



# Pete Kokinis Baseball League

## 2022 Preseason Newsletter

Welcome to our 2022 Preseason Newsletter! We have some exciting news for you, so let's get to it!

### A note from the League Director

We are pleased to present the 77<sup>th</sup> season for the Pete Kokinis Baseball League. We have a tremendous history of preparing players for high school baseball, and a reputation as the most well-organized league in Connecticut. Our staff of directors and supervisors stand ready to help make the 2022 season successful for our teams.

This year, we have expanded the age range in each division to allow players a chance to play if they're not ready to play on older teams. Our youngest division is back and is now 14U. Our middle division is now 16U, and our oldest division is now 19U. We believe this will give organizations greater flexibility in placing players on teams and attract more teams to our league. Our fall program has been a tremendous success and we look forward to another fall season this year.

We are now including 60 baseballs in our registration fee at a much greater discount than you can purchase them on your own. You can choose to opt out of the baseballs during team registration.

We will again hold our Championship games at New Britain Stadium. This is very popular with our coaches and players, who greatly enjoy playing in a beautiful professional ballpark. Thanks to the New Britain Bees for making the stadium a part of our program.

Registration for the Summer season opens on January 1 at our site, [kokinisbaseball.com](http://kokinisbaseball.com). We are offering a \$100 discount if you register teams by January 31. Visit the site now for information about our program. Please contact us if you have any questions.

*Pete*

### New Age Groups

As Pete announced, we are restructuring our age groups for 2022. Formerly known as Prep, Junior, and Senior, the divisions will now be named for the ages they represent.

Old Name	Old Age Range	New Name	New Age Range
Prep	13	14U	13-14
Junior	14-15	16U	14-16
Senior	16-19	19U	16-19

Note the overlap in ages. The new alignment will give teams more flexibility as to where a player can be placed in our league. Player age is determined as of May 1 of the baseball year.

## **Game Balls now included in your Registration Fee!**

We will now provide 60 ProNine game balls to every team, included in your registration fee. If a team wishes to opt out of the baseballs, we will credit your fee during the registration process.

## **Summer Registration opens January 1**

Team registration for the 2022 Summer season opens on January 1 on our website, [kokinisbaseball.com](http://kokinisbaseball.com). There is a \$200 per team deposit required to hold your place in the league, and we are offering a \$100 discount if you register your team by January 31. The regular season is 16 games, and every division will have playoffs concluding with the Championship Game at New Britain Stadium.

We accept payment via Venmo or by check. If paying by check, please make checks payable to “Pete Kokinis Baseball League”. Instructions will be in the receipt you receive after registering your team.

2022 Summer team registration includes two umpires for every game and 60 game baseballs!

<b>2022 PKBL Summer Registration</b>	<b>14U</b>	<b>16U</b>	<b>19U</b>
<b>Without Insurance</b>	\$1900	\$1950	\$2100
<b>With Insurance</b>	\$2200	\$2300	\$2500

## **Fall Ball is a Hit!**

Our 2021 Fall season was a great success! We will run our Fall program again in 2022. Details will be announced later in the Spring.

## **Umpire Fees**

For games covered by the Hartford Board, umpires are paid for by the League and is included in your registration fee. For all regular season and playoff games covered by any other umpire board (for example, New Haven, Eastern Connecticut, Torrington, Waterbury, Western Mass), the home team will pay umpires on the field. The “home” team is the team that bats last. At the end of June and the end of the season, teams will submit a record of umpire payments made. The League will reimburse teams within 10 days.

## **Insurance**

All teams must be covered by insurance. Teams may provide their own or purchase insurance from the league. The liability limit on our insurance policy is \$3,000,000. This is to better protect the league and our teams against lawsuits. We recommend teams providing their own insurance purchase a \$2,000,000 policy, but the choice is up to the team.

## **On-line Player and Coach Registration**

Player and coaches must register on our website after the team has registered. For players new to the league, a parent or guardian must register first (if the player is under 18 years of age) and upload the player’s birth certificate, which are securely stored on our site. League and COVID waivers will be ‘signed’ on-line. Players who have registered for our league in previous seasons only need to log in, select a division, register for the team, and accept the waivers.

Players MUST register by Saturday, June 25. Coaches MUST register and submit a background check before their first interaction with players (see below).

### **PKBL Night at the Bees and 2022 Championship Games at New Britain Stadium**

We are happy to let you know that we will once again hold Pete Kokinis Baseball League Night at the Bees and our Championship Games at New Britain Stadium. As part of your registration fee, you will receive 15 tickets to Pete Kokinis Baseball League Night at the Bees. We will announce the date when the Bees schedule is released.

Our Championship Games will be held at New Britain Stadium on Saturday and Sunday July 30 and 31, with rain date Monday, August 1 (at sites to be determined).

### **League Patches**

All players shall wear uniforms bearing the Pete Kokinis Baseball League patch. We will provide a jpg file to supply to uniform vendors for silk screening, and we will also provide iron-on patches free of charge for teams that prefer them.

### **Supervisors Wanted!**

We are looking for a youth baseball enthusiast to join our crew as a Division Supervisor. The Supervisor:

- Is the liaison between several teams and the League
- Answers questions from the teams on rules and policies
- Communicates schedule changes from the teams to the League
- Facilitates team roster changes
- Attends games with an eye on good sportsmanship, base coach helmets, and proper coaching attire
- Collects game scores from the coaches and enters scores into the website
- Attends League meetings (3 with teams plus Supervisor meeting in the fall)

If you're interested in the position, please contact Dan Turkeltaub, [dan.turkeltaub@gmail.com](mailto:dan.turkeltaub@gmail.com).

### **Administrative Rule Highlights**

- We have changed the point system for 2022, awarding a point for a loss, but not for a forfeit.

Teams are ranked as follows:

1. Points, awarded as follows:

3 points for a win  
2 points for a tie  
1 point for a loss  
No points for a forfeit loss

2. Wins
3. Head-to-Head
4. Runs Against
5. If still tied, a coin flip will determine playoff seeding. If three or more teams are tied, seeding will be determined by lot.

Note our website will rank teams only on the first three criteria. Runs Against is displayed in the standings table but the table will not rank the fourth factor.

- Double rostering – we allow double rostering between divisions as follows:
  - Up to five 16U players may be double rostered on a 19U team.

- Up to five 14U players may be double rostered on a 16U team.
- A player may not be double rostered on teams within the same Division

## **Playing Rule Highlights**

- Rule Book
  - We use the 2022 NFHS Baseball Rule book, amended with our own rules sheet.
- Designated Hitter
  - You can now use a Designated Hitter as well as an Extra Hitter! The extra hitter does not bat for a defensive player. Your lineup can now have 10 batters plus the pitcher.
- Mercy Rule
  - We follow the CIAC mercy rule for regular season games. The game shall end when the visiting team is behind ten (10) or more runs after 4½ innings or after the fifth inning, if either team is 10 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat. The mercy rule will also be used in playoff games.
- Equipment
  - Bats - all divisions follow the NFHS rule: bats that are not made of a single piece of wood must meet the BBCOR performance standard and must be marked "BBCOR .50"
    - The 14U division may also use -5 bats.
  - Chest Protectors - Catchers must wear chest protectors that meet the NOCSAE standard at time of manufacture. The SEI/NOCSAE mark is required on all body/chest protectors that meet the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture.
  - Baseballs – The league is now providing 60 baseballs included in your registration fee. If you choose to opt out of our baseballs, see the Playing Rules for a list of accepted baseballs.
- Lineup Cards
  - Lineup cards must contain first and last name, and uniform number, and on the reverse, the names of players ineligible to pitch that day.
- Coaches Uniforms
  - The League no longer provides shirts as we found most coaches wear team shirts. All on-field coaches must wear a uniform. Baseball pants and a team shirt or pullover/jacket are required. Please see the Playing Rules document for complete information.
- Electronic Scorebooks
  - An electronic scorebook may be used. Any scorebook, electronic or paper, must be made available for inspection by League officials upon request.

## **Background Checks**

The League will again require yearly Background Checks. They are confidential and administered by Protect Youth Sports.

As a youth-serving organization, The Pete Kokinis Baseball League considers the safety and well-being of the youth in our program a top priority. Therefore, we continue to require a yearly background checking program to include all team personnel that come into contact with players.

Prior to a team's first game, a background check will need to be performed on every Team Representative, Manager, Coach, Assistants, and volunteers. Your failure to participate will make you unavailable to coach and interact with League players. If, on game day, no team personnel have had a

background check performed, the game will be forfeited. The check may take up to 48 hours to process so please do not wait until the day of your first game to submit for your background check. The check must be performed using the League's service. Background checks made by your organization cannot be accepted.

See the Background Check page on our website for a link to Protect Youth Sports.

**What you need:**

Full Legal Name, Current and past addresses, Date of Birth, Social Security Number, and Driver's License Number.

**Fee:**

The fee for the background check is \$14.95 which will be charged to your Debit or Credit Card. The Pete Kokinis Baseball League is not responsible for this fee and will not reimburse anyone ordering a background check.

**The Process:**

When you are ready to submit your information, click on the link below. You will be redirected to our provider's site. When completed, the results will be provided to the Chair of the League's Background Check Committee, who will log your completion. He and only he will have access to your results.

Should there be an issue that requires follow-up information; The Chair of the Background Check Committee will contact you personally.

Please see the table below for a list of general suggestions of people who should submit to a background check. This list is not inclusive. Use your best judgment.

If you are or do the following, submit for a background check:

- Team Representative
- Head or Assistant Coach
- Scorekeeper
- Dad that throws batting practice
- Interns
- Anything that puts you in a private setting with a player

Some positions that, depending on their level of involvement with your team, might not need a background check:

- PA Announcers
- Writers
- Statisticians
- Concession Workers
- Groundskeepers

**2022 Schedule (subject to change):**

- Registration Opens – Saturday, January 1
- Organizational Meeting and close of Registration – Wednesday, April 6
- Scheduling Meetings – Week of May 2
- Rules Meeting – Wednesday, May 25

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CIAC Finals – Friday and Saturday, June 10 & 11

Opening Day – Monday, June 6

League Night at the Bees – TBD

Last Day to Change Rosters – Saturday, June 25

End of Regular Season – Thursday, July 21

Playoffs Begin (all divisions) – Saturday, July 23

Championship Games at New Britain Stadium – Saturday/Sunday July 30/31

Rain date for Championship Games – Monday, August 1

Do you need more information about our League? Please contact League Director Pete Kokinis, [peterkokinis44@gmail.com](mailto:peterkokinis44@gmail.com) or Director of Operations Dan Turkeltaub, [dan.turkeltaub@gmail.com](mailto:dan.turkeltaub@gmail.com).