

Player Participation Newsletter – 2006-05

Friday October 13, 2006

It's hard to believe that the sixth week of the regular season is upon us. After a long off-season of planning and preparation, we are excited to say that we are seeing dividends. So far this season, our Player Participation crews are doing an excellent job. The average accuracy rate is better than five mistakes or less per game, and numerous clubs have gone an entire game without making a mistake. We greatly appreciate all of the hard work and effort that you all are putting in and it shows. Below, you will see the token of our appreciation; with which we will honor our game day crews who achieve perfection. But first, a few reminders...

Picture Perfect:

Taking a picture is as easy as point and click, and just about everyone knows how to use a camera. However, not just anyone can be a Player Participation camera operator. Our camera operators recognize that the most important aspect of a picture is the timing. A quality picture "captures the moment," the exact time when everything within the picture is perfect. In our case, the timing must be perfect to capture jersey numbers while the players are still standing.

Review your photo taking procedures before every game to help ensure your photo quality. It is important to remember that our photographs distinguish the player participation system from all other methods of tracking play time. Our photos are at their best quality when they are taken while players are standing upright and before the ball is snapped. Remember, poor photos lead to poor accuracy rates and cause us to lose our competitive edge.

A comment on the Comment Box:

Many crews have been doing a great job of using the comment box in the Player Participation software; others have used it less frequently. In the Player Participation software, the comment box serves as a very helpful resource - for all parties. We encourage you to use the comment box as much as possible. The comment box serves as a means of communication between your crew and the League Office. There are many instances when the comment box should be used. Below are some examples of situations when you should always use the comment box.

- If there are plus or minus 11 players on the field for a team
- If you are unable to identify 11 players for a team
- If a player is in one photo, but runs off the field
- If a player's number comes up in red, but is actually in the play

Don't hesitate to communicate using the comment box. Comments improve data accuracy and help us understand some of the problems that you are facing at the stadium.

Q: What's better than a No Hitter?

A: A Perfect Game of course.

No hits, no walks, and certainly NO ERRORS. This year, we have decided to honor every crew which achieves a perfect game by Player Participation standards. Any crew that attains 100% identification, has no marrying problems, and has quality photos will receive "The Perfect Game Poster".

The Perfect Game Poster is a symbol of your crew's excellence and a treasure that will last a lifetime. Included in this 20x30 inch poster is a picture of your crew, your names, a large photo of a key play in the game with the play description, and several more photos of the play. The poster is an excellent way to show your family and friends how you contribute to your team's success. The Perfect Game Poster will look great in your home or office.

Simply put, the poster is the *perfect* reward for a perfect game.



Please take a photo of your crew with the stadium in the background before your next home game. Send us the photo on the hard drive and include a note that names your crew members in the order they appear in the photo. When you submit your first *perfect* game we'll send you a poster within 2 weeks of your game.