

# WELCOME TO THE 2009

April 11<sup>th</sup> Ages 9u-14u

## NATIONS BASEBALL “Pre-Season Challenge”



***All players participating in the NATIONS 2009 Pre-Season Challenge tournament play shall have photocopies of their original birth certificates online at [www.nations-baseball.com](http://www.nations-baseball.com) and should have in the possession of their team manager. Failure to have a copy of the birth certificate online at [www.nations-baseball.com](http://www.nations-baseball.com) or in possession upon demand will result in the offending team losing the game, being ejected from the tournament, being placed last in the standings and forfeiting all awards and tournament berths that would have been awarded at the tournament.***

### NOTE:

1. Any player who before May 1<sup>st</sup>, reaches the next highest age classification, shall not be eligible to play in the lower age group. Example, a 9 yr. old cannot turn 10 before May 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year and be eligible to play in the 9-under age group.
2. Any player can play in a higher age classification, but cannot play in a lower age group.
3. All players must be fully uniformed, which includes the following: Pants, socks, cap, and team shirt with numbers that are non-duplicating and at least three inches in height.
4. Managers and coaches must wear a baseball cap with team insignia and will be properly dressed. (Coaches may wear coaching shorts).
5. While in the field, as a defensive player, team caps must be worn.
6. Protest of uniforms will not be allowed. It shall be the Tournament Director's responsibility regarding uniform legality. Violation of the uniform rule will result in the violator being allowed to conform or be removed from the game.
7. A full-use batting helmet which covers the top and back of the head and the side of the face must be worn by every player while in the on-deck circle, when at bat and while on the bases.
8. All bat boys/girls will wear full-use batting helmets when their team is at bat.
9. The catcher must wear protective gear: Mask, chest protector, shin guards, protective cup, catcher's helmet and throat guard. Ages 9-12: Catchers must wear helmet that fully covers their ears.
11. The NATIONS Baseball Handbook and the National Federation of High School Baseball Rules shall govern all playing rules not specifically covered above.
12. Metal spikes are prohibited for age divisions' 12u and below.

# **2009 Pre-Season Challenge**

## **TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES**

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We will use the "Pool-Play" format in this tournament. Teams will be placed in pools where they will play a round robin within their pool. Each team will play 2 games in pool play. A single elimination championship tournament will be held for the teams that qualify for the championship bracket. The exact format of the tournament, e.g., number of pools, number of teams in each pool, etc., will be set by the Tournament Director following NATIONS Baseball guidelines.

### **AWARDS**

IN AGE DIVISION, THERE WILL BE 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> TEAM TROPHIES. IN EACH AGE DIVISON, THERE WILL BE 1<sup>ST</sup> INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES.

### **REGARDING REFUNDS**

THE STATE OR AREA DIRECTOR SHALL RETAIN THE ULTIMATE DECISION REGARDING REFUNDS OF ANY OHIO NATIONS TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE. REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS FOR ENTRY FEES MUST BE MADE IN WRITING WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THE EVENTS COMPLETION TO THE HOST.

- A) 100% BEFORE BRACKET DRAWN OR ESTABLISHED CUT OFF DATE PROVIDED BY THE HOST.
- B) 90% and \$25 CERTIFICATE TO NEXT SEASONS TOURNEY ENTRY IF WEATHER CANCELS OR POSTPONES EVENT AND NO GAMES ARE PLAYED.
- C) 75% and \$25 CERTIFICATE TO NEXT SEASONS TOURNEY ENTRY IF TOURNAMENT IS POSTPONED OR RESCHEDULED AND TEAM ONLY PLAYED ONE GAME.
- D) \$25 CERTIFICATE TO NEXT SEASONS TOURNEY ENTRY IF TOURNAMENT IS OR IS NOT RESCHEDULED AND TEAM PLAYED TWO OR MORE GAMES AND CANNOT CONTINUE.
- E) IF A TEAM DOES NOT FINISH THE TOURNAMENT AND ELECTS TO DROP OUT: THEY WILL BE SUSPENDED OR SUBJECT TO A COMPLETE BAN FROM OHIO NATIONS BASEBALL. OHIO NATIONS BASEBALL WILL FOLLOW THE TEAMS ROSTER, COACHES AND MANAGERS IN THE EVENT OF A TEAM NAME OR MANAGER CHANGE THE FOLLOWING SEASON.

### **ADMISSION (all players and 3 coaches per team in free)**

\$ 4.00 per day

CHILDREN UNDER 16: FREE

SENIORS (OVER 65): FREE w/ Identification

**Only Water Coolers are allowed to be brought into park. No Food or any other beverage.**

ALL TEAMS MUST BE CHECKED TO ENSURE PROPER ROSTER, REGISTRATION, ID # AND SANCTION COMPLIANCE 1 HOUR PRIOR TO THEIR FIRST GAME. IF A TEAM OR MANAGER CAN'T PROVIDE THE ID NUMBER, THEY WILL BE CHARGED ANOTHER \$25.00 TO SANCTION. ALL TEAMS MUST HAVE A COPY OF THEIR ROSTER ON HAND AND MUST ALSO HAVE ROSTER ONLINE AT [WWW.NATIONS-BASEBALL.COM](http://WWW.NATIONS-BASEBALL.COM) IF THE TEAM QUALIFIES, THAT ROSTER BECOMES FROZEN. 3 PLAYERS MAY BE ADDED TO THE FROZEN ROSTER AFTER THAT FACT DURING THE SEASON.

## GAME TIME LIMITS

AGES 9U – 12U WILL BE ON A 1 HOUR AND 50 MINUTES TIME LIMIT. THAT MEANS NO GAME WILL START A NEW INNING AFTER 1:50. IF TIE AFTER REGULATION OR TIME LIMIT, CK. OHIO SHOOTOUT. THE CLOCK WILL START AFTER GROUND RULES. IF THE SCORE IS TIED AFTER REGULATION OR TIME LIMIT, THE GAME WILL CONTINUE UNTIL A WINNER IS DETERMINED. THERE WILL BE NO TIME LIMIT ON CHAMPIONSHIP GAME IF BRACKET CONSISTS OF ONE. **All ELIMINATION GAMES, THE HIGHEST SEED IS HOME TEAM. FLIP COIN FOR HOME TEAM ON CHAMPIONSHIP GAME.**

AGES 13U – 14U WILL BE ON A 2 HOUR TIME LIMIT. THAT MEANS NO GAME WILL START A NEW INNING AFTER 2:00. IF TIE AFTER REGULATION OR TIME LIMIT, CK. OHIO SHOOTOUT. THE CLOCK WILL START AFTER GROUND RULES. IF THE SCORE IS TIED AFTER REGULATION OR TIME LIMIT, THE GAME WILL CONTINUE UNTIL A WINNER IS DETERMINED THERE WILL NO TIME LIMIT ON CHAMPIONSHIP GAME IF BRACKET CONSISTS OF ONE. **All ELIMINATION GAMES, THE HIGHEST SEED IS HOME TEAM. FLIP COIN FOR HOME TEAM ON CHAMPIONSHIP GAME.**

NO GAMES WILL BEGIN AFTER 12:00 AM UNLESS ACTS OF GOD

INFIELD PRACTICE WILL BE ALLOWED PRIOR TO ½ HOUR OF GAME START TIME. IF LESS THAN ½ HOUR OF GAME TIME, INFIELD PRACTICE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.

## PITCHING

*No pitching Limitations for this tourney.*

## FIELD DIMENSIONS

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>BASES</u>	<u>PITCHING</u>
9u	65	46
10u	65	46
11u	70	50
12u	70	50
13u	80	54
14u	90	60.6

*Age Divisions 12u and below shall play 6 inning games. Age Divisions 13u and above shall play 7 inning games.*

## **RUN RULE**

- ❖ 15 runs after three innings, or two-and-one-half innings (if the home team is ahead).
- ❖ 10 runs after four innings, or three-and-one-half innings (if the home team is ahead).
- ❖ 8 runs after five innings, or four-and-one-half innings (if the home team is ahead).

**If the home team has run-ruled the visiting team, the game is declared complete, and the winner is named.**

## **REGARDING TIE BREAKERS**

The following rules will determine which teams will advance out of their pool. **With three or more teams tied, fewest runs allowed and then run differential will be used.**

- ❖ WIN-LOSS RECORD
- ❖ HEAD TO HEAD
- ❖ FEWEST RUNS ALLOWED
- ❖ HIGHEST RUN DIFFERENTIAL
- ❖ COIN FLIP
  - *The maximum run differential per game is +8 or -8*

## **EXTRA HITTER**

In all age divisions an extra hitter (EH) will be allowed. This will give a team a 10-player line-up that must be declared before the start of the game and used the remainder of the game. If a team is unable to continue a 10-player line-up for any reason, that slot will be an out. The player in the EH position, while not actually playing a defensive position, will be treated as though they are for substitution purposes. The re-entry rule applies for the EH. There will be no DH allowed.

Teams can Roster Bat: They can roster bat all present uniformed players. The lineup must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game. If you choose to roster bat, then all players other than the nine defensive position players are extra hitters and can move freely in defensive positions.

## **CHECK LIST**

All teams must be registered with NATIONS. A completed roster must be online at [www.nations-baseball.com](http://www.nations-baseball.com). A team must be composed of not more than twenty eligible players. Coaches or managers must be included in the twenty in order to be eligible to play. Birth certificates and Team Insurance must be online with your roster at [www.nations-baseball.com](http://www.nations-baseball.com). Player names on Birth Certificates and the Roster Online at [www.nations-baseball.com](http://www.nations-baseball.com) must match.

## **REGARDING SCHEDULES**

The schedules will be onsite at [www.playbaseball.info](http://www.playbaseball.info) on 4/8/09 at 9:00pm for the or I will notify by email to all teams that the schedules are now online.

## **PLAYING RULES**

Playing rules not specifically covered by the official NATIONS Baseball National By-Laws shall follow the Official Nations Federation of High Schools Baseball Rules.

## **OHIO SHOOTOUT APPLIES**

**IN THE CASE OF A TIE AFTER REGULATION AND/OR TIME LIMIT EXPIRES:** WE WILL THEN REVERT TO THE OHIO NATIONS BASEBALL SHOOTOUT. THE LAST 2 BATTERS FROM THE PRECEEDING INNING WILL BE PLACED IN ORDER AT 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> BASE (THE 2<sup>ND</sup> LAST BATTER GOES TO 2<sup>ND</sup> BASE AND THE LAST BATTER GOES TO 1<sup>ST</sup> BASE, BOTH FROM THE PRECEEDING INNING) AND THE OFFENSE WILL HAVE NO OUTS. THIS METHOD WILL BE USED FOR EVERY INNING AFTER UNTIL A WINNER IS DETERMINED. **THERE WILL BE NO SUBSTITUE RUNNERS USED FOR THE LAST 2 BATTERS FROM THE PRECEEDING INNING INCLUDING THE PITCHER AND CATCHER.**



## DIRECTIONS TO RIVERSTAR PARK

5993 Linneman St.  
Cincinnati OH. 45228

Phone: (513) 232-4263, Field Conditions: (513) 684-1062, Fax: (513) 232-4283  
[www.wesselsports.com](http://www.wesselsports.com)

Only seven miles from downtown Cincinnati, Riverstar Park is conveniently located on Kellogg Avenue off I-275, just minutes from downtown, Northern Kentucky and Cincinnati's eastern suburbs.

**To Get Here:** Take Interstate 275 to Exit 72 (Coney Island/Kellogg Ave.) Go west on Kellogg, left on Waits, left on Linneman.



# DIRECTIONS TO Rumpke Park

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

10400 State Rte. 128

Harrison OH. 45030

Main Line: 513-738-2646

Weather/Field Conditions: 513-629-9809



## DIRECTIONS

North of Miamitown and south of Ross

From Indiana – exit Rt. 128 North Ross/Hamilton Exit. Approx 5 ½ miles on rt.

From Kentucky – Follow I-74 west towards Indiana. Exit at Rt.128 North Ross/Hamilton

Approx 5 ½ miles on rt.

From I-275 West – I/75-I/71 follow Blue Rock Road Exit. Exit north (right) Follow Blue Rock Road to New Haven Road, turn left. Follow New Haven Road to Rt.128 and turn south (left). Park is ¼ mile on left.

## HOTELS

ASA Travel has rooms blocked for this tournament at some of the finest facilities in the area. The hotels provided on our list understand our event and are team friendly.



Go to [www.playbaseball.info](http://www.playbaseball.info) under the hotel link and click on the spring swing link.

# **NATIONS Pre-Season Challenge NCI TOURNAMENT T-SHIRT ORDER FORM**

*Pre-Order your designed **Pre-Season Challenge** T-shirt. There will be limited supply at the tournament. The front cover of this packet is similar to the design on the T-shirt. There will also be the team names and location of the teams on the back of the T-shirt. Once shirts are pre-ordered, shirts will be held and given to manager or team contact at the tourney director location at the park.*

TEAM \_\_\_\_\_

MANAGER \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS & PHONE (include area code)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### **Pre-Season Challenge TOURNAMENT T-SHIRTS**

**\$13.00 Each (tax included)    XXL \$15.00 Each (tax included)    XXXL \$20.00 Each (tax included)**

DESCRIPTION	# ORDERED
Adult Small	
Adult Medium	
Adult Large	
Adult Extra Large	
Adult XX Large	
Youth Large and Youth Medium	
<b>TOTAL ORDERED</b>	

### **AMOUNT DUE**

# of (Ym/Yl) (As-Axl) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$13.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of (Axxl) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of (Axxl +) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** <mailto:dbrinkman@etczone.com> to confirm your order.  
 TShirts can be picked up at Riverstar Park. Payment due then.