



Montgomery Baseball League

501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization

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MONTGOMERY BASEBALL HOSTS FIRST-EVER SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASEBALL GAME

Hundreds of people showed up at the McKnight Baseball Complex in Montgomery Township on Saturday, July 20th, to witness and enjoy the first-ever official Special Olympics Baseball game. The game featured two teams of athletes with intellectual disabilities ranging in age from 16 to 40, most of whom have played baseball growing up, some of whom have played on their high school team.

"This was an incredible experience for both teams. It really has been incredible to see the evolution of the sport and the achievements of our athletes," says Jeff Baldino, Senior Director of Competition for Special Olympics New Jersey (SONJ). At the start of the game, Special Olympics New Jersey presented the Montgomery Baseball League (MBL) with a plaque commemorating this first-ever event, which will be proudly displayed at the McKnight complex.

A second game was held on July 27th and the final game in the series will be held on Saturday, August 3rd at 7:00 PM at the McKnight Baseball Complex on Reading Blvd. off of Route 601 in Montgomery Township. The game is open to all for free to enjoy. Fans from the surrounding communities are encouraged to come on down to enjoy the fun.

Throughout the 45+ years of the Special Olympics movement, Baseball has never been offered as a sport. For the past year, SONJ has worked towards establishing Baseball as an official sport. Athletes and coaches have had the opportunity to attend a number of clinics and events to progress towards competitive game play.

In June of 2014, the third installment of the USA Summer Games is coming to the greater Princeton area. As a part of the 16 sports to be offered at that event, the sport of Baseball is being introduced as a demonstration sport for the first time ever in Special Olympics history.

SONJ provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in 24 Olympic-style sports for 23,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. They conduct over 160 events a year.

For more information on SONJ programs and games, go to www.sonj.org.

Montgomery Baseball League is a not-for-profit youth sports organization open to all boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 15 (grades K and up) who are residents of Montgomery or Rocky Hill Townships. As a member of the Babe Ruth & Cal Ripken Youth Baseball Leagues, MBL offers high-quality recreational and travel baseball programs for interested players of all skills, experience, and abilities at our professional-grade sports complex. For information on the many baseball programs and other community-wide events hosted by MBL, go to www.montgomerybaseball.com.