREBOARD (FOR FIELD #1) OPERATORS RULES & POLICIES

1. Preference will be given to Dad's Club Players & Former Players
2. Payment is $10.00 per game, to be made in cash before each game, or as soon as is practical.
3. Only 2 persons in the booth at one time if operator is under 18 yrs. old.
4. Only one operator per game will be paid.
5. Full game payment for shortened games.
6. No payment for forfeited games.
7. 1 free hot dog and drink per game.
8. No talking to players during games.
9. Clean up your trash before you leave.
10. Player name announcement is optional.
11. **NO RECYCLABLES OR POP CANS MAY BE LEFT IN THE BOOTH OR AT THE FIELD. YOU MUST TAKE THEM HOME WITH YOU!**

Call the person in charge of scheduling at least 24 hours before your game if you can't make it.

If your child is interested in operating the scoreboard on nights his/her team does not have a game, please contact Bob LaFountain.

SCOREBOARDS BETWEEN COMMUNITY FIELD #2 & #3

Beginning with the 2009 season, the scoreboards will be operated by a volunteer from either team.

Remember if at any time during the season you have a question, complaint, suggestion or problem please feel free to contact any Board member. We are here to help you.

Berkley Dads' Club Board of Directors

www.berkleydasclub.org