



## **American Legion Baseball is Back in Bedford!**

Many Bedford residents grew up proudly representing our town in American Legion Baseball, but the program was dormant from 2016 through 2020. Now, young ball players have the opportunity to represent Bedford on a local, regional, and possibly even national level, as Bedford again boasts American Legion Baseball teams at levels supporting players between the ages of 13 and 19!

Our program partners with Stevens-Buswell Post 54, the Bedford American Legion Post here in town. This collaboration has resulted in state championship squads, most recently in 2011, and has helped numerous future collegiate and professional players hone their skills.

Several Post 54 coaches have Legion ball experience: head coach Henry DuBois played for Jutras Post 43 on the west side of Manchester; and Mark St. Hilaire suited up for Coffee Post 3 in Nashua.

American Legion Baseball ("Legion") was founded in 1925, and still stands behind the traditional values upon which it was founded. Legion has taught hundreds of thousands of young Americans the importance of sportsmanship, good health and active citizenship. The program is also a promoter of equality, making teammates out of young athletes regardless of their income levels or social standings.

Since its inception in 1925, the league has had millions of players, including countless who have gone on to play in college and professional baseball, with 81 inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. The roll of players includes luminaries such as Ted Williams, Bob Feller, Yogi Berra, Frank Robinson, Albert Pujols, and Justin Verlander, among others.

With costly, pressure-laden travel baseball programs rising to prominence over the last decade, Legion offers players something difficult to find: the opportunity to play with their friends on town teams. This is a throwback to the baseball that many of us remember playing when we were younger, and offers these players a chance to play our national pastime on our fields right here in town. This allows players, fans, and town residents to experience the familiar sights and sounds of the game of baseball on beautiful New Hampshire summer afternoons and evenings.

There are limited opportunities available for local businesses to sponsor our Post 54 team and help us allow more players to take the field at a lower cost. These opportunities include:

- The Home Run: Round the bases with:
  - Social media posts (2 of them) announcing your sponsorship along with a special offer
  - Sign on back of dugout (3B or 1B) at one of the highest-visibility intersections in Bedford (County Rd. and Nashua Rd., at the 4-way stop sign)
  - Logo on back of sponsor T-Shirt
  - Website logo
  - Social media post
  - Total investment: \$2,500
- The Triple: Clear the bases with:
  - Outfield wall sign (8' x 4')
  - Logo on back of sponsor T-Shirt
  - Website logo
  - Social media post
  - Total investment: \$1,000
- The Double: Get into scoring position with:
  - Logo on back of sponsor T-Shirt OR outfield wall sign
  - Social media post
  - Website logo
  - Total investment: \$500
- The Single: Get on base with:
  - Social media post
  - Website logo
  - Total investment: \$250

In conjunction with some other local organizations, the Post 54 Baseball coaching staff is working to replace the dilapidated snack shack and team room located at Riley Field. This endeavor will require significant capital investment. If you are interested in becoming involved in this town beautification project either as a cash donor or donating time or resources, please contact Henry DuBois at [hdubois14@gmail.com](mailto:hdubois14@gmail.com).

Sponsorships and donations may be tax-deductible; please contact your tax professional for details.

Thank you for your interest in sponsoring the continued renaissance of American Legion Baseball here in Bedford!