



May 2018

The JetHawks Journal

The Official Newsletter of the Flight Crew Booster Club

Words From the Chair

In a past issue of Baseball America I was very surprised to read the following: "Top Venezuelans hit the road, with unrest in Venezuela, top players headed to a Colombia to showcase for scouts." For the top prospects in most countries the scouts travel to see the players on their home turf. "For Venezuelan players, they have to travel to the scouts. Nearly all of the top 2018 prospects from Venezuela have flown out of the country to Dominican Republic, the United States, Aruba, Colombia and elsewhere to play in front of the top decision makers. That's because the number of scouts willing to travel to Venezuela continues to shrink."

We do not read or hear about the unrest in Venezuela and most of us do not think about the hardships this causes for players in any sport that want to make a better life for their families. Many of these players will not have the resources to travel to other countries so that they can be seen. This situation is hurting the players who need the most help in getting seen, drafted, and hopefully advancement in baseball.

I am not trying to spread gloom but another article in Baseball America talked about the Puerto Rico's returning four months after the devastation of hurricane Maria and it open my eyes. They were able to have a baseball tournament despite the massive damage caused by hurricane Maria. It has been estimated that 8.5 percent (300,000 Puerto Ricans) of the islands population have migrated to Florida. The young baseball players had been working daily to become the next Correa or the next Lindor. Now the storm hits. He loses his home. After the storm they have despair, they do not have a roof to live under, they don't have running water, and they don't have electricity. It is tough for anyone to get a meal. Restaurants are closed and there is no supermarket. For the players that stayed in Puerto Rico, their daily routine may look something like this: Go to school from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Travel to a usable field that they helped clean of debris. The travel to the practice field can take up to an hour and a half. Share the field with kids from 15 or more schools and practice with kids that may be as young as 12 years old. The sun starts setting around 6 p.m. The lights at nearly all fields are still not operational, so as darkness arrives practice must end. They travel home, do homework by candlelight, go to bed, and do the same thing the next day. "What really drives the Puerto Rican players after all this has happened is the pride for them to become big leaguers or to get drafted from the island" this was a quote from a scout at the tournament.

When we think things are bad for us we need to think about the others that would trade their situation for ours any day. We are very blessed here in Lancaster.

Most of us have noticed the umpire signaling the score keeper after a mound visit with the pitcher (this is part of the speed of play rules that are new this year). The MiLB rule covering the mound visits is the following:

PITCHER'S MOUND VISITS

Visits by coaches and position players will be limited based on the classification level. Triple-A clubs will be allowed six (6) visits per team, Double-A clubs will be allowed eight (8) visits per team, Single-A clubs will be allowed 10 visits per team and there will not be a limit on mound visits for Short Season and Rookie-level clubs.

- These mound visit limits will apply whether the game is scheduled for seven or nine innings.
- For any extra-innings played, each club shall be entitled to one additional non-pitching change mound visit per inning.
- Official Baseball Rule 5.10(I), which governs mound visits by a manager or coach, remains in effect (i.e., a pitcher must be removed on the second visit by a manager/coach in an inning).

Definition of Mound Visit:

A manager or coach trip to the mound to meet with the pitcher shall constitute a visit. A player leaving his position to confer with the pitcher, including a pitcher leaving the mound to confer with another player, shall also constitute a mound visit, regardless of where the visit occurs or the length of the visit, except that the following shall not constitute mound visits:

- Discussions between pitchers and position player(s) that (i) occur between batters in the normal course of play and do not require either the position player(s) or the pitcher to relocate;
- Visits by position players to the mound to clean spikes in rainy conditions;
- Visits to the mound due to an injury or potential injury of the pitcher; and
- Visits to the mound after the announcement of an offensive substitution.

For those wondering, there seems to be no listed penalty for a team who attempts to make an additional mound visit (I have not found a listed penalty). There is, however, a provision that states a capped-out catcher can ask the umpire for permission to visit the mound in cases where the two are mixed up on their signs.



Sunshine Corner

The Sunshine Corner is a way for us to acknowledge birthdays and to send support to families experiencing a loss or an illness.

If you would like for us to acknowledge your birthday, or know of someone who needs encouragement, please send information to Shirley Harbeson at jon-shir@sbcglobal.net.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL BIRTHDAYS

<i>Julianna "Jules" Clyne</i>	<i>5/01</i>
<i>Annamaria "AJ" Johnson</i>	<i>5/03</i>
<i>Nora Wall</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Laurie Kellerman</i>	<i>5/17</i>
<i>Brian Serven, Catcher, #6</i>	<i>5/05</i>
<i>Tyler Nevin, 1st base, #16</i>	<i>5/29</i>
<i>Alan Trejo, SS, #2</i>	<i>5/30</i>

FLIGHT CREW BOOSTER CLUB

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Meeting - Texas Cattle Co.
5/24 7pm

Board meeting - at Primo Cafe
5/5 8:30 am

Shirt off Our Backs Night—
5/5 Gates open at 4:45

Shakey's fund raiser—5/7, 5-8pm

Potluck — 5/27

Have you visited the Booster Club website or the FaceBook page lately?

www.jethawksboosterclub.com

PLAYER SUPPORT

My thanks to all the hosts families and sponsors for their quick responses and generosity in supporting our players this season. As of this date all players are settled and have sponsors. I will be maintaining a waiting list of prospective host families and sponsors to utilize as new players arrive. If anyone is interested in being on that list please contact me. Special thanks to our mover Rich Adam.

Thank you, Wendy Ball

Board Elections

The board is looking for members that want to serve on the board next season. The positions up for election are Chairperson, Secretary, and two board spots. To be eligible to run for Chairperson a member must have previously served on the board for one year. If you desire to be put on the ballot for the election that will be held in July, please let the nomination committee, Robin Andersen or Shirley Harbeson, know of your interest.

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Recycle

We are in season so we will be recycling at the stadium again. If you can help pick up recyclables immediately after the game please let me know. Latex gloves and plastic collection bags are provided. Your home recycle donations are always welcome, if you have any aluminum cans, #1 plastic CRV bottles (water, soda, and etc. – no milk or kitty litter containers) you can put them in my truck (blue F-150) parked near 3rd base gate) on game days.

Player of the Month Committee

If you desire to be a voting member of the Player of the Month committee please contact Curt Section 104 Row H Seat 1 or send me an e-mail.

Membership

If you have not renewed your 2018 membership you can stop by the Booster Club booth prior to the game. Family membership remains \$50 and a single is \$35. If you have renewed for 2018 and not received your tee-shirt or pins you can pick them up at the booth.

Shirt off our Backs Night



Come to the game on May 5th to bid on these fun jerseys that the players will be wearing on the field that night. Starting bids will be \$80, with a Buy it Now price of \$180. Don't miss out on getting the jersey from the player you want. Be there when the gates open as that is when bidding begins.



Where do they go from here???

JETHAWKSTM

