



MISSION STATEMENT

OF

THE JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE OF NASSAU (JBLN)

The Junior Baseball League of Nassau's program uses regulation competitive baseball and softball to teach the required skills, mental and physical development, a respect for the rules of the game, and basic ideals of sportsmanship and fair play. In all aspects, JBLN is committed to providing our participants the very best educational and sports experience possible.

We aim to:

- Build a stronger nation through young people and athletics.
- Provide young Bahamians with an opportunity that not only promotes healthy living through the participation in athletics, but also serves as a positive setting for social development.
- Provide the foundation and facilities at which future leaders of our country and their families can flourish.
- Encourage training and competition, so that JBLN participants experience the satisfaction of obtaining individual and team results while learning the important life lessons of: Establishing goals, self-discipline, winning and losing graciously and showing mutual respect for players, coaches and umpires.

It is our fundamental belief that every child with a desire to play baseball or softball be afforded that opportunity.

JBLN FACTS

- PLAYERS(450+), COACHES (100) + PARENTS (600) = SUCCESS
- Twenty Three (23) years as a successfully operating, 100% volunteer and Non-Profit organization.
- 450+ youth from over 25 different Public and Private schools located throughout Nassau.
- Players in six (6) divisions ranging from the ages of 5 – 25.
- We average between 36 & 42 Teams per year consisting of 12 - 15 players with up to four volunteer coaches per team.

- JBLN is a member of the Bahamas Baseball Federation, Little League International and PONY Baseball International.
- Practices and games take place daily from October – June. The season culminates in June with the JBLN Championship Series and then The Bahamas National Baseball Tournament which is played between the member leagues of the Bahamas Baseball Federation throughout the Bahamas.
- During the months of June and August JBLN players selected to National Teams, travel to the US, Puerto Rico and other Latin American Countries representing the Bahamas in Caribbean Zone World series Qualifying Tournaments. In 2010 we beat Panama in the PONY 13 age group to qualify for our second World Series appearance in 11 years, where we place 6th out of 8 teams in California. We return to the PONY 13 World Series in 2012 where we finished 7th out of 8th teams.

For more information, contact us at comments@JBLNBaseball.com

**A BRIEF HISTORY
OF
THE JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE OF NASSAU (JBLN)**

The Junior Baseball League of Nassau was started by a few interested parents who wanted to see Little League Baseball made available to the youth and families of Nassau. Early inquiries and research started in September, 1989 with the first presentation made to approximately 20 interested players and parents in early November, 1989.

The first JBLN meeting was attended by Heinz and Becky Wszolek, Dave Geremiah, Tim Revington and Brian Moree. The first funds donated to the League came from Real Estate International, Finance Corporation of Bahamas Limited and Gunite Pools.

The first season began in late January, 1990 with the League consisting of 2 Tee Ball teams (6 – 8 year olds) and 3 Junior Division teams (9 – 14 year olds) with a total of 60 players.

The third season (1992) the League experienced further growth with an additional Tee Ball team being formed, bringing the total number of players to approximately 95. Two female parents, Becky Wszolek and Jill Damianos, assumed the leadership of the League and were appointed co-commissioners. 1994 saw for the first time, corporate team sponsors for the league, with two prominent companies coming forward with financial assistance. Insurance Management and Maura's Marine both sponsored teams in the Tee Ball division. At the first ever opening ceremony, both company's CEO's took part by throwing a first pitch and offering words of encouragement.

The sixth season (1995) saw a number of significant changes, beginning with the League gaining membership with Little League of America, and for the first time using official Little League Rule Books. Also, umpires were now put in uniforms and encouraged to attend umpire clinics, which resulted in a higher level of officiating. At this point the League consisted of 11 teams, three Divisions and 150 players. All

teams had been offered corporate sponsorship from a wide selection of the Nassau business community.

In the eighth Season (1997) the League expanded to a record 18 teams with both Tee Ball and Bantam Divisions being split into an East and West Conference. The total player count reached 212. The League sought and secured its first international tournament with two all-star teams from the Bantam Division traveling to Eustis, Central Florida, for a six game series.

After 23 years of playing baseball in the Junior Baseball League of Nassau, the program has grown by leaps and bounds. With well over 450 participants now a part of the JBLN experience, the league not only provides kids with an opportunity to play baseball & now softball for girls, but also internationally representing the Bahamas through the PONY Baseball International Organization. For a complete baseball & softball experience, The Junior Baseball League of Nassau has become the premier choice for youth baseball & softball in the Bahamas.

**JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE OF NASSAU
VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS**

**“There is no limit to what can be accomplished
when nobody cares who gets the credit”**

President:

- **Julian Brown** – Coaching, Fund Raising and Public Relations

Vice President/Commissioner:

- **Jeff Albury** – League Operations, Umpires & Scorers, Draft and player movement.

Treasure:

- **Charles Kemp** – League Operations, Coaching and Umpiring.

Secretary:

- **Bonnie Davis** – Public Relations and Media, Fund Raising & Parents Players Association.

Director:

- **Andrew Saunders** – Umpiring, Facilities Management

Director:

- **Curtis Malone** – Umpiring and Coaching

Director:

- **Bertram Murray** - Coaching, Player Development & International Travel

Director:

- **Terran Rodgers** - Coaching, Player Development & International Travel

Director:

- **Eddie Gardner** - Public Relations and Media & Fund Raising

Director:

- **Victor Cartwright** – Coaching & Facilities Management

Director:

- **Nikki Flowers** – Fund Raising & Parents Players Association.