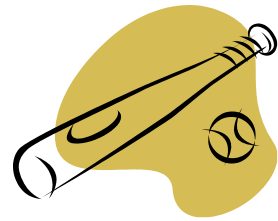


**American Legion Post No. 35**  
1231 Hastings Street  
Traverse City, MI 49686

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Dear Parents,

The American Legion Junior Baseball Committee welcomes you and your children to its 58th summer of baseball. We believe the program is excellent, but our goal is to make each season better than the previous one. As we have done before, we will ask the parents or the guardians of each participant to sign a letter indicating that they understand and agree with our rules, will abide with those rules and will encourage all others attending games to do the same.

***Of a particular note is Rule 8, which says that the coach is not only responsible for his own conduct, but for that of his assistants, players and fans. If conduct becomes unreasonable, and the coach cannot control the conduct of any of the above participants, we are instructing our umpires to forfeit ballgames.***

[www.tcligionbaseball.com](http://www.tcligionbaseball.com)

Our philosophy is that our program is for the players. If anyone's conduct detracts from the player's ability to enjoy and profit from the experience of playing, then we do not wish the game to continue. It is every parent's and fan's right to cheer for and support any player, players, or team. It is not his or her right to dictate any outcome of a play or game by intimidating another player, team, or umpire.

Our rule states that an umpire should give a coach two warnings about any such conduct. The coach will have signed a contract agreeing to end any such problem upon the umpire's request. If any such incident occurs for a third time during any ballgame, the umpire will immediately forfeit that game. It is our committee's hope that this letter will help solve a problem about which we are greatly concerned.

Sincerely,  
Larry Butcher, Director

*Thank you to our Team Sponsors in 2008*

# AMERICAN LEGION BOWEN-HOLIDAY POST 35 JUNIOR BASEBALL - 2009



Not a TCAPS sponsored event

American Legion Post 35  
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Belle Tire  
Blue Tractor Restaurant  
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Burger King  
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Grand Traverse Title  
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Jim Smith Building & Design  
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Welcome to the 59th year of American Legion Junior Baseball. We would like to tell you briefly how this program is operated.

The weeks leading up to March 26 are sign up time for this program. It takes time to put together teams since all the work is done by volunteers. Games begin in late May with the season running through July. There will be no games during the week of July 4-11. Last year over 921 children between the ages of 5-18 played in the American Legion program. Each team had a coach with many assistants and interested parents involved.

This year we are again mailing to players from the previous season. Please use one form per player and be sure to sign the Waiver of Liability. Applications without parent signatures will not be immediately processed, resulting in a delayed placement on a team. [Copy of a birth certificate is required only if your child did not play in this program in the previous year.](#)

**Please mail the application(s) and fee to:**  
**American Legion**  
**1231 Hastings St.**  
**Traverse City, MI 49686**  
[www.tcligionbaseball.com](http://www.tcligionbaseball.com)

Payment by check is preferred, made out to American Legion Junior Baseball. All applications and fees must be received no later than final sign up night on March 26, 2009 at the American Legion Hall from 4-7 pm.

### ~ DRAFT INFORMATION ~

A blind draft will be used to put together teams in A and B leagues. We will hold an Evaluation Day In April with time and day to be announced. Players should arrive promptly at the start times with a glove and bat.

### PLAYERS MUST ATTEND THIS EVALUATION TO BE PLACED ON A TEAM THIS YEAR.

If your child is in T, D or C leagues this year he/she will return to last year's team. If you do not wish him/her to be on the same team, please fill out a special request form. Players will then go into the lottery for placement along with all new players to American Legion.

With parental permission, a player may move up a league above that of his/her age group **AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BASEBALL COMMITTEE.** Once a player advances above his/her age group, they may not move back. All players are placed in a league based on age, not skills, and may not be moved back to a lower league for any reason. Siblings in the same age group will be placed on the same team unless otherwise noted.

### Players may not be traded, reassigned or otherwise switched to another team without the approval of the American Legion Baseball Committee.

The entire Baseball Committee reviews all special requests. Any and all requests for assignment to a specific team or coach will be considered **ONLY** if the player and parent personally appear at the American Legion. A separate Special Request 2009 Form must be filled out at the American Legion at that time stating precisely the reason for the special request, and be included with the application. Please refer to the website ([www.tcligionbaseball.com](http://www.tcligionbaseball.com)) for office hours.

Anyone interested in coaching should attend our Coach's Meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the American Legion.

## UMPIRES NEEDED

*Youth umpires, must be 13 years or older.  
 Training will be provided. Adults and youths interested  
 please call Todd Gokey at 231-883-5269.*

Ages as of June 1, 2009

T Ball	5 and 6
D Ball	7 and 8
C Ball	9 and 10
B Ball	11 and 12
A Ball	13 and 14*



*\*Players in A Ball age group who play on the Junior High baseball team will be required to play for their school team. Any 15 year old who does not play on a high school team can play in A Ball. Any questions please call 929-1600.*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

March 18	Coaches Meeting 7pm	at American Legion
March 26	Final Sign-Up 4-7pm	at American Legion
	Evaluation Day	at Civic Center
	(Make up day will be determined)	
April	TBA	
April	TBA	
April 29	Rules Meeting for Coaches A, B, and C	7pm at American Legion
April 30	Rules Meeting for Coaches D and T	7pm at American Legion
May 1	Practice begins	
May 25	Games begin	

### Notes:

1. If a player is not contacted by May 5th, please call the American Legion, 929-1600. It takes time for a coach to contact all the players so please be patient. For any questions or concerns, please refer to our website for contact information.

2. If you have any questions concerning the baseball program, please contact your coach or the field director during his working hours. The field director will be available from the first through the last game of the day. You may also email us at [www.tcligionbaseball.com](http://www.tcligionbaseball.com).

3. A complete schedule of games will be given to all coaches. Play will begin May 25 and end July 31. Due to facility use and scheduling of umpires, no rainouts will be made up, with exception of playoffs.

4. All games that are played on weekdays will begin at 6:00 pm and Saturday games will begin at 9:00 am, with the last game beginning at 5:40 pm.

5. Rainouts will be posted on our website, please check [www.tcligionbaseball.com](http://www.tcligionbaseball.com)

6. All players assigned to a team MUST wear uniform shirts furnished by the American Legion Junior Baseball Program or their team sponsors. All males, D league and above must wear athletic cups. Parents are required to provide baseball pants for players in C league and above. Your coach will notify you of the color. Parents are also encouraged to purchase sports shoes and mouth guards for their player. Please emphasize safety.

7. All regularly scheduled games, for all leagues, will be played at the Grand Traverse County Civic Center.

8. No player's application will be processed until a parent or legal guardian has signed the Waiver of Liability and provided the necessary fees.

9. The coach determines the number of practices that a team has. We cannot get the diamonds at the Civic Center until May, but teams may practice elsewhere. All coaches donate their time to the program, let's respect them for the time they put into the program to make it a success. If you desire to assist with a team please call the coach.

10. There will be a \$10 late fee for all applications received or post-marked after March 26, 2009.

11. To the extent reasonably possible, the board will extend the number of A-League games at no extra cost.

**See you at the fields!**

**American Legion  
 Junior Baseball  
 Committee  
 2009**

**Director**  
 Larry Butcher

**Board Members**  
 Gary Hlavka  
 Jocelyn Bohrer  
 Todd Gokey  
 Chuck Lerchen  
 Mike Swogger  
 John Witkop



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