

Hillary,

Please accept this submission on behalf of the Ashland Youth Baseball & Softball League.

Included with this submission is a summary letter written by a 9 year old player, sometimes they have a better way of explaining what it is they see and want, along with a picture of our field used for players 8 through 12.

As the player mentions in his summary letter the population in the town of Ashland, MA continues to grow and field space has become a huge issue for all sports. The complex in the picture actually has two fields and we use both of them for ages 8 through 12. These fields are not maintained by the town of Ashland and we do the best we can through registration fees and volunteers.

Having lights on the field would allow us to extend the playing time, possibly getting two games in a night and allow for additional practice time for the players. It would be a huge addition that would certainly benefit the children.

On behalf of the Ashland Youth Baseball & Softball league I say thank you. We all appreciate companies like Granite City that offer contests to improve fields for the children to play on.

Sincerely,
Jack McNeil
President AYBS

Emailed on: Wed 7/13/2005 3:15 PM
McNeil, Jack john.mcneil@staples.com



Dear Field of Dreams II

I am entering the Granite City Field of Dreams II contest because the kids in my town need you! I turned 9 this year and get to play baseball at the Grynzel Fields in Ashland. We only have two fields in town for all little league ball players.

The other school fields are used for other sports like "T" ball, Soccer, the older kids and Recreation Department things.

My dad told me that because of the amount of kids now in our town, next year there might be too many kids and not enough fields. All kids should have a chance to play baseball.

If we had a field with lights in the town we could let the older kids play late or even have special end of season games "Under the Lights" for all age groups. The lights would allow more games to be scheduled and no one would be turned away from Ashland Youth Baseball and Softball.

Most of the coaches and people who take care of the kids and fields in our town are the dads. They try their best to help kids grow up and experience Americas greatest past time. They teach many life lessons like winning, loosing, team spirit and sportsmanship!

It is a big job to take care of the fields, sometimes the pitchers mounds are bad and kids can twist their ankles. Our town should use money to take care of the fields and lighting is something that can only happen by the generosity of others.

I hope this essay and the people in the town of Ashland can rally just like my team to win a lighting system!

Truly,
Your favorite little league player