### Welcome to the home of Lannon Stonemen Baseball

#### **Mission Statement:**

The Lannon Stonemen Baseball program is a Select program dedicated to providing a positive, competitive, and rewarding baseball experience at an advanced level for all participants. We will strive to instill in our players the values of hard work, sportsmanship, teamwork and respect.

#### **Stonemen Program Goals:**

- 1. Provide each player with the opportunity to learn, develop, and improve their baseball skills and strategies.
  - 2. Provide each player with an atmosphere that encourages mental, social, and emotional growth and maturity.
    - 3. Prepare our players to play at the next level.

# **Common Questions & Answers**

<u>Who are the Lannon Stonemen</u>? We are a select baseball organization based in Lannon, WI focused on developing kids between the ages of 5 and 14 years old that are in the Sussex Hamilton School District and neighboring communities. We strive to be a high-quality organization that prepares our kids to play baseball at the high school level as well as to succeed for life after baseball.

<u>Where do we play?</u> We have 3 beautiful fields (Dawson, Schneider and Joecks) which are located at Lannon Village Park (just north of Main Street on Lannon Road). There is also a playground for the kids as well as a nearby hiking trail if you want to go for a run, walk or bike ride.

<u>How many teams do you have?</u> Our core philosophy is based on starting with great coaches and focusing on development for the kids. We are NOT looking to be the biggest program but we strive to be one of the best. With that said, the three fields at Lannon Village Park only allow us to have up to 14 teams from U8 to U14 and those teams can play in either the State league or MAJORS league. In addition, there is a Stonemen high school team and a Stonemen adult Land O' Lakes team that share Joecks Field.

What does it cost to be a Stonemen? We are charging \$500 for the 2018 season which is undoubtedly on the low end if not the lowest of other select baseball organizations in southeast Wisconsin. We are a non-profit organization so all remaining funds and donations get put back into the fields and kids. With excess funds and a few donations, we completely renovated Dawson and Schneider fields in 2017 that our U8 through U12 teams use with all grass infields and pitching mounds. They look amazing!

<u>Can my kid play other sports</u>? As for flexibility, we support multi-sport athletes. What this means is that we expect your kid to play other sports as long as you prioritize in-season games and don't abuse missing practice time. Over-communication with your coaching staff is also a key to success.

What other developmental opportunities are there for my kid? We conduct an annual summer Squirts Academy for 5-8 year olds and frequently we provide training at no extra cost across all levels for catching, pitching and hitting.

<u>How many games are played at each level</u>? This depends on the coaches and parents but each team will usually play 14-18 league games and at least 2 tournaments which is approximately 20-24 games. At the coach's discretion, they can add additional tournaments, a Helfaer Park game or other non-league games and each year you should expect the number of games to increase as the kids get older.

When are tryouts, how are teams formed, when are parents notified and when is registration? Team selection starts with dividing up our U8 teams accordingly based on number of kids at tryouts, residency restrictions and levels of competitiveness. At U9 and after, approved coaches have priority to their kids. Early offers may be

extended and tryouts occur at the end of July. After tryouts, any remaining roster spots are filled through a formalized process between the coaching staff and the Board of Directors. A written acceptance with a \$150 down payment secures early offers and tryout offers. In summary, communication amongst coaches is a key to our success!

<u>How are coaches selected</u>? In June, we have a formal coach's evaluation as well as recruiting process to ensure we have as many high-quality coaches in place come tryouts in late July. Our focus is on a coaching staff with baseball experience but focused on a fun, developmental environment.

<u>Do you have volunteer requirements</u>? No! There are no mandatory volunteer requirements however, we do ask for participation on the Board or supporting roles, parents to help keep the fields clean and maintained as well as with their teams in any fundraising events they do for additional games/tournaments.

<u>Do you send your kids to Cooperstown</u>? Yes and no. Our U12 team(s) run an annual fundraiser where such funds go towards the event that the coaches and parents agree to. This could be Cooperstown but it could also be Myrtle Beach, Pigeon Forge Tennessee, Wisconsin Dells or additional tournaments in the area.

What roles are on the board? The Board of Directors is made up of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. In addition, we have trustees who in combination with the Board have voting rights. Other roles include background checks, coach evaluations, fields, fundraising, indoor facility, parade, player development, registration, squirts, tryouts, uniforms & equipment and website, communications & social media.

## **Summary**

If you are looking for a fun, high-quality baseball program at a low cost with high development returns for your kid, come tryout in July to be a part of a great organization. GO STONEMEN!!!

