

# Boys & Girls Club of Whatcom County

## -Bellingham and Ferndale Branch-

### ***INSIDER*** on 2016 Summer Baseball

Here is the PRELIMINARY (subject to change) information on the Boys & Girls Club Baseball for the 2016 summer season.

Note: By virtue of enrolling in the program, the parent and youth agree to abide by all policies, decisions, directives, procedures and rules of the Whatcom County Boys & Girls Clubs.

1. **The following leagues are offered:** Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> grade co-ed T-Ball(may play with pitching machine if league is small); 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade boys/girls Rookie pitching machine; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Cal Ripken (kid pitch); 11 and 12 year old Cal Ripken League. Boy's age divisions are based on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
2. Please note: Girls are allowed to play in each of the above divisions and names for 10 year old and under girls fastpitch and 12 year old and under girls fastpitch will be taken in case enough registrations permit a league. Girl's age divisions are based on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.
3. This program is strictly governed by the published **RULES**. All Rules are enforced. Whenever a question is posed, our first response is, "What do the rules say?" The quality of your experience is dependent in large part on your coach's understanding, listening, supporting, and communicating rules and procedures. Parents are responsible for assisting the coach in these endeavors. It is the responsibility of the parent and player to abide by Club rules and to assist and cooperate with the coach at all times.
4. **Membership Form:** Please be sure to complete the entire 2016/17 membership form. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
5. **Primary REGISTRATION** runs from Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup>–Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup>. Registrations can be done in person at the Club weekdays between 12:00pm-2:00pm, at an arranged time with athletic staff, or registration form along with membership form and payment can be dropped off at either Club or Northwest Baseball Field during open hours. Baseball fee is \$65 and \$30 for the 16-17 membership for a total of \$95 (membership year is June 1-May 31). After May 26<sup>th</sup> all registrations are on a space available basis. **Refund policy: See refund policy on the back of membership form.**
6. **TEAMS:** Teams will be put together by requests then by school if there is not a request. Requests will be taken but are not guaranteed regardless of registration order.
5. **SPONSORS:** We are looking for sponsors for our baseball teams. If you know of a business that might be interested in sponsoring your son or daughter's team please talk to Randy, Angela or Afriem at the Club for further information or download the sponsor form at [www.whatcomclubs.org](http://www.whatcomclubs.org).
6. **UNIFORMS:** Players will receive a T-Shirt and a major league replica hat. The Athletic Director will assign color and sponsor names unless previously reserved (and unduplicated) by the coach.
7. **RAINOUTS:** Cancellations of games because of bad weather will be decided at 4pm the day of games. Coaches will be notified if games have been cancelled and will call their players. Please **do not** call the club for rain out information. Wait to hear from your coach. If you don't hear from your coach you need to show up at the field. Practices will be cancelled by coaches and not the B&GC.
8. **NO TOBACCO or ALCOHOL** at any program site. Please do NOT bring your **PET** to the Baseball Fields.
9. Finally, the three most important words; communicate, communicate, **COMMUNICATE!** It is your responsibility to know the name and phone number of your coach. It is your responsibility to know your practice schedule, game schedule and any other team function. It is your responsibility to conduct yourself respectfully and appropriately. It is your responsibility to immediately communicate any problem or concern to Angela (384-0753) or Afriem (527-9777) at the Boys & Girls Club. Thank you. Have a great season.
10. **Kindness, courtesy and SPORTSMANSHIP are required.** We will not hesitate to act if the standards of the Club are compromised. Good sportsmanship is not extinct. Good sportsmanship begins and ends with parents. Good citizenship, good role modeling, ethics and values are requirements for everyone! It must be noted in the strongest terms that problems in this program most frequently occur from the few parents whose conduct is unacceptable. The Club will act decisively and with a no tolerance policy to eliminate those problems and individuals. Thank you for your cooperation as positive role models.

#### **FAQ's**

Q. My child is a 10 year old 5<sup>th</sup> grader. Does he play with the 11/12 year olds or the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders?

A. They have a choice to play with their grade or age. Decision should be based on experience.

Q. Where are the games played?

A. Bellingham home games are played at the Northwest Baseball and Soccer complex on the corner of Northwest and Smith roads. Ferndale home games are played at Pioneer Park and Phillips 66 Fields in Ferndale. Away games are played at multiple county locations depending on which teams play in the league.

**FAQ's Continued:**

Q. My child is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader. Do they play 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade pitching machine or in the kid pitch league?

A. That is up to you. It is a matter of what level of baseball your child is ready for.

Q. Can my child play up a grade level?

A. Player may play up one grade level. Please note that they may be playing with kids two years older.

Q. Will rained out games be made up?

A. That depends on if we have fields available to make them up and both coaches agree to make the game up. We will do everything we can to make sure that 8 of the 10 games are played or made up.

Q. Why are the age divisions different for baseball and fastpitch?

A. All teams are chartered with Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken and they set the age cutoff.

Q. Are there practices before the games begin?

A. Summer baseball is a continuation of the spring season and teams may have 2-3 practices before the season begins.

Q. What time are games played?

A. Games begin no earlier than 5:30 on Monday-Thursday nights. Games are completed by 8:00pm.

Q. Can my daughter play on a baseball team?

A. Yes. There have not been enough registrations to have a girls only league in the summer. They can register to play on a baseball team. We will have girl's leagues if there are enough registrations.

**FAD's (Dates):**

Q. My child is signed up, when will I hear from the coach?

A. Coaches meetings are June 1<sup>st</sup>. You should hear from the coach soon after this meeting.

Q. When do games begin?

A. Games begin the week of June 13<sup>th</sup>. Teams will play 2 games per week. Teams will have a 10 game season unless games are rained out.

Q. When do Games end?

A. The last day of scheduled games will be July 21<sup>st</sup> with rainouts played July 25<sup>th</sup>.

Q. When will game schedules be out?

A. Game schedules will be posted on the website ([www.whatcomclubs.org](http://www.whatcomclubs.org)) the week of June 6<sup>th</sup>.

BELLINGHAM BRANCH