

Rockland Little League
P.O. Box 676
Rockland, MA 02370

July 18, 2008

Granite City Electric
Attn: Ms. Hillary Wright

Dear Ms. Wright,

Granite City Electric is truly offering the chance of a lifetime for extending the opportunity to Rockland Little League to participate in the Field of Dreams IV Contest. We are extremely appreciative of this. When you hear the words "Field of Dreams" it makes you think of the wonderful movie of the same title and how much we all love the game of baseball. Being able to play ball under the lights would be a memory that would last a lifetime. At the ball-field we have all said at one time or another that our grandchildren will be playing here someday. The gift of these lights would last into future generations of ball players and would always be appreciated by our ball players and their families.

Each year it seems that more and more children want to play baseball. This past season alone we had over 500 children participate in our program. With such increased interest we decided four years ago to start a fall baseball program, (Fall Ball) which has been very successful. Last fall we had boys and girls playing baseball into November. We also have several teams participating in summer baseball in MA District 8, the same district as Granite City 2006 winner, Whitman. It is such a thrill for our kids to play the late game in Whitman during the summer. We would love to be able to host similar games in Rockland and with lights from Granite City, we would certainly do just that.

We have a proud tradition of baseball in Rockland, and the children in our town have a genuine love of the game, which you can see in their eyes once they get to the ballpark. Having the ability to light a field would allow us to play many more games and allow more children to participate in the future.

Through the past years, we have sustained considerable growth in our league that consists of the following: 8 major league teams, 6 minor league teams, 6 instructional teams and 10 developmental teams. All these teams face the challenge each year of where to play, when to play, etc. To be able to put lights on one of our fields will allow us the scheduling flexibility of having more games and more practices. Unfortunately, many Little League programs are not able to have enough practices before and during the season due to weather and field availability. The addition of the lights to one of our Rockland fields will allow us to have more time to teach the game as well as play it.

I am sure everyone reading this is aware that all Little Leagues have limited funds to spend. The fees we charge help defer the cost of equipment, uniforms, field maintenance and umpires. But, fees need to be affordable for the children to participate. We are lucky enough to have a group of hardworking, dedicated volunteers who give so much of their time to the children of Rockland. Lighting a field is far from within our reach, although it is something all of us wish and desire for the children. As our program moves forward, we will keep pursuing the avenue of lighting one of our fields. As a coach and a parent, I speak for everyone involved in baseball when I say we all have the same thought "this is for the kids" - we do this for them.

In closing, I ask that you please consider helping us light a field in the Town of Rockland. This gift would be truly appreciated. I can see these kids playing baseball on a cold Saturday night in November.... with big smiles on their faces.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph N. DiCienzo
President, Rockland Little League



