

Delaware



YOUTH SPORTS

A 501 © (3) Tax Exempt Organization

PARENT/PLAYER HANDBOOK

2010 SEASON

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Delaware Magic Youth Sports is to develop softball skills, increase knowledge of softball rules, and to promote good sportsmanship, mutual respect, cooperation, and fair play in a positive and esteem building environment. Our goal is to develop individuals into team players in a fun and enjoyable setting thus enhancing their levels of performance and self confidence.

It is amazing what you accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit

2009-2010 Board of Directors:

Title	Name	Contact Info/Email
Chairman of the Board	Randy Johnson	rjohnson22@yahoo.com
President	Charlie Neal	charles.neal@pncgis.com
Vice President of Operations	Jerry Lafferty	glaff4@aol.com
Vice President of Operations	Bill McGinness	billmcginness@comcast.net
Vice President of Marketing & Communication	Chrissy DeMora	cdemora@comcast.net
Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	Tenesha Duffy	teneshad@hotmail.com
Webmaster	Fred Brace	fbrace@comcast.net

2008-2009 Coaches:

Team	Name	Contact Info/Email
10U	Ron Ullman	302-521-3208 rullman@all-con.com
12U	Jeff Joseph Joe Bernheimer	302-423-6708 jkj719@comcast.net 302-542-2155 bern441@earthlink.net
12U Blue	Randy Johnson	302-465-2222 rjohnson22@yahoo.com
14U	Danny DeMora	302-393-6091 cdemora@comcast.net
18U	Joe Bernheimer Randy Johnson	302-542-2155 bern441@earthlink.net 302-465-2222 rjohnson22@yahoo.com

Website Address: www.delawaremagic.org

An Organization of Families

The Girls play, but the families make the Organization

Delaware Magic is run by volunteers. There are NO paid positions within the organization. As Delaware Magic grows, so does our need for more volunteers. Some positions require knowledge and training in softball. General meetings are held each month on a date and place to be determined by the Board of Directors. Attendance is a critical part of a successful operation.

To ensure the success of each team, volunteers are needed for various positions. Each team must have the following:

- > Manager
- > Coach (one or more)
- > A Team Representative
- > A Scorekeeper

Please contact a Board Member if you have questions or would like to be a Volunteer for a position.

Delaware Magic Organization Coaching Policy

Our Coaches set an example of fair play and sportsmanship with their calm demeanor(most of the time) and positive reinforcement (all the time)

Delaware Magic organization is a volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing a high quality Softball and Baseball learning environment.

The major goals are the development of both athletic skills and social character in America's youth. The volunteers provide the vehicle and resources to achieve these goals. The Magic organization recognizes that our coaches are critical in reaching these goals. Our volunteer coaches will be required to meet the standards of good moral character, the ability interact with youth in a positive manner and demonstrate substantial knowledge and skills relevant to coaching either girls softball or boys baseball.

There are different levels and types of coaches required to support such a large and diverse organization. For example there are: head coaches, assistant coaches, pitching coaches, infield coaches, outfield coaches, batting coaches and others. All coaches are given the same respect and courtesy. The head coach of any given team has the authority to make player and staff decisions for that team. The position of coach for the Magic organization requires a commitment of time and personal resources. The rewards for this commitment are personal satisfaction, the pleasure of coaching, the advancement and improvement of your own skills and the opportunity to coach the finest young people in America. As a volunteer, coaches will receive no financial compensation for their services.

In recognition of the services that coaches provide for our children, the organization has provided assistance to coaches in the past in regards to defraying travel and training expenses. This has been in the form of shared hotel rooms, airline tickets, clinic fees and equipment. Any coach that requests financial assistance to defray expenses will need to validate the request with an officer of the organization. Once validated, the officers will discuss the need on an individual basis in consideration of the organizations finances. Magic will make

every effort to meet these needs. In the event that the organization does not have the funding to meet the needs, the officers will develop a plan to raise funds.

In many cases, the parents provide assistance without even knowing it. Providing transportation, providing a meal, donating frequent flyer points, taking responsibility for a coaches child (or children) are examples of ways that we as a family have helped our coaches.

The Magic organization recognizes the contribution of our coaches and wishes to thank each of them. We encourage the coaches to make known their needs. Every request will be held in confidence and be reviewed by the officers.

Sure we want to win, but they teach that its fun to win

Your Role as Parents:

For your daughter to succeed in softball she needs you, and as much time and energy as you can give. Your daughter and her team need you to:

- >Provide transportation for your player to and from all practices, games and any fundraisers she may be able to participate in. Please pick player up on time unless arrangements have been made with a Coach. Coaches must stay at practice until all players have been picked up. There also must be an adult female present at all team gatherings.
- >Participate in Fundraisers. These fundraisers are essential to keep down player costs. Money raised is outlined in the Fundraising Section.
- >Attend all Magic functions whenever possible. These include parent/coach meetings, games, etc.
- >Support Coaches and Team Representative, on and off the field. If you have concerns or comments, please discuss them appropriately with the Coach, your Representative or a Member of the Board.
- >Keep a positive line of communication open with your daughters coach and representative. Keep each other advised of scheduling changes and problems involving attendance at games and practices.
- >Encourage your daughter to do her best at practice and in games. Recognize her attempts as well as her successes in playing softball.
- >Have your daughter go to practice in proper attire. Cleats are a must unless it is an indoor practice. Have your daughter leave all jewelry at home for practices and games.

The harder you work, the more you win, the more fun it is

Team Representative Responsibilities:

- > Works directly with coaches and assists in all communications with parents and players.
- > Builds team spirit, unity, and encourages parent participation.
- > Collection of commitment fees.
- > Assist Tournament Director for our Dover Tournament.
- > Required to attend periodic meetings.
- > Register for tournaments and enter Rosters on line for USSSA, Pony, NSA, etc.
Put together a Roster Book with Insurance and Birth Certificates to be carried at times.
- > Check their team in one hour prior to first game.
- > Make Hotel/Motel Reservations for away tournaments.
- > Supply families with game schedules, directions and address of fields and Motel check in information.
- > Uniforms and Pony Patches.
- > Gift Bags and Pins (if necessary) for National Tournaments.

Account Structure:

A \$200 Commitment Fee is due from each player. Please contact an officer if other arrangements need to be made. This is for the girls, lets keep them playing.

Magic uses a fee and reimbursement structure that we hope will be helpful to all of the players. As we all know Travel Ball is very expensive. The goal of this system is to provide Magic with the funds needed for current operating and future capital expenses while also providing a means by which the players can help offset expenses occurred while participating in tournament play. All players have a responsibility to raise their player and commitment fees. Amounts raised in excess of the base fees can be used to help fellow players or used to offset your own expenses incurred attending and traveling to tournaments. The officers may elect to adjust the base fee up or down as necessary and in response to actual expenses incurred by the teams and organization. We try to have expense reimbursement checks out before the national tournaments in late July, but that is not a guarantee and the date may be pushed back if the officers so determine. There is a fair amount of accounting done by volunteers that has to be done during the busiest time for tournaments.

2009 Projected base fees are currently as listed below.

Softball 10U - \$500
Softball 12U - \$500
Softball 14U - \$500
Softball 18U - \$600
Baseball 13U - \$650

Player uniforms (if needed) will be an additional \$75/player

Reimbursement breakdown amount over commitment

\$0 - \$500 over base = 100%
\$500 - \$1,000 over base = 75%
\$1,000 over base = 50%

Remember that additional monies earned after you have reached your goals are dispersed back to the player to help offset travel expenses or applied to another player's account to help them.

Fee Schedule for Payments:

First Practice	\$200 Commitment Fee
December	75%
February	100%

Where does your money go? The Delaware Magic Organization uses facilities throughout the state. At most of the facilities we use equipment, helmets, gear, balls, bats pitching machines, nets, training tools, videos, mats etc. that for the most part are paid for by the organization. In a couple of the facilities we pay rent and some of the utility costs. We have accountant and legal expenses to maintain our non-profit status, to review and audit our books, and of course file tax reports to the IRS. At least we don't have to pay taxes. The organization sends its coaches to educational seminars and pays for the cost of their registration fees. There are of course uniforms, tournament fees, office and insurances expenses. At times, families are in need of financial assistance from the Magic Organization to delay or subsidize player dues. A hardship letter submitted to the Officers is required for assistance and is strictly confidential. Assistance is not guaranteed, but all requests will be considered.

Account Statement: We use QuickBooks to track our accounts and the best way that we've found to handle the Player Accounts is to put the budget and commitment fees in as invoices and then every fundraiser, donation and sponsorship each player earns is applied as a payment towards that account. At the bottom of the statement is an amount to make budget. If the amount is a negative, congratulations you've already exceeded your budget.

Commitment checks or payments on accounts should be made payable to Delaware Magic.

Mail to: Delaware Magic
c/o Ms Tenesha Duffy
P.O. Box 265
Nassau, DE 1996

Player Refund Policy:

In the event that a player departs/quits the organization, players will not be refunded any monies that the player brings to their player account, by means of commitment fees, sponsorships or volunteered time, such as Dover Downs or general fundraising projects. These monies are donations to the Delaware Magic Organization, not the player.

In the event that a player is dismissed/released from the organization, players may be refunded commitment fees paid by player at the discretion of the Officers. However, all sponsorships or volunteered time, such as Dover Downs or general fundraising projects are not refundable to players. These monies are donations to the Delaware Magic Organization, not the player.

Sponsors:

Sponsor Checks Made Payable to Delaware Magic

Mail to: Delaware Magic
P.O. Box 265
Nassau, DE 19969

We encourage as many Sponsors as possible as this is a big help reaching your budget.

In thanks for a contribution of \$100 or more, we will put their name, company name, or your website on our team banner, which travels with us to every tournament, and you will be listed as a sponsor on our website. If you have a website, we will hook up a direct link to yours. With a contribution of \$250 or more, we will also send you a framed picture of my team (usually with a championship banner).

Delaware Magic will send the Sponsor a Thank You letter, but also ask that the player send their own. This is a little more personal; maybe include a picture of the player or their team. There are sponsors out there, it's always good to check with your: doctor, dentist, lawyer, landscaper, insurance agent, chiropractor, hair dresser, restaurants, mechanic, auto body repair, where you bought your car, your aunt, uncle, grandparents, etc.

Tune Up Tournament:

Delaware Magic hosts a tournament in July in Dover. This tournament is a very important, as well as profitable fundraiser to our entire organization. Our effort and goal is to make this tournament one that is enjoyed by all teams involved. In order for this to be a success, as it has been in all previous years, we MUST have participation from each and every family. This tournament is as successful as our effort is to make it a success.

Our 2010 tournament director is Bill McGinness. As we get closer to the tournament we will form a tournament committee meeting.

Website:

The website address is www.delawaremagic.org. It is important to check regularly, as information regarding tournament dates, cancellations, upcoming events, pictures, news regarding players and their accomplishments outside of the organization.

Uniforms:

Uniforms are team specific, but must have Delaware Magic colors and logo.

Additional Topics:

Little League Policy:

The Magic Organization encourages Little League play for all age groups. This is an opportunity for players to gain additional experience and development. However, travel softball is a significant commitment from both players and parents. At no time should Little League conflict with practice and tournament play (this includes All Stars). Please be considerate and respectful to your fellow teammates by attending Magic practices and tournaments.

Dugout Policy:

If you are not a Head Coach, Assistant Coach or a Player please refrain from being in the team dugout during game time. You are a distraction to the Coaches and Players. Please be respectful of the Coaches and cheer your players on from a distance. Let's keep it fun for your boys and girls.

What if a Problem Arises?

Every year the organization involves several new managers and coaches. Each is a volunteer doing a very difficult job. Mistakes may occur. As parents, you can help by being patient and understanding of the situation. If problems arise, try and discuss it with your coach and resolve the problem. If the problem persists, please contact your Team Representative or a Board Member who will make every effort to reach an equitable solution for all involved.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Play for FUN, hustle on and off the field during a game or practice.
- Be on time for practices and games. Learn teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline.
- Work hard to improve your physical and mental skills. Be a team player; get along with all your teammates.
- Learn the rules and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Never argue with an official's decision.
- Respect your coaches, teammates, parents, opponents and the officials.
- Support the Delaware Magic organization by volunteering for committees, and activities.
- During the game you are there to play, not coach or officiate. Stay in the team area unless you are supposed to be out. Yelling for your teammates is Encouragement-----Jeering your opponents is bad sportsmanship.
- Accept the results of each game, being gracious in victory and turning defeat into a positive experience by working toward improvement.
- Recognize that your representing the Delaware Magic Organization both on and off the field. It is your responsibility to recognize and abide by any and all rules and regulations set forth by the venue hosting an event, as well as the rules of conduct established by all public establishments such as restaurants and/or hotels on all overnight trips.

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

-Do not force your children to participate in sports, but support their desire to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment not yours.

Make it fun for THEM!

-Familiarize yourself with the rules of the game. By understanding the rules of the game yourself, you will then be able to help your athlete understand the game. This approach will help in the development and support of the game.

-Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.

-Respect you child's coaches, teammates, other parents, opponents and officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.

-Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, parents, opponents or officials. ***Verbal and/or physical abuse of players, coaches, parents, opponents or officials will not be tolerated***

-Applaud a good effort in victory as well as in defeat to enforce the positive points of the game.

-Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice, it is destructive. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.

-Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child, our program and the sport. Communicate with them and support them.

-If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about the game, and volunteer.

-Be concerned with the overall development of your child. Stress good health habits and clean living.

-It is your responsibility to recognize and abide by any and all rules and regulations set forth by the venue hosting an event.

-Questions or concerns regarding playing time, game situations, batting order, etc., will never be addressed during a game or practice. These issues may be addressed in a non-confrontational manner after the post game or practice meeting and out of the presence of players and other parents.

I certify that I have received a copy of the Delaware Magic Sports Parent/Player Handbook, Parent Code of Conduct and Player Code of Conduct. My Signature below holds me liable in agreement to the information found in the handbook.

Name

Signature

Date

Player

Team