



# Farmington Bank/Vantis Life Baseball League 2018 Pre-season Newsletter

## 2018 Championship Games at New Britain Stadium



### FBVL Night at the Bees June 30

We are thrilled to announce we have collaborated with the New Britain Bees to hold all three Championship Games at New Britain Stadium on August 4! We will also hold a group event on June 30 when the Bees take on the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs at 6:35 PM. Watch our website for more information on both exciting events!

#### **Prep Teams Eligible for the Babe Ruth State and National Tournament**

- We are collaborating with Babe Ruth to send two Prep teams to the Babe Ruth State Tournament in July. Babe Ruth has eliminated the District tournaments and is creating a bracket-style State tournament. This program gives teams a chance to play against top Connecticut Babe Ruth teams with an opportunity to advance to the National Tournament! Participation is optional. Watch our website for more information.

#### **Registration opens January 1<sup>st</sup>**

- Registration for the 2018 season opens January 1. Registration is on our website only. We are offering a \$100 discount off the total registration fee for teams registering by January 31. Registration closes on April 3.
- **We require a \$200 per team deposit, payable by check, due by the Organizational Meeting on April 3.** This will secure your place in the league. If a team withdraws before the schedule is locked on May 14, any registration fees paid will be refunded. If a team withdraws after May 14 and on or before June 3, the team will receive a refund of registration fees paid, less \$200. After June 3, there are no refunds. Teams registering by January 31 may not use the \$100 discount to offset the deposit.
- Registration fees are due by the May 10 Scheduling Meeting and are payable by check only. Registration fees have not changed from last season.
  - Prep and Junior: with insurance \$1450, without insurance \$1275
  - Senior: with insurance \$1510, without insurance \$1335
- Your registration fee covers umpires, insurance (if purchased through the League), and three coaches shirts.

### **Season Dates:**

Opening Day is June 4 and the Championship Games are on Saturday, August 4 (see the Important Dates below). **Please inform your players and their parents of our season dates.** The League wants to avoid forfeiture of games because players are on vacation, especially during the playoffs.

### **Administrative and Playing Rule Changes:**

The Administrative and Playing Rules for 2018 are available on our website. See the left-hand menu bar. Changes of note:

- Pitch Count:
  - Pitch counts will be reconciled between the teams after each half-inning or change in pitcher.
- Double-Rostering Prep to Junior:
  - Up to five Prep players may be double-rostered on a Junior Division team.
- Jewelry
  - Jewelry is permitted. However – players, especially pitchers, may not wear jewelry that the umpires deem distracting.

### **Coaches Uniforms:**

Coaches in all divisions must wear a uniform. Baseball pants are required and a team shirt or League polo shirt is acceptable. Please see the Playing Rules document for more information. We are relying on the coaches to self-enforce this rule. If a coach is not in uniform, bring it up at the plate meeting with the umpires.

### **Turf Shoes Required at Hartford Fields**

Hyland Park and Annie Fisher (University) fields are artificial turf. Everyone must wear turf shoes or sneakers when using these fields.

### **Background Checks:**

The League will again require Background Checks. They are confidential and administered by Protect Youth Sports.

As a youth-serving organization, The Farmington Bank/Vantis Life Baseball League considers the safety and well-being of the youth in our program a top priority. Therefore, we continue to require a yearly background checking program to include all team personnel that come into contact with players.

Prior to a team's first game, a background check will need to be performed on every Team Representative, Manager, Coach, Assistants, and volunteers. Your failure to participate will make you unavailable to coach and interact with Farmington Bank/Vantis Life players. If, on game day, no team personnel have had a background check performed, the game will be forfeited. The check may take up to 48 hours to process so please do not wait until the day of your first game to submit for your background check. The check must be performed using the League's service. Background checks made by your organization cannot be accepted.

See the Background Check page on our website for a link to Protect Youth Sports.

**What you need:**

Full Legal Name, Current and past addresses, Date of Birth, Social Security Number, and Driver's License Number.

**Fee:**

The fee for the background check is \$10.00 which will be charged to your Debit or Credit Card. The Farmington Bank/Vantis Life Baseball League is not responsible for this fee and will not reimburse anyone ordering a background check.

**The Process:**

When you are ready to submit your information, click on the link below. You will be redirected to our provider's site. When completed, the results will be provided to the Chair of the League's Background Check Committee, who will log your completion. He and only he will have access to your results.

Should there be an issue that requires follow-up information; The Chair of the Background Check Committee will contact you personally.

Please see the table below for a list of general suggestions of people who should submit to a background check. This list is not inclusive. Use your best judgment.

If you are or do the following, submit for a background check:

- Team Representative
- Head or Assistant Coach
- Scorekeeper
- Dad that throws batting practice
- Interns
- Anything that puts you in a private setting with a player

Some positions that, depending on their level of involvement with your team, might not need a background check:

- PA Announcers
- Writers
- Statisticians
- Concession Workers
- Groundskeepers

If you have any questions about background checks, please contact Dan Turkeltaub, [dturk\\_2001@yahoo.com](mailto:dturk_2001@yahoo.com)

**Important Dates for 2018:**

- Registration Opens – Monday, January 1
- Organization Meeting – Tuesday, April 3 (Webb Elementary School, Wethersfield)
- Scheduling Meeting – Thursday, May 10 (Webb Elementary School, Wethersfield)

Last Day to Change Schedules – Monday, May 14  
Opening Day – Monday, June 4  
Last Day to Change Rosters – Saturday, June 30  
Playoff Eligibility Forms Due – Saturday, July 14  
Last day of the Regular Season – Saturday, July 21  
Prep and Junior Playoffs Begin – Monday, July 23  
Senior Playoff Begin – Tuesday, July 24  
Championship Games – Saturday, August 4 (New Britain Stadium)

Do you need more information about our League? Please contact Pete Kokinis, League Director, [peter\\_g\\_kokinis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peter_g_kokinis@sbcglobal.net) or Dan Turkeltaub, Director of Operations, [dturk\\_2001@yahoo.com](mailto:dturk_2001@yahoo.com).