

# COME JOIN THE FUN THIS SUMMER!

## Sunrise Optimist T-Ball, Softball and Baseball Leagues

The Sunrise Optimist Club of North Topeka is sponsoring a summer program for boys and girls (ages 4 - 14) who reside in the Seaman USD #345 school district. The emphasis of the program is on instruction of the basic skills of hitting, throwing, fielding, and base running, as well as providing a recreational activity. Everyone plays in every game because the Optimist club emphasizes values such as teamwork, good sportsmanship, and learning how to respect and get along with others.

The season will begin on May 26 and conclude on July 23. Each team will play at least one game per week with games scheduled Monday through Thursday at 6:00 and 7:30 pm. Rained out games are rescheduled for Fridays and sometimes Saturday mornings. All games will be played at the **Sunrise Optimist Sports Complex**, NW 50<sup>th</sup> and Rochester Road (north of Seaman High School).

**The registration deadline is April 1.** Please include the registration fee when you return the Registration Form. Team shirts and hats will be provided by area businesses as team sponsors. Players will be contacted by their coach after the Optimist club organizes the teams and distributes rosters to coaches during the first week of May.

**IMPORTANT:** Players are assigned to teams with consideration being given to the overall balance and fairness of the league. When a player submits a Registration Form, the only assumption the leagues makes is that the boy or girl wants to play on a team. Special considerations for coaches wanting to work together, car-pooling, socialization etc. may not be possible and still serve the purposes of balance and fairness to all participants. Therefore, individual requests to play on a certain team, for a certain coach, or with a certain player may not be considered when assigning players to teams.

*No one will be denied participation due to the inability to pay based on income eligibility guidelines. If appropriate, please request a waiver of fees on the Registration Form. Player's fees will not be refunded after team rosters are distributed at the coach's meeting, April 21 (t-ball leagues) and April 23 (baseball & softball leagues).*

**BASEBALL UMPIRES:** Umpires are provided for baseball and softball games, grades 4 - 5th & 6 - 8th grade leagues. Adult volunteers will be needed. If necessary, youth umpires (enrolled as 9<sup>th</sup> graders in 2008-2009 school year or older) will be recruited, trained, and paid \$10 per game. **Note:** To prepare players for baseball and softball tournaments in the 4 - 5th and 6 - 8th grade leagues, score books will be used during regular games but no team win-loss records will be maintained.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Steve Schiffelbein, League Director, 286-1551. Additional registration forms can be accessed at:

[www.sunriseoptimist.org](http://www.sunriseoptimist.org)

### *The goals and objectives of the Sunrise Optimist Leagues are:*

*To provide a recreational activity for youth and their families.*

*To teach youth about the game of baseball.*

*To provide the opportunity for youth to learn and improve the skills needed to play baseball.*

*To provide each participant an equal chance to participate.*

*To stress the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship in athletic competition.*

### **Important Dates:**

<b>Coaches meeting for T-Ball:</b>	<b>April 21, 2009, 7:00 PM, Sunrise Optimist Building</b>
<b>Coaches meeting for Baseball &amp; Softball:</b>	<b>April 23, 2009, 7:00 PM, Sunrise Optimist Building</b>
<b>Pizza/Cookie Dough Fund Raiser:</b>	<b>May 26 – 29, 2009, Order forms distributed</b>
	<b>June 25, 2009, Turn in orders and money</b>
	<b>July 23, 2009, Pick-up product</b>
<b>Individual and Team Photos:</b>	<b>June 2 – 11, 2009, (photographer will schedule)</b>
<b>Baseball and Softball Tournaments:</b>	<b>July 17 – 18, 2009 and July 24 – 25, 2009</b>
(For 4 <sup>th</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade and 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> grade leagues)	