

# 2010 | 2011 Pokers Baseball Program

**Now  
Interviewing  
Players and  
Families**



# Who Can You Trust?



People identify the Pokers program by it's high level of private instruction. And that just fine with head instructor Tommy Ganz. *"Some baseball academies have so many teams and programs going on throughout the year, that quality instruction just gets lost in the chaos. We're all about teaching...it's all we do."*

The program and our coaches take great pride in the ability to take advanced baseball concepts and communicate them in a way that even the youngest students can comprehend. Starting with our 9U students, we have them perfecting the key fundamentals of hitting fielding and situational decision-making.

So how do you know when an program is right for you? It's a great question and one that many parents and students alike struggle with. Coach Ganz puts it like this...*"I think the "WOW Factor" is a good place to start."*, says Ganz. *"After your first or second workout, if you and your child aren't saying an enthusiastic "WOW", you may not be in the best hands."* Ganz adds. *"In other words, if your not doing things you never thought possible or learning things that are new and innovative and having you excited about being there, you might want to keep searching for a program that has better appeal."* Ganz explains.



## A Message From Coach Ganz



If you'll notice, some age groups for our summer teams are the critical time players need to prepare for high school baseball. The Pokers program is designed to give your son as much preparation as possible to meet the competitive demands of today's high school and collegiate programs. We love to win, but our focus is on getting your son better. We look for young players who have a true desire to play baseball at a higher level and are driven to become better. We don't assemble teams to win championships...we teach, train and develop young athletes to not only play, but succeed at the next level.

The POKERS philosophy is that it's imperative to keep a student athlete stimulated, excited and eager to get to his next workout or game. This is when their learning capabilities are at their peak. When they can see, feel and measure their progress, they'll continue to learn at higher levels.

"When you can sit outside the cage or watch him at a game, and see your son do things you never thought possible...you've got the right program."

Tommy Ganz, Sr.



## Chemistry...

The Pokers program isn't just about developing talent. We strive to teach young players the importance of comradery, sacrifice and working hard both individually and as a unit. It's our goal that while playing as a Poker, our kids will form friendships and accumulate experiences that will last them a lifetime.





# Tommy Ganz

Started coaching youth baseball in 1981, Ft Lauderdale, Florida

JV Manager, Assistant Varsity coach, American Heritage Prep., Plantation, FL (Formerly Ranked #1 Nationally)  
Coached JV's first and still only undefeated season.

Coached two years at Chamenade Prep school, Hollywood FL. (Formerly Ranked #1 Nationally) - 7 seniors in two years signed Major League Contracts.

Founded the New England Baseball Academy in 2001. (Formally Valley Hitting Club since 1985)

Head Coach of the Pokers Baseball Club, International 18U baseball team

Former partner with Charlie Lau, Jr. world renowned hitting coach producing instructional videos and youth camps



**Vinny Ganz (above), Current Assistant Coach at Post University, 4-year college baseball starter, Graduate of Keene State University and 3 year starter for the Danbury Westerners.** Vinny is a hitting and fielding instructor at the NEBA. Vinny is currently head coach for the 16U Pokers.



*"I love coming and working with the Pokers. I was a Poker and I still have all of the great memories. Coach Ganz will get you ready for the next level!"*

Kevin Davidson(above), Single-A League MVP and just retired after making it to the AAA level for the Houston Astros Organization is a former high school player of Coach Ganz.



*"I have really enjoyed coming to the Academy and working with the Pokers during so many of my off-seasons".* Mike Rodriguez a Miami Hurricane star and center fielder for the AAA Houston Astros. He frequents the NEBA giving instruction to our students.

## Testimonials

Coach Ganz not only taught our son a great deal about baseball but has taught him valuable life lessons in respect, accountability and to care about his school, his team and most important his community.

Our son has played high level baseball in several parts of the country. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with Tommy and we feel that has never received such a high level of attention, quality instruction and all the intangibles that we hold so important as a family. We highly recommend Pokers program...your son will be in good hands.

Since Tommy has started working with our son Josh, he has developed a real sense of pride and a genuine passion for the game. The lessons both on and off the field are indispensable and we will continue to make Pokers program the cornerstone for Josh's learning and development.



## Philosophy

Our philosophy with the Pokers can't be summed up into a few cliché paraphrases. But we do have some core beliefs that all of our instructional programs are built upon. First, that all of our players are there because "they" want to be there. Second, that a member has to be committed to working hard both in and out of our facility. Once we have found that a member is committed, regardless of his age, we contend that the most advanced techniques can be taught and implemented into that child's skill-set. We find that when a player truly understands the "why" before the "how", they're able to grasp and execute more effectively. One of our mottos is "We teach our players to be their own teachers". By helping our young players build a genuine knowledge-base, they become confident and able to make adjustments during game performances.





The Pokers instructional baseball program is like none other in the state of Connecticut. It's a year-around program that builds the players skill level, his athleticism and most important, his self esteem. The goal of the Pokers program is to have each and every player ready and fully prepared to play high school and college baseball.



## Fall Instructional League

The Pokers compete each year in the Central Connecticut Fall Baseball League. It is known as the best fall leagues in the state. The Pokers use this as the kick-off to their year of hard work. The fall league is used as an evaluation to see where players fit based on their current capabilities. The evaluations from the fall are the cornerstone for each students learning and development during the winter training period.



## Winter Indoor Training

This is where players are made. November 1st starts an intensive five month period where players will train in most facets of the game including hitting, pitching, fielding and catching. Also each player will have access to strength and conditioning training sessions each week throughout the entire winter. Each session is given by a certified strength coach and is designed to improve on the players, strength, coordination, agility and overall athleticism.

## Guest Instructors

The Pokers are often visited by young upcoming stars. Here, Rajai Davis, now playing center field for the Oakland A's talks with Pokers players at one of our winter workouts. We believe that young prospects can not only offer quality instruction but offer great insight to the hard work and perseverance that is needed to pursue both college and professional baseball dreams.



## Interactive Website

The Pokers website has a real-time blog that features the latest team news and events. It features photos and other fun entries from team outings. The site directly links to the teams official statistical website where players and family members have 24/7 access to their sons stats as well as the teams stats and records.

### Live On-line Team Stats

2009 - Summer		Season Totals (Opponent)		By Game/Date	
Player	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
Joe Vignone	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Chris Gagne	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Steve Farnsworth	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Chris Taylor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Sam Vignone	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
David Williams	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Clayton Farnsworth	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
David Williams	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Chris Taylor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Sam Vignone	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
David Williams	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
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David Williams	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Chris Taylor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Sam Vignone	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
David Williams	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Chris Taylor</					



### Application Form Part 1 (All Players)

Player Name:		Date of Birth:	Height:	Weight:
Address:		City:	State/Zip:	
Home Telephone:		School Name:		Grade:
Parent Name:		Address:		Telephone: (H) (W)
Parent Name:		Address:		Telephone: (H) (W)
Emergency Contact Name:		Telephone:	Relationship:	
E-Mail Address(es):				
Medical Comments: Insurance Carrier & Policy Number:				
Preferred Uniform Number:	Shirt/Pants Size (check size for each):		Hat Size (check 1):	
1 <sup>st</sup> Choice _____	Adult Sm. ___/___	Youth Lg ___/___	1) 6 5/8 - 6 3/4 _____	2.) 6 7/8 - 7 _____
2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice _____	Adult Med. ___/___	Adult Lg. ___/___	3.) 7 1/8 - 7 1/4 _____	4.) 7 3/8 - 7 1/2 _____
	Adult XL ___/___		5.) 7 5/8 - 7 7/8 _____	

Age Division	Must be specified age or younger on April 30	Age Division	Must be specified age or younger on April 30
9U	9	13U	13
10U	10	14U	14
11U	11	15U	15
12U	12	16U	16

Submit a copy of the player's birth certificate and first payment with this form.

Program Fees: Fall Team - \$600. Summer team - \$1,200

#### Payment Schedules:

Starting June 1st - \$34. week

Families entering into program after June 1st must make initial payment to get caught up to payment schedule. **Example:** Join program on Aug. 1 - must provide \$272. down payment and then make \$34. weekly payment moving forward.

Make Checks Payable to: NEBA

# Here's What You Get With These Amazing Programs!

Only **\$34** A WEEK!

## **FALL BASEBALL**

Play on the Pokers Fall Team during September and October

## **WINTER WORKOUTS**

Start your winter workouts November 1st.

Each player participates in 2 hitting sessions each week from November thru March.

## **SPRING/SUMMER BASEBALL**

Play on the Pokers Spring/Summer Team

Month of August - OFF. Rest Your Body!

INCLUDES  
UNIFORMS  
FOR BOTH  
SEASONS!

**That's 11 Months of Baseball training and competition!**

**\$34. a week! - ALL INCLUSIVE!**

## **POKER SPECIALTY WORKOUTS**

Only **\$10** A Session

### **Pitchers / Catchers**

Each Week there will be several workouts available for pitchers and catchers to work together and receive instruction

**Availability: Nov-March**

### **Fielding**

Each Week there will be several workouts available for fielding skills and drills.

**Availability: Nov-March**

### **Strength & Agility**

Small group sessions will be available throughout the week for full-scale athletic training sessions. (oriented for STRENGTH)

**Availability: Nov-March**

Pokers Baseball Club – 235 Meriden Rd. Waterbury, CT 06705  
(203) 509-5241 Contact: Barbara Ganz [barbara@newenglandbaseball.com](mailto:barbara@newenglandbaseball.com)