

Dear Manitowoc Recreation Department,

As a team with limited financial support, an increased fee of \$700, from the \$400 flat fee paid in previous years, would have a large impact on the team. This will be our sixth season for the Manitowoc Heat, and we hope there are many more to come. We've made tremendous strides in the past two seasons. Our results on the field have improved, but more importantly, we continue to give young men a place to continue to play competitive baseball after high school, and into and after college. Over the years people have paired Manitowoc baseball with the Skunks and the Bandits. The Skunks moved to Minnesota and the Bandits have had to reduce their games due to numerous reasons.

The Heat is a growing brand, and a brand that we hope to continue to grow. The average cost of a season for the Heat is approximately \$4,000. Knowing that, one would say that an increase of \$300 for field use isn't going to break the bank; however, we started last season with less than a dollar in our bank account. With an increased advertising plan, the team is starting to gain financial stability. Any increase in cost at a time like this though, will only bring us closer to those dark days where we weren't sure if we could afford to pay the umpires. Once we gain that financial security, we would be much more suitable to pay an increased fee.

The Manitowoc Heat is important to the community. Unlike the Bandits, the Heat is made up of 100% local talent. We don't put together a team with almost all players from California and then call ourselves Manitowoc. We are made up of graduates from Manitowoc Lincoln, Roncalli, Manitowoc Lutheran High School, Two Rivers, Mishicot and Valders, along with college students and graduates from UW-Manitowoc and Silver Lake College, including two teachers from the Manitowoc County School District. WE ARE MANITOWOC. And we would like to stay around to see how great we can really be.

I am asking that the fee for field rental be reduced to the \$400 flat fee, once again, for the 2014 season.

Thanks for all your help, now and throughout the season,

Andrew Froehlich

Manitowoc heat Baseball

920-242-9984