



## **Youth Field Betterment Program**

### **Presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union**

The Hudson Valley Renegades introduced the Youth Field Betterment Program in 2023 in partnership with Heritage Financial Credit Union. With a commitment to positively impacting the lives of individuals in our local community, the purpose of this program is to enhance existing facilities into safe spaces to further develop youth skills necessary for baseball and life.

Members of the Hudson Valley Renegades and Heritage Financial Credit Union staff will enhance youth baseball and provide a safe playing field for young athletes by selecting **one** local little league field to renovate as a team. When we look at a submission from an organization, we are looking for constructed ideas and goals that provide a direct benefit to youth from across the Hudson Valley.

### **What Is the Youth Field Betterment Program?**

The Youth Field Betterment Program was created to help local organizations positively impact their local community by creating a safe place for their youth to further develop themselves and baseball skills. Our goal is to aid local youth organizations that aspire to provide players of all abilities with an environment that combines inclusiveness with fair play.

Each year, the Hudson Valley Renegades will award one (1) little league organization with a refurbishment of a field used within their community for youth baseball.

The renovation will include one (1) makeover of a 46/60 or 50/70 little league field. Youth Field Betterment proposals may include, but are not limited to, improving existing spaces to increase overall usage, safety, accessibility, and inclusiveness for all participants.

Applicants must meet a series of criteria to be eligible for consideration. Please read the guidelines below to ensure your project meets the necessary measures. Applications will be evaluated based on the following:

- a) Increasing the access of youth participation and improving the quality of youth baseball
- b) Facility enhancements to allow for inclusion of all youth to utilize the space regardless of ability
- c) The organization's ability to generate more support for the field and programming
- d) The ability of the renovation to improve the local community
- e) Developing life skills of all those who have access to the facility



## Application Requirements:

The following documents must be submitted as part of the application included in this packet, no later than **March 8, 2024** (11:59 p.m. ET):

- a) Written confirmation of nonprofit or tax-exempt status from the appropriate governmental agency (e.g., IRS determination letter).
- b) List and description of key partnerships and/or supporters
- c) Photo(s) of field's current condition

All submissions on behalf of local youth organizations must come from an executive within its board.

**Applications should be submitted in pdf form via email to Marcella Costello, Manager of Community Relations, at [mcostello@hvrenegades.com](mailto:mcostello@hvrenegades.com), with "2024 Youth Field Betterment Application" in the subject line of the email.**

*Please note: Incomplete applications and failure to include the appropriate subject line during submission may result in ineligibility for consideration. Due to a high number of requests, please do not follow up to inquire on proposal status. Applicants will be notified via e-mail as to the status of their proposal.*

## Application Process and Timeline:

Once the application is received the process will then go through the following procedures:

- a) Appointed representatives from the Renegades and Heritage Financial Credit Union will ensure that each application meets the mandatory requirements to continue in the process.
- b) Upon application approval for further vetting, all applications will be reviewed with the full intention of ensuring that the aid to the local organization positively impacts their local community by creating a safe place for their youth to further develop themselves and baseball skills.
- c) Should an application reach further vetting, an interview will be requested to assess final needs and approved permissions from local government and/or Parks and Recreation Board. An on-site field/facility visit may be requested by Renegades staff for further evaluation.
- d) Youth Field Betterment recipient will be announced the week of **March 25, 2024**.



**2024 Program Timeline:**

<b>February 1 to March 8, 2024</b>	Applications Accepted
<b>March 11 to March 18, 2024</b>	Applications Reviewed & Youth Field Betterment Recipient Determined
<b>Week of March 25, 2024</b>	Youth Field Betterment Recipient Announced
<b>April 1 – April 15, 2024</b>	Project implementation

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**The Hudson Valley Renegades thank you for your interest in the Youth Field Betterment Program!**

Through the Youth Field Betterment Program, the Renegades are committed to improving fields of play and encouraging youth and communities to get outside and enjoy activities, like baseball.

Applicants will be notified by e-mail as to the status of their proposal. Questions about the Youth Field Betterment Program and application process can be directed to Marcella Costello, Manager of Community Relations, at [mcostello@hvrenegades.com](mailto:mcostello@hvrenegades.com).

**We look forward to our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual field renovation and continuing to enhance the betterment of youth baseball in the Hudson Valley!**



## 2024 Youth Field Betterment Program Application

Name of Little League Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact for Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact's Role within Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Little League Field Requested to Be Renovated

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Facility/Field Location (Address)

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Approximately how many participants are currently enrolled in your Little League program?

How many teams are currently participating in your program and use the field throughout the season?

If selected, is your organization willing to make an investment in a plaque and/or banner display?

Is your organization willing to aid in marketing and promotion efforts? Please explain.

What is your primary need from the Renegades? (Attach additional sheets as necessary).

Why should your organization be considered as a recipient of the Youth Field Betterment program? (Attach additional sheets as necessary).