



## Letter from the President

Dear All,

Seems like yesterday I was playing baseball on the fields behind Parkwood Elementary School and the field beside Parkwood Library, joking with teammates and slapping high fives. Back then youth baseball and softball was a past time where families came out to watch their kids and neighbor's kids play the great game. Where you turned in foul balls and got a coke in return and where kids begged their parents for 5 cent so that they could get a piece of gum. What seems like yesterday actually has been a good 25 years or so. Yes I am a Durhamite, born, raise, and have lived here my whole life, and wouldn't change it for anything.

Parkwood Sports Association (PSA) was started by people who were brought up playing baseball and softball this way. PSA is a fundamental league with emphasis on player development and a love for the game. Don't get me wrong, we are a competitive league, but if the players don't develop with fundamentals and a love for the game we can't be competitive in our league or outside of our league. I saw a great saying this week looking for information for our web site it was **FUN-da-MENTAL**; I thought what a great word for our league. Youth baseball and softball should first and foremost by fun for the players, as you get older fun becomes part of the game, great hits and great plays. In order to have great hits and great plays mental and physical development is the key.

If I could choose another word for PSA it would be family. PSA wants the whole family to have fun and be involved, not just the players. All of our fields have playgrounds next to them, so the younger brothers and sisters can play while parents can enjoy watching the game. Concessions will be available so that kids can now beg mom and dad for a piece of gum. Really if you are going to spend 3 to 4 hours a week at the ball field shouldn't you enjoy it?

Last, these kids are only going to play youth baseball and softball for a little while before they grow up. Let's teach them so they can have fun and love the game, so that they can have memories that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Craig Silvanic