



Spring Baseball Registration

Stewards of the Game is preparing for another great spring baseball season! Registration is now underway for boys and girls between the ages of 5–16. Roster spots are limited, so please complete and return the attached registration form as soon as possible.

Stewards of the Game is a faith-based youth sports organization that teaches young people valuable life lessons through sports. Visit www.stewardsofthegame.org to learn more about the vision, philosophy, and passion of Stewards of the Game.

Registration Deadline: February 17, 2007

Two Convenient Ways To Register To Play!!!:

- **Dick's Sporting Goods...Fun, Food & Prizes:** Join us for two special Registration Days on Saturday, January 20th and February 3rd from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. hosted by Dick's Sporting Goods at their Birkdale Village store in Huntersville. Dick's will be sponsoring drawings for prizes and offering valuable discount coupons for Stewards of the Game families.
- **Mail in Attached Registration Form:** Additional forms for friends and neighbors available at www.stewardsofthegame.org or at Dick's Sporting Goods at Birkdale Village through 2-11-06

Coaching Philosophy and Overall Goals:

- ✓ Help players develop strong character values that will guide them throughout their lives
- ✓ Demonstrate an encouraging coaching philosophy centered on developing the whole player; Spirit, Character and Athletic Skills
- ✓ Concentrate on teaching the fundamentals of the game through repetition of proven techniques and drills; enabling each and every player to reach their full potential
- ✓ Promote a spirit of cooperation between coaches and players *across* team lines
- ✓ Emphasize team baseball; teaching players to put the team's interest before their own
- ✓ Have FUN ... players, coaches, parents, and fans!

Key Dates (tentative**)**

January 14:	Registration begins	April 9:	Practices Begin (13-16 yr. olds)
February 17:	Registration ends	April TBD:	Davidson College: Stewards of the Game Day
February 24:	Coaches Meeting	May 7:	Games Begin (13-16 yr. olds)
March 3:	Coaches Clinic (a.m.)	May 7:	Coaches Softball Game
March 3:	New Parent Orientation (p.m.)	May 13:	Family Fun Day
March 5–17:	Skills Evaluation Week	May 21–24:	Regular Season Games End (5-12 yr. olds)
March 17:	Field Clean-up Day	May 28:	Memorial Day
March 17–18:	Teams Formed	June 2–9:	Post-Season Tournaments (5-12 yr. olds)
March 19–22:	Practices Begin (5- 12 yr. olds)	June 8:	Last Day of School - CMS
March 31	Opening Ceremony for All Games Begin (5-12 yr olds)	June 11:	Regular Season Games End (13-16 yr. olds)
April 2-9	Spring Break – CMS	June 16-23:	Post-Season Tournaments (13-16 yr. olds)
April 8:	Easter	June 29 – July 8:	All-Star Tournaments
		June 17–July 14:	Registration for Fall Baseball!!!



Season Highlights

- ✓ **Practices:** Three practices per week in the pre-season. Two practices per week when games begin. Practices last 1.5 - 2 hours and are centered on teaching sound, age-appropriate FUNDamentals, enabling each player to reach their full potential. (Fewer / shorter practices for the 5–6-year-olds.)
- ✓ **Cal Ripken-Babe Ruth Baseball:** Stewards of the Game has been affiliated with Cal Ripken-Babe Ruth Baseball since 2002, when we were awarded the territory covering Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson, and Mooresville.
- ✓ **Regular Season Games:** Regular season games consist of inter-league play between Stewards of the Game teams. For our 13/14 and 15/16 year old Babe Ruth Division players, we will participate in intra-league play with neighboring Babe Ruth leagues in the area. Mid-week Babe Ruth games will not begin until after school ball season ends.
- ✓ **Challenge Play** Challenge teams for various age groups will be assembled early in the season to provide the more advanced players with the opportunity to compete against other select teams in various Challenge, USSSA, or AAU tournaments. Challenge players below age 13 will continue to participate on their regular season teams to reinforce their responsibility in life to lift others up; while having the opportunity to refine their skills against stiffer competition through periodic participation in area tournaments. Challenge players 13 and above will practice and play together as a unit all season; competing against other Challenge-level teams in an advanced division of the Charlotte Babe Ruth league.
- ✓ **All-Star Play** All-Star teams selected at the end of the season will compete in Cal Ripken-Babe Ruth Area tournaments. Top teams from these tournaments will advance to State level tournaments; culminating in the Cal Ripken World Series. In the summer of 2006, both our 12 and 13 & Under All-Star Teams advanced to the State Tournament.

Fees

- The registration fee (see attached registration form for cost) includes a practice t-shirt, embroidered hat, and a pair of baseball socks that players keep. Players also receive home and away game jerseys that must be returned at the end of the season.
- Each player or family is also responsible for selling 12 raffle tickets at \$5 a piece. Tickets will be distributed at the beginning of the season. The cost of these tickets is charged to each family at the time of registration. Parents may either assist their child in selling the tickets (keeping the proceeds) or purchase the tickets themselves. (Note: Families with multiple players must only sell a total of 12 raffle tickets.)
- Parents are responsible for supplying a pair of black baseball pants to be worn at practices and games. Dick's Sporting Goods plans to have an assortment of black pants available for sale at our Registration Days noted above. (Note: Pants should be elastic or drawstring design for 5-10 year-old age divisions. For players 11 and up, pants should be belt loop design; with parents supplying an orange elastic baseball belt.)

Financial Assistance:

Stewards of the Game leagues, camps, and special programs are always available to everyone in the community, regardless of ability to pay. All we ask is that you pay what you can. Please note this on your registration form.

For more information, please visit our website at www.stewardsofthegame.org or feel free to contact any of the following individuals: Mike Sharp (704-992-0681) or Ben Travis (704-875-0395).