

## **ALL STARS!**

In addition to our regular season of play, St. John Baseball organizes All-Star teams to participate in post season tournaments. At least one team from each age level (8-15) is sponsored. Players are selected by the All-star coaches with input from the team managers after reviewing both tryout and season performance. League Commissioners organize and oversee this process. Player selection occurs at least two weeks prior to the end of the regular season to allow time for completion of various organizational activities and solicitation of team sponsors. League sponsorship consists of uniform purchases and team fees for one tournament. Parents of players are responsible for all other team costs and are required to assist in our annual fund raising tournament. A \$200.00 refundable fee will be collected from each All-star family. This will be refunded when the parents complete the required number of shifts at the St. John Invitational Tournament.

## ***MANAGERS & COACHES***

As with any sport, the coaching staff of each team has a tremendous influence over each player's baseball experience. With this in mind, the Board of Directors takes the selection of managers & coaches very seriously. Managers are selected by the Board from a list of volunteers generated through the Web site. In addition to their knowledge of baseball, candidates are chosen based on their temperament with children, demonstration of teaching and leadership ability, fulfillment of league responsibilities and parental feedback. Managers organize their coaching staff from team parents after the league draft. The Board reserves the right to refuse coaching activities to any individual.

## **BASEBALL BOARD 2008**

The St. John Youth Baseball Board of Directors meet monthly as needed. A General Meeting is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the St. John VFW Hall. All General Meetings are open to the parents of participating players. The board is selected annually by a vote of all who attend the September General Meeting. Nominations are taken at the August General Meeting for all positions. Vote is by secret ballot. The person receiving the most votes for each position holds that position for one year. All decisions are made by a vote of the elected Board of Directors.

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**General Meetings: 8:00 p.m.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
St. John VFW Hall  
Plan now to get involved!**



## **INTRODUCING**

# ***ST. JOHN YOUTH***



## ***BASEBALL***

***St. John, Indiana***

***Web site: [www.stjohnbaseball.org](http://www.stjohnbaseball.org)***

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

After a very successful 2007 that saw record league membership and the addition of the beautiful new Heartland Sports Complex, we are excited about the 2008 season.

2007 saw record numbers win Districts and advance to the State Tournament.

Our greatest long-term challenge is to provide a lasting, positive experience for all of our players, from the most seasoned veterans to the nervous rookies. We have a renewed focus on instruction and have teamed with local training facilities to provide practice and teaching opportunities to our players and coaches. Our travel program will continue to provide a very high level of play for those that choose that path. The exposure that our League gets from these teams and the high quality of their play only enhance our ability to attract new players and retain the ones we have. Finally, we cannot be successful in meeting these challenges without your help. Get involved and help build lasting memories for you and your player.

**If you have any questions concerning St. John Baseball, please attend our general meetings held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 8:00pm at the St. John VFW and regularly visit our Web site at [www.stjohnbaseball.org](http://www.stjohnbaseball.org)**

## LEAGUE HISTORY

Baseball in St. John dates back approximately 50 years. We have a rich tradition of America's favorite past time.

A traveling team organized and coached by Tony Gerlach, who is considered "The Father of St. John Baseball", proudly represented St. John and

was the first "organized" team for our town. Living right across from the park allowed Mr. Gerlach to stay involved with the league. Over the years, he spent much of his leisure time caring for and maintaining the fields.

In the early 1960's Gene Wease, the 1<sup>st</sup> League President, rallied several men in the community and together they officially organized St. John Youth Baseball. The VFW upper room provided a great location for the 1<sup>st</sup> Fund-raiser Bingo Night which provided the cash needed to cover start-up costs. The first players paid \$10.00 each to play on one of the six St. John teams.

Uniforms were purchased from AP Davis for \$5.00 each which included: a shirt, pants and of course a baseball cap.

Tom Gannon of Gannon Steel built the Major League backstop, while materials donated by Keilman Block Co. of Dyer were used to construct dugouts. Jim Thiel of Pierce Iron Works provided the outfield fencing. The original foul ball poles built by Gene Wease in 1961 still stand on the Major League field today.

Over the years, the player's names have changed, and the leadership of the league has changed, but one thing has not changed! Our league was organized by volunteers who cared about the youth in our town and worked hard to provide them with a quality baseball league. St. John Baseball still holds that commitment!

## FEE SCHEDULE

Registration fees are established based on the operational costs incurred during our regular season. Revenue from team sponsorships and advertising on outfield signs also covers a portion of those costs. Our goal is that each league's revenue covers its own operating costs. Specific costs for each league vary.

In lieu of having our players be required to sell candy, magazines, etc., the league organizes two fund raising events for its members. The first is the annual dance for parents of league players and the second is our annual raffle. The charges for their tickets are part of your registration fee.

### 2008 FEES:

TEEBALL (ages 5 & 6)	\$ 75.00
INSTRUCTIONAL (ages 7 & 8)	\$ 85.00
MINORS (ages 9 & 10)	\$ 95.00
MAJORS (ages 11 & 12)	\$ 100.00
BABE RUTH (ages 13-15)	\$155.00
SR. BABE RUTH (16 -18)	\$160.00
DANCE TICKET	\$ 20.00
CONCESSION FEE*	\$ 100.00
RAFFLE	\$ 40.00

Family Rate: \$10.00 discount each additional player

\*Each family is charged \$100.00 which is refunded after 1 parent works their shifts in the concession stand. You are responsible for scheduling yourself. Thanks for your help!!

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT PER PLAYER

Birth Certificate (at registration)  
Baseball Glove  
Hard Cup Athletic Supporter