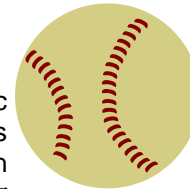




## SPRING SPORTS - BASEBALL & SOFTBALL



**AIAL BOYS BASEBALL LEAGUE:** **AIAL**, or Archdiocesan Interscholastic Athletic League, hosts a competitive baseball league for middle schools in the Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of San Antonio. The teams in our district are the larger schools on the Northwest and west side of San Antonio. League games are played both at St. Luke and other school fields. Middle schools and high schools host tournaments during the early part of the season, and the season ends with the AIAL Play-offs, based on league results.

**A TEAM BOYS COACHING STAFF:** **Rudy Loza**—Coach Loza has been coaching at St. Luke since 1997, and this year, he joins the staff as the athletic director. His goals are to teach responsibility, morals, and teamwork, in order for his players to be successful both on and off the field. Rudy has lead the middle school teams to two AIAL District Baseball Championships. **Assistant Coaches:** **Jack Young**—Jack has been coaching for about 12 years, he is a St. Luke parent and former CYO coach. **Chris Garcia**—A St. Luke Alumni and Central Catholic graduate. Chris was an assistant coach during the basketball season and assisted with the school soccer team. **Bryan Acosta** and **Ricky Gutierrez** are both seniors at Central Catholic High School and former St. Luke graduates. Both Bryan and Ricky have played baseball for St. Luke and Central Catholic. **Gary Jones**—A St. Luke parent has been active with the sports programs at St. Luke for many years and will be assisting the baseball program.

**A TEAM GIRLS COACHING STAFF:** **Arlene Fuentes**—Arlene is a PE coach at St. Luke and has coached the St. Luke School Teams as well as in the CYO league. **Tiffani Craft**—played short stop and outfield for St. Mary's University where she graduated from in '06. She is currently coaching a youth team with the Hearts of Texas. **Chaz Balderrama**—is a Freshman at Northwest Vista where her major is Kinesiology. She's played softball for 6 years and is a Smithson Valley graduate where she pitched and played first base.

**TRYOUTS:** February 12-15, 2007, Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 3:30—5:00 Girls, 5:00—6:30 Boys. Wednesday—TRACK 3:30—4:30, Girl's Softball, 4:30—5:30, Boy's Baseball, 5:30—6:30 @ St Luke. Boys will have a study hall from 3:30—4:45 p.m. except on Wednesday when all athletes will have track. **ALL ATHLETES TRYING OUT MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHYSICAL FORM ON FILE, AND HAVE RETURNED FORMER UNIFORMS IN ORDER TO TRYOUT.** These practices will be closed to parents and students (those not trying out). Each day, the coaching staff will discuss the results of that day's try-outs; no one day or one performance will determine onto what team a player is named. The coaches will do their best to evaluate the players who try out and make the best decisions possible. On Friday, 16 February, the teams will gather in the gym, the coaches will talk about the try-outs and the upcoming season, and each player will receive a letter explaining the results. Players are asked to wait to open the letter until they leave and are on the way home. They will be dismissed from the field at 5:00 p.m.

**ROSTER SIZE:** A Team Boys—14, A Team Girls—14, (CYO teams as needed). After reviewing the results from the last few seasons, the coaching staff has made the decision to limit the A teams rosters to 14 each. This will make the try-out process more difficult, but make it possible to run quality practices and distribute playing time to all players. Through our partnership with St. Luke CYO, middle school age level CYO teams have been established. We encourage players not named to the A team to play on a CYO team. However, this is not mandatory.

**PLAYING TIME:** A team—Coaches will determine playing time based on the game situation at hand and the players ability, effort and commitment. Many line up decisions will be made after practice sessions. All players are encouraged to give a 100% at all practices and games, which will effect their playing time.

**SEASON START / END:** The regular season starts Monday, February 26, 2007. We will participate in a Mount Sacred Heart tournament - March 8—10, 2007. St. Luke will host a tournament in March as well. The regular season ends May 7, 2007, when the AIAL Play-offs began.

**PRACTICES AND GAMES:** Will be held daily Monday through Thursday on the baseball field. Friday practices will be scheduled occasionally. Please consult the calendar on the web site. Games are typically played on Tuesday through Thursday, with a few weekend tournaments.

**TEAM PHOTO DATE / TIME:** **Baseball & Softball Yearbook photos will be taken on Tuesday, February 20th after the uniforms are distributed.** Individual & team photos will be taken on Friday, February 23rd for both teams. Order forms will go home with the uniforms. Track photos & meeting dates will be announced.

**PARENT MEETING DATE / TIME:** After team photos on Friday, Feb 23rd, the coaches will run parent information meetings on the bleachers by the field. Girls team parents at 5:00 p.m.; Boys team parents at 5:30.

**EQUIPMENT NEEDED:** **Boys**—glove, cleats, pants, socks & belt (hats & jerseys provided). **Girls**—glove, cleats, shin or knee protectors & socks (visors, jersey & shorts are provided).