



## WIFFLE® Team Welcome Pack - *PLAY BALL FOR A CURE!!*

### Welcome Teams!

We are very excited that your team will be participating in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Northern Virginia WIFFLE® Ball World Series (NVWWS) to support The 2 Young Foundation. This year, we are bringing back our division (World Cup) format and forty-eight (48) will be taking the field to take home the coveted "The Bedell Cup". In addition, we are introducing four (4) leagues based on skill-level and age to promote a fun-filled day for all participants (Little League, Minor League, Major League and Masters League). Please be sure to find the tourney rules on the website as we have a "Rotating Pitcher" rule which will add another challenging twist to the tourney and ensure that the most versatile teams take home each league title and advance to compete in the Sweet 16. Vienna's Waters Field is once again home to our tourney and as many of you know, Brian Bedell started our foundation and spent his youth playing Vienna Youth, Inc. (VYI) sports at Waters Field and we still believe it is the perfect place to honor Brian as we raise money to find a cure for brain cancer to support our foundation mission. Waters Field features field turf, so it will be a true field of dreams and a ballpark experience like no other. Please feel free to reach us if you have any questions about this information or the event. We look forward to seeing you on **August 6th** in Vienna VA. We're very excited that you made a commitment to support our cause - so thanks for your support and get ready to play ball for a cure!

**Note to Team Captains:** Please read all items below and forward to your teammates! It is very important that your entire team understands how the tourney format works. Thank you!

### Included in this Team Welcome Pack:

1. Important Team Fundraising and Incentive Information (**aka, Bedell Points!**);
2. Important Things to Know, including Rules (you gotta know the rules to play the game);
3. Tentative 2011 Wiffle® Event Schedule;
4. Sample Fundraising Letter.

### TEAM FUNDRAISING -- how you can help make a difference!

**Bedell Points do matter!** In addition to providing an opportunity to gain recognition and awards for raising \$'s for brain cancer research, your **Bedell Point** rank may give you an automatic bid to our "Sweet 16" Playoff format as the top fundraising team will earn a spot in the coveted road to "The Bedell Cup". Please ensure team understands how this program works. The NVWWS tournament proceeds will once again benefit The 2 Young Foundation. In 2004, Brian Bedell founded this foundation with family and friends to support our mission to raise awareness, assist families coping with this terrible disease and support ongoing research needed to find a cure for brain cancer. To date, the foundation donated over \$150,000 to Duke's Tisch Brain Tumor Center and a much of this was raised from the Bedell Point program over the years. Each team has already donated \$240 to play in the tournament this year. You can pay the fee, or raise \$ to cover your fee through donations (whatever is easier). This way, you start off with 240 Bedell Points. Note: Little League teams will start with 120 Bedell Points as their entry fee is \$120/team. All additional \$ raised by collecting donation from friends, family and/or co-workers to support

your team will earn more Bedell Points! (much like a walkathon works, etc). Top fundraising team will also receive an award the opening ceremony, so thanks for your support.

Having said this, we have provided you with a sample letter/e-mail to send to potential donors, if needed. Otherwise, just tell them you're playing ball for a cure and would love their support. To make it easy to support your team, we have set up PayPal on the official NVWWS website and donors can simply let us know they are supporting your team. Every donation is tax deductible and your donors will receive a receipt from the foundation. All we ask is that you sent out letters or emails to your friends and families. You are not required to raise additional dollars, but your support will directly benefit those suffering from brain cancer. Please make sure your friends, families and sponsors list your team name or number on their check (or) on the PayPal donation page (there is a section at the bottom of the page for this). All donations are tax deductible so 2YF will be sending you and those who sponsor your team a receipt for your records.  
*Let's play ball for a cure!*

## HOW TO EARN BEDELL POINTS:

**Team Registration & Additional \$ Raised:** For every \$ your team donates (including team registration fee), your team receive 1 point. (i.e., each team paying \$240 to register starts out with min. 240 Bedell Points). **REMINDER:** If you haven't ready, please go to website to pay registration (or notify 2YF staff that you will be placing check in the mail):

- **Individual Team Sponsorship:** For every \$ donated in your team's name, your team will receive 1 (one) Bedell Point (i.e., your Uncle Johnny donates \$50 dollars in your team's name, you earn 50 Bedell Points).
- **Volunteer / Sponsorship / Raffle Points:** We'll also award special volunteer and sponsorship/raffle points if you volunteer at the event or umpire – and we also would appreciate your support in finding sponsors and donating raffle items.
- **Captain's Meeting:** There will be a 1-hour Captain's Meeting on **Friday August 5 at 6:30pm** at Water's Field or inside the Vienna Firehouse (2<sup>nd</sup> floor Flame Room) if inclement weather. If you just have 1 person on your team attend this meeting, your team will earn **100** Bedell Points. If you haven't played before, this meeting is critical to understand rules and understand how the tourney will work. Final Bedell Points will be tabulated after this meeting.

## INCENTIVES (why Bedell Points make a difference!):

- **Top Fundraising Team will earn automatic bid to "Sweet 16" Playoff Bracket.**
- Special Recognition at Opening Ceremonies;
- Special Award/Prizes for runner-ups, Special Award to Bedell Point Champs!

The tourney is right around corner, so start earning Bedell Points today. Thanks for your support!

## IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

1. **League Play and Possible Buy-in:** (**Little League** – rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders and younger, **Minor League** – fun/recreational, **Major League** – all teams in it to win it, and **Masters League** – all players must be born in 1974 or before). All division winners advance and 1 wild card per league also advance with exception of Little League where only the division champs advance. The remaining Sweet 16 team will be filled by Bedell Point winner OR a buy-in team if the Bedell Point champ was also a division winner or wildcard. No matter the outcome, we hope you stay for Home Run Derby (before Sweet 16 start), Playoffs, Championship Game and Raffle.

2. **Captain's Rules Meeting / Umpire Meeting** on **Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm** at the Vienna Firehouse. One team member from each team **must be present**. Please review the NVWWS rules prior to the Captain's Meeting (we'll answer further questions here). **Note:**

WIFFLE® balls are taped and there is a New Rotating Pitcher Rule (new player must pitch each inning – so more on that at on website rules page and further explanations at Captain's Meeting.

3. **Team check-in** starts at **8:00 am** and continues until **9:00 am**. All teams must be at The 2 Young Championship Field at **9:15 am** for the National Anthem and Opening Ceremonies to kick off event. Your team will be introduced.

4. **This event is on – Rain or Shine.**

5. **Fundraising Deadline** is **Friday, August 5, 2011, Noon**. Donations (\$) can be accepted after August 5th but will not count towards your Bedell Points total.

6. **Opening Ceremony / Team Hats:** All teams are encouraged and incented to **wear matching caps** as part of their uniform. In addition, please attend the **Opening Ceremony** as we will be introducing all teams at this time. If a team does NOT have matching caps or does NOT attend Opening Ceremony, they lose home field advantage and the right to throw “rock, paper, scissors” for winner’s choice. Tournament t-shirts will be provided on game day, so players are encouraged to wear them (or) any other uniform or team jersey (some teams go all out so feel free☺). We’re trying to encourage participation and fun atmosphere so please be there☺. Players will receive a stamp to validate participation at Opening Ceremony.

7. **Bedell’s Clubhouse** (sponsored by Vienna Inn inside the Firehouse) will feature NVWWS Hall of Fame, The 2 Young Foundation Table, as well as “spirits” and food provided by Vienna Inn. Thank you for supporting the Silent Auction! **No alcoholic beverages permitted on the fields**, but will be offered for sale inside Bedell’s Clubhouse (sponsored by Vienna Inn) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Vienna Firehouse from 12PM-10PM. All “spirits” must be consumed inside Bedell’s Clubhouse and we will be selling food / drink inside the firehouse. **Note:** teams will also receive food & drink tickets when they check-in as part of their registration.

8. **No Food Permitted on Field Turf**, but Vienna Youth, Inc. will be managing the concession stand at the ballpark all day and food/drink can be consumed on the grassy areas of the stadium, so thanks for supporting youth sports in Vienna!

9. **Raffle:** We will be selling raffle tickets all day and during the playoffs / championship game. Winners must be present and show their winning ticket after the name/number is called. Our top prizes will be raffled off during the playoffs and championship game to encourage attendance, so thanks for participating!

10. **Parking:** Players are encouraged to get dropped off or park further away from stadium and walk to the fields to allow more parking spots for families and children (Moms, grandparents, etc).

11. **Be a good sport, please / Umpires.** We welcome the competitors, but this is for a charity and after all, it is just WIFFLE® ball. Our umpires WILL make mistakes as no one is a sanctioned WIFFLE® ball umpire, so please be patience and understand things will not be perfect. If anyone displays unsportsmanlike behavior during the tourney, they will be asked to leave or head to the Bedell Clubhouse to “cool off”. We know this won’t happen though☺.

13. **Bring your own plastic bats:** All plastic bats are welcome (any size, shape or color) – however, they must be approved by Umpire prior to first pitch (no tape allowed on bat other than around grip area) - AND opposing team is allowed to use your bat as well if they want.

14. **Throwing Fast:** We will NOT be monitoring speed anymore during our tourney. It has been very difficult to monitor this, so we have introduced new league formats and rotating pitcher rule (new pitcher per team per inning) to ensure everyone has a fun day at the park. If you are young, play Little League...if you want to just have fun, play Minor League...if you are old, play Masters

League..and if you are “in it to win it”, play Major Leagues. But, if you win your league, be prepared to play other league winners during Final Four. Thanks for understanding.

## **TENTATIVE 2011 EVENT SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)**

**8:00-9:00am:** Team Registration / Check-in - Bullpen Opens

**8:30am:** Spectator Gates Open

**~9:15am: Opening Ceremonies (First Pitch @ Bedell Park)**

**10:00am:** Division Play Begins - Play Ball!

**12:00pm:** Bedell Clubhouse (sponsored by Vienna Inn) Opens (Vienna Firehouse)

**3:00pm:** Sweet 16 (All Fields)

**4:00pm:** Final Four (Bedell Park)

**5:00pm:** Championship Game and Raffle (Bedell Park)

**5:30pm:** Post-party in Bedell's Clubhouse in Vienna Flame Room

Note: Toddler Fields open all day for fun games and running bases – see map in brochure and at field entrance.

## **SAMPLE Team Sponsor Letter (or email)**

The 2 Young Foundation

P.O. Box XXX

Vienna, VA XXXX

Date (insert date here)

Dear (Potential Donor / Sponsor):

I am writing you this letter to ask for your help in supporting *The 2 Young Foundation*. Each year more than 200,000 people are diagnosed with brain cancer. Many are unaware of the magnitude of this disease. At this time, there is no known cause of brain cancer and the cure rate is significantly lower than that of other types of cancer. Furthermore, the necessary research to find effective treatments are currently under-funded.

In September of 2003, (my friend or just list Brian's name), Brian Bedell was diagnosed with a grade IV glioblastoma brain tumor (GBM), an aggressive form of brain cancer. After bravely battling a brain tumor for 20 months, Brian died peacefully on May 23, 2005. Weeks before he died Brian made the statement, “I was hoping to have more time to make a difference”. Family and friends know that Brian did make a difference in all of our lives and he continues to do so through his foundation. The 2 Young Foundation was established to support others who are also battling brain cancer and to support the incredible medical research that is taking place at facilities such as The Brain Tumor Center at Duke University. Established in September of 2004, the mission of our foundation is to help find a cure for brain cancer and to be a positive force for other patients and families dealing with a brain cancer diagnosis. To date, the foundation has raised over \$150,000 and over \$20,000 in family grants through an annual fundraiser. In Brian's words, “those diagnosed with brain cancer are too young to have this disease, and too young to give up”.

On August 6th, 2011, The 2 Young Foundation will be sponsoring our annual fundraiser at Waters Field in Vienna, VA. This event will be a fun-filled day including a 48-Team Wiffle®® Ball Tournament, Home Run Derby, and entertainment for children and the entire family. I am a player on one of the Wiffle® Ball teams participating in this special event. I want to encourage you to consider donating to The 2 Young Foundation on behalf of my team, [list team name here]. Your tax deductible donation will contribute greatly to the success of this 501 (c) (3) non-profit charity event to support brain cancer research. If you're interested, please contact me at (insert player name and contact info here as said player will need to tell them how to go to the website and sponsor their team).

For more information about the August 6th fundraiser, Brian and GBM, or to learn more about cancer treatment clinical trials at the Brain Tumor Center at Duke University, please visit The 2 Young Foundation's official website at: [www.2YF.org](http://www.2YF.org). Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

(List Player Name/Team Name)