McLean County PONY Baseball, Inc.

General Information

McLean County PONY (*Protect Our Nations Youth)* is a non-profit organization (501c 3 designation) for youth baseball in McLean County, Illinois. Its goals are for players to enjoy and learn the game of baseball. MCPB is part of the national PONY organization and is staffed by volunteers. Continued success is dependent on volunteer support, and your help in any way is appreciated.

Divisions: PONY baseball is divided into 7 divisions, based on a player's age as of May 1.

Shetland (5 & 6)	Pinto (7 & 8)	Mustang (9 & 10)	Bronco (11 &12)
Pony (13 & 14)	Colt (15 & 16)	Palomino (17 &18)	

Location: With the exception of traveling teams at the Mustang and above divisions, all in-house games are normally played at the PONY Complex at the corner of Ireland Grove and Towanda Barnes roads in Bloomington, Illinois. Occasionally, games may be scheduled off-site to accommodate make-up games and special events. The complex also includes practice facilities such as batting cage available for use by all players. **Outside food and drink, alcohol and pets are not allowed**. Players are allowed to bring water bottles.

Uniforms: Jerseys, hats and socks are provided to all players, except select teams in the Bronco, Pony and Colt divisions. Uniforms are replica of those worn by Major league teams. Players should furnish their own white baseball pants, gloves and optional baseball shoes. Other baseball equipment, including batting helmets and catcher's equipment, is furnished.

Sized to fit: Field sizes and playing rules are customized to each age group. For example, Shetland uses a batting tee and Pinto a pitching machine. In Mustang division and above, score is kept and paid umpires are used.

Teams: Team rosters include 12 to 14 players and every player plays every game. In Mustang and older divisions teams are built balanced based on player skills. New players for Mustang and older divisions participate in pre-season evaluations in March. Returning players for these divisions are evaluated by coaches the previous season.

Coaches: Coaches are volunteers and are assigned to coach their own children. Those interested in coaching are asked to sign up at registration. Coaches are encouraged to attend a pre-season Coaching Clinic, sponsored by MCPB.

Schedule: Games and practices are scheduled May through July. Mustang division and above includes an in-house tournament.

Newsletter: An informal newsletter is published periodically throughout the year.

Photos: A team photo day is scheduled during the season. Professionally taken team and individual photos are available.

Fundraising: In addition to a registration fee, each player is responsible for a fundraising commitment. This is accomplished either by selling $180 of candy and/or pizza, or making a $75 donation at the time of registration.

Concession Stand: The PONY Complex includes a concession stand. The concession stand provides convenient drinks, snacks, and sandwiches while at the complex, and is also an important financial resource for MCPB. Volunteer help is essential for the concession stand's success. Parents are assigned to work a maximum of two sessions during the season per player or may contribute $80 per player in lieu of working their shifts at the concession stand.

Sponsors: Businesses and organizations are invited to sponsor a team or field sign. Team sponsors will have their names printed on the back of team shirts. Field sign sponsors have their signs displayed on the outfield fences of the various diamonds. Contact MCPB for prices and other information.

Refund Policy: Full refunds are available if written requests are postmarked by March 1. No refund request are accepted after March 1. Refund requests should be sent to: McLean County PONY Baseball, Inc., PO Box 1779, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Contact MCPB: Call 309-662-7669 (PONY) and leave a message. During the season, call 309-823-0402 for information about cancellation and updates. Additional information also is available on our web site (www.mcponybaseball.com).

Please write a separate check for each player you are registering. This policy will be strictly enforced, so please plan according as there will be no exceptions.