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# Around The Horn

*News for the Middle Atlantic Region*

## Broadcast Your League on the Web

Babe Ruth Headquarters has announced that Babe Ruth Leagues, Inc. has entered into an agreement with Youth Sports Live (YSL), the company that pioneered streaming youth sports content via the Internet.



YSL provides equipment and installs it free of charge to local leagues to videotape their games. It also provides any necessary technical support. Their revenue is generated through monthly subscriptions to the YSL service by people who want to be able to view the league games on-demand or purchase DVD's of the games. As a bonus, the local league will receive 15% of the total subscription and DVD purchases.

This is a great way for working parents to get to see the games they cannot get to or for grandparents to be able to see their grandkids play if they don't live nearby.

Streaming games on the Internet has been shown to be a big success at the various World Series. With this new partnership

with YSL, now it can be done on a local league level as well.♦

## Southern NJ State Commissioner Honored

At a dinner held on February 9<sup>th</sup> Southern New Jersey State Commissioner Tom Mitchell received the Distinguished Service Award from the Albert Carino Basketball Club of South Jersey. The club honored Tom for his tireless work for the club, serving as a basketball official for the past fifteen years.♦

## Baseball Quote

“Show me a guy who's afraid to look bad and I'll show you a guy you can beat every time.”

--Lou Brock

## Gender Oriented Volunteerism

Does your league have trouble getting volunteers to help out with the teams? Do you need more volunteers for concession stands, etc.? Try getting rid of the gender oriented division that exists in volunteerism.

Youth sports often use gendered language drawn from family relations. Team coaches are never referred to as the “team dads” but support volunteers are consistently referred to as “team moms”.

Because the role is often defined as “feminine” men do not want to take on the role of team parent. Many consider the role to be trivial and unimportant and too domesticated.

Leagues often make the mistake of assuming that fathers will volunteer to be assistant coaches and mothers to be “team moms” and they recruit accordingly.

This sometimes means that the woman who becomes the team parent has done so only because the system has coerced her into taking the job.

If your team is lacking for volunteers take a good look at your system. Call your league support structure “**Team Parents**” and treat the job accordingly. **Open up ALL volunteer positions to anyone**, regardless of gender, who is willing and capable of doing the job. Treat all volunteers in every position with the same respect. ♦

## Stump the Ump Quiz

Are these rulings true or false?

1. The batter should be declared out if he steps out of the batter’s box to swing at a pitch which he fouls off.
2. An appeal play for a runner missing a base must be made before the next pitch or next attempted play.
3. In the bottom of the fifth inning, a pinch-hitter hits for the pitcher. In the top of the sixth inning, the new pitcher is warming up while the manager is running to the umpire to tell him that he wanted a different pitcher than the one now warming up on the mound. Since the wrong pitcher has not thrown a pitch to a batter he may be removed for another pitcher.
4. A fair fly ball which bounces off the right fielder’s glove and goes over the right field fence in fair territory is a two base hit.
5. One out, runner on first. On the 1-1 pitch, the runner attempts to steal second. The batter swings and misses but interferes with the catcher’s throw which is too late to retire the runner at second. The umpire declares the batter out and returns the runner to first base.



## Don't Give Coaches a Free Reign

League officials and boards have an obligation to make sure that every youngster who signs up for their league has the same opportunity to play and have fun. Yet they fail to monitor the coaches to make sure this happens.

Often the first indication of how a coach is going to act comes at player try-outs or drafts. Is the coach trying to grab all the “good” players so that he has a winning team? Is the coach reluctant to accept “weak” players? This is an indication that the coach has a “winning is everything” attitude.

During the season listen considerably to the comments and complaints of parents. Don't just dismiss them as “gripes” or idle complaints. Maybe half the time there is no truth to them, but half the time they are valid and legitimate concerns that should be addressed.

The game is supposed to be fun for every kid but it cannot be if they are not allowed to play, or if the coach has an abusive manner. If a coach is detrimental to the youth on his team, rein him in. Don't let the coach continue with his antics. Youth sports can be made safer, saner, less stressful and more inclusive only if all points of view are seriously considered. ♦

## 2009 TOURNAMENTS

### Regional Tournaments

#### **10 year-old**

Site: [Monroe, NJ](#)

Host League: Monroe Twp CRL

Dates: July 30 – Aug 5

#### **12-year-old / 60 ft.**

Site: Bear, DE

Host League: Bear CRL

Dates: July 29- Aug 3

#### **12-year-old / 70 ft.**

Site: [Bridgewater, NJ](#)

Host League: Bridgewater CRL

Dates: July 30 – Aug 5

#### **13-year-old**

Site: [Williamsport, PA](#)

Host League: West End BRL

Dates: Aug. 6-12

#### **14-year-old**

Site: [Bridgewater, NJ](#)

Host League: Bridgewater BRL

Dates: Aug. 6 - 12

#### **13-15 year old**

Site: [Saugerties, NY](#)

Host League: Saugerties BRL

Dates: Aug. 5-11

#### **16-18 year old**

Site: **TBD**

Host League:

Dates: July 30 – Aug. 5

### Invitational Tournaments

#### **8-year-old**

Site: **TBD**

Host League:

Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

#### **9-year-old**

Site: [Troy, NY](#)

Host League: Spring Youth CRL

Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

#### **11-year-old / 60 ft.**

Site: **TBD**

Host League:

Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

#### **11-year-old / 70 ft.**

Site: [Indian Mills, NJ](#)

Host League: Indian Mills AA CRL

Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

#### **16-year-old**

Site: **TBD**

Host League:

Dates: Aug. 6 - end of play

### World Series

#### **Cal Ripken 10 and under**

Site: Lamar, CO

Dates: Aug. 15-22

#### **Cal Ripken Div. Major/ 60'**

Site: Winchester, MA

Dates: Aug. 13-20

#### **Cal Ripken Div. Major/70'**

Site: Aberdeen, MD

Dates: Aug. 15-22

#### **13-year-old**

Site: Murray, UT

Dates: Aug. 22-29

#### **14-year-old**

Site: Appleton, WI

Dates: Aug. 22-29

#### **13-15 year old**

Site: Longview, WA

Dates: Aug. 21-28

#### **16-18 year old**

Site: Moses Lake, WA

Dates: Aug. 15-22

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#### **SOFTBALL 12U**

Site: Wilson County, NC

Dates: Aug. 6-13

#### **SOFTBALL 16U**

Site: Concord, NH

Dates: Aug. 8-15





#### TOURNAMENT CONTRACTS SIGNED

Bridgewater, New Jersey will be the site of two of this year's regional tournaments, the Cal Ripken Major/70 and the 14 Year Olds. Signing the contracts for these tournaments are the 14 y.o. Host Tournament Chairperson Rodney Pennella, Asst. Middle Atlantic Regional Commissioner Evelyn Gouveia, Cal Ripken Major/70 Host Tournament Chairperson Brian Schnepf, and (standing) Bridgewater Cal Ripken League President Dominick Gonnella.

#### QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. **True** – Rule 6.06a
2. **True** – Rule 7.10d
3. **False** – Rule 3.05b
4. **False** – Rule 6.09h
5. **True** – Rule 6.06c