**Taney Youth Baseball Association**

**University of the Sciences Ball Field**

**2014 Season**

 Taney has arranged with the University of the Sciences to use the University’s ball field. It is a magnificent field. The infield is skinned and clean, and the grass is full and lush. There’s a fence around the outfield suitable for hitting home runs over. The dugouts are covered. There’s room for on-deck batters to take practice swings, and there are alleys for pitchers to warm up. The backstop is not a rounded shell like other fields Taney uses. Rather, it is tall with a slight curve hanging over at the top.

**Directions:**  The field is located off Woodland Avenue in West Philadelphia. If you are coming from Center City and turn onto Baltimore Avenue from 38th Street, bear left onto Woodland Avenue and follow it past Woodland Cemetery down the hill. The entrance to the field is through a large iron gate on the east side of Woodland Avenue. If you see a Starbucks on your left, you’ve gone a bit too far. If you’re coming by trolley, the field is a short walk from the 40th Street portal. The 11 and 36 Trolleys go down Woodland and stop even closer to the field entrance.

 **Parking:** After 5:00 P.M., parking should be fairly plentiful along Woodland Avenue. Additional parking can be found on 42nd Street, 43rd Street, and 45th Street.

 The field is at the top of a small hill; it requires climbing gentle stairs and walking past tennis courts to get there. Unfortunately, **the field is not accessible for the physically handicapped**. If this creates a problem for your team, please contact your commissioner immediately. TYBA should be able to schedule your team to avoid games or practices at the field.

**RULES OF USE**

 The University of the Sciences is being very gracious in letting Taney use the field. Every manager, coach, player, parent, and other spectator should exercise utmost respect for the ball field and other University of the Sciences facilities.

Taney has established these Rules of Use for the field. Managers are responsible for their team’s compliance with these rules. Because it is so important to preserve this wonderful field and to show University of the Sciences that Taney is a good partner, **Taney may bar** **any team that does not comply with these rules from using the field.**

 **1. After all games and practices, collect and throw away all trash and depart the field with all personal belongings.** If anyone leaves trash, it will be noticed. Managers, have your players police the field and pick up trash after each game. There are three trash cans at the field. Managers should bring an additional large trash bag for clean up.

 **2. The field does not have a water fountain.** Players, manager, coaches, and spectators should bring their own water and drinks.

 **3. No one should try to retrieve a foul ball that has gone over the first base side fence.** Foul balls that go over the fence on the right side of the field are gone forever. On the other side of the fence there is a steep drop off. No one may attempt to retrieve any balls or personal belongings lost in that area; it's not safe and this is TYBA's agreement with University of the Sciences. Managers and coaches should bring extra game balls just in case.

**4. No batter may warm up or practice by hitting balls into the backstop or into a fence.** University of the Sciences officials showed Taney officials where the backstop and fence were damaged from players hitting practice balls into them. It’s not allowed any more.

**5. Bathroom facilities.** The University of the Sciences usually keeps two port-a-potties at the field, but it may remove them without notice. There are bathrooms available for use in the Starbucks at the bottom of the stairs on Woodland Avenue, but its hours of operation are limited because the University’s spring semester has ended. Plan accordingly.

**6.** **There is only limited spectator seating. Bring chairs!**  The only spectator stands are down the left field line, but parents and other spectators may sit in dead-ball territory along the third base line or behind the outfield fence.

 **7.** **Students or other persons on the field?** If students or other persons are on the field when you arrive, call University of the Sciences Security’s emergency number: **215-596-7000**. The University has been notified of Taney’s schedule, and a security guard will come to clear the field.

**8. Post-Game Snacks.** On Woodland Avenue at 42nd Street across from the gated field entrance is a small park. Managers and parents, please consider taking your team to the park for post-game snacks instead of trying to snack at the field. There’s a cross-walk to get there. Once again, please be mindful of all the debris that snacks can generate, and clean up. (FYI, the photo of the site on Google Maps is obsolete. The small, short street shown in the photo has been closed and the street and former traffic island have been improved into a nice park.)