

Rockwood Eramosa Minor Ball Association

October 2009



Mark Your Calendar

November 20, 2009—REMBA Annual General Meeting, **Rockwood Fire Hall at 7:00 p.m.** Plan to attend and hear first hand what YOUR Association is doing!

November 20, 2009— Early Bird Registration Deadline.

March 31, 2010— 2010 Season Registration deadline.

2009 Tax Receipts- Enclosed with this Newsletter you should find your 2009 Children's Fitness Tax Credit receipt. This tax credit is eligible for participants under 16 years of age during 2009. If you didn't receive your tax credit please contact Trish Millson at 856-4780 or email Trish at registrar@remba.ca.

REGISTRATION 2010!

REMBA's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that early bird registration is open for the 2010 season. Fastball is a great sport at a great value and we want you to take advantage of it. **Big News...** due to the continuing support from our community sponsors our registration fees have decreased from the 2009 season. You can save even more by registering early, up to \$25 per child!! Sign up early using the enclosed "Early-bird" registration form.

- 1) Complete the 2010 Registration Form attached to this newsletter and mail with your registration payment and uniform deposit to REMBA, P.O. Box 253 Rockwood, Ontario N0B 2K0.
- 2) Please direct all registration enquiries to Trish Millson, REMBA Registrar at 856-4780 or email Trish at registrar@remba.ca.
- 3) Additional forms are available on the REMBA website at www.remba.ca.

Our Early Bird Registration Deadline is November 20, 2009
Don't Delay - Register Today!!

THANKS TO OUR 2009 SPONSORS!!

REMBA sincerely thanks our 2009 Sponsors for their generous support. When visiting any of the local businesses or organizations listed below, all parents and players are encouraged to extend a word of 'thanks'. Remember—Their sponsorship has been instrumental in the success of our teams this season.

Salmon Plumbing
Nellis Construction
Swanston Farm Equipment
Eden House Care Facility
East Wellington Family Health Team
Woodrill Farms Ltd
Leslie Sand & Gravel
Rockwood Pharmacy
WRA Management
Rockwood Dental
Rockwood Casual Dining
St Lawrence Cement
RKD Internet

Updates from our 2009 Teams

Blastball

The Blastball season got off to a great start with 12 boys and girls ready to learn the game of baseball! By far their favorite part was running those bases, which would honk every time they enthusiastically jumped on them! Our first few practices consisted of teaching them the basics of throwing, hitting and yelling BLAST! when fielding the ball. Since Blastball doesn't have any scheduled games, we decided that we would start splitting the team into 2 teams for fun games every practice. The kids really enjoyed this and by the end of our season all the kids were fielding balls, hitting and throwing with confidence. Another highlight of the season was our end of year parents vs. kids game! Thanks to all the kids and the support of the parents. Hope to see our newest ball players out next year as well!

Tykes

The Tykes season started off to a slow start with almost all our games and practices cancelled due to rain. Once our season kicked off, it was fun and successful. It was such an accomplishment to see all of our players improve over the season. At the yearend tournament, the Tykes were undefeated, which was a very exciting moment for the team, when we won our final game against Ponsoby. Thanks to all the coaches, volunteers and parents who helped out with the season, and a special thanks to all the players for a great season. Hope to see you next year!

Atom

The 2009 Atom Rebels began their season much like the year before. After numerous rained out games, a lot of rescheduling, and one exciting adults/players mixed game, they finally had the opportunity to put their practices to the test the second week of June. From there on out, it was fastball two, sometimes three, and even FOUR nights a week for the next two months.

This year marked the first year of "real" fastball for most players. At bat, they faced pitching from an opposing team which meant they had to learn the difference between balls and strikes, and had to gauge their swings in time with the speed of the pitch. Initially, fast pitchers proved very intimidating to the Rebels. However, both batters and teammates learned that when connection is made with a speedy pitch, the hits can be huge! There were several homeruns, and even a few grand slams throughout the year that were extremely exciting.

The players returning for their second year in Atom were a big help in explaining some of the new rules to the rest of their teammates, and showing them the level of focus required in this age group. Stealing, sliding, and outfield cutoffs, are key skills that were introduced this year. Playing smarter often proved as valuable as playing stronger, and a great many runs were achieved when runners and fielders alike kept their heads up and paid attention to each other.

Next season, the Atom Rebels will lose 4 players who are moving up to the Squirt division but in their place, will be several Tykes who join the Atom roster. Just like this year, those who remain will be counted on to show these new players the ropes and help build a fun environment in which to compete. Thanks to all the parents and fans that came out to watch the games, and support the players. See you next season!

Squirt Boys

The Squirt boys had a stellar season. We managed to get in an early start with a few indoor practices which really paid off allowing the boys to get a jump on the season. Previous years had developed a strong pitching rotation and good defensive abilities. So with this in mind we placed a stronger emphasis on improving our hitting numbers, which paid dividends for us all season. We had a full roster with 16 players, each of them contributing their personal best towards making the season one to remember. During the regular season schedule the boys won every game they played, they then continued this streak into the playoffs winning the championship trophy in three games straight! They are the Squirt Boys Intercounty Champions, for 2009. Congratulations guys! While the coaching staff and I are very proud of their accomplishments, we are also proud of the attitude and effort they put into each game. Even when we were down a few runs or were having an off game they never gave up putting forth their best effort. They are all on their way to becoming fine young players, and I look forward to working with them again in the coming seasons.

Big thank you to the parents for getting players to practices on short notice, Darlene our scorekeeper (and those who subbed in when she couldn't make it), fantastic job, and to my fellow coaches, without them we could not have had the fantastic season we did. Have a safe and great off season everyone, see you next spring.

Junior Midget Boys

We had a very difficult year but not unexpected! All but one player were first year midgets within a three year age division. We also had our share of injuries with one player only playing two games before breaking his ankle and another player dislocating his knee without playing a single game. Thanks for the help from the Senior Midget team (we were able to swap players between teams as we played in separate leagues)! Also a big thank you to our sponsors Salmon Plumbing and Dufferin Aggregates!

Senior Midget Boys

The Rockwood Rebels Senior Fastball Team captured the "B" Playoff Championship in New Dundee. The victory came with an 8-2 margin that saw many great baseball plays. Rockwood won the 3 game series with 2 solid team efforts.

It all starts with pitching. Josh Dickieson from Rockwood led his team on the mound by surrendering only 4 hits. The only damage was a 2 run homer in the second inning that cleared the center fielder's glove. Josh kept the New Dundee Reds off balance with a variety of pitches, throwing only 67 pitches, 49 strikes and 18 balls. Winning game 1 on the mound for Rockwood was local Actonite Tyler Kruk 9-8 in a crowd pleaser.

The Rockwood offensive attack was too much for the New Dundee squad to handle, led by a monster blast to center field off Josh Dickieson's bat that ignited the offense in the 3rd inning. Following that hit later in the inning was a 3 run home run for James Evans to make the score 8-2 for Rockwood.

Rockwood's defense took the game over at that point with some sharp defensive plays on third base by Tyler Kruk and 6 super catches by center fielder Tyler Simpson.

The Rockwood Rebels team batting average for the playoffs was a combined .346, led by Mike Bottenham at .529 (and an amazing .603 for the regular season for Mike as well). Some clutch hits and unselfish play by the Aitken brothers, Nik and Joe and Adam Parker, Joe Haliburton and Todd Allen was one of the keys to scoring runners to help out the Pitchers. It was a total team effort.

After 21 years of coaching fastball in Rockwood it was a fitting end to a great season and a fitting end to a team of great young men some of which I have coached for 12-15 years. Thanks for the memories boys!! This year's players were: Scotty MaCaw, Todd Allen, Tyler Simpson, Nik Aitken, Joe Aitken, Steve Kruk, Mike Battenham, Tyler Kruk, Adam Parker, James Evans, Josh Dickieson, Joe Haliburton, Bill Allen and Greg Dickieson

Thanks to our Volunteers

All the success can only be attributed to the many, many volunteers that this organization is fortunate to have. Even though we pay a minimal registration fee, it is easy to forget volunteers run this organization. On behalf of the Board of Directors and membership, we wish to extend our sincere gratitude to the Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Team Managers. For without your organizational and time management skills, REMBA could not function. In addition, there are other volunteers who also work tirelessly in the background coordinating registration, scheduling umpires, and other similar activities, which allow our organization to run. In particular, we would like to thank the following volunteers:

- **Trish Millson**, Registration Co-ordinator
- **Elizabeth Lengyel**, REMBA Picture day coordinator
- **Darlene Trimble**, Junior umpire scheduler
- **Bruce Livingston**, REMBA's Flamborough Representative

REMBA's Board of Directors 2008-2009

President— Steve Lush (856-0021).

Past-President — Jim Timmings (856-4114)

Vice-President — Darlene Trimble (519-856-4964)

Secretary — Carrie Burden (519-856-4332)

Treasurer — Trish Millson (856-4780)

Director — Alex Weir

Director — Mike Coppola

Director — Sarah Kennedy

Website —Cindy Lochert

REMBA'S WEBSITE IS AVAILABLE FROM A COMPUTER NEAR YOU!

Special thanks once again are extended to Rudy Diemer at RKD Internet who is hosting the REMBA website. Put this on your list of favorites' at <http://www.remba.ca>. Plan now to visit this informative website for the latest on REMBA activities!

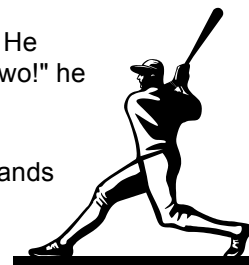


Future Baseball Star

A little boy was overheard talking to himself as he strutted through the backyard, wearing his baseball cap and toting a ball and bat, "I'm the greatest hitter in the world," he announced. Then, he tossed the ball into the air, swung at it, and missed. "Strike One!" he yelled.

Undaunted, he picked up the ball and said again, "I'm the greatest hitter in the world!" He tossed the ball into the air. When it came down he swung again and missed. "Strike Two!" he cried.

The boy then paused a moment to examine his bat and ball carefully. He spit on his hands and rubbed them together. He straightened his cap and said once more, "I'm the greatest hitter in the world!" Again he tossed the ball up in the air and swung at it. He missed. "Strike Three!"



"Wow!" he exclaimed. "I'm the greatest pitcher in the world."

Is There Baseball in Heaven?

Two old men had been best friends for years, and they both live to their early 90's, when one of them suddenly falls deathly ill. His friend comes to visit him on his deathbed, and they're reminiscing about their long friendship, when the dying man's friend asks, "Listen, when you die, do me a favor. I want to know if there's baseball in heaven."

The dying man said, "We've been friends for years, this I'll do for you." And then he dies.

A couple days later, his surviving friend is sleeping when he hears his friend's voice. The voice says, "I've got some good news and some bad news. The good news is that there's baseball in heaven."

"What's the bad news?"

"You're pitching on Wednesday."

Calling All Interested Parents!

REMBA Needs Your Help in 2010!

As a Board Member

Become part of a great community minded minor sports organization that makes a difference in Rockwood-Eramosa. We have several retiring Directors and need some new faces for 2009-2010. If you are interested call any one of the REMBA Board listed on the back page and make your interest known. Elections take place at our Annual Meeting on November 20th.

As a Coach or Assistant Coach

Ask any REMBA coach and they will tell you the reward associated with teaching kids both skills and sportsmanship is priceless. Watch our kids develop over the course of one season or several years and you'll agree the lessons they learn last a lifetime. A coach's application form is attached with your family's registration package. If you're interested complete the form so we can make you part of our plans for 2010. In order to safeguard our kids, all volunteer coaches selected by REMBA undergo a police background check.

As a Carded Umpire

We are always on the lookout for individuals with a commitment to the game of softball and sufficient knowledge to qualify as a carded umpire. Whether you are currently carded or have been carded before, or would like to become a carded umpire, let us know. If you are willing to take the necessary training to obtain or maintain your card, this is a great chance to participate in the game of softball and make some extra cash. Fees are paid on a game-by-game basis. Let one of the Directors know if you want to officiate in 2010.

Just Want To Help Out?

Want to help but not sure how? REMBA needs many hands to make light work. We realize not everyone can make a commitment to be a Director or coach but would still like to get involved. We have many opportunities for people to get involved in big or small ways. Over the years, we have relied on a small but committed group of volunteers to make sure everything works well on and off the field. Equipment and uniform management, working with InterCounty and other leagues, scheduling games and umpires, write-ups for local newspapers, organizing events like photo day etc. the list is long and we would sure appreciate your help. Contact a Director if you would like to get more involved in making REMBA work.