



Charities Chosen for 2012 East Zone PONY Nationals

June 20, 2012

Dear Coaches,

Each year PONY Nationals for the East Zone chooses one or two charities to support during the tournament. This year we have chosen the food banks in each tournament region of the East Zone and the Champions League, a newer league within PONY that supports softball activities for exceptional children.

Historically, teams have exchanged gifts after the first game of the tournament. Instead of the gift exchange, this year we would like to ask each team to bring a ball bucket full of non-perishable food items to your first game where it will be collected and then delivered to the regional food bank for distribution.

The bucket has some significance to all of us who have played, coached or supported a child playing in PONY as it serves as one of the main transports for balls and gear. It is also popularly used as a seat for coaches who prefer to sit outside of the dugout to have a better view and to call pitches. As reward for all of those buckets of food that are collected, each bucket will be marked after the food has been emptied and that marked bucket (or it's designee) will be granted a spot OUTSIDE the dugout for a single coach to use if they choose to. This hasn't been allowed at the PONY Nationals in the past, but we want to make an exception this year for such a good cause.

After the first day, if a coach wishes to sit on a bucket for the day, it will cost him or her \$10 donation to Champions League. For your \$10, you will receive a daily sticker which grants the coach the right to sit outside the dugout. Before each game, the umpires will go over the ground rules concerning the areas where the buckets are to be used at each field.

PONY East Zone Softball and the Raleigh Jaycees want to thank you for your help in supporting these two charities.

Sincerely,

Jim Arends
Director of Softball and National Tournament Director
PONY Softball East Zone

Alison Houchin
President
Raleigh Jaycees

