

WEST PLAINS LITTLE LEAGUE

COACHES MEETING

- I. Goals
 - A. Train coaches how to:
 - 1. Communicate effectively with kids, parents & umpires
 - 2. Prepare coaches for their role as team leader
 - B. Goals for Single A & Double AA
 - 1. Kids learn baseball is lots of fun
 - 2. Celebrate individual successes
 - 3. Kids/coaches/parents do not care about winning or the score
 - C. Goals for Triple AAA & Majors
 - 1. Kids master baseball skills
 - 2. Celebrate individual and team successes
 - 3. Kids/coaches/parents put winning and losing into perspective
- II. Communication – It's your most important assignment
 - A. They are kids, not adults!
 - 1. Use language they understand
 - 2. Be creative! Use games and contests
 - 3. Keep them interested
 - 4. Be the main cheerleader
 - B. "Grab a knee"
 - 1. Gather in a circle to get their attention
 - 2. Develop consistent team discipline
 - 3. Okay to be loud but don't yell
 - C. One kid at a time
 - 1. Call player by their name
 - 2. Get down to his or her level
 - 3. Talk in a quiet voice
 - 4. Show player what to do
 - 5. Use Oreo method for constructive criticism. (Sandwich constructive feedback between positive feedback)
 - D. Work with Parents
 - 1. Hold team meetings
 - 2. Set expectations (player and parent)
 - 3. Lead your parents by setting a great example
 - 4. How to deal with challenging parents. – LISTEN!!

- E. "Hey, Blue"
 - 1. Treat all umpires with respect
 - 2. Manager/Coach is only person who should talk with the umpire
 - 3. Don't question judgment calls
 - 4. Learn how to ask umps about calls
 - 5. Control your Parents!! **IT IS PART OF YOUR JOB**
- F. If there are problems
 - 1. Even the best parents lose 10-20 IQ pts when watching their kid play
 - 2. Call a board member (We can back you up better if we know the situation)
 - 3. Keeping good stats always helps
- III. Being the manager – Put it all together
 - A. Plan effective practices
 - 1. Always have a plan but be flexible
 - 2. First practice is huge – it sets the tone for discipline/involvement
 - 3. Work in small groups
 - 4. Train volunteer coaches – Volunteer applications
 - 5. End practice with a bang!
 - B. Game day
 - 1. Have line up prepared
 - 2. Line up philosophy/strategy
 - 3. Teach carefully during a game
 - 4. End game with a pep talk and game ball award
 - C. Know your stuff
 - 1. Learn the rules. (Little League & WPLL)
 - 2. Use online resources
 - 3. Learn from WPLL coaching clinics.
(Warehouse/MLBA)
 - a. **Clinic Dates March 25th Med Lake Clinic**
 - b. **March 27th Warehouse Coaches Clinic @ 6:30 p.m**
 - D. Be emotionally stable
 - 1. Put aside your ego. (Okay to be competitive in AAA & Majors)
 - 2. Relax about players' mistakes
 - 3. We don't want Jekyll & Hyde coaches
 - 4. Enjoy the experience
 - E. Lead the team
 - 1. Care about all kids on the team

2. Come prepared to practices/games
3. Practice outstanding sportsmanship

IV. WPLL Coaching Requirements

A. League Coordinators

1. Your main contact for Questions, Rescheduled Games, Rainouts, Complaints
2. Coordinators are:
 - a. Single A – John McCallum (235-6184 jmac@cheneyfreepress.com)
 - b. Double A – Adam Smith (Cell 863-3052 H 747-9067 asmith@cheneysd.org)
 - c. Triple A - James Whiteley (H 624-4207 castlemark2@icehouse.net)
 - d. Pat McCarren – (H 235-1677 Cell 999-8988 mac03atourplace@aol.com)

B. Rainout Policy

1. Fields inspected prior to 3pm
2. Games not canceled by 3pm will be played
3. Teams will forfeit if not present at game time
4. Only WPLL appointed representatives can declare a game canceled due to field conditions
5. Make sure we can contact you. That is your responsibility

C. Field Maintenance

1. After ALL practices and games
2. Fill in holes as well as possible
3. Clean up trash at all fields (talking with parents helps here)

D. Reporting Scores and Stats (*for AAA and Majors Only*)

1. Report Scores and Stats to John McCallum
2. Call or E-Mail John on Sunday no matter what your results were for the week. **Phone: 328-9199 e-mail: jdmac960@yahoo.com**
 - a. Scores of all of your games
 - b. Your current record
 - c. Highlights of your games for that week
 - d. E-Mail is the preferred method, and you can do it anytime Sunday.

E. Keeping Stats

1. Triple AAA and Majors are required
2. Used for selecting All-Star teams
3. What is a HIT

4. What is an ERROR (ordinary effort)
5. Train parent volunteers – Volunteer Application
6. Wednesday April 12th Training

F. All Star selections

1. Coaches must keep stats
2. Coaches need to scout opposing players
3. Both Majors and AAA players make all-stars

G. Equipment

1. If you need equipment contact your coordinator
2. Equipment checkout is Saturday, March 25th from 9-NOON at Medical Lake SCOPE building (kitty-corner from Denny's Food)
3. Keep track of equipment if you give it out to a player
4. You are in charge of collecting uniforms (Suggestion: Strip Players at the field), or you have to visit each house and collect uniforms.
5. Fill out the attached list and return it to WPLL by May 1st
6. Double A Collect Pants, Triple A and Majors Collect Pants & Tops.

H. Handouts

1. Parents like a list of players on the team and their phone numbers
2. Mariners Game
3. Picture Packets – Picture times have not been set. You will be notified as well as it being posted on the Internet