



MBSC Monthly

NEWSLETTER FROM THE MIDDLETON BASEBALL & SOFTBALL COMMISSION

Mark Your Calendar Now!

- Oct 11 • MBSC organizational meeting 7:30pm
 - Nov 1 • Baseball subcommittee meeting 7:30pm
 - Nov 8 • Next MBSC Commission Meeting 7:30pm
 - Jan 16 • Brewer's Banquet – Middleton Marriott
 - Feb 27-28 • Registration 6pm-8pm – MHS LMC
 - Mar 5-6 • Registration 6pm-8pm – MHS LMC
 - April 14 • Baseball Tryouts – NO ALTERNATIVE DATES
 - April 15 • Softball Tryouts – NO ALTERNATIVE DATES
- **Go to mbscwi.com for times and/or if you need additional information.

Coaches Wanted for 2012

It is never too early to start thinking about coaching baseball or softball for next year. MBSC is actively recruiting coaches for next year now for all levels of baseball and softball for both recreational and competitive leagues. Feedback we receive occasionally indicates that all players desire to learn the game, but sometimes do not get the best experience due to an inexperienced coach. MBSC is committed to developing its coaches as much as its players. We want to make the player's experience at all levels the best it can be, but in order to do so, knowledgeable coaches are necessary.

One of the misnomers about coaching youth baseball is that you have to have played the game in order to be a good coach. Although playing experience is helpful, it is not necessary to provide a quality experience for kids. Cal Ripken reminds us that the goal of youth baseball and softball is to provide a fun atmosphere that teaches kids the skills and a passion for the game so they will continue playing as long as their ability will allow them to.

MBSC will be offering coaching clinics and has a website dedicated to helping all volunteer coaches improve their coaching skills, ensuring a successful season for the kids that play the game. Please contact any one of the MBSC commission members if you are interested in coaching in 2012, and we will help you gain the skills and knowledge to be the best coach possible.

Commission Member Elections

October is the annual organizational meeting for election of members. If you are interested in becoming a MBSC commission member, attendance at this meeting is required. Current MBSC Commission Members whose terms will be expiring include Stan Haack, Jerry Gurtner, Mike Land, Doug Olstad, Michelle Schreier, Jay Smith, and Don Stephan.

Requirements for election as a full-time commission member require that person serve as an associate member or must have significant prior commitment to MBSC, including coaching, league director, etc. Associate members do not need prior involvement in MBSC.

50/70 Baseball for 12-Year-Olds

MBSC is working on assembling a team to compete in a baseball league in 2012 that utilizes 50-foot pitching distance with 70-foot bases. The Cal Ripken League is trending nationally to this format for 12-year-olds. Many southeast Wisconsin area teams are already playing games with this format. The larger diamond allows 12-year-olds to utilize their skills much more like baseball should be played while preparing them for the full size diamond transition which happens at age 13.



A few key members of the MBSC have been researching and experimenting with the 50/70 option to try to help Middleton Baseball become one of the trendsetters in our area for youth baseball at this age. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting new opportunity.

Batting Cage Update

Hopefully you all had a chance to use one of MBSC's newly installed cages this summer. All reports indicate that the cages were utilized frequently – helping to make our Middleton boys and girls some of the best hitters in the area. In an effort to improve the cages, the nets were removed last month. Athletic turf will be installed in batting cages this fall along with timbers around the perimeter. Rubber mats will be provided at the plate and throwing areas. The nets will be stored for the winter but re-installed next Spring in time for the high school seasons. Thanks once again to all the donors and volunteers who helped make the batting cages a reality.

Sponsors

This month's sponsors include Optimists Club of Middleton and Bruner Realty.

Please patronize our sponsors as often as possible. Thank You!



"People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring". ~Rogers Hornsby

Volunteer Opportunities

MBSC continues to have volunteer opportunities present themselves. In 2012, MBSC will require someone to step to the plate and take the position of Firefighters Memorial Park **Concession Stand Manager**. A job description will be published next month. However, we wanted to spread the word for this position as it is vital to the success of our organization.

Additionally, MBSC is seeking a potential **Website Manager** to help improve and manage the website content, and bring new ideas to this important way to communicate with our families. If you are skilled in this area and have the desire to help improve our website, please contact Jay Smith at jsmi17@amfam.com with your credentials and willingness to help.

2011-2012 Calendar of Events

MBSC Commission Meetings

Edgewood College, Deming Way
Next one...Nov 8th at 7:30PM
(Baseball subcommittee meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month, next one...Nov 1st at 7:30PM)

Other Important Dates

- Feb 27-28 • Registration 6PM-8PM MHS LMC
- Mar 5-6 • Registration continues 6PM-8PM MHS LMC
- ** Mar 24 or 31 (tbd) • Spring Workday at FFMP & Adler
- April 14 • Baseball Tryouts – NO alternative dates
- April 15 • Softball Tryouts – NO alternative dates
- ** May 20 • 8th Annual Pig Roast Fundraiser 12PM-8PM
- May 21 • Cal Ripken and 13s Babe Ruth Seasons Open
- June 11 • Recreational baseball & softball starts
- ** June 17 • Special Olympics Softball Invitational
- June 20 • Cardinal Youth Camp at FFMP
Advanced Hitting, Pitching/Catching
- June 23-24 • Cardinal Dugout Club Youth Baseball Tourney
- July 13-15 • MBSC Softball Tournament (U10-U14)
- ** August 8-9 • Midwest Fastpitch Softball Showcase
- ** August 11 • Fall Workday at FFMP & Adler

** indicates VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Visit mbscwi.com for additional information



2011 Baseball Teams Had Great Success

The Middleton 10- year- old baseball team had a fantastic season en route to winning the state championship in Dodgeville on July 16th. Middleton won four games including a 7-6 win over Bayport in the semifinals and 8-6 over Janesville in the state championship. Middleton advanced to the Ohio Valley Regional in Lexington Kentucky and went 2-2.

The Middleton 11-year-olds also had a great season. After dominating league play, Middleton's tournament tem rolled through several local tournaments noticing victory after victory. Middleton advanced to Neenah for their state tournament, attempting to win their third straight state crown. Middleton got off to a great start by beating Marinette 9-2. A tough loss to Escanaba put the 11s in the loser's bracket where they would have to battle their way back to the championship game.

Middleton's group of tournament-tested boys won their next two games over Mt Horeb and DeForest. A rematch against Escanaba in the semi-finals awaited. The game was tight all the way through, but Escanaba proved to be a bit stronger in the end, winning 6-5 sending our boys from Middleton home with the 3rd place trophy.

The Middleton 12-year-olds found success throughout the season including tournament championships in Portage and Beaver Dam. The 12-year-olds-traveled to Marinette for their state tourney and won two games and lost two. These spirited group of kids always represented Middleton baseball well wherever they traveled.



11-year-olds: Front Row (R to L): Alan Roden, Brady Schmitt, Carson Blair, Christopher Kjontvet, Spencer Wagner, Joel Ticknor, Cole Ragsdale, Justin Engelkes. Middle Row: James Rasmussen, Davis Roquet, Nolan Kelliher, Jack Smith, Jackson Pagel. Back Row: Asst. Coach Jeffery Ticknor, Asst. Coach Eric Roden, Head Coach Steve Kelliher



12-year-olds Cal Ripken Tournament Team: Front row (l-r): Matt Cushman, Michael Mavroulis, Storm Murphy, Ryan Land, Damien Rothman, Brady Thorson, Colin Butler. Back row: Coach Rick Vander Sanden, Liam Belleveau, Cole Spittler, Justin Gurtner, CJ Fermanich, Miguel Noriega, Bryce Vander Sanden, Coach Mike Land



Middleton 13-year-olds had two teams each win respective Babe Ruth Division Titles. Division winners advance to the district tournament at the Babe Ruth level and Middleton put its finest up against the best teams in the district at Sauk City. Middleton worked its way through the tournament losing to eventual champion Janesville. A second place finish in districts was enough to allow our 13-year-olds to advance to the state Babe Ruth tourney in Eau Claire. The competition in Eau Claire proved to be too much for the home town boys, as Middleton lost to Bay Port and DC Everest.



14-year-olds, standing (l-r) Coach Mike Wallace, David Hungness, Peter Williams, Taylor Dickert, John Horner, Brett Joers, Alex Meinholz, Coach Sammy Nixon, Coach Mike Schoonveld. Kneeling (l-r): Ryan Cray, Alex Elliot, Hayden Denson, Nolan Schoonveld, Brian Chapman, Benji Weissburg, Tyler Holley, Wes Nixon

The Middleton 14-year-old Babe Ruth squad posted a 20-win season securing a division championship, and four 2nd place tournament finishes at LaCrosse, Oregon, Kettle Moraine, and the District tournament in Reedsburg. Middleton lost to Janesville at districts in the final 6-4. Middleton advanced to Green Bay for its state tournament, but also found two tough opponents and took losses to Ashland and Wausau.



15-year-olds, front row (l-r): Aiden Hall, Noah Stafford, Matt Ash, Andy Keeler, Jackson Keeler, George Monreal, Zach Kasdorf, Stephen Bayer Back row (l-r): Manager Ken Maly, Brennan Maly, David Dummer, Elliot Tanin, Kyle Hopp, Luke Schafer, Scott Fabbri, Reese Felton, Coaches Steve Ash and Jeff Schafer

The 15-year-old Babe Ruth team finished a strong season in style. After battling with rival Cross Plains all year during the regular season and regular season tournament, Middleton and Cross Plains met in the district final. Cross Plains won the matchup, but Middleton's 2nd place finish still placed them in the state tourney in Sauk City. Ken Maly's crew found their mojo at Sauk, and rolled through the state tourney with wins over Sturgeon Bay, Eau Claire, and Green Bay twice to claim the gold trophy and advance to the Ohio Valley Regional in Kentucky. After several weather delays, Middleton finally got to play but lost to Northern Illinois and Central Indiana.

All in all, Middleton youth baseball teams were extremely successful in 2011 and look forward to even more success in 2012.



MBSC Members Directory

Member	Program Director	Phone	Email
Mike Hinz, President	Legion	831-8186 h 575-2401 c	hinz13@tds.net
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Tom Schmitt, Past President	Pepper	836-1070 h 712-0200 c	coachs35@tds.net tschmitt@mcpasd.k12.wi.us
Jay Smith		833-8792 h 445-3611 c	jsmi17@amfam.com
Don Stephan	Cal Ripken Jr	833-3103 h 235-2489 c	dn751@tds.net
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Amy Gangl	Little Brewers & Cardinals	843-7956-h 203-5859-c	
Steve Kelliher		203-5772-h 516-4535-c	
Dan Hewuse		770-5930-c	
Non-Member Programs Directors			
Perry Hibner	South Central – U10	828-9891 h	
Sal Parente	South Central - U14	203-5959 h 695-5251	
Dan Stormer	South Central - U18	798-1262 h 209-4106	dlas@chorus.net
Brenda Ziegler	Softball Recreational	836-5632 h 235-6298	playball13@hotmail.com

Mission Statement: MBSC shall administer and implement a complete, healthful, meaningful and wholesome community baseball and softball program, which will afford each participant the opportunity to play organized ball, which is dedicated to the highest standards of sportsmanship, fair play and competition.



MBSC Committees

- Concessions:** Renee Kalscheuer, Michelle Schreier, Brenda Delabarre
- Tournaments:** Jay Smith, Brad Novinski, Brian Drunansky
- Fund Raising:** Mike Land, Brenda Delabarre
- Communications/Newsletter:** Mike Schoonveld
- Online Registration/Scheduling Software:** Michelle Schreier
- Technology/Website:** Jay Smith, Mike Schoonveld
- Evaluations:** Open
- Field Scheduling:** Mike Hinz
- Player & Coach Development:** Tom Schmitt, Steve Kelliher, Brad Woodall, Scott Campbell, Dan Hewuse
- Player Agent:** Open
- Pig Roast/Silent Auction:** Doug Olstad, Jerry Gurtner, Mike Land, Tom Schmitt, Scott Campbell, Mike Schoonveld, Ken Maly, Dan Stormer
- Ad Hoc:** Open
- Volunteer Coordinator:** Amy Gangl, Ken Maly, Doug Olstad
- Coaches Meeting:** Tom Schmitt, Don Stephan
- Purchasing:** Don Stephan, Jerry Gurtner
- Safety:** Steve Kelliher, Jay Smith, Tom Schmitt, Stan Haack
- Job Descriptions:** Scott Campbell



Newsletter: Mike Schoonveld, Editor • Connie Dey-Marcos, Layout & Design

Sponsors

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Do you have something for the newsletter?

The MBSC newsletter welcomes all your ideas. Anyone is encouraged to submit articles, facts, and information regarding games and performance of your teams. We will publish as many highlights from the upcoming seasons as possible. We also welcome photos from your games and/or teams. Contact Mike Schoonveld at mike.schoonveld@mbscwi.com.

