

# **“Our Vision for the new *Keizer Youth Sports Association*”**

## ***K.Y.S.A.***

As the Board of Keizer Little League Inc., our objective over the past several months has been to address numerous concerns accumulated over several years from the Keizer community that the current Little League Program is not serving our children to the fullest extent possible. These concerns clearly indicate that the current product does not offer what is best suited for our community.

In response, we initiated a due diligence process that set out to determine what would be the best solution for youth baseball and softball in the City of Keizer, irrespective of the organization with which it operated under. The result is that we have an opportunity to make a change to our programs that will make them more attractive for our kids, provide increased financial stability to maintain the facility and eliminate the fracturing of our baseball and softball youth programs, thus re-establishing them as one community program. It is a time when we can all unite as a community in support of all of our kids. It is our responsibility to rekindle our baseball and softball programs and bring our community back together.

**We cannot stress enough that all programs will continue to be for all-comers and all skill levels from ages 5-14 with options also available for ages 15-18.** No child wanting to play will be turned away, regardless of skill level or financial ability to pay. Teaching children the fundamentals of playing baseball and softball and the traits of sportsmanship, teamwork and respect is still the primary mission of our organization. The program we envision will have virtually no changes for kids from age 5 up to the AAA level.

Our Park Management Agreement with the City requires us to maintain the facility year-round. Presently, there are safety issues and deferred maintenance that we must address pending necessary funds to make our facility safer for the kids and spectators. With continuing participation level reductions, the future for youth baseball/softball in Keizer is bleak without the proposed program enhancements that will increase revenue for improvements such as improved field drainage and foul ball spectator protection.

Listed below are informational points to outline the program we would like to propose:

- We will offer an all-comers baseball and softball league for ages 5 to 14 years with recreational options for ages 15-18 years.
- We will maintain or reduce registration fees across all levels from the previous year. Scholarships will continue to be provided where there is a need. (“2<sup>nd</sup> season” teams will require additional fees commensurate with number of additional games, similar to the All-Stars program).
- Majors baseball (12U) program will offer recreational opportunities in the “1<sup>st</sup> season” that will be combined with optional competitive opportunities in the “2<sup>nd</sup> season.”
- Juniors (14U) baseball program will combine recreational and competitive opportunities depending on each family’s desire.
- 10U through 14U softball will offer recreational leagues with local competition and minimal travel.
- We will continue to maintain the highest level of safety rules and regulations for our children, including playing rules, application procedures and background checks for all volunteers and coaches.
- We will continue to maintain and improve training opportunities for volunteers and coaches.
- We will be able to more fully utilize one of the finest baseball and softball facilities in the State of Oregon, with significant additional tournament opportunities.
- Additional tournament opportunities will ultimately provide between \$30,000 and \$40,000 in revenues to further enhance our facilities and maintain them.
- We will provide our Community and its families the opportunity to have local control of its programs in order to customize them to suit our needs.
- In addition to the recreational leagues, we will be able to provide additional competitive opportunities which will eliminate the “fracturing” of the Community’s baseball and softball programs and reestablish one community program at one facility.

We recognize that the uncertainty of change may cause apprehension, however we have an opportunity to make a transformation that will strengthen our program and make our community a regional destination for years to come. We are committed to making a seamless transition for the families who have traditionally participated in Keizer Little League. There is no need for us to re-invent the wheel and the majority of the players and families will see no visible change from the program that they have participated in previous years.

**We ask for your support and invite you to join us at an informational meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm at Keizer City Hall Council Chambers. Please attend to hear more about our plans for baseball and softball in our Community. We hope this information has been helpful in answering questions as we move into a new era of baseball and softball in Keizer.**

Sincerely,  
Board of Directors  
Keizer Youth Sports Association (*K.Y.S.A.*)  
(Formerly Keizer Little League)

## **ATTENTION!!!**

Register for Baseball and Softball  
With Keizer Youth Sports Association

2008 SEASON:

Saturday January 26  
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Friday February 1  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Saturday February 2  
9:00 AM – 3:00PM

Details to follow- visit our website at [www.keizerLL.org](http://www.keizerLL.org)

**SAME GREAT FIELDS, SAME COACHES,  
IMPROVED PROGRAM/NEW NAME!**