



Grand Slam for Youth Baseball 2010 "Field Makeover" Application

Since 2002, Grand Slam for Youth Baseball has been performing "Field Makeovers" on youth baseball and softball fields throughout the Houston area. Grand Slam for Youth Baseball (GSFYB), a partnership between the makers of Minute Maid and the Houston Astros, makes it easier for boys and girls to play, learn about, and experience baseball, thus seeking to foster self-confidence, involvement, teamwork, and fun among area children.

Hundreds of applications have been received since the Grand Slam for Youth Baseball "Field Makeover" program began. In that time, seven youth ball fields have had a GSFYB "Field Makeover."

2010 Grand Slam For Youth Baseball "Field Makeover" Program

In 2010, GSFYB is departing from past application criteria.

Last September's Hurricane Ike hit the Houston area hard in so many ways and GSFYB recognizes that one of the areas impacted was youth baseball/softball fields.

GSFYB is dedicating the 2010 "Field Makeover" program to helping Houston area baseball/softball teams and leagues that experienced Hurricane Ike damage to their fields.

Beginning April 25, 2009, GSFYB is accepting applications from teams and leagues that had documented field related damage from Hurricane Ike.

As with past "Field Makeovers," this Hurricane Ike effort will be planned and completed with the help and support of the leagues that play on the field and the entities that are responsible for the land. In teaming up with these two groups, Grand Slam for Youth Baseball has been able to help the leagues strengthen and expand their baseball program and help the local community have a safer place for young people to play.

As in past "Field Makeover" projects, GSFYB has committed \$ 150,000. to the Hurricane Ike effort.

All of those associated with Grand Slam for Youth Baseball are looking forward to receiving your application. Please fill it out completely with as much information as possible. This will help Grand Slam for Youth Baseball give your field full and proper consideration

The application deadline is June 15, 2009. Please email the completed application in PDF format to field@gsfyb.org or fax to 281-589-1995.

GSFYB will review applications through July 2009. Finalists will be selected and have a site visit in August 2009. GSFYB will make selection announcement in September 2009. Typically, work takes place between November and April.

For more information, visit www.gsfyb.com to learn about previous "Field Makeovers," and all of the other programs that are supported by Grand Slam for Youth Baseball.

Name of Ballpark: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

Zip Code of Ballpark: _____

League or Group that Uses Ballpark: _____

Are there multiple fields at this ballpark? ___ Yes ___ No

If so, for which field are you applying for assistance? _____

Name of Person Filling Out Application: _____

Phone Number: Home – _____ Cell – _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

What is your affiliation with the field or league? _____

Is the ball field on public or private property? _____

Who controls the property? _____

What is their contact information? _____



Please tell us, in detail, how Hurricane Ike has affected your field and program.

Please use a separate sheet if necessary

Briefly state why this field should be chosen by GSFYB as a 2010 Hurricane Ike assisted field. Please include any interesting history or facts about the field and/or your league or group.

Please use a separate sheet if necessary

Please rank (in order of importance) what Hurricane Ike related assistance is needed to make this field a better and safer place for youth to play ball. Please be specific.
(Note: The Grand Slam for Youth Baseball program does not provide elements that are non-essential for playing baseball/softball such as concession stands, lights, bathrooms, meeting rooms, etc.)

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

Please use a separate sheet if necessary

Approx. how many user groups (teams, leagues, etc.) use this ball field, and who are they?

What months is the field used? _____

Who maintains the field and what is the maintenance schedule? _____

Please breakdown the number of youths participating in your league or group.

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

What is the age range of the youths that play in your program? _____

How many adult volunteers participate in your program? _____

Please feel free to include any additional written material about the field, your league or group. You may also include pictures of the field.

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Grand Slam For Youth Baseball Background

On June 5, 2002, the Houston Astros and the makers of Minute Maid announced that they had “expanded their relationship to create a long-term marketing and community partnership.” Among other things, the agreement called for the Astros Field to be rechristened Minute Maid Park; the continuation of the Minute Maid Squeeze Play interactive kids’ area at Minute Maid Park; and a commitment **“to support youth baseball programs in the Houston area.”** Out of that commitment to youth came **Grand Slam for Youth Baseball (“GSFYB”) a community partnership between Minute Maid and Astros-In-Action Foundation**

Grand Slam for Youth Baseball comprises the following four components:

Sponsorship of the City of Houston Parks & Recreation Department’s Youth Baseball Program

The 2009 season marks the seventh year Grand Slam for Youth Baseball has sponsored the City of Houston Parks & Recreation Department’s free youth baseball, softball and t-ball program for kids ages 4-18. GSFYB provides all t-shirts, caps, equipment and instruction for the program. More than 4,000 Houston-area boys and girls benefit from this sponsorship each year.

Refurbishment of one youth ball field a year

Minute Maid and Astros-In-Action have pledged to refurbish one youth ball field each year by providing renovated field surfaces, fencing, covered dugouts, scoreboard or other needs. Employees of both organizations assist in the refurbishment efforts. In 2009, the Astros and Minute Maid will refurbish a Fort Bend County baseball field benefiting the “Dream League.”

Baseball-related educational programs

In 2005, the makers of Minute Maid and Astros In Action announced the Grand Slam For Youth Baseball Scholarship Program to assist greater Houston-area high school senior boys and girls with college expenses. In 2005, two \$ 2,500 college scholarships went to a senior boy and girl participating in Houston’s Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI) program. In 2006, Grand Slam for Youth Baseball gave four \$ 2,500 and eight \$ 500 scholarships to Houston area youth. In 2007, GSFYB funded 17 - \$ 2,500 scholarships, 7 of these scholarships were first-generation recipients. 2008 saw the largest group of GSFYB scholarship recipients, with 20, \$2,500 Scholarships awarded, of which 8 were first-generation. A 2009 Scholarship Application may be accessed on the gsfyb.com website home page.

Fund-raising opportunities for youth baseball/softball teams and leagues

Through GSFYB, Minute Maid and Astros In Action Foundation offer fund-raising opportunities to help qualified 501(c)(3) youth baseball/softball teams and leagues earn money for needed baseball/softball-related expenses. Since the program started, more than \$100,000 has been donated to Houston-area teams and leagues. Qualifying teams and leagues could earn a minimum of \$ 1,000 through a Minute Maid product grant. Applications for grants may be accessed on the gsfyb.com website home page.

www.gsfyb.com

