



Bridgewater Girls Softball League

Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend

The Bridgewater Girls Softball League (BGSL) would like to be considered for the Granite City "*Field of Dreams IV Sweepstakes*". Since the mid 1980's, the BGSL has been fielding teams of girls between the ages of 6 to 18 and now boasts a program that is 500 girls strong. In fact, over the past 5 years we have doubled in size and continue to realize a year on year 5 to 10 percent increase in registrations. Although we are extremely happy with our growth, with expansion comes significant growing pains.

We proudly have one of the largest softball programs on the South Shore but we have not yet had fields of our own to play on. In the beginning, the BGSL would play in the High School parking lot or in the front yards of its board members or anywhere else we could find a surface to play on. Today, we beg and borrow time from Little League and the schools for playing time trying to fit 37 teams into a 6 week Spring program. Rain outs are next to impossible to make up because the Little League and School programs get first priority.

All of that is now behind us. For 5 years now, we have been focused on raising funds to build a 4 field complex. Our efforts are now paying off as our dream becomes a reality. We now have enough funding to put four new, albeit bare bones, fields in place for next Spring. This summer the BGSL has finally broken ground on its very own softball facility. On May 1, 2009, we probably will not have dugouts, scoreboards, bleachers or lights but we will have a home of our own to play on. The town is committed to the project and it is well underway.

Winning this sweepstakes will set the league up very nicely for at least one lighted field and means our girls can enjoy all the benefits of playing under the lights ahead of schedule and in the new field's inaugural season! The timing could not be better. Although the sorely needed fields are an awesome step in the right direction, without lights we will be limited to daylight in terms of the amount of games and programs we can put in place. A lighted field gives us opportunity to extend our games and opens the door for a fall program when daylight disappears quickly. Further, we will be able to host and draw in tournaments across Plymouth County and beyond. Tournament play allows us another revenue stream to grow the program and more importantly, finish the project.

A lighting donation would significantly benefit the Town of Bridgewater and its girl's softball program. We sincerely hope Granite City will consider the Bridgewater Girls Softball Program for this year's edition of the Field of Dreams Sweepstakes.

Sincerely,
James Polk
BGSL Commissioner
508-807-0889



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