

# PONY Baseball/Blue Sombrero Frequently Asked Questions

Beginning May 2016, PONY Baseball and Softball officially endorsed Blue Sombrero as the Official Website and Online Registration provider for use by its leagues and organizations. Blue Sombrero, is the core technology platform of DICK'S Team Sports HQ and the leading national provider of websites, registration, and league management tools for youth sports organizations.



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## **Q: What all is provided to local PONY Baseball and Softball leagues?**

**A:** Thanks to an exciting, long-term partnership between PONY Baseball and Softball and DICK'S Sporting Goods, all PONY leagues can now take advantage of free online services such as (but not limited to):

- **Official PONY Branded Website Theme** – exclusive, professional looking web design available only to PONY leagues
- **Custom Fanwear Stores (with 7.5% contribution back)** – assortment of apparel items available from brands such as Nike, Under Armour, adidas and Badger.
- **Online Registration** – Both players and volunteers can provide the needed information to participate in your organization
- **Scheduling Tools** – Allowing the scheduler to generate the game and practice schedule that will be provided at the league, team, and account levels for both season and end of season play.

- **Payment Collection** – The ability to reduce paperwork by collecting online payment. This ensures that record keeping is updated as payments arrive.
- **Communication Tools** –Bulk email tools for administrators to choose which groups and individuals to communicate with from within the system. Text notifications for on the fly updates. Coaches also get the ability to communicate with their teams and team volunteers through the team pages and our free in-season mobile app.
- **Team & Volunteer Management** – Rostering players and associated volunteers to the teams they participate in, as well as tracking verified volunteers to ensure that only approved volunteers are used.
- **Reporting** – Access to standard reports and the ability to create and save your own custom reports. This means no more reinventing the wheel each time you need a report.

**Q: How much does it cost to use Blue Sombrero?**

**A:** Zero! Blue Sombrero used to be one of the most expensive sports technology providers, but is now 100% free thanks to DICK’S Sporting Goods. No hidden fees or contracts. If you choose to process online payments through our merchant account, there is a small, standard transaction fee.

**Q: Is my league required to use Blue Sombrero?**

**A:** No. Your league is not required to use Blue Sombrero. However, if you are currently searching for a new online registration provider, interested in saving money and improving your league operations, or want to ensure you have the very best service for your league needs, then we highly recommend that you start your search by taking a look at DICK’S Team Sports HQ, powered by Blue Sombrero.

**Q: What is the difference between Blue Sombrero, DICK’S Sporting Goods, and DICK’S Team Sports HQ?**

**A:** Blue Sombrero joined the DICK’S Sporting Goods family of companies in 2012. It is the technology platform of DICK’S Team Sports HQ, an all-in-one service that equips youth leagues with everything they need to succeed including online registration, websites, league management tools, uniforms, FanWear, donations, and sponsorships.

**Q: What kind of customer support does Blue Sombrero offer?**

**A:** Blue Sombrero provides free, premium support to all PONY leagues.. Assistance is available by phone, email, and our [support site](#). The friendly support team can be reached by phone at (866) 258-3303 from 8AM – 6PM EST, Monday – Thursday and 8AM – 5PM, Friday. The team also provides helpful training videos, an on-screen support widget, and answers email tickets on the weekends!

**Q: How will Blue Sombrero assist my league during the transition?**

**A:** .In addition to offering live training webinars and helpful videos, our support and account management teams will be available to assist with all your onboarding, questions. With our guidance it is will be super easy to setup your new website and add in your registration questions, dates and pricing. You do not need to have any technical skill in order to make the switch over and you will love working with our dedicated team along the way!

**Q: How can I find out more about Blue Sombrero?**

**A:** Visit <http://www.bluesombrero.com/pony> or call (866) 258-3772 to learn more.