

Dear Granite City Electric,

I am writing to you on the behalf of the children from the Pawtucket Fairlawn Little League in Pawtucket Rhode Island. Our league has been in existence for over 40 years utilizing 3 baseball fields; 1 for Major, 1 for Minor and 1 for Tee/Farm division. As with most youth leagues, we too have struggled with finances over the years but continue to find ways to provide a playing environment that is both fun and safe. For example, just about 5 years ago, our neighboring town of Woodlawn was at high risk of not providing their own Little League due to declining participation numbers. As a result, our two towns merged which allowed us to provide children in both towns an opportunity to play organized baseball. Since the merger, our player numbers have fluctuated year to year at an average of about 200, with the largest growth coming from our Tee Ball/ Farm division. Having a growing Tee and Farm division is a great thing to have but our inability to provide enough field time is not, this is where Granite City Electric's Field of Dreams can help.

By adding lights to our Minor division field, we will be able to provide the following opportunities to benefit 3 of our divisions, Tee, Farm and Minor:

1. By moving our Farm schedule from the Tee Ball field to the Minor, we will be able to offer them more weekly games, day and night while honing their skills in a Minor division sized field.
2. Tee Ball practice time would now be available during the week, double their weekly game schedule and give them a guaranteed "Under the Lights" game nights where they are the announced stars!
3. The Minor division games will no longer have to be "called due to darkness", offer the possibilities of hosting a small tournament and increasing the availability of practice time.
4. Other benefits would include:
 - a. Increased parent participation: more games for them to see.
 - b. Volunteer opportunities: later games will help those who work past 5pm.
 - c. Extended play: creation of a Fall Ball league.

I hope that my essay provides a small vision to the impact your generosity could provide for the children that this letter represents. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Paul Mendes
Vice President & Former player (1974- 1983)
Pawtucket Fairlawn Little League

