## **GOALS AND SUMMARY OF TRI-T PROGRAMS**



The goal of the Tri-T Baseball / Softball League, Inc. is to bring together various community-based local baseball and softball leagues so that they can conveniently play an interlocking schedule. As players get beyond the age of twelve, many leagues do

not have enough players to form more than a few teams. If they were to play within their own league, the teams would be playing one another far too often for the players to have a good experience. Tri-T brings together teams from the entire Mahoning Valley and provides the necessary administration to have all players have a positive experience.

Tri-T currently administers Pony League Baseball for boys ages 13 & 14. Colt League Baseball for boys ages 15 to 18, and Pony Fast Pitch Softball for players 14 and Under. All of these divisions are chartered with PONY Baseball and Softball, Inc. in Washington, Pennsylvania, and play under their rules unless otherwise noted in this directory.

PONY stands for "Protect Our Nation's Youth," and Tri-T fully supports this philosophy. PONY is a non-discriminatory organization, which prohibits actions against an individual or league based on race, sex, creed, religion, or national origin. All policies of the Tri-T Baseball / Softball League, Inc. are geared toward the children of our communities having a positive experience and an environment that will help them develop into successful adults.

Tri-T provides all game scheduling, maintains all league standings, provides league standings to area media outlets, and provides league awards. Tri-T believes in the concept of community-based teams. With this in mind, the community-based league must request and be granted boundaries from which to draw its players. These boundaries are strictly enforced, as are requirements for medical and liability insurance. Teams cannot be entered by individuals, only by local baseball and / or softball organizations. All-Star. elite, or travel teams are not permitted.

To provide a better opportunity for players in baseball divisions, teams are placed in divisions based on the ability of the team. Each local league must state the division in which their teams will compete. By placing players of similar ability in certain divisions, all players should enjoy a more competitive season.

At the conclusion of the season, All-Star teams or Community-based teams are selected and entered into PONY International and National Tournaments. At times, Tri-T conducts its own playoffs and / or post-season tournaments. If Tri-T is not sending teams to PONY Tournaments, the Tri-T post-season event is expanded to include more teams. The costs and administration of these tournaments is provided by Tri-T.



## A Member of PONY Baseball and Softball, Inc.

In 1950, the Poland Fire Department was asked by Ivan Blackman, its Chief, to sponsor a baseball team. At this time, the league consisted of four teams and was called the Tri-Township Baseball League. The four teams included the Poland Firemen, North Lima Crouse Mills, New Middletown Ohlin Brothers, and the New Springfield Merchants.

Today, the Tri-T Baseball/Softball League consists of players ages 13 – 18, in Pony League Baseball, Colt League Baseball, and Pony Fast Pitch Softball. There are nearly 100 teams from communities in Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana counties participating in the Tri-T Baseball/Softball League.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP Any community baseball / softball league or organization can apply for membership to the Tri-T Baseball / Softball League, Inc. The application procedure begins by contacting the Tri-T President and supplying the information listed below. This would include league boundaries, playing facilities, umpire association, and the Tri-T division the local league would like to join. Also required is proof of \$1,000,000.00 liability insurance and supplemental medical insurance. The Tri-T Board of Directors will evaluate the application and rule on accepting the applicant for membership. It must be understood that the Board of Directors does not accept applications from individuals with teams, only community-based baseball / softball organizations may apply. In addition, the Board of Directors will try to avoid having different member organizations drawing players from the same geographical area. The sponsoring league is responsible for the conduct of teams entered into Tri-T.

**BOUNDARIES** Each local league shall determine the actual geographic boundaries of the area from within which it shall select players. These boundaries must be described in detail, and shown on a map and dated when making application for membership in Tri-T. Players will be eligible to play with that local league only if they reside within the boundaries shown to and approved by Tri-T.

## **PLAYER'S LEAGUE AGE**

- 1. MALE players' age is determined by how he is on April 30.
- 2. FEMALE players' age is determined by how old she is on December 31.

**PRE-SEASON REQUIREMENTS** Each member league must submit the following materials to Tri-T, usually at the March meeting:

- 1. Written proof of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Liability Insurance.
- 2. Written proof of Supplemental Medical Insurance for their players
- 3. Supply the name of the Umpire Association and the name and phone number of the Umpire Assignor. All umpires must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, and must be members of the PONY Baseball and Softball, Inc. Umpire Registry. A list of team names and division (i.e. Pony League Baseball, Colt League Baseball, Pony Fast Pitch softball).

- 4. Provide Manager's and Coach's names and phone numbers for each team.
- 5. Provide phone number or website to check on games that may be postponed due to inclement weather (rainouts).
- 6. \$150 entrance fee PER TEAM payable Tri-T.
- 7. Provide detailed maps of field locations.
- 8. All Tri-T managers are required to be members of Tri-T, and their membership fee is included in team entry fees. Membership dues are \$5.00. Coaches are strongly encouraged to become members. Memberships expire December 31 annually.
- Pony League Baseball teams are limited to fifteen (15) players with no restriction on age (i.e. you can have as many 13-year-olds or 14-year-olds on the team as is desired).
- 10. Colt League Baseball will be for players ages 15 18. Teams are allowed a maximum of three (3) players whose league age is eighteen (18). The total number of 17 & 18 year-olds on a team roster shall not exceed a total of nine (9) players. There is no restriction on numbers and ages of players whose league age is fifteen (15) or sixteen (16).
- 11. Additional requirements may be requested from the President and / or the Executive Committee.
- 12. Violation of any of these regulations are to be brought to the attention of the Division Director or an Executive Committee member. Said violation(s) may result in forfeiture of games.

