

## **TOWN & COUNTRY LEAGUE**

Town & Country Baseball is an organization designed to create a competitive tournament for smaller youth baseball programs. Town & Country Baseball offers a rulebook that will help those programs prepare for the tournament, along with providing individual leagues with a structured set of rules.

T & C Baseball is open to all children who have not exceeded the league age of 12. League age will be determined by the player's age as of April 30. For example, if a player whose tenth birthday would fall on April 30, then the player would be considered a ten-year-old. But, if his birthday would be May 1, then the player would be a league age of 9.

Each local league should create a system of dividing players, so that the teams will be of equal size and talent. T & C Baseball will organize 3 state tournaments, one each for seniors (12 year olds & under), juniors (10 year olds & under), and minors (8 year olds & under). Each local league should structure their programs to best prepare for these tournaments.

Players participating in the tournament must be on a team roster during that league's regular season schedule. Players must have played half of the teams regularly scheduled games, unless injury keeps him from doing so. In this case, only players who were originally on the roster may compete.

Town & Country Baseball offers 3 great tournaments with our senior division history dating back to 1969 when the first Town & Country State Champions were the Fairmount Americans. Since that time Frankton became the first junior Town & Country State Champion in 1995. And in 2003, Town & Country Baseball blazed the trail in organizing an official minor (Rookie) league state tournament when Walton became the first champion at this level.

In 2006, Town & Country Baseball became the Town & Country League when softball was added to our tournament format. This was offered at the 12 & Under level and the 10 & Under level. This event got off to a great start with the State Finals at Upland that included a visit from Olympic Gold Medal Pitcher Jennie Finch. Wawasee became the first 12U champion while Walton was the State champion at the 10U level. In 2007, there was more growth on the softball side as we added a tournament at the 14 & Under age group and the 8 & Under age group. The inaugural champion in the 14U age group was Wawasee while Galveston became the first 8U champion.

Town & Country Softball is open to girls in the four age groups using January 1 as the cut off date. League age will be determined by the player's age as of December 31. For example, if a player whose tenth birthday would fall on December 31, then the player would be considered a ten-year-old. But, if her birthday would be January 1, then the player would be a league age of 9 for all tournament entry purposes.

## **Town & Country Mission Statement**

"The Town & Country League provides a sanctioned organization and state tournament for All-Star teams from recreational leagues of single, smaller towns per league guidelines.

While we recognize that there are different interpretations of the word 'smaller', guidelines of league sizes ultimately define an individual team's eligibility.

We encourage you to enter or inquire for additional information, but we want it to be known that this is not a tournament for combined leagues from several smaller towns that form one super all-star team, and it is not for travel teams.

However, Rec league all-star teams who also may play in travel tournaments are allowed, as well as kids who play on travel teams, as long as the players that make up a team entered are the same ones' who have played in at least half of their rec league team's scheduled games."