

*Letter to be sent home  
on Little League  
girls' softball program*

**By Jan Schultz**  
***The Imperial Republican***

A new group of parents have moved into some of the leadership roles within the Imperial Baseball/Softball Association (IBSA), which supports the city-sponsored ball programs in Imperial.

At a meeting March 10, discussion of the transition took up much of the time, and the new group of leaders met again Tuesday this week.

Bruce Peterson has assumed responsibilities as president, and he said this week there are a number of parents wanting to be involved.

An area of discussion this week was the girls' pony (Little League) softball program. In the past couple of years, the girls in this age group (9-11) have played in a traveling league, rather than playing games in an Imperial league, as the boys that age do.

The reason girls that age started traveling for games was due to low numbers and not enough teams for a league here.

Peterson said the IBSA would like to find out if there is interest again in having the Little League-age girls play all games at home.

But, that means more players need to sign up.

He said a letter will be going home soon from school with girls in that age group containing a survey on the situation.

"Our goal is to get more girls playing softball," Peterson said.

Are they not signing up now because it's a traveling team? the group wonders.

Peterson said the group is also planning to spearhead a cleanup day at the ball parks in Imperial, sometime in mid-April. They will be seeking out additional volunteers to help at the work day to get the fields ready for the upcoming seasons, he said.

Peterson also plans to meet with the park board at their April meeting about the IBSA's willingness to work with them more closely on the ball programs.

Others who have agreed to take on some of the IBSA leadership roles include Brad and Jill Moline, Brad Dillan, Denise Smith and Crystal Peterson.

More involvement is sought, Peterson said. Anyone interested in the IBSA and the ball programs can contact Peterson or any of the others listed above.

The IBSA plans to meet again on Thursday, April 16. Anyone is welcome to attend, Peterson said.

### **Ball team registrations continue**

Sign-up for the summer softball and baseball teams in the city programs continues. Forms are available at the city office or school.

League meetings will be held soon, so anyone interested in playing ball this summer is asked to sign up as soon as possible, said Summer Recreation Director Darrin Schultz.

Anyone interested in serving as a coach for the younger teams is asked to contact Schultz at 882-8622 or 882-5414.