



MAY 22 2024

Town of Espanola
Town Council

Regarding: ESPANOLA ANNUAL SLO-PITCH TOURNAMENT donation
of Fields and Pavilion

The Town of Espanola has always been a great supporter of the Annual Slo-Pitch Tournament and it is with great appreciation in mind that we write to you on this matter. As a representative of our local men's league baseball team, the JAYS, today I request from you a waiver of fees for our use of the baseball fields and the pavilion.

The tournament this year will take place on August 9, 10 and 11 2024.

The financial responsibilities of the weekend have grown a lot over the past few years, making the budget for the event much harder to balance. Our hope is that the donation of the facilities would help us improve the overall experience - better decor, increase the prizes offered, better dance etc.. We are hoping this will improve attendance this year and in future.

Over the last few years, team attendance at the tournament has reduced. Registration over the last three years has been 32 teams in 2021, 28 teams in 2022 and 24 teams in 2023, reducing our revenue from registration fees. (Though with upward of twenty teams it is still a very worthwhile venture bringing several hundred people out to play and watch!)

As always, we are open to any ideas and contributions to make this Ball Weekend another the best it can be. Contributions are needed to offset the expenditures of putting on such a weekend and allow us to put the funds made back into what's important to us. A great Tournament Weekend, our annual donation to Minor Ball and our participation in the end of season Provincial Tournament.

JAYS

Our main issues are keeping our costs as low as possible; some team members who play in a band offer their talents for free, we've reduced prize money, use donations from local business' as prizes, reuse décor and first aid kits, our families donate their time to keep things running smoothly, without support from The Town of Espanola and local Business', we could not make this incredibly fun and worthwhile family weekend happen! Our NSA/SPN umpires must be paid and supplied accommodations and meals, costs of bringing in food vendors, paying our local bands, rental of sound equipment, decorations, materials to make a stage, marketing for the tournament and prizes for participating teams would be just the beginning of the list of costs.

As a team, we take on the responsibilities of planning and facilitating this tournament not only to keep it happening every year but also to fund our attendance in the Provincial Ball Tournament in September. We brought home a 2nd place banner from Hamilton NSA intermediate division last year and have been bumped up to represent Espanola in C division next year. We also want to ensure that our annual five-hundred-dollar donation to Espanola Minor Ball takes place every year as it has in the past! We work together with the Curling Club to provide the bar throughout the weekend and for the dance, bringing an influx of funds to the Espanola Curling Club. Our community participation is very important to us.

As always, we are aiming for a Huge Success, not only for the participants and families, but also for our local economy. This tournament draws in teams and families from all around and fills our restaurants, hotels, campgrounds, gas stations and stores with additional customers. We also have the opportunity to promote local talent, displaying various bands at the tournament dance.

Thank you very much for previous donations and your consideration this year.

Regards,

Lannie Piche and the JAYS

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