



I hope that everyone is enjoying their off-season. Please see the attached letters regarding items for the upcoming 2010 baseball season.

It is a privilege once again to serve as President of Ladner Minor Baseball Association. The start of a new season is always an exciting time. Your executive is working hard over the winter months in preparation for another great season.

I would like to thank the people that have helped out in LMBA over the past years on the executive and have now stepped down from their positions. Also the entire executive for your hard work in ensuring the quality of programs we are able to provide to our children in this great game. I would also like to thank all the volunteer team officials who often go unnoticed despite their huge contribution. Without them no program can succeed. An association is only as strong as its volunteers.

Please note we are still seeking to fill some vacant executive positions: Divisional Manager for the Midget Division and Director of Coaching Development. Please contact any executive member or myself if you or someone you know is interested.

Some of the items of interest for the 2010 season:

- The reformatting of our Blastball and T-Ball Divisions and the addition of the Jr Men's Division. For the 2010 season we will be changing the way that the Blastball and T-Ball divisions have been run in the past. We will be starting two new divisions one being **Rally Cap** and the other being **Super-T**.
- **Rally Cap:** Developed by Baseball Canada, this is an entry level program designed to introduce 4 and 5 year old children to the game of baseball, keeping them active and engaged while learning the skills of the game in a fun, safe and informative atmosphere.

The Canadian Government has proposed a long term athlete development model for each sport. This program was developed with the purpose of making the sport of baseball more attractive to young British Columbians. Baseball Canada is confident that this program will satisfy young baseball players and their parents and that it will be a useful tool for those involved in teaching baseball at the community level. The Rally Cap program creates an environment in which children and adults can have fun and enjoy baseball as well as teach the rules and skills needed for our players. The coaches and parents are there to model and teach competitiveness with an emphasis on good sportsmanship. By promoting increased self-esteem among the players and adults it also increases a positive attitude toward baseball in the future!

- **Super-T:** Super -T was developed to allow the second year T-Ball players a chance to grow their game and start to learn the fundamentals and rules of baseball. At the Super-T level, base paths are set at 50 feet and a soft version of a hardball is used. The length of a Super-T game shall be 4 innings, 2 innings of regular T-Ball and 2 innings with the pitching machine. Starting May 1st, all 4 innings may be played with the pitching machine.
- **JR Men's Division:** The JR Men's division was formed in 2009. It was brought in by BC Minor Baseball to allow graduating Midget players a opportunity to continue playing. The league allows players 18-24 to play. There are no boundaries for this division so players are able to have a combination of players from different areas on the team if wish to do so.

If you have any questions regarding the changes that will be made for the 2010 season, please feel free to contact the division manager of the division of interest.

If anyone has any ideas on how we can improve upon our program, please feel free to contact me directly. Your input is valued. Here's hoping for another great season in 2010.

Yours Truly,

*Mark Whincup*  
*President*  
*Ladner Minor Baseball Association*