

## **Attention Returning Legion Parents**

**Significant changes have been made for the 2023 season. Please read this letter carefully.**



### **WELCOME TO POCATELLO LEGION BASEBALL!**

Congratulations to your player on being selected to participate in Pocatello Legion Baseball. He's now part of a great Pocatello tradition. To provide a quality baseball experience at the lowest practical cost, the program depends heavily on support from family members. Legion baseball is not a half-hearted commitment, it takes effort from all of us to maintain this program. The summer of 2023 will be busy but memorable, and it will go by quickly. ***We hope you enjoy every minute of it.***

This packet includes important information and requirements that must be completed in order for your player to participate. We encourage you to read this information carefully. If you have questions, please contact any Board member.

#### **TO DO LIST – Before the first practice:**

- Meet with the coach
- Complete the player registration
  - Complete the *Player Agreement "Form #2"*
  - Complete the *Drug and Alcohol Policy Agreement*
  - Complete the *Dual Participation Form (if necessary)*
- Provide a birth certificate (must be an original or certified copy – *no photocopies allowed*)
- Pay your player's fees
- Submit uniform & pants orders
- Consider a concessions credit for your player
- Provide your shift guarantee check
- Provide your jersey guarantee check
- Obtain your gate passes

### **2023 LEGION TEAMS**

<b>Division</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Head Coach</b>
AA	Runnin' Rebels	Nick Sorrell
A	Razorbacks	Chris Seckel
A	Rebels	Mark Davie
B	Rays	Cameron Corpus

## STAY UPDATED

WEBSITE: [www.pocatellolegionbaseball.com](http://www.pocatellolegionbaseball.com)

FACEBOOK: Pocatello American Legion Baseball

INSTAGRAM: @PocatelloLegion

GAMECHANGER: Each team has a GameChanger account with a community pass.

Sign Up Genius: [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com) (more on this in the following pages)

## POCATELLO LEGION BASEBALL PROGRAM CONTACTS

There are two supervising groups within the Legion Program. The **Board of Directors**, which handles the day to day operation of the program, and the **Executive Committee**, which provides oversight of the coaches. Members of the Board of Directors are available to answer questions and help as you transition into the program. The Executive Committee is available to help with questions and concerns related to coaches.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME		PHONE	EMAIL
Brandon	Poulson	208-221-5063	BLP56.BP@gmail.com
William	Meyers	208-539-4271	William7787@msn.com
Misti	Foltz	208-251-2970	mistifoltz4@gmail.com
Ken	Keller	208-221-3393	kenkeller@hotmail.com
Scott	Serrano	208-681-4796	Scottserrano2@gmail.com
Bobbi	McCasland	208-406-4250	germanshepard9@msn.com
Kim	Lewis	208-251-1939	smallpsych@gmail.com
Clayton	Short	208-840-0873	shortnotall@gmail.com
Kirby	Sheperd	208-847-5628	Kirby.sheperd@yahoo.com
Kristin	Snyder	208-390-5542	audacitydanceschool@gmail.com
Dustin	Knowles	208-251-3636	dustinkk332@yahoo.com

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee functions as a liaison between parents and coaches. Please contact one of these individuals if you have any questions or concerns specifically related to a coach or a team.

NAME		PHONE	EMAIL
Randy	Sluder	208-221-1974	<a href="mailto:RandySluder@gmail.com">RandySluder@gmail.com</a>
Alli	Flores	208-680-3628	<a href="mailto:alli.flores@pccs.k12.id.us">alli.flores@pccs.k12.id.us</a>
Boe	Simmons	208-241-0876	<a href="mailto:BSimmons1970@gmail.com">BSimmons1970@gmail.com</a>

## REGISTRATION AND FORMS

American Legion Baseball requires the following forms to be completed. Players may not take the field until these documents have been received.

- Player Agreement “Form 2” - this is a player registration form that’s submitted to the State. Please complete the form in its entirety and make sure it’s signed by both the player and parent. The information provided will go directly to the national American Legion Baseball website.
  - Please remember to include your player’s medical insurance information. This is important for coaches to have on file.
  - Your School Enrollment Grade is the year your player **just completed** (2022-2023 School Year).
  - Forms do not need to be notarized at this time.
- Drug and Alcohol Policy Agreement - this form must be completed and signed by both the player and a parent. The policy will be discussed during the meeting with your coach.
- Dual Participation Form - this form is used for any player wishing to participate in any athletic activity outside of Pocatello Legion Baseball. Examples include: summer workouts for school sports, showcase tournaments, prospect camps, and competitions for other school sports (summer tournaments). Please complete this form with the event description and dates and submit to your players head coach. If exact dates aren’t known, please provide as much information as possible and discuss this with the coach.
  - PLEASE NOTE: **Submitting this form does not guarantee approval.** Legion schedules and activities are a priority. Your coach will discuss this policy with the players.

**These forms are found on the legion website at [www.pocatellolegionbaseball.com](http://www.pocatellolegionbaseball.com) Please print the forms and have them filled out prior to the parent meeting. We will have limited copies on hand.**

## BIRTH CERTIFICATE

American Legion requires all players submit **an original or certified copy** of their birth certificate. The birth certificates will be returned as soon as possible after the Idaho State American Legion Program has validated each team’s collection of birth certificates (“the binder”). **There are no exceptions to this rule** and non-certified copies cannot be accepted. Players will not be allowed to participate without compliance to this stipulation as this requirement is audited by Idaho State American Legion Baseball. Birth certificates can be ordered from the Department of Vital Statistics for the state where your player was born. Please do this quickly as orders can take time to process. Idaho Birth Certificates can be ordered via the following link: <https://www.vitalchek.com/birth-certificates/idaho/idaho-bureau-of-vital-records>

**PLAYERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY WITHOUT AN ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE (OR CERTIFIED COPY) ON FILE WITH THE PROGRAM**

## PLAYER FEES

There are many costs associated with Legion baseball. Insurance, fields, uniforms, equipment, maintenance, umpires, lodging, fuel, concession supplies, janitorial services, travel vans and tournament fees are some (but not all) of the costs.

Due to increased costs in all areas, the 2023 fees have increased as shown in the table below.

As you consider these fees, two things are worth mentioning:

- 1) Even with the increased fees, ***less than half the program costs are covered by players fees.***
- 2) Pocatello Legion baseball is significantly cheaper than other nearby Legion programs.

	2022 Fees	2023 Fees
Rays	\$600	\$700
Rebels	\$900	\$1,000
Razorbacks	\$900	\$1,000
Runnin' Rebels	\$1,100	\$1,200

**All players fees as well as the shift guarantee check and the jersey guarantee check are due at the parent meeting.**

Payment plans are available if you are not able to pay these fees in full. A payment arrangement form can be completed to spread the total amount across several payments. To find out more or to complete a form, please contact your coach or our Treasurer (Ken Keller).

**YOUR PLAYER WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICE OR PLAY IN GAMES PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF PLAYERS FEES AND THE TWO GUARANTEE CHECKS (or a payment arrangement form)**

- **Player fees do not guarantee play time on any of the four teams.**
- All fees for the current year as well as any outstanding fees from previous years (for a current or past player), must be paid before your player can participate in practice or play in games.
- Please be aware that transportation may not be available for all Rays games. The lower player fees reflect this. We'll use Legion vans to the best of our ability, but parent/family support will be needed throughout the season.

## CONCESSIONS CREDIT

During Legion games, players like to enjoy food and drinks available in our concessions. For convenience, you can deposit concession money into an account for your player. This lets them purchase concession items without having to carry money. Credit can be added to the players account throughout the season. To begin the season, you can purchase \$50 in concession credits for \$40. This is a one-time arrangement. Credit forms are for players use only and you are not required to take advantage of this option.

## UNIFORMS

All players will be required to wear a standard uniform. Depending on the team, this may be one or two jerseys, grey and/or white pants, and a team hat.

- Jerseys will be issued to each player. They must be returned at the end of the season. Please take care of them. *Your \$200 jersey guarantee check will be cashed if **any** issued jersey is not returned.*
- Pants are the same style used throughout the program. They need to be purchased if your player does not already have them from a previous season, or if they're worn and need replacement. Your coach will tell you which color(s) are required. If you need new pants, we'll have a small supply on hand at the parent meeting and will submit a team order as soon as we can confirm what's needed. To ensure we receive them before the first game, please place your requests now. The pants will be theirs to keep.
- Each player will receive a team hat. The cost for this is included in the player fees. The hat is theirs to keep.

## CONCESSIONS, SPONSORS, AND FUNDRAISING

Our program depends on the hard work of our volunteers, the generous support of sponsors, the player's families and various fundraising activities. These things help offset player fees and keep the program going. Pocatello Legion Baseball simply would not exist without these things.

### SEASON PASSES

Each player will be given a supply of season passes that can be sold for admission to all regular season games. We recommend the passes are sold for \$25 each. **Players can keep the proceeds.** Players can sell enough passes to cover all their player fees if they choose.

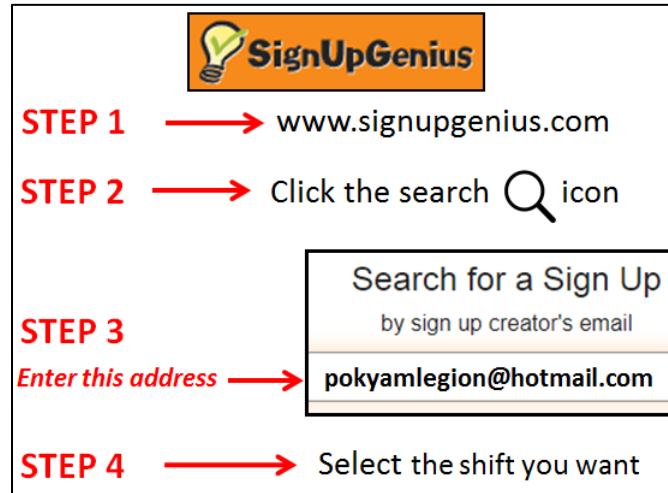
### CONCESSIONS and *SignUpGenius*

The biggest source of income for our program is concessions at Halliwell Park. Pocatello Legion baseball operates concessions during all Halliwell Legion and Gate City Grays home games. There are a variety of jobs and multiple shifts per game.

All players are assigned an equal number of shifts they're required to work. These shifts can be covered by family and friends. Each game counts as a single shift, so working both games at a double header counts as two shifts. Each person from your group that works will also count as a shift. For example: if four people from your family work a double header, you will get credit for eight shifts. The number of shifts required from each player is calculated based on the total number of games scheduled for all of 2023 and the total number of players in the entire Pocatello Legion program. Typically, the total number of required shifts range from 15 to 17. **For 2023, each player will be responsible for 15 shifts, four (4) of which must be worked during Gate City Grays games.**

Signing up to work a shift is done through an online tool called SignUpGenius ([www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)). This tool has been used by the Pocatello Legion program for several years and it's easy to get started.

The first task is to create your personal SignUpGenius account. Any board member or experienced Legion parent can assist with creating an account if you're having trouble. Once you've created your account and logged in, you must find the shifts that pertain to Pocatello Legion Baseball and the Gate City Grays. Once you've found those shifts, you can select dates and times that work for you. The following diagram shows how to find available shifts.



Once you're in the SignUpGenius, you'll see that each game has a variety of different shifts. Shifts include grill, concessions, French fryer, gate keeper, scorekeeper and announcer. Depending on the game, there may be multiple people assigned to each station. Once you sign up for a shift, you will receive a confirmation email.

If you can't cover a shift you've signed up for, please remove your shift within Sign Up Genius as quickly as possible. This makes the shift available for someone else to fill. If the shift is less than a week away, please notify us so that we can send an announcement out. It's difficult to find last minute coverage and places an unnecessary burden on the remaining volunteers.

Teens (**ages 14 and older**), who are accompanied by an adult may work any shift other than the grill or the French fry station. No one under the age of 18 can work the grill or the French fry station for safety reasons.

### **SHIFT GUARANTEE CHECK**

Shift work is vital to our program. To ensure that shifts are worked, **we require a \$600 deposit for the season.**

Deposit checks will be cashed if you have not worked a total of 15 shifts (**including four (4) Gate City Grays shifts**).

Checks will be dated for the day of the parent meeting. After all Legion and Gate City Grays games have been completed, your check will either be destroyed or returned uncashed if all your shift obligations were met.

## SHIFT FAQs

***“I’m one shift short, is that good enough?” No.***

In the past, the Board was somewhat flexible with shift requirements. Although this was done with the best of intentions, that flexibility placed an unfair strain on people. For the health of the Legion program going forward, everyone must complete all their shifts.

If you don’t work all your shifts, the Board is left with three bad options;

1. We must ask your team mom if she can find another family on your team who’s willing to cover your shifts - *In addition to their own.*
2. A Board member must work your shifts for you – *In addition to their own.*
3. We must use money we’ve collected from players fees and sponsorships to pay someone to work your shift.

***“The game I was scheduled to work was cancelled or re-scheduled. Do I get shift credit for the shift I was signed up for?” No.***

Games that have been canceled or changed must be re-scheduled. These re-scheduled games require shift coverage. When the schedule is changed (for any reason) you must select another shift to fulfill your shift commitments. **We fully understand the hardship this brings.** Schedule changes impact Board members too as we were probably planning to work alongside you. Now, we’re stuck scrambling to recover just like you are.

**PLEASE HELP YOUR PLAYER AND THE PROGRAM BY WORKING ALL OF YOUR SHIFTS**

## CLOSING COMMENTS

As we get ready to start another season, we extend a sincere thank you for being part of this great Pocatello tradition.

We admire the support you’ve shown to your player. We understand and appreciate the commitment you’ve made to the program. We also appreciate your positive support of other players, coaches, other parents around you, the umpires and everyone else participating in the Legion baseball experience.

Here’s to a great summer! *Again, we hope you enjoy every minute of it.*

Sincerely,

**The Pocatello Legion Baseball Board of Directors and the Coaches from all four teams.**

## GUIDANCE FROM AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

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### **A Message to Our Fans**

Fan enthusiasm and support are a great part of baseball and active cheering is encouraged. The American Legion Baseball program is dedicated to providing a safe and positive environment for both the player and fans.

You are requested to be considerate at all times of the feelings of the players and sensitivities of those fans seated around you. Hopefully, this request is all that is necessary. The American Legion will enforce this request in the following manner.

1. The use of artificial noisemakers will not be permitted, during an American Legion Baseball game. Persons using any artificial noisemaker will be asked to stop. A second violation will result in removal from the ballpark.
2. Persons entering the playing field or throwing or attempting to throw objects on the field also will be subjected to immediate ejection and criminal prosecution.
3. Persons using obscene or abusive language or engaging in any other antisocial conduct, offensive to those around them will be asked to cease this conduct. If the offensive conduct persists, those involved will be subject to ejection from the premises.

Your cooperation is appreciated and we hope you enjoy the game.

*The American Legion  
National Americanism Commission  
Indianapolis, IN*