

The logo is circular with a yellow border. Inside, the word "ZEELAND" is written in white capital letters along the top arc, and "LITTLE LEAGUE" is written along the bottom arc. In the center, there is a stylized grey and yellow "Z" shape superimposed over a white baseball with grey stitching.

Zeeland Little League Coaches Meeting

February 25, 2025

Approach

The sign of a great Little League coach won't be found in trophies or wins, but rather the number of kids who sign up to play again the next year... that means their coach created an environment that made the game fun for those kids.

- Darren Fenster

Approach

- Teach kids how to handle failure/losing
- Teach kids how to handle winning
- Foster environment that kids WANT to be there
- The kid you coach today will be a totally different athlete at 14 years old.





Administration

- ZPS Background Check
- Concussion Certification
 - Only if you have not coached for Zeeland Rec in school year 2022-2025
- JDP Background Check (email coming later in March)
 - Replaces the LL Volunteer App



Team Sideline

Brandon L

Home Registration Little League Coaches Officials Game Schedules Sign Up for Text Alerts Calendar Downloads Locations Contact Us About Us



Zeeland Recreation
Doing well together.

Zeeland Recreation Sports
Check Back for Important Updates!

	MONDAY 2/26 6:00 PM Bison vs 5 Macatawa Bank	MONDAY 2/26 6:00 PM 6 vs 4 Request	WEDNESDAY 2/28 6:00 PM 3 vs 2 Request	MONDAY 3/4 6:00 PM 2 vs 6 Macatawa Bank	MONDAY 3/4 6:00 PM 4 vs Bison Request		
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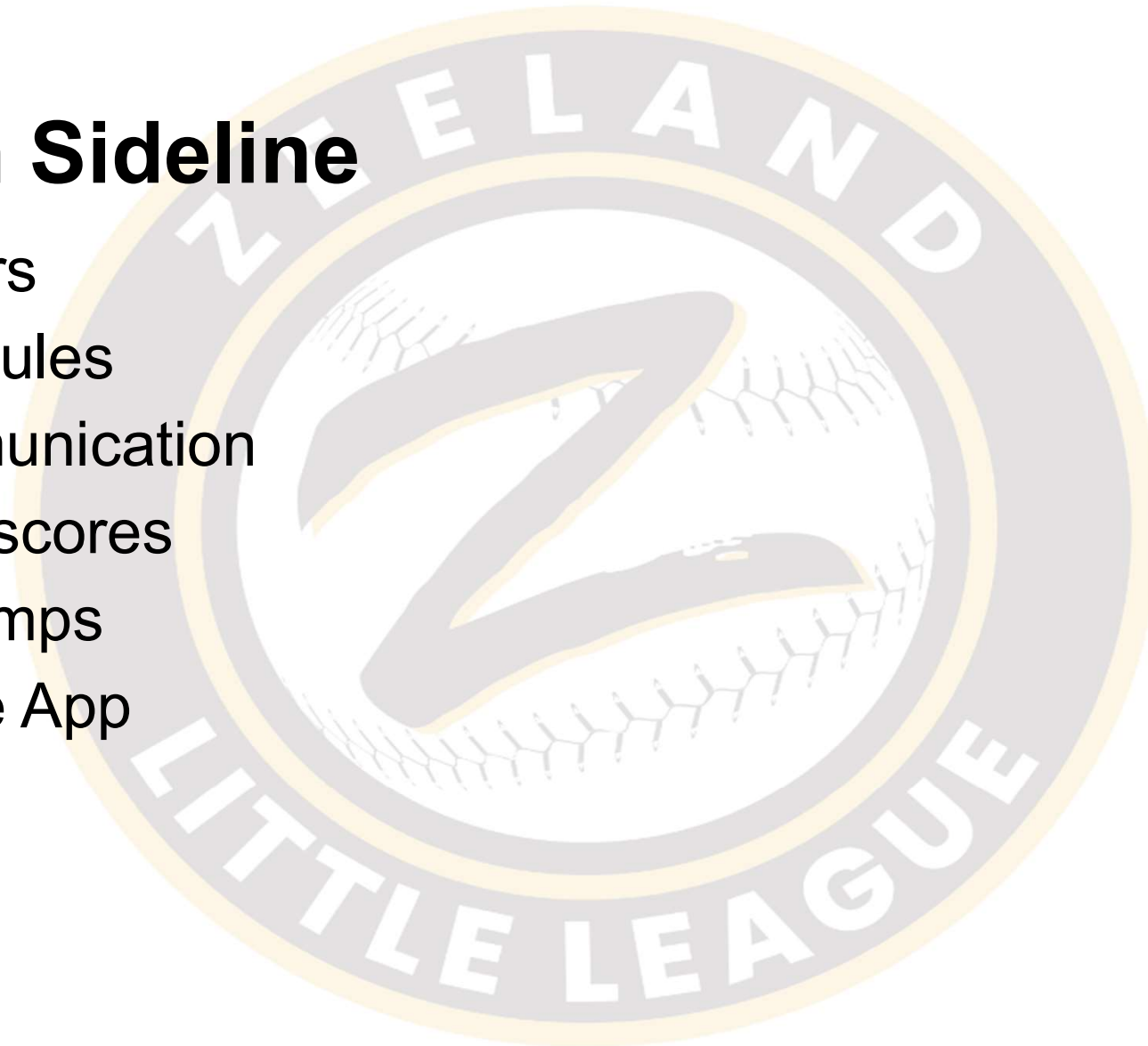
Zeeland Youth Sports

Your Page for ALL Zeeland Recreation Youth Sports



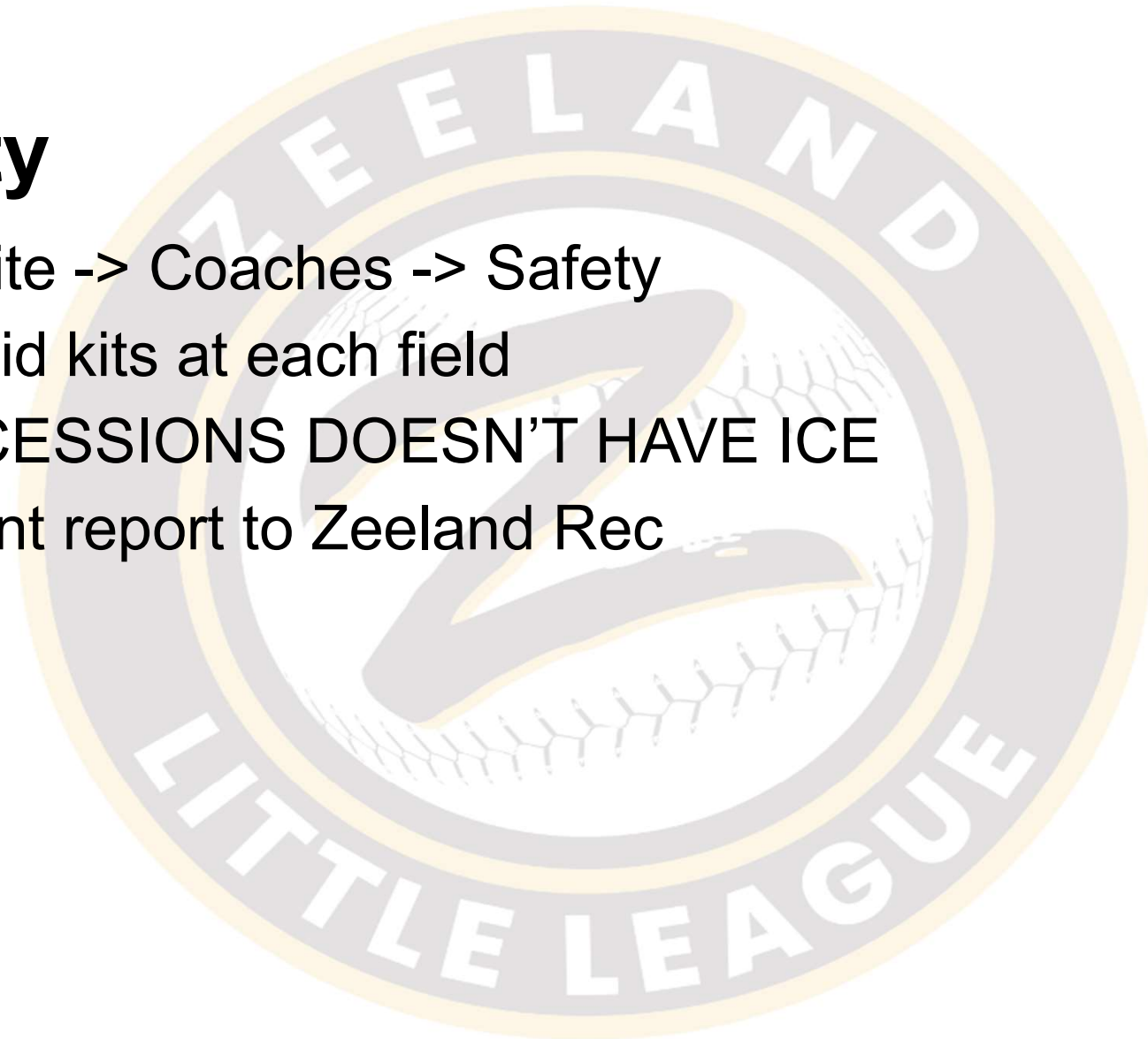
Team Sideline

- Rosters
- Schedules
- Communication
- Enter scores
- See umpers
- Mobile App



Safety

- ZLL Site -> Coaches -> Safety
- First aid kits at each field
- CONCESSIONS DOESN'T HAVE ICE
- Incident report to Zeeland Rec



Team Formation

- Slowly eliminated drafts and had ZLL put together teams
- Draft Issues
 - Focus on making the “best” team when the goal is to have them all equal
 - Bias and manipulation of scores during TFP
 - Experienced coaches had advantage over new coaches
 - Coaches draft players earlier than needed to make sure a family member or friend was on team

Team Formation

- For 2025 Season, ZLL plans to put together all teams
- Team Formation Practice information still essential in this
- Fewer coach evaluators needed – coaches can evaluate OR help run drills
 - Would prefer ZLL Members be freed up to do evaluating
- Process for requesting a player for your team will be sent in later email
 - Request is for friends and family, NOT the best player in the league
 - Depending on situation, there is a chance request can't be granted

Team Formation Practice

- Come at your Division time(s)
 - Feel free to help any other divisions you want
- Get evaluation sheet if you want to score players
- Coaches that want to help run drills will be split at stations
- Each player will get a hitting and fielding score
- Players that pitch will get a pitcher score
- Evaluations used for final division placement and teams

Team Formation Practice

- Players get a bib number as they check in
- Roll Call (much quicker this year)
- Break kids into groups
- Groups on field, cages, and/or bullpen
 - Field does fielding and then pitching
- Groups rotate through each station

A (Group 1) Field

#	Notes	#	Fielding Score (1-10)	#	Notes	#	Pitching Score (1-10)
1		1		1		1	
2		2		2		2	
3		3		3		3	
4		4		4		4	
5		5		5		5	
6		6		6		6	
7		7		7		7	
8		8		8		8	
9		9		9		9	
10		10		10		10	
11		11		11		11	
12		12		12		12	
13		13		13		13	
14		14		14		14	
15		15		15		15	
16		16		16		16	
17		17		17		17	
18		18		18		18	
19		19		19		19	
20		20		20		20	
21		21		21		21	
22		22		22		22	

A (Group 1) Hitting

#	Notes	#	Score (1-10)
1		1	
2		2	
3		3	
4		4	
5		5	
6		6	
7		7	
8		8	
9		9	
10		10	
11		11	
12		12	
13		13	
14		14	
15		15	
16		16	
17		17	
18		18	
19		19	
20		20	
21		21	
22		22	

BASEBALL - MARCH 1

Level	Check-In	Start	End	Total Time
A (A-L)	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	10:00 AM	1:30
A (M-Z)	9:30 AM	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:30
AA	11:30 AM	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00
AAA	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:30 PM	1:30
Majors	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM	1:30

SOFTBALL - MARCH 8

Level	Check-In	Start	End	Total Time
Minors	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	2:00
Majors	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	2:00

Team Formation

- Email is sent once roster is uploaded into site
 - I will also email coaches to let you know
- Next step, EMAIL YOUR TEAM
 - I will send a “template email” for you to fill in blanks
- Give them your contact info and preferred contact method
- Verify family contact info
- Ask to give you a heads up on dates they know they will miss
- Set up a snack/drink sign up (or assign a “team parent”)

ALL TEAMS ON SITE BY MARCH 17

Equipment

- **Let's talk about baseballs at Kaat**
- **Each team will get a bucket of practice balls**
- **Used game balls should be split between teams and added to practice bucket after games**
- **Fields will have less practice balls available**

Equipment

- **Equipment pickup will be week of March 17**
- Each team gets an equipment bag
 - Catchers gear and helmets
- If you need different sizes, switch out gear from shed or let me know
- Bats, tees, screens, fielder masks - stay in shed/locker
- Shed combos TBD
- Game Balls will come from UMPS
 - They are in the shed, but please let umps bring out

Uniforms

- Uniform pickup will be at Zeeland Rec in early April
 - Will send email when ready (4/14)
- I will email coaches a roster with sizes
- Names on Shirts?
 - ZLL cannot afford to put names on shirts
 - Multiple companies can do it, just reach out
 - Usually about \$5 per shirt

Rules

- Equal Playing Time




Rules

The logo for Zeeland Little League is a semi-circular arch with a yellow border. Inside the arch, the word "ZEELAND" is written in white, bold, capital letters on a grey background.

Equal Playing Time

The information below does NOT pertain to the position of pitcher. More information on pitchers is in the next section.

- All players are in the lineup and hit in every game
 - The lineup should be different each game such that players are in a different spots in the lineup throughout the season
 - Coach Pitch and Tee Ball teams change their lineup each inning
 - Each player must play a minimum of one inning in an infield position each game
 - All players should be on the bench for an inning before any player is on the bench for a second inning
 - The exception to this rule is for a player that is pitching multiple innings, he/she must spend an inning on the bench when done pitching if every other player on the team has already spent an inning on the bench
 - Zeeland Little League provides templates for coaches to pre-plan their lineups and field positions for each game in order to fulfill these requirements
- 
- A small, horizontal yellow swoosh or underline is located at the bottom center of the page.

Rules

Pitchers and Equal Playing Time

The pitcher is an important position in Little League. The pitcher controls the pace and action of a game. An inexperienced pitcher that is unable to throw strikes can cause a detriment to all players in the game. Although walks are part of the game, excessive walks can lessen the experience for everyone.

- All pitchers must abide by the pitch count rules set forth by Little League
- The amount of innings pitched through a season will NOT be equal amongst every player on the team that wants to pitch
- Coaches may, and are encouraged to, give more pitching opportunities to players that show more consistency in throwing strikes
- If a pitcher is struggling to throw strikes, coaches may replace the pitcher at their own discretion.
 - We recommend coaches make a change at pitcher after 4 walks in an inning especially for an inexperienced pitcher
- Pitchers that perform better in games will pitch more often than pitchers who are less consistent.

Experience in pitching in games is important for player development, but it cannot be the only time a player that wants to pitch is working on pitching. Players are encouraged to work on pitching at practice and at home.

Rules

Walkthrough of each Division

- Majors Baseball
- AAA and AA Baseball
- Single-A Baseball
- Minors Softball
- Majors Softball



Weather Policy

- ***TRY*** to make decisions by 5:00PM
- Final decision will come from either Brett, Mande, or Brandon via email and app
- If something comes up mid-game = DELAY
 - Be smart and use your best judgement
 - Mid-Practice = you can delay or cancel
 - If you get message from us to cancel, SHUT IT DOWN!
- There is such a thing as too hot
- Weather policy emailed out before practices start

Extra Coaches

- OK to ask parents to help at practice and games as long as ZLL Coach is present
- If someone else wants to help be a COACH, they must sign up on the coaching form
- Should never have a situation that someone is running a practice or game and NOT a signed up ZLL Coach

Scheduling

- Kaat – practice schedule rotates between fields
- A and AA – Quincy is being used as a practice field
 - Quincy also has some openings for extra practice
- **Softball – Interleague with Holland**
- Softball – working on getting Club schedule
 - Can use DeWitt fields when club isn't on them for moving things around

Scheduling

Division	# Teams	Days of the Week	Location
A-Baseball	12	M/Tu/W/Th/F/Sat	Roosevelt Quincy (practice only)
AA-Baseball	10	Tu/Th/F/Sat	Kaat Quincy (practice only)
AAA-Baseball	8	Tu/Th/F/Sat	Kaat
Majors Baseball	7 or 8	M/W	Kaat
Minors Softball	6	Tu/Th/F/Sat?	Huizenga
Majors Softball	6	M/W/F/Sat?	Huizenga

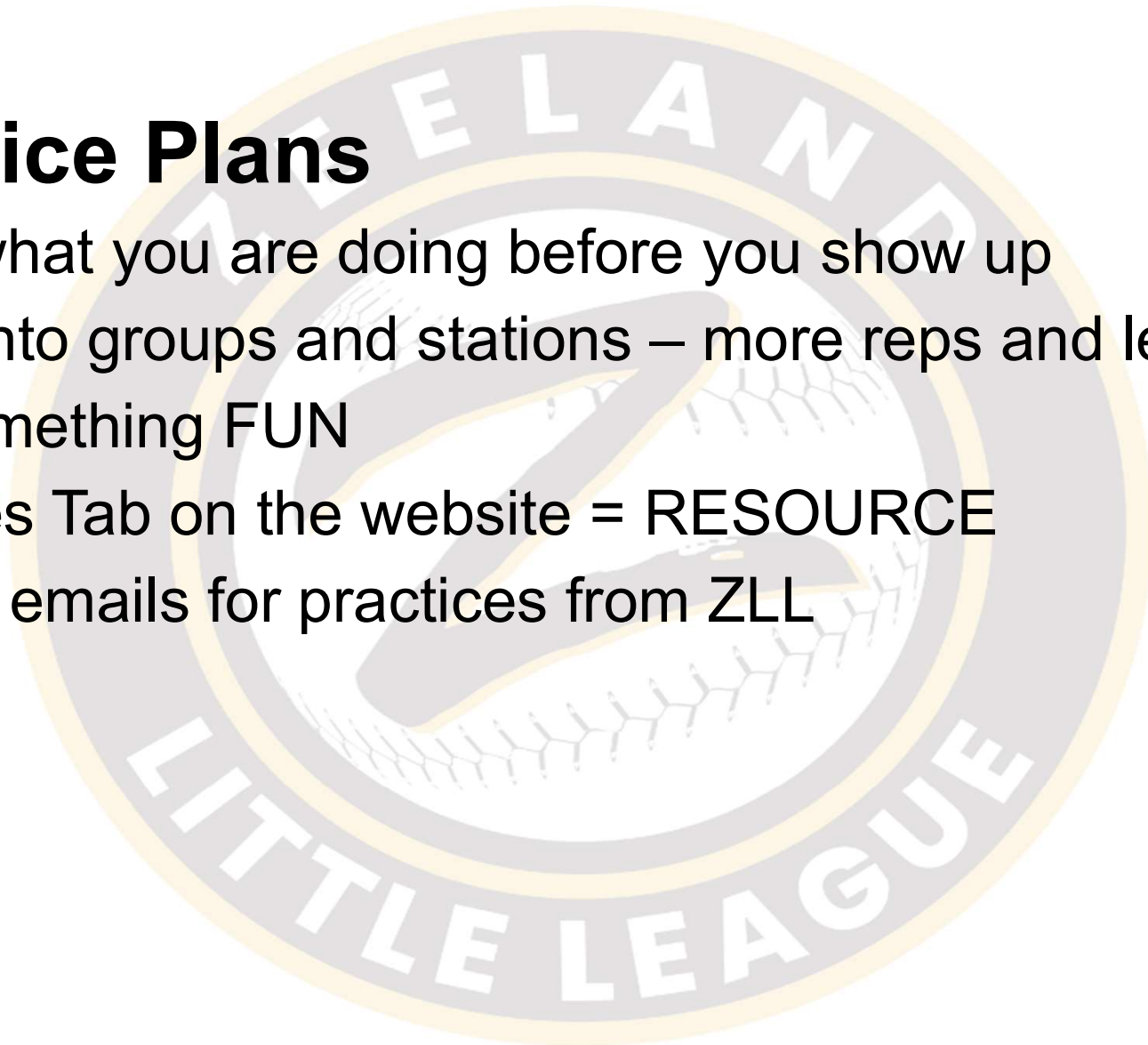
We have 9 more teams at this level than last year, so schedules are tight. This means more Saturdays!

Practices

- Practices are built into schedule
- Start March 24
 - Spring Break week – scheduled but cancel if needed
- Practice blocks are 90 minutes
 - A-Baseball – first practices are 60
- Practice may be scheduled with another team
 - If location is field - team starts on field for 45 minutes
 - If location is CAGE - team starts in cage for 45 minutes
 - Switch halfway
 - Talk with other coaches and adjust if you want
 - Option - Mix in a scrimmage

Practice Plans

- Know what you are doing before you show up
- Break into groups and stations – more reps and less waiting
- Add something FUN
- Coaches Tab on the website = RESOURCE
- Weekly emails for practices from ZLL



Practice Recommendations

- First practices – keep it light and get to know the players
- Light pitching work
- Incentives and competitions
keep kids engaged
- Less talk, more action

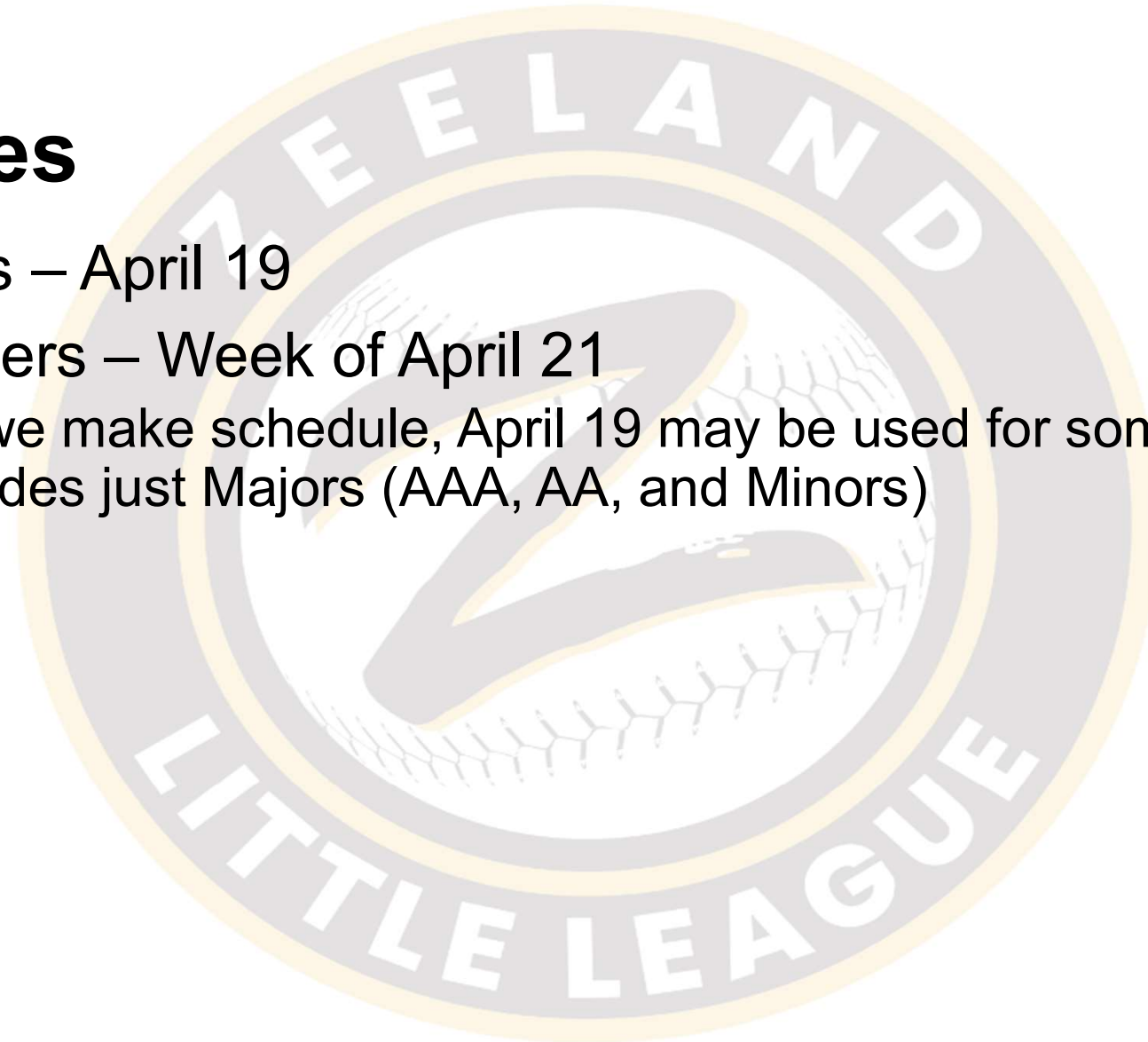


Adding Practices

- You can schedule additional Practices
 - We may cancel your practice in order to schedule a makeup game
- Start with your “Home Fields”
- If nothing available, contact me and I can give you options
- Saturday afternoons are almost always open

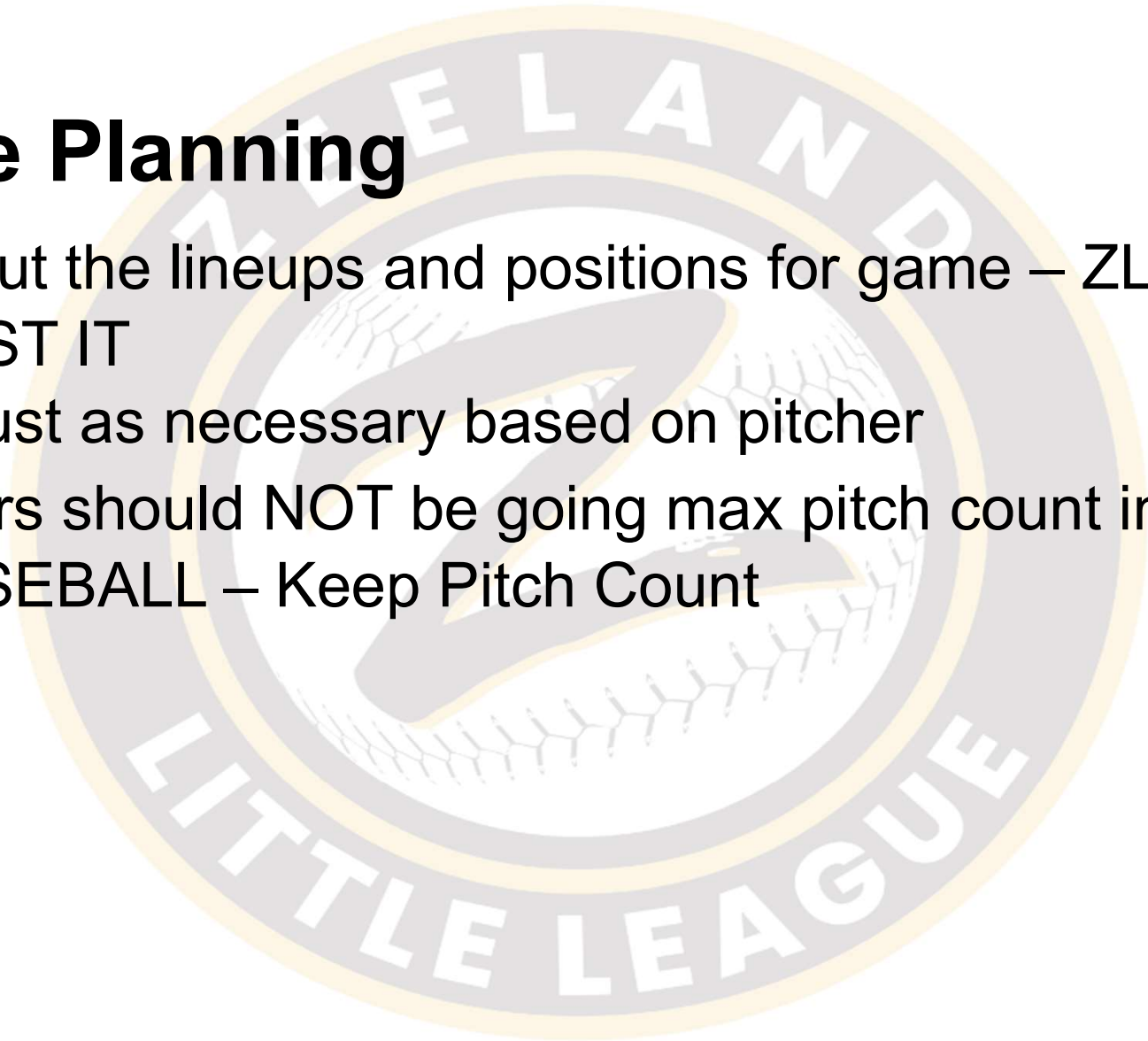
Games

- Majors – April 19
- All others – Week of April 21
 - As we make schedule, April 19 may be used for some games besides just Majors (AAA, AA, and Minors)



Game Planning

- Plan out the lineups and positions for game – ZLL SITE
 - POST IT
 - Adjust as necessary based on pitcher
- Pitchers should NOT be going max pitch count in 1st half
 - BASEBALL – Keep Pitch Count



Game Planning

- What is equal playing time?
- Pitcher ≠ Position Player time
- Hold yourself and each other accountable



TEAM: _____

ZLL Positional Chart

	Player Name	Inning						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								

Positions:

1B	2B	SS	3B
LF	LCF	RCF	CF
RF	C	P	Bench



TEAM: _____

ZLL Positional Chart

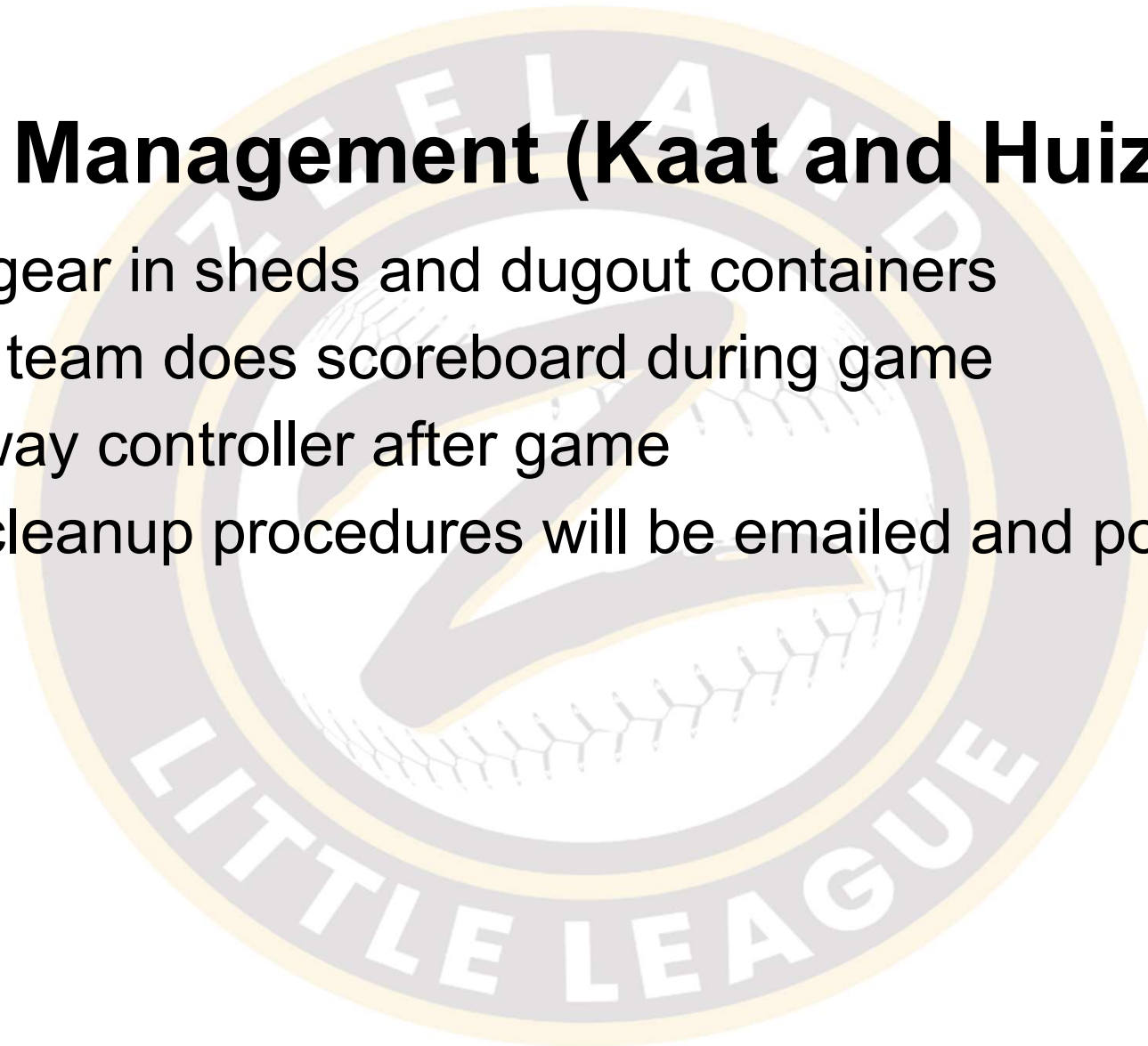
6/19/2023

	Player Name	Inning					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Elsie	LF	RCF	3B	Bench	LCF	RCF
2	Aleah	SS	2B	2B	C	SS	SS
3	Kinsley	1B	SS	1B	3B	1B	2B
4	Ava H	P	P	SS	P	P	P
5	Charlotte	C	1B	P	2B	2B	1B
6	Ava L	2B	C	RF	1B	C	C
7	Kennedy	RF	3B	C	SS	RF	Bench
8	Harper	3B	LF	Bench	RF	RCF	LCF
9	Avey	Bench	LCF	RCF	LF	LF	RF
10	Maddi T	LCF	Bench	LF	LCF	3B	LF
11	Madelyn S	RCF	RF	LCF	RCF	Bench	3B



Field Management (Kaat and Huizenga)

- Extra gear in sheds and dugout containers
- Home team does scoreboard during game
- Put away controller after game
- Field cleanup procedures will be emailed and posted

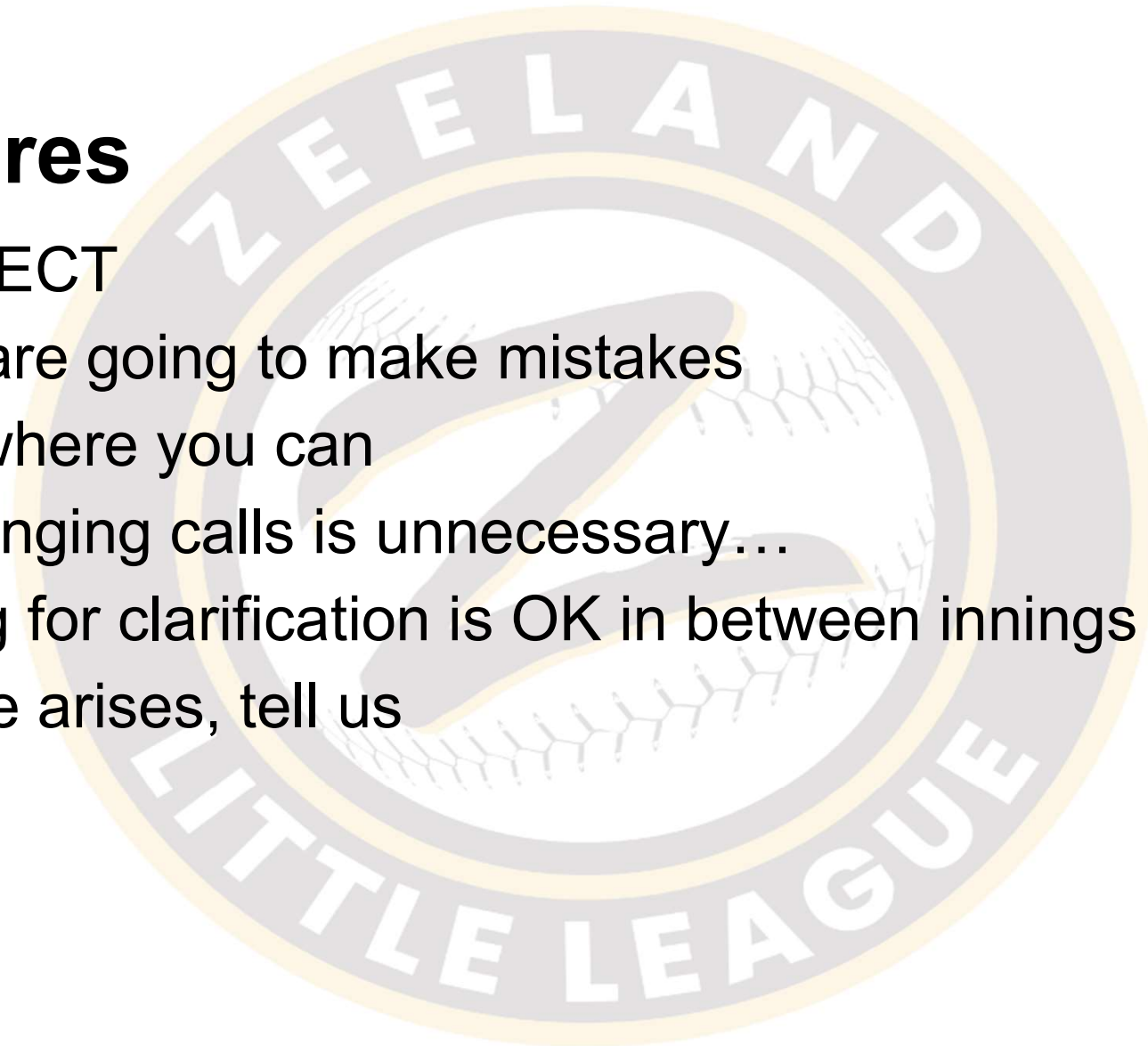


Subs

- Short on players? Get a sub
 - You can play a game with 8 (we do NOT want forfeits)
 - Sub cannot pitch and can only catch if approved by ZLL
- View Sub List under TEAMS tab on website
- Find a player in an equal or lower division not playing
- Start at top of list and work down!
- Reach out if you need help.
- REPORT SUBS to Brandon
 - That way we can move player to bottom of list

Umpires

- RESPECT
- They are going to make mistakes
- Help where you can
- Challenging calls is unnecessary...
- Asking for clarification is OK in between innings
- If issue arises, tell us



Umpires

- If no-show...
 - Check for POOL UMP
 - Check other fields...if they have 2 get 1 for you
 - Call Brandon
- If we know you will have 1 or 0 ump before game, we will let you know
- You can also see who is umpiring on the schedule!
- **Please report any umpire no-show**

Kaat Day and Gentex Games

- For all divisions present
- Players vote for teammates to represent their team
 - I will email a voting form in May with a deadline
- Teams are formed like a traditional MLB All Star Game
- Games are scheduled in early June (day/time TBD)
- Allowing coaches to use more discretion for last pick

Post Season Games

- Single-A Baseball – no “postseason” but last game at Kaat
- AA and AAA Baseball – Tournament with 2 games guaranteed
- Majors Baseball – Tournament with Holland LL
- Minors and Majors Softball - Tournament with Holland LL

All-Stars

- Tryouts to be announced
 - 12U, 11U, 10U
- All coaches invited (encouraged) to attend and evaluate
- Use what you saw during season and at tryout to rank players
- Rankings are put together and create All-Star team
- Manager Applications by May 1



**THE TEAMS
(as of now)**

Baseball

A

Team	Coach	Coach	Coach
1	Max Nykerk	Nick Nykerk	
2	Luis Gomez	Chad Groenhout	
3	Michael Bennett	Derek Kraai	
4	Mitch Cook	Tyler Huizenga	Lucas Fantin
5	Jordan Hanges	Ross Bouwkamp	Nate Mulder
6	Brian Baker	Ryan Golembiewski	
7	Grant Dozeman	Clayton Sommers	
8	Tyler Zoerhof	Shannon Zoerhof	Mitch Scholten
9	Jon DeKock	Jeff Hofman	Mike Lucas
10	Steve Rice	Adam Hopkins	Zach VanSetters
11	Ben Wilsey	Vince Doyle	
12	Jeremy Cobb	Krystyna Delfgaw	

Total Players 132

Players per team 11

Baseball

AA

Team	Coach	Coach	Coach
1	Alex Vogelzang	BEN STEVENS	Vicki Villanueva
2	Dave Duimstra	Joe Baillargeon	Matthew Seaver
3	Bob Driesenga Jr	Nick Huizenga	Chris Van Huis
4	Casey Holstege	Cody Holstege	Brandon???
5	Bob Raven	Chris Zoerhof	Mike Amaya
6	Brooke Smeckert	Brian Cochran	David Klyn
7	Michael Riemersma	Joshua Dalman-Hoeve	Adam Glupker
8	Robert Harris	Tim Nelson	Logan schaeffer
9	Jordan Sligh	Jon Klunder	
10	Eric Boersma	Adam Hopkins	Stan Syrek

Total Players 97
Players per team 9.7

Baseball

AAA

Team	Coach	Coach	Coach
1	Aaron Gruppen	Alan Doombos	Nate Vande Guchte
2	Bob Driesenga	Nick Huizenga	Mike De Jonge
3	Nick VanHuis	Mitch Scholten	
4	Neal VanderZwaag	Bryce Huffman	Jared Fantin
5	Brad Kuipers	David Zeerip	Jason longstreer
6	Doug Overweg	Dustin Nienhuis	Chad Whitehouse
7	Jordan faaola	Kyle Cochran	
8	Dan Zomerlei	Joseph ulberg	Robert Diller

Total Players 81
Players per team 10.125

Baseball

Majors



Team	Coach	Coach	Coach
1	Joe Baillargeon	Brandon Oldenbroek	Dave Duimstra
2	Jesse Bazan	Sam Mehrens	Chris Koeman
3	Jeff Carlson	Nick Knapp	Brian Cochran
4	Dustin VanderTuin	Sid VanderTuin	
5	Chris Hartley	Stephanie Huizinga	
6	Elijah Beckwith	Lindsey Eppink	
7	Gage Westhouse	Leslie van Noord	
8			

Total Players 84

Players per team 12



Softball

Majors



Team	Coach	Coach	Coach
1	Brandon LaRosa	Ryan Golembiewski	Jill Van Huis
2	Amber Smith	Cameron Smith	
3	Caleb Nyenhuis	Ryan Sullivan	Greg De Jonge
4	Chris Lowe	Bob Stefan	Eric
5	Kevin Buning	Jason Maldonado	Anna Rose
6	Casey Holstege	Christine Moran	

Total Players

60

Players per team

10



Softball

Minors



Team	Coach	Coach	Coach	Coach	Coach
1	Dave Postma	Ken Jipping			
2	Drew Bowman	Luke Foerch			
3	Lance DeJonge	Nathan Sheridan	Megan Sheridan	Jimmy Grosse	Tim Holstege
4	Jeff Thompson	Alan Doornbos			
5	Josh Lamer	Amy Breuker	Adam Locker		
6	Ryan Otto	Adrea Hill	Brooke Dobberstein		

Total Players

60

Players per team

10





THANK YOU

PLEASE PUT THE CHAIRS AWAY