

# December 2011 Newsletter



## President's Message

Happy Holidays! As we head towards 2012, please don't forget that BASEBALL IS AROUND THE CORNER!!

We can't wait for the season to get started, and preparations are well underway. The 2011 season was a great success. We have a lot to be thankful for. The house league ran smoothly thanks to the efforts of our division Vice Presidents and our great group of volunteer Managers and Coaches. The summer featured an ever-growing number of travel teams at both the 'A' and 'B' levels. And we once again had our Fall House League that had the 8-11 year-old group of kids playing at Booth Field right up into November. We plan to continue to be able to provide maximum playing opportunities for kids of all ages, at various playing levels and across multiple seasons.

In this December issue, you will find details on:

- Registration
- Modell's Team Weeks
- Spring Travel Tryouts
- Middle School Program 2012 Tryouts
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Sponsorship Opportunities
- Birthday Announcements

In summary, I'd like to say that we are also very thankful to have such supportive group of parents in our community as we try to provide the best baseball experience we can for the kids. On behalf of the entire board of directors, we thank you and we are thrilled to you all back to our SPFYBA family for the 2012 season. Best wishes to all for a very Happy New Year!

Regards,

Neil Kaufman  
President, SPFYBA

## REGISTRATION STILL OPEN!

... but not for long. If you haven't registered yet, PLEASE DO IT NOW! We are planning to close registration soon. This is because of the many activities that must take place starting in January in order to get the teams organized, Managers selected and certified, player evaluations and drafts, uniforms ordered, fields scheduled, etc. We have to start soon to be ready for Opening Day. So you don't want to risk being put on the waiting list... **REGISTER NOW to secure your spot at [WWW.SPFYBA.ORG](http://WWW.SPFYBA.ORG)!**

## Modell's Holiday Savings CONTINUES!

Hopefully you all have had the opportunity to get your savings at Modell's during Team Weeks this holiday season using our Modell's Team Weeks coupon. This year we are **extended to January 5<sup>th</sup>**. So you can use the SPFYBA coupon (available on our website) with your gift cards, and in combination with those post-holiday sales as well! Don't miss getting your 15% off on all purchases. Print out the Modell's coupon at

[WWW.SPFYBA.ORG](http://WWW.SPFYBA.ORG), and take it to Modell's to get your savings! At the same time, you'll be helping SPFYBA as the league gets 5% of all purchases made under SPFYBA's name at Modell's. You can also reuse the coupon as many times as you'd like through January 5<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy!!

## Spring Travel Program

Spring Travel Baseball tryouts will begin in January according to the following schedule:

- **9U Spring Travel** – Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm – 6:30pm
- **10U Spring Travel** – Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm – 8:00pm
- **11U Spring Travel** – Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:00pm – 8:00pm
- **12U Spring Travel** – Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 6:00 – 8:00pm

All tryouts will take place at the **Inman Sports Complex**. Information and directions can be found at [www.inmansportsclub.com](http://www.inmansportsclub.com).

**NOTE: YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THE SPRING TRAVEL TRYOUTS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO TRY OUT ON THE DATES ABOVE!!** You can register using the same registration utility on our website [WWW.SPFYBA.ORG](http://WWW.SPFYBA.ORG). Be sure to select “**SPRING TRAVEL TRYOUT**”. There is no charge to register, but you must be registered in order to be eligible for the tryout. In addition, you must also be registered for the Spring House League season to be eligible to play in the Spring Travel program.

There will also be a **PARENT'S MEETING on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Main Cafeteria at 7pm**. All parents are welcome to attend, at which time more details will be shared and questions answered.

If you have any questions, you may contact Travel Director Bill Gale at [wfgale@yahoo.com](mailto:wfgale@yahoo.com), or contact the league at [spfyba@gmail.com](mailto:spfyba@gmail.com).

## Middle School Program

SPFYBA and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education are proud to sponsor the middle school baseball program once again this spring for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. If you're interested in the program, here is what you need to know. Be sure to follow the instructions EXACTLY to ensure tryout eligibility:

1. **You must register the interested ballplayer for the SENIOR DIVISION** to be eligible for the Middle School program, using our online registration at [WWW.SPFYBA.ORG](http://WWW.SPFYBA.ORG). The \$150 registration fee is required as a deposit at the time of registration. **YOU MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE SENIOR DIVISION IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO TRYOUT FOR THE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM!**
2. Tryout for registered players will take place on Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 2pm at the Branchburg Sports Complex ([www.branchburgsportscomplex.com](http://www.branchburgsportscomplex.com)). Save the date!
3. The fee for the middle school program will be approximately \$325 (exact fee will be made known to those making the team). We encourage those who make the middle school team to also play SPFYBA Senior Division league, though doing so is not mandatory. Exact fees will be determined based on ballplayer's playing choice(s).

There will be a parent meeting in January timeframe to further explain the program. An announcement will be made once that date is confirmed. If you have immediate questions, you may contact us at [spfyba@gmail.com](mailto:spfyba@gmail.com).

## Call Out to Volunteers!

It takes a lot of work to launch and operate a successful youth baseball season day to day for 800 kids. The planning starts early, and committees are forming in most areas of our operation. If you're interested in getting involved, please let us know asap. It takes many dedicated volunteers, and you don't have to be a baseball expert to get involved. Our Parents Auxiliary is also a great way to help the organization. So if you have some time and wish to give back to the kids in our community, we welcome new volunteers!

## **We Need Sponsors!**

SPFYBA is so thankful for our sponsors of past years. This year we have a number of additional necessary expenses we must incur in order to provide a top notch experience for our youth ballplayers. So your sponsorship dollars are more needed than ever. If you are interested and able to help out our organization, please contact us at [spfyba@gmail.com](mailto:spfyba@gmail.com). We thank you very much!

## **Birthdays**

One of the traditions we'd like to revive is the recognition of birthdays. We'd like to acknowledge and congratulate the following big birthdays from November & December. Happy Birthday, and good luck in 2012!!

### **November**

Espinoza, Alejandro - 11/02

O'Brien, Colin - 11/03

Minall, Kyle - 11/04

Besson, Steven - 11/05

Kipp, Andrew - 11/05

Fletcher, Justin - 11/07

Iarussi, Julian - 11/08

Fallo, Jack - 11/09

Bonadies, Alexander - 11/10

Gannon, Dominic - 11/10

Walsh, Justin - 11/10

Briel, Mark - 11/10

Lipke, Zachary - 11/13

More, Max - 11/13

Yawger, Ryan - 11/14

Gaiimo, Justin - 11/15

Makris, V. J. - 11/16

Brody, Marc - 11/17

Mathew, Dylan - 11/17

Haas, Jeremy - 11/18

Henkels, Patrick - 11/18

Schmitz, Joseph - 11/19

Rodgers, Jeffrey - 11/19

Dembiec, Patrick - 11/19

Linder, Joseph - 11/19

Levine, Charlie - 11/21

Gibbons, Christopher - 11/22

Campbell, London - 11/23

McManus, Brian - 11/24

Blacker, Max - 11/24

Musano, Nicholas - 11/24  
Thompson, Isaiah - 11/25  
Barth, James - 11/25  
Ricci, Billy - 11/26  
Farin, David - 11/28  
Boylan, Quinn - 11/28  
Ryder, Kenneth - 11/29  
Felber, Brian - 11/30  
Essenfeld, Benjamin - 11/30  
Trenk, Mackenzie - 11/30

## **December**

Vaughn, Spencer - 12/01  
Cooney, Jackson - 12/02  
Budiansky, David - 12/02  
Guensch, Tyler - 12/03  
Warren, Peter - 12/03  
Briel, Benjamin - 12/04  
Schreck, Justin - 12/06  
Scarcella, Stephen - 12/07  
Mezzatesta, Erik - 12/08  
DiNizo, Anthony - 12/09  
Garcia, Joshua - 12/09  
Hernandez, Rebecca - 12/09  
Seith, Andrew - 12/09  
Baumgartner, Ryan - 12/09  
Baumgartner, Stephan - 12/09  
McNeely, Sean - 12/10  
Rafal, Ethan - 12/10  
Yin, William - 12/10  
Alhamrawy, Ramy - 12/10  
Susino, Nicholas - 12/12  
Sosinski, James - 12/14  
Blanco, Christian - 12/14  
Hayeck, Michael - 12/14  
Bruckman, Thomas - 12/15  
Krajcsik, Anthony - 12/16  
Bloom, Jared - 12/16  
Jahnke, Seth - 12/16  
Cuccurullo, Patrick - 12/17  
Ruzek, Joseph - 12/19  
Masella, Jack - 12/19  
Beirne, J.T. - 12/20  
Florendo, Daniel - 12/23  
Newman, Matthew - 12/23  
Ruzek, Vincent - 12/23  
Gale, William - 12/24  
Lowrey, Jordan - 12/24  
Lipshitz, Zachary - 12/25

Chin, Riley - 12/25  
Degnan, Kevin - 12/25  
Keough, Aidan - 12/25  
Barattucci, David - 12/26  
Barco, Gustavo - 12/26  
Kleemeyer, Vance - 12/27  
Scarcella, Thomas - 12/27  
Greenberg, Brandon - 12/27  
Schack, Aaron - 12/28  
Phillips, Sydney - 12/28  
Butler, Charles - 12/29  
Virgil, Morgan - 12/29  
Davis, George - 12/30  
Maioriello, Pete - 12/31  
Clarke, Colin - 12/31