



HONEOYE FALLS-MENDON YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

NEWS & UPDATES

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FIELD IMPROVEMENT NEWS - YOU CAN HELP!

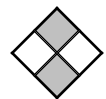
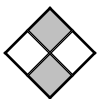
Each year we highlight capital projects at our complex of 7 fields, both recent work and future projects. Over the past few years every field has had its infield flattened, edged and re-seeded and home plate areas and pitcher's mounds rebuilt. With that substantial work as a great foundation, in 2011 we concentrated on improving field buildings and making the fields maintenance friendly.

- John McKinnon donated the materials and labor to replace the doors on the chow hut and the three adjacent sheds used for tools, equipment and storage. He also rebuilt the door on the surround for the dumpster. All of the old doors had deteriorated, were unsightly and not secure. This was a huge contribution to our efforts to be good neighbors.
- Clayton and Brenda Lacey obtained donated materials from Vollrath Corporation to install stainless steel counters and aluminum windows in the chow hut improving our food handling abilities and making the chow hut much more volunteer friendly.
- The areas under all permanent spectator benches on Fields 1 and A and Moffitt Field were all excavated, lined with landscape material and filled with stone. This work was done by volunteers during our field cleanup day in April. This project has substantially reduced the time spent trimming under the benches.

We also planned future improvements to maintain the high quality of our baseball experience. Our near term planned projects include-

- Building a second batting cage adjacent to the first to accommodate demand. A concrete pad and protective covering are also envisioned.
- Replacing the backstops on Fields A and B with backstops the height of those on Moffitt Field. The fielders on those fields face west and early evening games with a setting sun result in difficult visibility. Catchers often resort to rolling the ball back to pitchers when the sun is "just right" (or wrong). We expect these new taller screened backstops to solve this long-standing problem.
- Replacing baseline fencing on all fields. Much of the existing fencing has been deformed by "soft toss" and years of use. Many of the posts will remain in use. While this is done we will explore methods of treating the area below the fence to inhibit grass growth – another maintenance time saver.
- Correcting the drainage in the outfield of Moffitt Field. We have studied this problem and have developed a plan to remediate it. We have a short window when we are not using the field and conditions are conducive to the work. We plan to do this work in August 2012.

This is an ambitious plan. To accomplish all this in the short-term is beyond the league's sole financial capabilities. The total estimated cost is approximately \$50,000. We will accomplish these projects as funds are available. We have already scheduled the backstop work for this winter based on available funds. To try to expedite these projects we have also applied for a NYS grant of \$25,000. John Correll, Dave Engel, Dave Donatello, Eric Nelson, John Moffitt and Eric Knaak worked to apply for this grant on a very tight timeframe. We could be awarded all, none or portion of the amount sought. We expect to have an answer before year end. The league does have some reserve funds to meet a portion of the match requirement of the grant. We will need to raise additional funds. **If you would like to help with funding these projects you can make a tax deductible contribution to HFMYB during the upcoming registration period. You will have the opportunity to add a donation towards field improvements to your registration fee. If you prefer, you can mail your contribution to: HFMYB, PO BOX 64, Mendon, NY 14506. A contribution made before 12/31/11 will save you money on your taxes this year. If you are able and so inclined it would be a real win, win. Thank you in advance!**



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SENIOR LEAGUE?

With parent and player input indicating a desire to play very competitive baseball, HFMYB entered a 13U team in the Monroe County Babe Ruth League (MCBR) in 2011. The team had a successful season. Based on that initial experience, we will be sponsoring MCBR teams at both 15U and 13U levels in 2012. In accordance with MCBR rules, those teams were selected in October 2011 during try outs that were communicated to all age eligible players.

We will continue to field teams open to all at ages 13-18 in our traditional senior league. The senior league and MCBR teams play an inter-town schedule with home games at Moffitt Field. Both leagues are appropriately competitive and provide a wonderful player and spectator experience. There is nothing like a warm summer evening sitting under the shade trees at Moffitt watching the greatest game on earth. If your children are in the leagues through age 12, stop by and see where they are headed. It's an exciting trip that goes by way too fast!



WE ARE 100% ONLINE FOR 2012

Last year we introduced on line registration on our new website, www.hfmbaseball.org using a platform that is common to local youth soccer, football, lacrosse and basketball leagues. Thanks to you it was a huge success. For 2012 the on line process will be the same. If you have already used the sites to register your child(ren) for any of the leagues you have already created a user ID and password; those are still active. First time users will need to create both. Once created, those IDs and passwords are used for each league. We will **NOT** be holding a walk-in registration for 2012.

For a detailed User Guide see the "Online Registration Guide" on our home page.

Remember: If you are registering any players for baseball for the first time, please mail a copy of their birth certificate to HFMYB, PO BOX 64, Mendon, NY 14506 or email a scanned copy to Eric Nelson at ericbb@rochester.rr.com. Registration fees remain the same as last year. Our goal is to maintain stable fees while providing sufficient funding to continue to bring a wonderful baseball experience to area families.



CHOW HUT TRANSITION

Last year Mary Anne Lynch Slade retired after running our wonderful Chow Hut operation for many years. In the fine volunteer tradition that permeates HFMYB, Brenda Lacey and Liza Wilkinson stepped forward to take on this very important position. Brenda and Liza did a fantastic job of continuing to provide top notch food and service to the hundreds of families that participate in HFMYB. Traditional foods and methods were continued with innovations introduced in many areas. The Chow Hut operation not only provides great food, it has generated much of the funding for capital improvements at the complex. A big thank you goes out to Brenda, Liza and their group of dedicated volunteers.

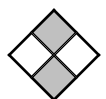
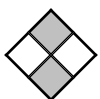
VOLUNTEERS

HFMYB has been blessed with parents and players who actively volunteer to make the league "go." Coaching, Team Parent, Chow Hut and field maintenance assistance are just a few of the ways you all help. We are always looking for volunteers. If you want to help, please contact a board member. All board contact information and areas of responsibility are listed on our website – www.hfmbaseball.org. Thank you to all who help make the league what it is.

ADVERTISING

Do you own or work for a business that serves our community? Are you looking for a new way to reach your target audience? Do you already sponsor an HFMYB team? If you answered any of these questions with a YES, you should consider having a sign advertising your business at the fields. The first year you have a sign, you pay for the sign to be made, there is no fee for hanging the sign. After the first year there is a modest annual fee of \$70 (\$35 if you also sponsor a team).

We also offer advertising opportunities on our website that will allow you to reach five area youth sports leagues. If this will add value for your business, please contact Eric Nelson at ericbb@rochester.rr.com.





HFMYB SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, HFMYB sponsors two \$200 scholarships in memory of David Coates. David coached in the HFMYB league and was killed in a car accident. Recipients are selected from HFL students during their senior year in high school by a school committee based on community contributions made "behind the scenes." In June 2011 the scholarships were awarded to Paige Smith and Quinn Banford. They join a long list of recipients, many of whom are now contributing adults in our community. If you see Paige or Quinn, congratulate them on their achievement.



IN REMEMBRANCE

On November 23, 2011, James Spencer, a 2011 graduate of HFL, died in a car accident. James played hockey throughout his HFL school career and had just started his first year at Clarkson intending to major in engineering. James played baseball in HFMYB and is remembered as a fine young man with a competitive fire. He will be missed by all that knew him.

On February 20, 2010, Peter Cannon, then a senior at HFL and hoping to attend the Air Force Academy, died in a car accident. Peter was a cross country skier and track participant and an active community volunteer. Peter also played baseball in HFMYB. He was a bright light in our community inspiring all those he touched.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to James and Jackie Spencer and Bill and Sue Cannon and their families.

John Moffitt, President
Jim Zielinski, Vice President
David Donatello, Secretary
Eric Nelson, Treasurer

