

M.T.A.A.

Muhlenberg Township Athletic Association
A Non-Profit Volunteer Youth Sports Organization
www.mtaasports.com

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Temple, PA 19560
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March 17, 2009

RE: March-April News Letter

M.T.A.A. Members,

Here we are in March already and we're getting ready to start our 2009 Baseball and Softball seasons. The backstop and fencing is going up at our new T-Ball/Coach Pitch and Softball field and we're getting in gear for Spring Clean-up at the MTAA Sports Complex. Though we are excited about getting the season started we have already been faced with a challenge. Two weeks ago we were contacted by Schuylkill Valley Sports that Majestic, manufacturer of the MLB shirts our in-house baseball players wear, is behind schedule on a new manufacturing-warehouse facility they are building and most likely will not be able to get our shirts to us before opening day on May 2nd. As you may or may not know this is MTAA's 50th anniversary, so we thought we would turn this into something positive for the players. This year the in-house baseball teams will wear the MLB hats as they have in the past several years, but they will wear a quality Russell T-shirt that has Muhlenberg in script lettering with MTAA in the tail of the "g" on the front, number on the back and have the 50th anniversary logo on the left sleeve. The T-shirts will color coordinate with their MLB hats. This should be a great item to help commemorate the anniversary season and will guarantee that our players are fully uniformed for opening day.

For those of you who know me personally, you know it is very important to me that all the children are treated equally no matter which sport it is that they are playing. It has always been a pet peeve of mine that different sports get different beginning of season/end of season gifts and awards, etc. In an effort to bring everything into a level playing field the Board has decided that all players who come through the organization in 2009 will receive one 50th anniversary T-shirt as their sport gift from MTAA. This t-shirt will also be available through our Fan Wear web page that should be operational by mid April.

As I stated in my introduction letter "**VOLUNTEER**" would be one of my key words this year and I would like to thank all the members who have stepped up and volunteered their time to the Committees that we are putting together this year. Though the committees have had a nice level of interest from the members we can not forget about them, we are always looking for help in any respect. "**An organization of this size does not run itself and requires volunteers. Quite often it is forgotten or taken for granted that this huge organization is run on strictly a volunteer basis.**", is a direct quote from my introduction letter, but even I didn't realize how true this was until Casey Blankenbiller, MTAA Treasurer, was putting numbers together as we are reacquiring our 501c3 and our Tax exempt status. Casey

Football

Flag
Knee-hi
Mites
Midgets

Cheerleading

Competition
Football
Basketball
Wrestling

Field Hockey

Junior
Senior

Wrestling

K thru 6

Basketball

Boys Knee-hi
Boys Mites
Boys Junior
Girls Mites
Girls Junior

Baseball

Tee Ball
Coach Pitch
Knee-hi
Mites
Diamond League
10u Tournament
12u Tournament
Fall League

Girls Softball

8u Coach Pitch
10u
12u

requested from all Board Members, Concession Stand Volunteers and Commissioners the amount of hours that they and their Coaches have volunteered in the 2008 season. The hours added up to a staggering **21, 604 hours**. Yes, that is correct 21, 604 hours is what it took for this organization to run last year. When you look at that number, it's hard to argue that one 2 hour shift in the concession stand over an entire season is an unreasonable request. **VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT WORK!!!**

Congratulations to:

Girls Basketball

The MTAA Stars, First Place Winners of the MTAA 5th and 6th Grade Invitational Basketball Tournament.

5th Grade MTAA Team, First Place at Schuylkill Valley Tournament going 5-0.

Boys Basketball

Reading-Berks Youth Basketball B League Northern Division Champions

League Record 10-0

Reading-Berks Youth Basketball B League Champions

Overall Record 13-0

Wrestling

School Boy Tournament

Cameron Beckett - 1st

Damon Stern - 3rd

Edison Gomez - 4th

Derreck Trythall - 4th

Christopher Straub - 4th

Cameron Beckett has qualified for 2009 Pennsylvania State Finals on March 20 & 21. No wrestler from MTAA has ever progressed this far in the tournament. Good Luck Cameron!

The last few items I would like to leave you with is that we are looking for a Fall Ball Co-Commissioner and paid umpires for our in-house games. If you have any interest in either of these positions please see our web site for further information.

Respectfully,

Mark C. Christman
M.T.A.A. President

PS: If you would like this bi-monthly letter sent to your e-mail address please e-mail webmaster@mtaasports.com and we will add you to the list.