

Village of Orland Park Media Relations

NEWSRelease

Frederick T. Owens Village Hall

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April 22, 2009

Orland Park Recreation to Host Pitch, Hit & Run Contest

Open To Girls and Boys Age Seven to Fourteen

ORLAND PARK, IL – The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department will hold its Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Contest on Saturday, May 2 at the Doogan Park Ballfields, 14700 Park Lane.

“This is a great opportunity for kids to show their skills and possibly represent their community at the next level of competition,” said Orland Park Athletic Supervisor Quincy Bejster.

Pre-registration and a signed waiver are required for the free event, open to girls and boys ages seven to fourteen. Participants must have reached the age at which they are competing by July 17, 2009. Check-in and warm ups begin at 8:00 a.m. on May 2 with the competition beginning at 8:30 a.m. The contest is limited to 200 participants and is open to all area residents.

“The Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Competition is a national contest that encourages youth participation and emphasizes the fun element of baseball,” Bejster explained. Participants could potentially advance through four levels of competition, including local and sectional competitions. The national finals are held at the Major League Baseball All-Star Game.

The pitch portion of the program gives each competitor six pitches to hit the designated strike zone target from 45 feet away. Competitors bat from a stationary tee for the hitting element of the contest and must run from second base to home for the running part of the contest. Sliding is not permitted.

“We invite all kids to be a part of the competition, whether they’re currently playing ball or not. This is a fun event and who knows? We may find someone to compete all the way through, right here in Orland Park,” Bejster added.

Registration for the May 2 Pitch, Hit and Run Contest is available at the Franklin Loebe Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue and at the village’s Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street. For more information, call the Recreation Department at 708/403-7275.

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PHOTO CAPTION

Girls and boys ages seven to fourteen are invited to compete in the Orland Park Recreation Department’s free Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Contest on Saturday, May 2. Pre-registration is required. For details, call 708/403-7275.

