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From: Jordan Thein <jordan.thein@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2026 2:17 PM
To: tournaments@fodmoviesite.com; Jeff Jacque; Norm Pottebaum; Mike English; Scott DeSousa; Mark Singsank; Mike Oberbroeckling; Adam Huehnergath; Sandy Oberbroeckling; Mick Michel; Tricia Maers
Subject: PETITION TO PRIORITIZE DYERSVILLE YOUTH ATHLETES AND PROTECT LOCAL FIELD ACCESS

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PETITION TO PRIORITIZE DYERSVILLE YOUTH ATHLETES AND PROTECT LOCAL FIELD ACCESS

To the Field of Dreams Tournament Organizers, the Dyersville City Council, and the Dyersville Parks and Recreation Department:

We, the undersigned parents, families, coaches, taxpayers, and community members of Dyersville, respectfully request changes to field scheduling and tournament policies to ensure all local youth baseball, softball, and T-ball programs and the Dyersville area citizens who participate in them remain the top priority when using city-owned, public athletic facilities in and across town.

Dyersville families and local residents contribute substantially to the maintenance and operation of these fields through local taxes, volunteer efforts, and program registration fees. While we recognize the value that tournaments bring to the community, local children should not lose access to their scheduled games and/or practices because of tournament scheduling conflicts, rain delays, or event management decisions. Families of Dyersville should not be experiencing repeated distress related to their public parks and city facilities, and uncertain schedule changes related to these issues.

Recently, local T-ball players as young as four and five years old were removed from a scheduled ball field due to tournament-related scheduling issues and forced to relocate to a soccer field. Many of these children were left confused and upset after looking forward to playing on a real baseball field in their hometown. For many T-ball participants, there are only a limited number of games each season, making every scheduled game especially important.

We respectfully request that the following measures be adopted:

- 1. Local youth programs receive scheduling priority** on city-owned athletic fields over tournament activities whenever conflicts arise.
- 2. Scheduled local youth games and practices shall not be displaced** due to tournament rain delays, scheduling errors, or tournament overruns.

- 3. Tournament rain delay policies be modified** so that, whenever reasonably possible, tournament play is paused at 4:30 PM and resumed after 8:00 PM to allow scheduled Dyersville youth games to proceed as planned.
- 4. Friday evenings remain dedicated T-ball nights**, ensuring our youngest players have a consistent opportunity to play without conflicts from tournament activities or other league schedules.
- 5. Greater transparency be provided regarding field usage, scheduling decisions, revenues, maintenance costs, and agreements involving tournament operations and city-owned facilities.**
- 6. Future field-use agreements prioritize the interests of Dyersville residents and local youth athletes**, recognizing that these facilities exist first and foremost to serve the community that supports them.

We believe there is a reasonable balance that can be achieved between hosting visiting tournament teams and preserving opportunities for the local children who call Dyersville home. Supporting youth recreation is an investment in our community, and local families should not be asked to give up their limited playing opportunities to accommodate tournament scheduling issues.

Our children deserve the opportunity to play on the fields their families help support. We respectfully ask tournament organizers, the Dyersville City Council, and the Parks and Recreation Department to work together to ensure that local youth athletes remain a priority.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of youth baseball and softball in Dyersville.

Sincerely,

The Parents, Families, Coaches, Taxpayers, and Supporters of Dyersville Youth Athletics