

NWCBA News

*Spring
Registration is
Open!!*

- Please go to our Website at www.nwcba.com to register your child for the upcoming season

Dates to Remember:

- 2/4 & 2/5 – Work Days (free kid clinic)
- 2/21 – Commissioner Meeting
- 2/25 – Tryouts
- 2/27 – Tryout Makeup
- 3/1 – Draft Party
- 3/4 – Coaches Clinic
- 3/5-3/16 – Two Week Academy
- 3/10 & 3/17 – Team Practices
- 3/19 – Weekday Team Practices Begin
- 3/24 – Opening Day
- 4/28 – Blayne Brown Baseball Camp

NW Baseball Concessions is looking for volunteers and paid staff for the season and tournaments. Contact Donnie Jackson at djays2000@yahoo.com

Weather Hotline
919-480-8111

Welcome to the first issue of the new NWCBA News, a newsletter intended to keep you up to date on North Wake baseball.

Opening Day is Almost Here!

Opening day for North Wake Baseball is scheduled for Saturday, **March 24, 2012.**

We are preparing for a celebration of the sport of baseball that will be fun for all players and their families.

In addition to league games, we will have lots of festivities going on throughout the day, including rides and other fun games for the kids.

The festivities will begin at 10 am and will go on throughout the day.

Please plan to bring the entire family out to Opening Day at the North Wake Baseball Complex in Wake Forest!



Changes are Coming to NWCBA!

Beginning this spring, NWCBA will be introducing a new structure to enhance communication.

First, a commissioner's meeting will take place at The Factory on **February 21st**. At this meeting, commissioners of each league will receive all the information they will need in order to run tryouts and to help them during the season. Spring tryouts are scheduled for **February 25th**, with **February 27th** being the date for makeups.

We will also be hosting our first ever "draft party," which is scheduled to take place on **March 1** in the Mill Room (inside the main building) at The Factory. At this event, coaches will receive all the information they will need for the upcoming season, including equipment, raffle tickets, and schedules!

Following all discussions, the coaches will be split into leagues and each league will hold its draft.

We hope this new structure will increase

communication throughout the league and will help make the season run smoothly.

NWCBA also plans to increase the amount of instruction that your child will receive while playing in the league. An extensive Coaches Clinic has been scheduled for **March 4th**. For those of you who attended our Coaches Clinic this past fall, you will notice a similar structure, but with a more extensive approach.

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Changes are Coming (Cont'd)!



This clinic will be **MANDATORY** for all coaches, as not only will coaches receive quality instruction that can be relayed to players, but coaches must be present to pick up uniforms.

In addition to the Coaches Clinic, we plan to introduce a two-week NWCBA player skills "academy" during the first two weeks of the season, beginning **March 5th**.

This two week academy will combine qualified instructors from the Factory Baseball Institute (F.B.I.) and NWCBA. Your child will receive free instruction from former professional and college baseball players and coaches as well as current local high school coaches.

This academy is intended to not only teach the players, but coaches are expected to attend as well

to learn new practice techniques and drills for their team.

At the conclusion of the two week academy, North Wake teams will split up and begin team practices, which will lead right up to Opening Day on Saturday, **March 24**.

The new Coaches Clinic "will be MANDATORY for coaches."

Blayne Brown Baseball Camp – April 28

Blayne Brown, a 2005 graduate of Broughton High School, and two-year varsity baseball letterman wanted to do something for kids. Blayne combined his love for kids with his love for baseball and created a free baseball camp. He enlisted the help of his teammates to help run the camp, which attracted about 35 kids the first year, and about 60 the next.

Blayne went on to attend the University of South Carolina, but in the spring of his freshman year, while returning to Raleigh to watch his alma mater play a game, he was involved in an accident that took his life.

Blayne's teammates wanted to honor him by continuing the camp, so many continue to come back and run the camp.

With the help of organizations such as the NWCBA, the camp has flourished.

The camp is run by current and former Broughton players under the close supervision of both current and former members of the coaching staff.

Please plan to bring your child out to the camp on **April 28** (8:30 am-noon).

North Wake Baseball Complex

Operating our own six field baseball complex is a great opportunity for NWCBA to have a community center for our families. West Millbrook has been a defacto center for many years, but the larger complex brings

many more families together.

We are very lucky to have Andy John as our site supervisor. Andy is very energetic and has great ideas to advance NWCBA as a baseball organization. You will see

several of his ideas being implemented in the spring of 2012.

Everette Perry is our head of maintenance for all our turf management and field care issues.

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North Wake Baseball Complex (cont'd from page 2)

Everette is a long time farmer in Wake County and brings a dedicated approach to caring for the facility as his own.

Robbie Stokes, a new board member with a landscaping business, will be advising Everette on turf issues. Robbie is putting together two NWCBA "work days" for the spring season on **February 4th and 5th** where parents can come help out and [kids can participate in a free clinic.](#)

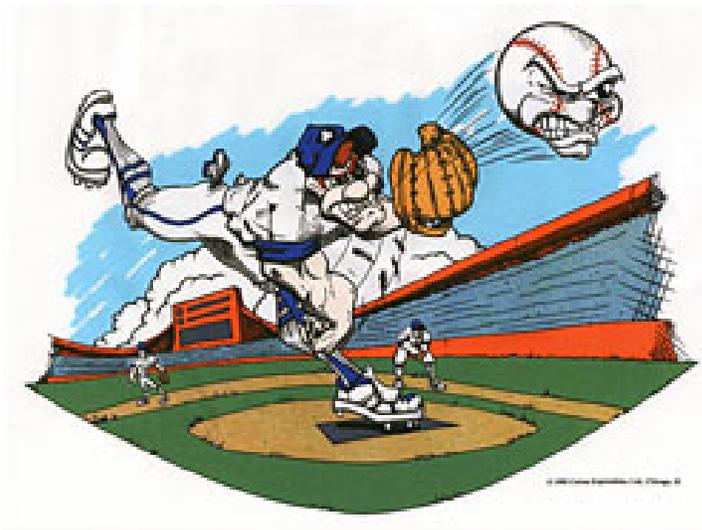
Donnie Jackson and his wife, Jennifer, are our concession operators and

have been extremely valuable as sounding boards for parents as well as providing an outlet for people to catch a quick meal in the middle of their hectic schedules. Please continue to support the concession effort at the North Wake Baseball Complex as much as possible.

This fall we installed irrigation on all six of our fields in hopes that we can keep the playing surfaces softer. The board encourages all coaches to utilize the six batting cages as much as

possible with their teams. The cages at the North Wake Baseball Complex provide one of the largest hitting areas in the Triangle and can be a great resource for repetitions.

Overall, the board is pleased with the North Wake Baseball Complex. We certainly wish it were convenient to everyone, but we are trying to make sure the practice and game schedules equally distribute travel as much as possible. As always, we appreciate your input and support to continue the NWCBA tradition.



F.B.I. (Factory Baseball Institute) at The Factory

[Factory Baseball Institute Website Link](#)

"The goal at F.B.I. is to teach and motivate area players to commit to play with passion, effort and an attitude that enhances the continued pride, integrity and tradition of the game of baseball."

The Factory Baseball Institute (F.B.I.) is an organization offering area players an opportunity to enhance their skills in all aspects of baseball.

The goal at F.B.I. is to teach and motivate area players to commit to play with passion, effort and an attitude that enhances the continued pride, integrity

and tradition of the game.

F.B.I. will provide players with the opportunity to learn, develop, and improve their skills on a daily basis, using development techniques and teaching methods used by professional and collegiate baseball programs.

F.B.I. will be holding its first annual All-Skills Youth Winter Camp on **Jan. 28 & 29** (2-5 pm) at the North Wake Baseball Complex, which will cover all aspects of the game (\$50 for one day; \$75 for both).

To register or learn more about F.B.I., please call 919-606-8900 or email: factorybaseball@gmail.com

NW Family Aids Dominican Children

The Ward family (Coach Joe and 3 players) has organized a mission project called "Diamond to Dominican" to collect and distribute baseball equipment (bats, balls and gloves only) to children in Puerto Plata. Over 42% of Dominican Republic citizens live below the international poverty line, with an average ANNUAL income of \$2,850 (US).

The Wards hope that this equipment will provide children with smiles and enough hope to dream – maybe even to the major leagues!

If you have any baseball equipment (old or new) that you can afford to part with, please consider donating. Johnson Lambe is offering 10% off any new bat or glove with a donation to Diamond to

Dominican. In addition, through the **end of Feb.** you can donate in the lobby at RE/MAX United (9131 Anson Way) or at St. Timothy's (4523 Six Forks).

For more information, please visit <http://facebook.com/diamondtodominican>, or email Renee Ward at ReneeDWard@nc.rr.com.

About NWCBA...

NWCBA is a non-profit organization, with a mission of providing positive and memorable baseball experiences for young players in the Triangle area.

We pride ourselves on maintaining a balance between a competitive environment and a sufficiently large league to provide opportunities to play year round.

Programs are offered during the spring, summer, and fall seasons.

"...providing positive and memorable baseball experiences"